



MEDIA STATEMENT

Eastern Cape dams on a consistent decline, water users urged to conserve water

14 August 2019

Most parts of Eastern Cape Province have experienced lack of rains in recent months and this has led to a decline in dam levels.

According to the weekly dam levels report issued by the Department of Water and Sanitation, the combined average water levels in the province are at 56.4%, a slight decline from 56.6% last week. These levels show a decline in the provincial water storage compared to the same period last year when the province has water storage of 60.9%.

The Algoa Water Supply System with dams supplying water to Nelson Mandela Bay has declined this week as it is sitting at 42.2% this week compared to 42.6% last week. However, the system has improved compared to a meagre 18.4% during the same period last year.

Meanwhile, the Amathole Water Supply System, supplying water to Buffalo City has also declined from 56.5% last week to 55.7% this week. A significant drop is noted in this system as it was bursting at the seams during the same period last year at 82.3%.

The Kliplaat Water Supply System with dams supplying Chris Hani District is at 43.4% this week from 44.1%. The system was at 70.5% during the same period last year.

The rest of the dams in the province are at the following levels:

- Xonxa Dam 94.8% this week from 95.2 last week
- Lubisi Dam 48.9% this week from 49.4% last week
- Macubeni Dam declined from 85.4% last week to 84.4% this week
- Xilinxha dam is at 8.5% this week, compared to 9.2% last week,
- Gcuwa Dam improved from 28.0% last week to 39.6% this week,
- Kubisi Dam declined this week at 55.0% compared to 56.1% last week
- Brigle Drift also dropped to 43.1%, compared to 43.7%.
- Kouga Dam decreased to 43.7% this week, compared to 44.0% last week,
- Loerie Dam is at 59.3% this week, compared to 60.2% last week, and
- Impofu declined to 21.1% this week, compared to 21.6% last week.





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The consistent decline of dam levels in Eastern Cape signifies that water saving measures need to be tightened by all water users to ensure water security for all. The Department of Water and Sanitation would like to urge communities, businesses and industry to head this call and use water sparingly at all times and adhere to water restrictions.

End

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

For more information contact Sputnik Ratau, Spokesperson for the Department of Water and Sanitation on 082 874 2942

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