



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

DWS in Free State engages Traditional Leaders on water and sanitation issues

20 June 2018

The Department of Water and Sanitation's Free State Region, in partnership with Free State Provincial House of Traditional Leaders and the Department of Cooperative Government in the province, hosted Traditional Leaders' Workshop today 20 June 2018 at Sterkfontein Dam. The main aim of the workshop was to inform Traditional Leaders about the municipal water supply and sanitation services in their village and local municipality

Traditional Leaders were engaged on the functions of Water Service Authorities (WSAs) and Water Service Providers (WSPs), as well as on the National Sanitation policy (2016) amendment.

The National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998, legislates the way surface and ground water are to be protected, used, conserved, managed and controlled. Furthermore the Act governs how waste water or effluent may be returned back to the water resource complying with the water quality standards. On the other hand, the Water Services Act dictates the role of water services authorities and other water services institutions, especially of the water boards and water providers.

Traditional leaders were engaged on various issues in the water sector and the role they should play in educating community members about the importance of water and sanitation services.

On sanitation issues, more emphasis was put on how to prioritise basic sanitation services for vulnerable people and the previously disadvantaged.

END

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