



INTERNET ARTICLE

DWS conducts public consultations on the National Pricing Strategy for raw water use charges

12 September 2022

The Department of Water and Sanitation calls on members of the public and sector stakeholders to make comments on the National Pricing Strategy for Raw Water Use that was published on Government Gazette Notice No. 47197.

Members of the public and sector stakeholders have until 03 November 2022 to make comments to be carefully considered by the Department before the finalisation of the strategy.

As part of sourcing public comments, the Department embarked on consultative workshops with stakeholders in Mpumalanga Province from 06 to 08 September 2022. The consultations took place in Emalahleni, Malelane and Mbombela where the revised draft national pricing strategy for raw water charges was presented and interrogated.

Ms Moretlo Botipe presented the draft strategy and Ms Sizani Moshidi facilitated the engagement with stakeholders for their inputs, concerns and comments towards the finalization of an inclusive pricing strategy.

The Pricing Strategy is a framework for the pricing of water use for South Africa's water resource, such as the use of raw water from rivers, boreholes and/ or supplied from government schemes and the discharge of water into a water resource or onto land.

In terms of section 56, of National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998 (NWA), the Minister of Water and Sanitation may, together with the Minister of Finance, every now and then through notice in the Government Gazette, establish a pricing strategy for any water use within the framework of existing relevant government policy.

In as far as Section 56 (3) (a) of the NWA is concerned, the pricing strategy may differentiate on an equitable basis, on the basis of geographic areas, and between different categories of water use, and different water users. This pricing strategy provides for six water user categories, from the previous three, to better represent the water user groups and to allow for more clearly targeted charges.

The revised pricing strategy caters for five water resource charges, namely: Water Resource Management Charge, Water Resources Infrastructure Charges, Waste Mitigation Charge, Water Research Levy and Economic Regulation Charge.

All written comments can be submitted to pricing-strategy@dws.gov.za / NyabanyabaL@dws.gov.za.

Themba Khoza

SOUTH AFRICA IS A WATER SCARCE COUNTRY

