



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### INTERNET ARTICLE

#### **Revived Suidkaap Plant Boosting Barberton Water Supply**

**09 February 2017**

The rehabilitation of the Suidkaap Water Treatment Works and the Queens River Pump Station project in 2012 by the Department of Water and Sanitation, came at the right time to relieve the community of Barberton of serious water challenges.

The Suidkaap Water Treatment plant came into operation when the area was experiencing water supply challenges as the main water source; the Lomati Dam was drying as a result of the drought.

The refurbished and rehabilitated Suidkaap Water Treatment Plant brought 5 megalitres to the system, which made a major difference as the Rimers Creek Plant was producing way below capacity to meet the needs of the community.

The project was undertaken in two Phases; Phase 1 involved the refurbishment of the Suidkaap Water Treatment Works and the clear water pipeline from the Treatment Plant to the Hospital Reservoir. This phase was commissioned on 11 August 2015 and is currently supplying water to the communities. The commissioning of Phase 1 has provided some relief to the Rimer's Creek Water Treatment Works that was under stress to the point of collapse due the drop in water level in the Lomati Dam.

Phase 2 which was completed in 2016 included the replacing of the old asbestos raw bulk water pipeline from the Treatment Plant to the Queens River with a uPVC pipe. The project's main objective is to increase access to water supply to the communities of the Barberton area.

The Department of Water and Sanitation urges the community of the Barberton area to continue using water sparingly, fix, and report any leakages in the supply system as the Lomati Dam level is still very low despite the recent rains.

**Themba Khoza**