



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### MEDIA STATEMENT

#### **IVRS increases while some major dams fall slightly**

25 April 2018

The Integrated Vaal River System (IVRS) continues to record an increase week-on-week although some of its major dams have seen a slight decline this week. The system has moved up slightly from last week's 90.1% to 90.3% this week. In the preceding year at the same time, the system was sitting at 86.4%

Consisting of 14 dams, the IVRS is responsible for the sustainable economic growth of Gauteng and supplies both Sasol and Eskom.

The Vaal Dam has seen a negligible decrease this week, falling from 106.8% last week to 105% this week. Compared to last year during the same period, the dam hovered marginally above the 100% mark at 100.3%

Similarly dropping slightly this week, the levels at the Grootdraai Dam fell by 0.7% to 100.8% this week from 101.5% last week. Judged against the last year's levels at the same period, the dam stood at a strong 95.5%.

By contrast to the two dams, the Bloemhof Dam has gone up this week to record an increase by 3.8% to 104.3% this week from 100.5% last week. During the same period last year, the Bloemhof Dam stood at 101.7%

The Katse Dam, which is relatively well, remained unchanged from last week's 67.7%. Last year at the same period the dam was just below the 50%. The Sterkfontein Dam, which is a reserve dam used to replenish dangerously low dams, slightly went up by 0.2%, from 95.7% last week to 95.9% this week. In the preceding year at the same time, the dam was floating at 89.7%.

Despite some of the major dams that form part of the IVRS being in a healthy state currently, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) is calling on consumers to take advantage of the rainfalls in Gauteng to store as much water as possible. This will assist to prevent a strain or overuse of water currently available in the system.

The Department believes that, if consumers were to maintain reasonable use of water, there would not be a necessity to resort to stringent measures to curtail use. Going forward, this will significantly contribute to keeping taps running during the dry winter season in Gauteng.

**ENDS**

**Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation**

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