



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

SPEAKING NOTES

DEPUTY MINISTER PAMELA TSHWETE

ON THE

OCCASION OF THE GRAAFWATER IMBIZO

GRAAFWATER HOERSKOOL

10 DECEMBER 2018

Regional Head, Rashid Khan

Department of Water and Sanitation Senior officials

Members of the Community

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good afternoon!

I wish to thank you for taking time and joining us on addressing issues that concern the Department of Water and Sanitation.

The reason for us being here today is to shed some light on the progress of the projects undertaken by the department, and how it benefited the community at large.

The national department recently transferred R 10 million in funding to the Cederberg Municipality to assist with the upgrading of Graafwater Purification Plant. The project is currently under construction and the funding allocated for this financial was withdrawn due to slow project progress by the municipality.

The benefits include:

- The additional water storage will accommodate the 407 housing units established after year 2011.

- 14 direct jobs are being created during construction phase with potential indirect jobs for agro-economy.
- The refurbished plant will provide adequate storage capacity for the town.

The Department of Water and Sanitation has also installed 24 rainwater harvesting tanks at Graafwater during 2017/18 financial year. The tanks were installed in houses of those who applied and qualified to enhance food gardening.

While the Department has provided significant support to the Cederberg Local Municipality, the department remains concerned about the high water usage and water losses. Therefore water conservation water demand management must be applied.

Recently the National Government lowered water restrictions for urban and agricultural use in the Western Cape. I urge the community of Graafwater to be vigilant and continue to save water. On a positive note Graafwater is currently using two boreholes to supply water to the town. This is commendable as an alternate water source. To this end the National Government is appealing to all communities to continue to save water.

I would like to wish each and everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Thank you.

Ndiyabulela, Baie dankie