



### INTERNET ARTICLE

#### **Tienfontein Pump Station working condition improved**

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The Department of Water and Sanitation, under the Directorate: National Water Resource Infrastructure (NWRI): Central Operations, has improved the working condition of the Tienfontein Pump Station as the maintenance project comes to an end.

Recently, the Department completed one of the maintenance projects that resumed in October 2016 in Tienfontein Pump Station, Caledon River. The station is located in the Free State Province.

Tienfontein Pump Station was being monitored, repaired and serviced by the department to help with the speedy supply of water by the station.

According to the Project Manager, Mr H.S. van der Westhuizen, Pump Stations are used for a variety of infrastructure systems, such as the supply of water to canals, the drainage of low-lying land, and the removal of sewage to processing sites.

“The main challenge of the Tienfontein Pump Station was low efficiency due to operational damage on the pump wet end and also broken pump shaft between the two pump bowls”, said van der Westhuizen.

Mr van der Westhuizen added that “The objective of the project was to repair and refurbish the station as soon as possible so that it can operate at full capacity when we encounter insufficient flow in the Caledon River”.

“To start the project took almost two years as we kept encountering dead ends, but finally we managed to enter into a maintenance contract with the manufactures of the pump station. Due to the harsh conditions of silt in the Caledon river we are constantly looking at better coating and lining material to prolong pump life time efficiency”, explained van der Westhuizen.

The project is going to help the pump station to be able to pump full water capacity and to help with additional storage water for Bloem Water to feed the domestic water supply of the greater Mangaung Area.

Mr van der Westhuizen concluded by saying that “The maintenance project was completed successfully although it took longer that it was expected before it resume”.

The Department of Water and Sanitation is busy with maintenance projects in various pump stations in order to improve the operation of the pump stations.

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