



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

DWS updated the Portfolio Committee on the Unfinished Projects in the department

27 February 2019

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) today presented to the Portfolio Committee on Water and Sanitation in Parliament. The DWS entourage, led by Deputy Minister Pamela Tshwete and Acting Director-General Ms Deborah Mochotlhi, presented on unfinished infrastructure projects that the DWS is working on.

In her opening remarks, DM Tshwete highlighted the challenges of service delivery whilst manoeuvring the legislative space that separates roles and responsibilities. “The DWS is required to provide bulk services, and the reticulation from such bulk services lies in the hands of local government. It is therefore imperative that as we continue to develop such bulk, we engage local government to ensure the necessary provision of requisite reticulation”, said Deputy Minister Tshwete.

Acting Director-General Mochotlhi introduced the presenters, Acting DDG Leonardo Manus as well as the CEO of Lepelle Northern Water, Phineas Legodi. She indicated that the presentation would cover the areas of the Giyani Water Project, the unfinished particularly those under dam safety, and Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant.

Acting DDG Manus’ presentation covered four areas of unfinished projects, namely: Augmentation Projects, Strategic Asset Management (Dam Safety Rehabilitation Programme - DSRP), Sanitation (Bucket Eradication Programme), and Regional Bulk Infrastructure Projects (RBIG).

Under the Augmentation Projects, the presentation referred to those like raising of the Hazelmere, Tzaneen and Clanwilliam Dam walls. These are at different levels towards completion with almost common ways of resolving the delays; these include:

- Utilisation of DWS Construction Unit to execute all the works that do not require specialist contractors.
- Implement amicable solution to resolve disputes, claims and variation orders on the terminated contract/s where applicable.
- Compilation of definitive scope of work breakdowns and timeframes to complete the works.
- Alignment of all contracts (Engineer, ECO, OHS and Contractor) with definitive scope of work and time frame.
- Reappointment of Specialist Contractor as per requirement and according to relevant timelines.
- Use of DWS Engineering Services as the Professional Service Provider



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

- Stakeholders engagement

With regards to the Olifants River Water Resources Development Project (ORWRDP-Phase **2D, E & F**), the suggested means of resolving the issues included:

- Reprioritise funding within ORWRDP
- Prioritise land acquisition and social facilitation.
- Secure Department of Mineral Resources intervention on illegal mining activities
- Engage with DMR to resolve the challenge on the rehabilitation funds for the project
- Finalise Memorandum of Understanding with tribal authorities
- Negotiate with Dikolong Mine to secure availability of the site

In so far as the Dam Safety Rehabilitation Programme is concerned, the presentation spoke to Marico Bosveld (North West), Kalkfontein (Free State) and Rietspruit (North West) Dams. What is encouraging with this programme is that it is envisaged that all matters will be resolved shortly and that all work will be completed in this calendar year.

On the Bucket Eradication Programme, in the Northern Cape Province the DWS resolved to utilise its Internal Construction Unit for the completion of 4 of the 6 Projects. Of these, 4 projects require Sewer Collectors and Bulk Mains to allow for functional sanitation services. 2 projects will require pump stations.

A further 2 projects will be completed by the Water Services Authority (as a Water and Sanitation Infrastructure Grant – WSIG - Schedule 5B grant allocation).

A turnkey contractor was appointed to complete the Bucket Eradication Programme in the Free State Province. The Department issued a notice of intention to terminate the relationship after the contract lapsed in March 2018.

1 out of 12 projects remains incomplete, and Senekal requires the completion of internal reticulation. The Department resolved to utilise its Internal Construction Unit for the completion of Bulk Infrastructure of which 7 projects requires bulk services to enable the flushing of new toilets.

Under RBIG, a total of 106 projects remains incomplete due to different reasons. These include Sebokeng Wastewater Treatment Works in Gauteng, Polokwane Bulk Water Supply in Limpopo, Mamefja Sekororo Water Treatment Works in Limpopo, Moutse Bulk Water Supply in Limpopo, Ratlou and Madibeng Bulk Water Supply schemes, both in the North West, Meyerton and Stellenbosch WWTW in Gauteng and Western Cape respectively, to name but a few.

Different solutions are being looked into in order to bring most of these projects to completion. These include municipalities availing co-funding in the next financial year, the DWS having constant engagement with relevant stakeholders to resolve community disgruntlements where these occur, as well as adjudication and appointment of new contractors where previous contracts came to an end or contracts were terminated due to non-compliance or non-performance.

The presentation on the Giyani Water Project was in the main an update following on the previous appearance of the DWS and Lepelle Northern Water at the Portfolio Committee. In the end the Committee commended the progress achieved and processes underway. LNW and DWS were encouraged to ensure that even as work continues, the safety of communities around the project should not be compromised as in the case of the young boy who passed



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

away and was found in one of the trenches left open by the previous contractor. The DWS and Lepelle were applauded that all the trenches are now covered.

There was appreciation by Committee members of the enormity of the task before the department and the sector, especially considering the impact of the delivery of water and sanitation services to the poor.

End

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

For more information contact: Sputnik Ratau on 082 874 2942

For media releases, speeches, visit the Water & Sanitation portal at: www.dwa.gov.za