



MEDIA STATEMENT

Ehlanzeni District dams record increases in water levels

30 April 2019

All the major listed dams in the Ehlanzeni District recorded slight increases in water volumes. According to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) weekly state of reservoirs report of 29 April 2019, Blyderivierpoort Dam increased from 100.3% to 100.4%, Driekoppies Dam increased from 74.7% to 75.2%, Longemere Dam increased from 59.6% to 66.4%, Klipkopjes Dam increased from 49.5% to 50.1%, Witklip Dam increased from 100.4% to 100.5%, Primkop Dam increased from 22.3% to 25.4%, Kwena Dam increased from 55.6% to 56.3%, Da Gama Dam increased from 75.3% to 75.8% and Inyaka Dam increased from 68.0% to 68.1%.

The increase in the listed dams of the district is in line with the increase in the average water levels for the Mpumalanga Province which increased from last week's 74.8% to 74.9% and the Inkomati-Usuthu catchment which recorded an increase from 77.5% to 77.6% whilst the Olifants catchment remained unchanged at 63.8%. The consecutive increase in water levels in the Mpumalanga Province is a welcome situation as we head towards the dry winter season.

In as much as we appreciate and welcome the improvements in water levels, the Department of Water and Sanitation would like to re-emphasize the importance of water conservation and encourage the public to use the available water wisely as we head into the dry winter season.

The Department would also like to encourage the public to protect groundwater resources as groundwater is a major alternative source of water in the midst of climate change. Water is life, so it is crucial that we all play a part in the conservation and protection of water resources for water security in our water scarce country.

End

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