



MEDIA STATEMENT

Department of Water and Sanitation urges continued water saving across the Eastern Cape

28 May 2026

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) is appealing to all residents, businesses, farmers and institutions across the Eastern Cape to continue using water responsibly and sparingly as dam levels begin to show slight declines in several parts of the province.

The latest weekly dam status report shows that the Mzimvubu–Tsitsikamma Catchment Management Area (MTCMA), which supplies water to large parts of the province, has decreased slightly to 89.6% this week from 90.7% last week. While storage levels remain relatively healthy, the Department is closely monitoring the downward trend and urges communities not to become complacent.

The Algoa Water Supply System continues to perform well and remains above full capacity at 101.2%, although this is slightly lower than last week's 103.7%. Kouga Dam, which supplies the Nelson Mandela Bay Metro, remains stable at 101.5%, while Loerie Dam is at 101.2%. Impofu Dam has shown a noticeable drop from 107.4% to 100.9%. Encouragingly, Nqweba Dam, which supplies the Robert Sobukwe Local Municipality, has increased from 101.7% to 102.4%.

In the Amathole Water Supply System, overall levels declined from 89.8% to 88.6%. Nahoon Dam dropped from 74.6% to 73.4%, while Bridle Drift Dam also declined from 83.4% to 81.3%. Rooikrans Dam recorded a slight decrease to 96.7%, while Laing Dam remains full at 100%.

The Klipplaat Water Supply System remains largely stable at 96.8%, slightly lower than the 96.9% recorded last week. Within the system, Macubeni Dam showed a positive increase from 91.7% to 95.1%. Xonxa Dam declined from 99.6% to 98.3%, while Waterdown Dam remains nearly full at 99.9% and Tsojana Dam is at 99.1%.

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Although dam levels across many parts of the province remain strong, the Department reminds water users that these figures can change quickly depending on weather patterns, demand and usage levels. Continued responsible water use remains critical to protecting available water resources and ensuring reliable supply for all communities.

The Department therefore encourages everyone to continue making water conservation part of everyday life by avoiding unnecessary wastage, fixing leaks where possible, and using water efficiently at home, at work and in agricultural activities.

END

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

For more information, contact Wisane Mavasa, Spokesperson for the Department of Water and Sanitation on 060 561 8935

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www.dws.gov.za

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