



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Reference: 6/2/2/6

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

#### FOR WRITTEN REPLY

#### QUESTION NO 709

**DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 13 OCTOBER 2023**  
**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 38)**

**709. Ms D C Christians (Northern Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:**

What immediate actions is his department taking to (a) ensure consistent and reliable water supply to affected areas such as Olifantshoek and Barkly-West and (b) alleviate the suffering of residents who have experienced prolonged water shortages?

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#### **MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION**

The Gamagara Municipality acknowledges inconsistent water supply in Olifantshoek within Gamagara Local Municipality (LM) as a result of insufficient water sources. The Dikgatlong LM has reported that water challenges in Barkley-West occur during high stages of loadshedding. Poor maintenance of infrastructure is also contributing to these challenges of reliable water supply.

- a) As a temporary measure, the municipality placed 40 water tanks in the following strategic areas around the Olifantshoek area that are replenished through water tankers:

Area	Number of tankers
Diepkloof	8
Skerpdraai	6
New Stands	4
Ditloug	3
Plakkerskamp	2
Rooiwal	3
Welgelee	6
Makalanie	2
Town	6

To augment the current water supply, the municipality has drilled, equipped and connected 9 boreholes to the municipal water supply system. An additional 6 boreholes, of which 2 are funded by Afrimat and 4 by DWS at a cost of R14 million will be commissioned early in December 2023.

The Provincial Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) funded a project through the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) to upgrade the elevated water reservoir and the bulk water pipeline from the water treatment works. The project estimated cost is R15 million and is anticipated for completion in November 2023. The project will reduce water losses on the bulk system and therefore increase water availability.

- b) The Department supports Municipalities through planning support, grant funding, project management and regulation. The Northern Cape Water and Sanitation Services Master Plan is being developed to provide stakeholders with a document that gives a provincial perspective and overview of the water and sanitation services supply status together with a comprehensive associated infrastructure status and future development needs.

The DWS is also in a process of developing five-year Water and Sanitation Reliability Plans for each municipality to provide a holistic implementation plan to achieve reliable water services. Regional Bulk Projects are then identified, validated and prioritized through a funding model based on available Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (RBIG) Provincial allocations.

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DRAFT REPLY: RECOMMENDED/ NOT-RECOMMENDED/ AMENDED



**DR SEAN PHILLIPS**  
**DIRECTOR-GENERAL**  
DATE: 14/05/23

DRAFT REPLY: APPROVED/ NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED



**MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP**  
**MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION**  
DATE: 8/12/23