



MEDIA STATEMENT

Kwena Dam keeps rising despite decline in Mpumalanga dam levels

14 April 2021

The Kwena Dam upstream and critical for water supply security for the City of Mbombela continues to rise above the 100% mark after breaching the full capacity landmark recorded last week.

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) weekly state of reservoirs report of 12 April 2021 shows that the Kwena Dam recorded another 0.1% increase over the week rising from 100.2% to 100.3%. This is in stark contrast to the same period when the dam level stood at 55.8% and the beginning of the year when it was below 30%.

The report shows that on average, water levels in the listed dams in the Mpumalanga Province slightly dropped from 88.8% to 88.7%. In contrast, the water management areas (WMA) in the Province recorded slight increases, with the Olifants WMA increasing from 80.6% to 81.1% and the Inkomati-Usuthu WMA increasing from 93.2% to 93.3%.

Other listed dams that recorded some improvements in water levels in the Mpumalanga Province are also in the Lowveld and Ehlanzeni District. Inyaka Dam increased from 87.4% to 87.7%, Longmere increased from 101.1% to 102.6% and Ohrigstad Dam recorded an increase from 82.4% to 82.5%.

Dropping in water volumes in the Ehlanzeni District, Blyderivierpoort Dam dropped from 100.6% to 100.5%, Buffelskloof from 100.5% to 100.2%, Driekoppies from 100.5% to 100.3%, Primkop from 101.9% to 100.3% and Da Gama from 100.3% to 99.3%. Klipkopjes and Witklip dams remained unchanged at 100.8% and 100.3% respectively.

Most of the listed dams in the Gert Sibande District remained unchanged. Nootgedacht Dam remained at 98.9%, Vygeboom at 100.9%, Morgenstond at 86.1 and Heyshope at 87.2%. Decreasing in water volumes, Grootdraai Dam recorded a drop from 99.2% to 98.8%, Jericho dropped from 88.6% to 87.5% and Westoe dropped from 84.7% to 96.4%.





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In the Nkangala District, Middelburg and Loskop dams remained unchanged at 95.7% to 100.1% respectively. On the decline mode, Witbank Dam dropped from 100.1% to 99.5% and Rhenosterkop Dam dropped from 10.0% to 9.9%.

The Department of Water and Sanitation urges the public to continue being water savvy and use the available water wisely, sparingly and in a more conservative manner, especially as we approach the dry winter season. The Department further encourages the public to be responsible citizens and water users as water supply security depends on each and every individual's appropriate behaviour.

End

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