



MEDIA STATEMENT

DWS operations in Worcester will continue uninterruptedly.

10 July 2019

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) in the Western Cape confirms that its operations from the Worcester office will continue uninterruptedly.

This follows an LP Gas Tanker explosion that occurred yesterday morning. During this explosion, four buildings including the DWS hydrology building were destroyed and two more were damaged.

DWS provincial head, Mr Rashid Khan says while this accident will have a temporary set-back to the operations, this will not stop the operations completely. "The main function of the Hydrology office is to collect and archive hydrological data from the dams and gauging sites. This function will continue uninterrupted. The hydro division is supported by other divisions within the department to function normally. Moreover, adequate accommodation is being sourced from other units" said Khan.

The explosion did not affect data stored electronically and there were no casualties reported from the DWS. However, two privately owned vehicles parked at the premises were damaged; one caught fire while the other one was damaged by the roof on landing of the gas tanker after exploding.

DWS, together with the South African Police Services, is still assessing the extent of the damage caused by the fire.

End

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