



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Jubilance as Minister Mokonyane hands over the Vaal Gamagara Water Scheme

24 October 2016

The residents of Gamagara Local Municipality came in numbers and packed the Kathu rugby stadium to listen to Minister of Water and Sanitation, Ms Nomvula Mokonyane, on the occasion to officially hand over the construction site of the Vaal Gamagara Water Scheme last week Friday.

This momentous occasion was welcomed by the young and old who couldn't hide their excitement in anticipation of opportunities the project will create for them.

This R18 billion water scheme is being upgraded due to its aging infrastructure, with an aim to meet current and future water needs for the people of this community and its surrounding areas. This project is 82 kilometre pipeline long and its first phase will stretch from Roscoe (in Kathu) to Black Rock. Once completed, the scheme will benefit fourteen livestock farms, twelve mines, solar parks and the communities of Kathu, Olifantshoek and Hotazel.

This project will create more than 1 500 job opportunities and will benefit six municipalities, i.e. Dikgatlong, Kgatelopele, Tsantsabane, Gamagara, Ga-Segonyane and Joel Morolong.

Residents of this area are excited about the opportunities that this project will bring them, more especially the prospects of the alleviation of water challenges and employment opportunities.

Kagisho Keller, a resident of this area expressed his excitement and frustration on water challenges.

"I am very excited about this project because water is scarce especially in the John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality. Minister Mokonyane also gave us hope by announcing job opportunities during the installation of the pipeline and this is very good news for us," he said.

The original scheme was built more than 40 years ago and it no longer has the capacity to supply sufficient water to satisfy the increased demand brought about by mines, municipalities and agricultural production.

The project will ensure that the maximum capacity of the current scheme which is now 2500m³/h will be able to supply a peak demand of 5200m³/h, including future water supply to Botswana.

End

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For more information contact: Amogelang Moholoeng 082 653 1682



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