



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### MEDIA ADVISORY

#### **Minister Mokonyane to host stakeholder engagement on unlawful water use through sand mining**

16 October 2017

The Minister of Water and Sanitation Ms Nomvula Mokonyane will host a stakeholder engagement on unlawful water use through sand mining on 20 October 2017 in Durban.

Unlawful water use activities through sand mining in rivers have become prevalent in KwaZulu-Natal and it is a serious concern. This unlawful activity is causing numerous and serious environmental and social problems such as the disturbance in potable water supply that has resulted in water supply cuts in some areas.

Private companies and individuals are engaging in this unlawful water use activity without necessary water use authorisation from the Department of Water and Sanitation. The unauthorised water use activities is taking place throughout the province and the river systems that have been targeted by sand miners include Illovo River, Umzumbe River, Mtwalume River, Umvoti River, Buffalo River, Umdloti River, Amatikulu River, Mhlathuze River, Umfolozi River and Umgeni River.

Minister Mokonyane would be engaging the KwaZulu-Natal Traditional Leaders to enlighten them on unlawful water use through sand mining, legislative requirements for engaging on sand mining activities as well as to get buy-in to educate communities about unlawful sand mining.

Media is invited as follow:

**Date : 20 October 2017**

**Time : 10:00**

**Venue : Protea Hotel Karridene, Durban**

For media confirmations please contact Mbali Mahaye 082 601 5674/ 031 336 2929/  
[MahayeM@dws.gov.za](mailto:MahayeM@dws.gov.za)

**End**

**Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation**



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**Departmental Spokesperson: Media Liaison Sputnik Ratau on 082 874 2942**

**For more information contact: Mbali Mahaye at 082 601 5674.**

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