



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



## MEDIA STATEMENT

### Lesotho Highlands Water Project to shut down for maintenance

29 May 2019

The Lesotho Highlands Development Authority (LHDA) in conjunction with the Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority are planning to do a planned shutdown of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP), water transfer and delivery tunnel and associated systems during the months of October and November 2019.

The aim of the shutdown is to allow the two entities to effectively perform maintenance work that will ensure that the conveyance system continues to operate optimally. The last shut down for maintenance was conducted during the same period in 2012.

During this period no water will be transferred from LHWP to the Vaal River System and the Ash and Liebenbergsvlei Rivers may thus come to a standstill.

Municipalities in Mafube, Nketoana and Dihlabeng will be affected and the Department of Water and Sanitation has contingency plans in place for the shutdown period. Farmers along the river will also be notified so that over-abstraction does not take place during the shutdown period. The shutdown might also affect the planting season.

The Department would like to advise all those that will be affected by this activity that water provision will not be adversely affected by this. The Department will closely monitor the use and flow of water in the rivers mentioned during the shutdown period and patrons are thus requested to use water sparingly.

**END**

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

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