



## INTERNET ARTICLE

## Deputy Minister Seitlholo receives a report: in cross-boundary water service management between North West and Northern Cape

04 September 2024

Deputy Minister of Water and Sanitation, Mr Sello Seitlholo attended two meetings in Vryburg, North West and in Jan Kempdorp, Northern Cape to intervene in water supply challenges in those areas. The meeting follows a plea by the community of Sekhing village in the North West Province to the Department regarding their water supply challenges.

The community of Sekhing submitted a memorandum to the Department of Water and Sanitation and gave the Department 14 days to intervene on ongoing water challenges.

"I then spoke the Provincial Head of the North West province and the Northen Cape to begin an engagement with DRSMDM and Kopanong Municipality to engage on how they will open a supply to make sure that the villages of Sekhing, upper Majeakgoro and Lower Majeakgoro are able to get water. The outcome of that engagement has led to me being here, I'm now officially getting a report from Phokwane Local Municipality and Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Minicipality (DRRSMDM) with the facilitation of Cogta in the North West and the Nothern Cape led by Luxolo Mditshane in the provincial office in the North West", said Deputy Minister Seitlholo.

Deputy Minister Seitlholo interacted with both the executive mayors of Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District in the North West Cllr Maje, and Phokwane Local Municipality (PLM) in Northern Cape Mayor Africa regarding trans-boundary bulk water supply scheme that provides water services between the two provinces.

The DM was happy that a contractor for refurbishment of boreholes at both Sekhing and Phokwane has been appointed and the work will start within six weeks. The Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) in North West has appointed the service provider at upper Majaakgoro for the refurbishment of boreholes in that village and the electrification will be handled by the Dr Ruth District Municipality.

Deputy Minister Seitlholo expressed his concern about the Departmental Regional Bulk and Infrastructure Grant (RBIG) projects that stays at 88% and never get to be completed, or the contractors that leave the projects incomplete causing the Department to appoint another contractor.

Another point of concern with regards to service delivery is demarcation that affects Ga-Mothibi village. DM Seitlholo said he has highlighted the matter with COGTA in both the Northern Cape and the North West to resolve issues of demarcation in Greater Taung Local Municipality.

Deputy Minister Seitlholo also raised another contentious issue of vandalism of water infrastructure. He warned those who are responsible and called for the municipalities' urgent attention to solve the

## WATER IS LIFE – SANITATION IS DIGNITY

## SOUTH AFRICA IS A WATER-SCARCE COUNTRY

problem. "I think municipalities do know who is sabotaging them, either it is their own people or those who have connections with water tanker mafias. I need a detailed report of these service providers for water tinkering as well as their schedule of providing water. A full audit of water tankers should be conducted in this Province, said Deputy Minister Seitlholo."

Morekeng Phali