



INTERNET ARTICLE

Deputy Minister Mahlobo calls for the acceleration of projects implementation in Nkomazi Local Municipality

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The Deputy Minister of Water and Sanitation, Mr David Mahlobo went on a working session to inspect and assess progress made in water supply projects in the Nkomazi Local Municipality on Women's Day, 09 August 2022.

Deputy Minister Mahlobo, accompanied by the Executive Mayor of Nkomazi Local Municipality, Cllr Phindile Magagula and her team and officials from the Mpumalanga DWS office and the municipality visited two projects under schedule 5B implemented by Nkomazi Local Municipality.

The projects visited include the construction site of the Langelooop 2 Mℓ concrete reservoir and the Shongwe pipeline project. The projects include contract 1 which entails the construction of a new pump station, 2Mℓ reservoir, 350mm bulk rising main from Shongwe 10Mℓ to Jeppes Reef reservoirs, 315mm Pumping main from Shongwe 10Mℓ to Buffelspruit storage tanks and 160mm main from Shongwe 10Mℓ to Shongwe hospital, and 355mm T connection from existing 500mm pipeline to Shongwe reservoirs. Contract 2 includes a 1Mℓ reservoir in Jeppe's Rust, new pump station and 315mm bulk rising main from Boschfontein to Magogeni and Jeppes Rust, 315mm gravity main from Boschfontein to Langelooop reservoir, 315mm pump line to new 2Mℓ and steel tank in Langelooop.

Deputy Minister Mahlobo emphasised the need for an acceleration plan to fastrack the projects implementation. "We need an acceleration plan to give people water. Even though we need to fastrack the projects, it must be a quality job as we will not tolerate shoddy workmanship. Water is life and water challenges affect women; how then do you celebrate Women's Day without water", he said.

The Deputy Minister also called for an acceleration plan for the completion of the Driekoppies Water Treatment Works to avoid a situation where the infrastructure such as reservoirs and pipelines are ready, but the source is still outstanding.

The Deputy Minister also called on the municipality to talk to the people so that they do not vandalise the infrastructure. As people get access to water, the sanitation systems must improve. "The municipality needs to look into sewer so that when we put water to the people, they must graduate to sewer systems".

Deputy Minister Mahlobo also called on the municipality to start putting money aside for operations and maintenance and to also take insurance for the infrastructure.

Themba Khoza