



INTERNET ARTICLE

Bethal sewer system restored to functionality

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The upgrade of the Mark Street Pump Station in Bethal will play a major role in ensuring sewerage flows and the bad smell in the air are a thing of the past. The Private Public Partnership (PPP) between the Department of Water and Sanitation, Govan Mbeki Local Municipality and Anglo American has ensured that the Mark Street Pump Station is refurbished and restored to full functionality.

Anglo American appointed a contractor for the refurbishment of the Mark Street Pump Station with the construction of a new manhole chamber and diversion of a new inlet pipeline into the pump station. The project also included the replacement of asbestos pipes along the delivery pipeline of 300mm diameter with the length of about 4 kilometres. This pipeline connects the Mark Street Pump Station and the Bethal Waste Water Plant. All this work was done under the guidance and watchful eye of the regulator, the Department of Water and Sanitation.

The malfunctioning of the Mark Street Pump Station had over a good period of time, had a negative effect on the community and the environment as the streets and open spaces leading to the pump station were usually flooded with sewage which posed a health risk to the community. The sewage also used to end up in the Blesbok River, and this had a negative effect on water quality in the river.

This really shows that working together and pulling in the same direction can help address many of the challenges faced by our communities. Government, business and the community must always work together to ensure that we move South Africa forward to a better life for all.

The community is encouraged to take ownership of and care for the refurbished infrastructure. Community members must protect the infrastructure from vandalism and avoid using the sewer systems as rubbish dumping sites and stop throwing foreign objects into the systems as this is usually the main source of blockages.

The community must also ensure that they report any blockages in the system so that they can be quickly attended to and damage minimised to the system and the environment.



water & sanitation

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