



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

Water users cautioned to save water despite increase in dam levels in Free State

19 April 2018

Free State dam levels have improved this week, from 92.2% last week to 97.7% this week. This increase can be attributed to rains that poured in the province in recent weeks. This information is according to the latest dam levels report issued by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) on Tuesday, 17 April 2018.

DWS would like to caution water users that, despite the increase in recent weeks, the province is still recovering from the devastating drought effects that affected the province few years ago.

Provincial Head, Dr Tseliso Ntli, says the province is not yet out of the woods as some dams in the province are as low as 20%, something that is becoming a serious concern.

“The provincial increase can be attributed to bigger dams that are 90-100% full. Water users should bear in mind that water restrictions in the province will continue being implemented until the dam levels are satisfactory”, he said.

Tierpoort dam increased from 6.0% last week to 10.7% this week; Kalkfontein Dam from 10.7% last week to 27.9% this week. Sterkfontein, Gariiep, Egmont, Amenia, Krugersdrift and Koppies are over 100%. Groothoek Dam increased from 55.4% last week to 57.4 this week, and will be operating soon as it no longer working due to low levels. Rustfontein Dam increased from 47.7% last week to 50.0% this week. Fika Patso is still at 58.2%.

DWS will review the dam levels and restrictions after the rainy season to look into whether restrictions can be uplifted or minimised. DWS would like to urge water users to continue using water sparingly and save every little drop.

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