



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **Department of Water and Sanitation to take drastic actions against Woestalleen Colliery Mine**

13 November 2020

In its efforts to make polluters of water resources account for their transgressions, the Department of Water and Sanitation will conduct a site inspection at Woestalleen Colliery Mine in Middelburg, Mpumalanga on Tuesday, 17 November 2020.

A directive has been issued to suspend the water use license of the mine and Departmental officials are expected to open a criminal case against the mine and its Business Practitioners.

The Department has been inspecting the mine since 2016 and the mine has failed to present to the Department concrete plans to stop pollution of water resources in the area.

The deterioration in water quality discharge from Woestalleen Colliery has a negative impact on aquatic life and agricultural users who rely in Woestalleen Spruit for irrigation purposes and impact on ground and surface water. In one inspection conducted in October 2019, it was discovered that the mine is engaging in other water use activities without having authorization to do so.

Members of the media are invited to attend the inspection and join the officials as they proceed to open a criminal case against the mine

#### **Members of the media are invited as follows:**

**Date** : 17 November 2020

**Venue** : Woestalleen Colliery, Middelburg (Mpumalanga)

**Time** : 09:00

For media confirmations, kindly contact Mr Andile Tshona on 073 566 3345 /tshonaa@dws.gov.za or Mr Themba Khoza on 066 301 6962 / [khozab@dws.gov.za](mailto:khozab@dws.gov.za)

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**END**

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





## water & sanitation

Department:  
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For more information, contact Sputnik Ratau, Spokesperson for the Department of Water and Sanitation on 082 874 2942

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