



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### INTERNET ARTICLE

#### Government urges communities to save water

10 October 2014

*The State is using all communication techniques as it solidifies its call to communities to save water.*

*The appeal by government to communities to save water and help protect the country's infrastructure at all times comes amid recent water disruptions that hit parts of Gauteng.*

*Many government leaders – including the Department of Water and Sanitation's Minister, Ms Nomvula Mokonyane, and the State President, Mr. Jacob Zuma – have added their voices to this campaign, calling for communities to save water.*

*And now on Thursday 9 October 2014, Minister of Basic Education, Mrs. Angie Motshekga, added her voice to the campaign. "As a country, we must endeavour to reduce our water consumption as best we can. The practices of recycling and reuse must be undertaken by all, including big consumers and the communities where they live," Minister Motshekga said.*

*She was speaking on behalf of the Social Protection, Community and Human Development Cluster, which gave a progress report on its priority programmes in Pretoria. "South Africa needs to save water as a life resource through conservation and water demand management," said Minister Motshekga.*

*Efforts to save water include the "War on Leaks" intervention, which was recently conducted in Mahikeng together with Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa.*

*As earlier indicated, a combination of factors had affected water supply to parts of Ekurhuleni, the West Rand, Johannesburg and Tshwane.*

*The Rand Water Board reported that the main cause of the interruptions was ageing infrastructure, but this was exacerbated by vandalism as well as a power supply problem.*

*It began when a technical fault led to a loss of power at Rand Water's Eikenhof pump station, which supplies more than 40% of Johannesburg's water.*

*The theft of electrical cables for water pumps at reservoirs also made things worse. "We are also pleading with our communities to appreciate the infrastructure in place for their collective benefit," Minister Motshekga said.*

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

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