



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# MEDIA STATEMENT

## **IVRS remains strong despite fluctuations over weeks**

10 July 2018

The Integrated Vaal River System (IVRS) remains in an impressive state, with its level hovering well above the neutral 50% mark despite falling this week. The system has recorded a marginal decline from 86.1% last week to 85.8% this week, going down by 0.3%.

The system, which forms one of the pillars that prop up the economy of Gauteng as an industrial hub of the country, is responsible for supplying water to Eskom and Sasol.

Last year during the same period, the system was at an equally satisfactory level, floating at 81.9%.

The fluctuations in the system have been influenced by variations over the weeks in some of its major dams.

For instance, the Vaal Dam has decreased from 99.6% last week to 99.0% this week – recording a fall by 0.6%. Compared with its situation at the same time last year, the dam was sitting at 95.7%, a level which is slightly down to the current one.

The Grootdraai Dam recorded a slight reduction, moving to 90.8% this week from 91.1% last week. The dam has declined by 0.3%. Last year during the same period, the Grootdraai Dam hovered comfortably at 86.4%.

This week the Katse Dam is sitting at 59.2%, while last week it was at 60.1%. The dam has decreased by 0.9%. A wretched sight last year at the same period, the Katse Dam was at an insignificant 37.1%.

The Sterkfontein Dam, which provided a lifeline to Gauteng when the levels of the Vaal Dam took a serious knock at the height of an ugly drought, is currently at 95.5%, the same level at which it was last week. Judged against last year's levels at the same period, the dam stood at 91.0%.

The Mohale Dam has failed to notch up to decent levels, consistently dropping. This week was not different as the dam went down from 28.8% last week to 27.8% this week. This is a direct contrast to last year's during the same time, when the dam was sitting at 64.4%.

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) wishes to thank both the public and industries in Gauteng for using water sparingly – reiterating that if it were not for their cooperation, the situation would have been different. However, the Department is also urging consumers not to let the guard down as chances of rainfalls in the winter season in the province are few and far apart.

**ENDS**

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



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