MEDIA STATEMENT

Water users in Mpumalanga urged to use water wisely as dam levels drop

22 October 2019

A weekly dam levels report issued by the Department of Water and Sanitation this week shows that Mpumalanga's water storage is on a decline week on week. The water levels in the province have dropped marginally to 58.9% this week from 60% last week. This is a far cry compared to the same period last year when the water storage in the province was at 71.4%

The heat wave that is experienced in most parts of the province has contributed this decline due to evaporation and the lack of rains is not helping the situation either.

Also continuing to drop are Olifants and Inkomati-Usuthu Water Management Areas, sitting at 48.6% and 63.6% respectively.

This week's report also shows that only the Vygeboom Dam in the Gert Sibande remains above 80% even though it dropped from 92.2% to 91.4%. The Witbank Dam has dropped from 80% last week to 79.0% this week. The Rhenosterkop Dam remains unchanged at the critical level of 0.6%.

The Department encourages South Africans to be more responsible and use water sparingly as the hot weather conditions continue to persist.

End

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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