



INTERNET ARTICLE

DWS and Rand Water launch a newly constructed Vlakfontein Reservoir in Benoni

20 February 2023

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) in partnership with Rand Water as an implementing agent launched Vlakfontein mega reservoir in Benoni, Ekurhuleni on Friday, 17 February 2023.

The newly built 210 megalitre Vlakfontein Reservoir is the biggest cylindrical and circular reservoir in the country and one of the largest globally. The reservoir has an inner diameter of 154 metres and a wall height of 11.8 metres. It is covered by a flat slab roof supported by 256 columns spaced at 8.4 metres. It is 6 metres below natural ground level, with a leakage detection system, separated by a reinforced flexible polypropylene liner.

During the Special Ministerial Executive Committee meeting in Pretoria on 13 January 2023 Minister Mchunu made an undertaking and a key demand for the completion of all ongoing water projects.

This is one of Rand Water major projects to be successfully completed Minister Mchunu and Water and Sanitation Deputy Minister, David Mahlobo expressed their contentment and confidence in Rand Water Board for a job well executed and emphasised the need to complete projects on time.

“We are working with the local authorities as a department to show commitment and support and to make sure all regions are well taken care of and that water provision is a reality”, said the Minister.

Sipho Mosai, Rand Water Chief Executive spoke highly of the reservoir, highlighting that the Reservoir would significantly assist in supplying water to affected areas where there is a water shortage.

“The reservoir holds 210 megalitres, larger than Saudi Arabia's second biggest reservoir which is 200 megalitres” Mosai stressed.

Minister Mchunu urged other provinces and regions to introduce similar mitigation projects and measures, stating that the Department is doing its utmost to assist all areas and ensure water supply.

Tshigofatso Mashile

