



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

The Vaal Dam levels resilient, water users credited for saving

01 August 2018

The Vaal Dam, which supplies both households and industry in Gauteng, remains at a satisfactory level despite declining this week. Last week the dam was at 97.6% and this week it is hovering at 96.9%, losing 0.7%. Last year at the same time the dam was floating at 93.2%.

The Vaal Dam is one of the 14 dams that form part of the Integrated Vaal River System (IVRS). The power utility Eskom and integrated energy and chemical company Sasol are supplied by the Vaal Dam.

Influenced by the decline in the Vaal Dam and some of the major dams, the IVRS has recorded a corresponding decline, moving slightly from 84.8% last week to this week's 84.5% and recording a decline by 0.3%

Moving down from 89.7% last week to 89.0% this week, the Grootdraai Dam has lost 0.7%. Compared to the same period last year, the Grootdraai Dam was hovering at 83.3%.

Likewise, the Katse Dam has taken a knock this week. The dam is currently sitting at 56.8%. Last week, and the year before, the dam was sitting at 57.5% and 33.1%, respectively. However, the current level of the dam is a welcome relief following months of hovering at dangerously low levels.

The Sterkfontein Dam has similarly seen a decline this week. Having been at 95.4% last week, the dam is now sitting at 94.3%, recording a slight decline by a trivial 1.1%. Last year during the same period, the dam was floating at 91.6%.

In a dismissal state that raises concern is the Mohale Dam. Currently, the dam is standing at an insignificant 25.4%, having been equally depressing last week at 26.2%. This week this dam has fallen by 0.8%. The levels this week are a far cry from what the dam was last year at the same time when it was above the 50% mark at 64.3%

As Gauteng is gradually moving away from the winter season, which has seen less rainfalls, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) is satisfied that the water use in the province has been stable. In this regard, the Department continues to urge consumers to continue implementing water saving measures so that the storing capacity of its dams is kept stable.

ENDS

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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