



## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **VAAL RIVER SYSTEM UPDATE: Further 100 m<sup>3</sup>/s of Water outflows increased at Bloemhof Dam to manage levels**

23 March 2025

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) has increased outflows at the Bloemhof dam by 100 cubic meters per second (m<sup>3</sup>/s) to 350.97 m<sup>3</sup>/s to allow for the extra flows that are expected from Vaal Dam. Water levels at the dam are currently at 98.69% and the aim is to keep it at below 100%.

The single sluice gate opened on Thursday at Vaal Dam to ease water levels remains unchanged. The dam is currently at its full capacity with 107.43% today.

The release of water on both dams is due to the rising of water levels as a result of the continuous rainfall.

The current water release by the one sluice gate at Vaal Dam and the pipes at Bloemhof is within the safe operational limits and is not expected to lead to overtopping of riverbanks downstream.

The DWS will continue to monitor the water levels at both the dams closely.

**END**

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

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