



## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **Water Storage levels in the Northern Cape**

11 July 2019

Water storage in the Northern Cape is currently at 126.7 million cubic metres. The full storage capacity of the province is 147.3 million m<sup>3</sup>. The Vaal River is currently at 83.7% and the Orange River at 87.7%.

The Douglas Storage Weir in the Vaal River is currently at 17.593 million m<sup>3</sup> or 107.8%. The full supply capacity of the Weir is 16.245 million m<sup>3</sup>.

Boegoeberg Dam in the Orange River is at 20.906 million m<sup>3</sup> or 101.4% this week, with Spitskop Dam in the Harts River at 46.309 million or 80%. Vaalharts Weir is at 41.714 million m<sup>3</sup> or 87.7%.

The water level of the Karee Dam in the Northern Cape, which serves Calvinia, is currently at 16% - a clear indication of the severity of the drought in the Northern Cape.

It should be noted that the Karee Dam is the only storage dam in the Northern Cape. The other dams are used as transient storage and have much smaller capacities than the larger storage dams in other provinces. Hence the levels of these vary from week to week. They are fed from other upstream dams in the Vaal and Orange rivers and water is released from the upstream dams as required.

Residents of the Northern Cape are urged to continue using water sparingly.

**End**

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

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