

MEDIA STATEMENT

Progress made at Sinthumule Kutama Bulk Water Supply project elates Deputy Minister Magadzi

13 December 2021

Deputy Minister for Department of Water and Sanitation, Dikeledi Magadzi today visited Sinthumule Kutama Bulk Water Supply (BWS) project under Vhembe District Municipality in Limpopo. She evaluated the project's progress and firmly condemn hold ups which resulted in hindrances towards the completion of the project.

The Sinthumule Kutama Bulk Water Supply project was initiated to resolve water shortages in approximately 39 Villages in Sinthumule Kutama area under Makhado Local Municipality. The project scope is comprised of construction of 16,7 km gravity pipeline from Valdesia Pump station which currently stands at 98%, construction of a 7.5 mega litres reservoir which is at 90% completion, and raising of 13,6 km rising main pipeline to Mowkop reservoirs in Makhado which is at 91%.

The construction of the project commenced in October 2014 with initial completion date of November 2017. However, due to operational challenges experienced delayed the completion of the project, and it is expected to be completed in April 2022.

Deputy Minister Magadzi unequivocally lambasted delays and stressed the need to move with speed to ensure the completion of the project. She once again warned workers on site that she would come back to visit the area unannounced and she expects to see considerable improvements.

"This is long overdue; our wish is that by next year in June 2022 majority of our villages should be getting water. I am happy about the progress made so far, but we can do better, let us work faster, smarter so that we can fulfil the promises that we made to our people which is ensuring adequate water supply" Deputy Minister Magadzi said.

Project Manager Felix Mothiba conceded that one of the reasons that brought delays to the completion of the project was working in isolation and he added that since the involvement of Deputy Minister Magadzi they are moving to the right direction.

In conclusion Deputy Minister urged Mothiba and General Manager of Technical Services Witsman Maluleke to come back early after the festive seasons in a view to ensure that work continues since the deadline of completion is fast approaching.

End

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