



### INTERNET ARTICLE

#### Central Operation completes rehabilitation of Popenyana canal project

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The Department of Water and Sanitation, under the Directorate: National Water Resource Infrastructure (NWRI): Central Operations has recently completed the rehabilitation of outlet structure in Popenyana Canal.

Popenyana Canal is located in the Usutu River area office, Mpumalanga Province. The Department of Water and Sanitation resumed with the rehabilitation of the outlet structure project in February 2016.

The purpose of the project was to rebuild the canal outflow sections that have collapsed due to heavy rains and erosion.

According to the Area Manager of Usutu River, Mr Gabriel Tsoai, "The main challenges of the project were more on budget and delay in procurement of resources".

Canals are man-made concrete lined channels of water to pump stations, dams and to clients such as Eskom who generate electricity.

"Canals pose a safety risk particularly for young children especially during the pumping periods. People must not, swim, play or fish in canals as is very dangerous", added Tsoai.

The Area manager added that "The project was a success and we are very happy that the outlet structure of the Popenyana Canal has been rebuilt as this will improve the working condition of the canal".

"The project will not only help with the normal functioning of the canal, but the Department of Water and Sanitation Komati water Scheme will also benefit from the project", said Tsoai.

The Department of Water and Sanitation is also busy with other infrastructure projects in various canals that will improve water supply and also safety of residents staying near canals.

The Area Manager concluded by saying, "I would like to take the opportunity to urge the residents staying near canals to obey all the signs of canal and not to vandalise the fence erected near canals for their own safety".

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