



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

Water users encouraged to save water in the drought stricken Nelson Mandela Bay and Kouga

03 September 2018

The area of Nelson Mandela Bay (NMB) and Kouga Local Municipality is faced with dire water situation as its average dam levels continue to drop week on week. The Algoa Water Supply System, with dams supplying water to Nelson Mandela Bay residents, dropped again this week to 18% from 18.2% last week. The system was at 31.8% during the same period last year.

One of the dams in the Algoa Water Supply System, Kouga Dam, is at a meager 6.8% this week, a drop of 0.1% from last week. This dam was at a paltry 14.9% during the same period last year. Concerted efforts from all stakeholders in the water sector are needed to educate water users about the value of water and how they should conserve it. This would assist in reducing the high water consumption in the face of the devastating drought in the area.

The Amathole Water Supply System – with dams serving Buffalo City Metro and Amathole District Municipality – is at 81.9% this week. This week Xilinx is sitting at 46.2% from 47.6% last week; Debe Dam is struggling at 46.6% this week; Nahoon Dam is at 71.2% this week compared to 72.8% last week; and Gcuwa Dam is at a low of 43.1% this week.

The average dam levels in the Western side of the province, including some parts of the Saraah Baartman District Municipality, are at 34.9%.

The Department, working with relevant municipalities, will continue to monitor water levels in the drought affected areas – and stringent water restrictions will be imposed in order to conserve available water.

End

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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