

INTERNET ARTICLE

Infrastructure development and management of water resources

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The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) continues to build and support the building of new infrastructure to augment existing schemes and to develop new resources altogether for various uses.

According to DWS Minister, Nomvula Mokonyane, the Department is also committed to the sustainable management of water infrastructure assets. One such venture is the Dam Safety Rehabilitation Programme (DSRP) will see a cumulative total of 44 dams to be fully rehabilitated by the end of the 2015/16 financial year. This is in line with the Dam Safety Regulations which require dam owners to maintain the infrastructure and mitigate the risk of dam failure.

Minister Mokonyane noted these points during her Budget Vote 2015/16 Speech presentation in Parliament, Cape Town in the Western Cape on Thursday, 21 May 2015.

The raising of the Clanwilliam Dam wall in the Western Cape, at a projected cost of R2.4 billion, has already commenced and is due for completion in 2018.

In Kwa-Zulu Natal's Mdloti Development Project, the Hazelmere Dam wall will be raised at a cost of R528 million for the growing demand in the eThekwini and llembe District Municipalities.

The Groot Letaba River Water Development Project in Limpopo Province is under planning. It consists of the construction of a dam at Nwamitwa, and the regional bulk distribution of water for domestic use for approximately 425 000 people in the Greater Tzaneen Local Municipality.

The Luvuvhu River Government Water Scheme (Nandoni Bulk Water Supply) is being commissioned in stages to supply 800 000 people in 380 communities in the Thohoyandou and Malamulele areas of Limpopo. "We also have a number of projects implemented by the Trans Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA) such as the Mokolo Crocodile Water Augmentation



Project. The project supports mining in the Waterberg coal fields of the Limpopo Province, and the Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) re-use project in Gauteng.

This phased project involves the treatment of acid mine water from the reef and selling it to industry for re-use. The first phase, in the Central Basin, has been completed. DWS await proposals for new AMD technologies for operations and management. Construction of the next phase, in the Eastern Basin, is due to commence during 2015.

Ike Motsapi