



## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **Klipkopjes Dam records slight increase amid declining water levels in Mpumalanga**

13 July 2019

Water levels in the listed dams in the Mpumalanga Province continue to drop with only the Klipkopjes Dam recording a slight 0.7% increase from last week's 38.0% to 38.7%. The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) weekly state of reservoirs report of 12 August 2019 shows that all but the Klipkopjes Dam recorded declines in water volumes. According to the weekly report, the Provincial average in terms of water in storage, Mpumalanga water levels dropped from 68.2% to 67.6% and the water management areas also recorded declines in water volumes with the Olifants catchment dropping from 57.1% to 56.5% and the Inkomati-Usuthu water management area dropping from 71.7% to 71.1%.

It must also be noted that water levels in most of the listed dams are lower than what was recorded at the same time last year. In the Ehlanzeni District, all the listed dams except the Driekoppies Dam are below last year's recorded volumes. The Driekoppies Dam, even though has higher quantities than last year 68%, also recorded a drop from 72.2% to 71.9%. The report also shows that the Kwena Dam which is a strategic supplier to the capital city of Mbombela is steadily dropping towards the 50% mark as it dropped from 52.1% to 51.1% over the week.

In the Gert Sibande District, Vygeboom and Westoe are the only dams with higher volumes compared to last year even though they also recorded drops in water volumes over the week. Vygeboom Dam dropped from 96.6% to 95.8% but is still higher than last year's 94.2% and Westoe Dam dropped from 66.5% to 66.1% which is also higher than the 52.7% than what was recorded last year.

All the listed dams in the Nkangala District are below the volumes recorded last year even though they are all above 80%.





## water & sanitation

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The Department of Water and Sanitation therefore encourages the public to use the available water sparingly and wisely and ensure that all water resources are pollution free and free-flowing to ensure access to the source of life for all. Every drop counts, so let us all play our part in water security as the water levels continue to drop.

**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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