



water & sanitation

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Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Induction program for Ngqamakwe Water and Sanitation Forum

18 October 2017

To improve water and sanitation delivery imperatives in the Eastern Cape Province the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) together with Amathole District Municipality, hosted an induction gathering to empower officials of the Ngqamakwe Water and Sanitation Forum in Ngqamakwe on Tuesday, 17 October 2017

The main purpose of the gathering is to address water supply challenges in the area.

According to Sipiwo Ntsabo from DWS's Water Sector Support, this initiative is the idea of Minister, Ms Nomvula Mokonyane, who issued a directive that forum members should participate effectively on Departmental programmes, events and projects including progress feedback sessions.

The Forum comprises of community members, who are mandated to proactively attend to water and sanitation challenges in the area and report them to the relevant offices such as Amathole District Municipality and DWS. This process will enable the Department to attend these challenges.

Chairperson of the Ngqamakwe Water and Sanitation Forum, Sithethi Maputheni said: "In recent months the area experienced water shortages and challenges. Thanks to the Water and Sanitation forum for interventions made by DWS and Amathole District to tackle them head on. These challenges include vandalism of water infrastructure, pipe burst, theft and illegal connections". He added that the Ndakana borehole is dry because of illegal connections, stressing that the community must be aware that this borehole is limited to its own water percentage. He warned that illegal connections without full knowledge of the scenario will affect water supplies to the local communities.

Amathole District Municipality Operations Manager praised the involvement of the forum adding that this process will improve performance in terms of water supply and sanitation.



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The forum has a responsibility to tackle water challenges such as water leakage, vandalism and illegal connection. He further condemns the illegal connection because there is no policy that allows people to have such especially in the drought affected area of Amathole.

Ntsabo called on communities to use water sparingly, especially with little rain falling in the area.

Lameki Jumba