



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



MEDIA STATEMENT

Tariff Hike Consultations

13 June 2019

The Department of Water and Sanitation is in the process of consultations with various water users in the country with regard to the next set of water tariffs. The **Lower Orange Catchment session** is scheduled for the 17 July 2019 in Upington.

To supply water to all people at an acceptable level of assurance, quality and access costs money both in terms of capital investment into infrastructure and the operation and maintenance costs associated with water treatment, bulk water distribution and reticulation within human settlements.

Suitable tariffs must be set by all relevant water services institutions involved in the water services cycle. Paying for water is a key principle and a mechanism to ensure that the water is used effectively and sparingly. The criteria for the setting of tariffs and the procedures are described in various legislation and regulations, notably the water acts, the Pricing Strategy for Raw Water Use Charges and the Water Services Tariff Regulations.

As much as water is a basic right and all people must have access to at least the basic level of service, water users have a corresponding responsibility to use water services responsibly and with due care, and to pay for services provided over and above the free basic water and free basic sanitation allocations.

Water contributes to socio-economic security in South Africa; let us protect, conserve and use water in a sustainable manner.

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