



INTERNET ARTICLE

Millions to benefit from the SRSS Project – Minister Mokonyane

13 May 2015

The Minister of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Nomvula Mokonyane has vowed that the completion of the Sedibeng Regional Sewer Scheme (SRSS) will benefit more than a million Vaal community members falling under the Sedibeng District Municipality when completed.

Addressing a packed hall with eager and enthusiastic local residents on the progress around the Sedibeng Regional Sewer Scheme (SRSS). Minister Mokonyane said government is pumping more than R4 billion onto the venture. “This is massive project,” noted Minister Mokonyane.

In fact, the Saul Tsotetsi Hall in Zone 14, Sebokeng where this event was held on Tuesday, 12 May 2015 was packed to more than its actual capacity with more and more people forcing themselves into the hall long after Minister Mokonyane had started delivering her address.

It took a timeous intervention of Manase Sefatlhe, a Deputy Director in Sanitation, who ably co-ordinated the smooth movements of these eager local community members which brought stability and averted what could have been a disaster.

The Minister enjoyed a disturbance-free period during her speech by capturing their attention to listen and fully understand the importance of her message. She started by stressing the fact that what was happening was as a result of good collaboration between government, stakeholders and most importantly, local community members who are an important part of the equation.

She said, “We are here as part of the South African Government delegation who wants to make sure that this project is successful because it will benefit the people of this area. Government wants to make sure that this project provides jobs to locals while at the same time it ensures that proper sanitation mechanisms are implemented. This process will further ensure that developments and growth in terms of sustainable progress is realised in this area.”



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Minister Mokonyane explained that the upgrading of the SRSS will not only benefit the community of the Sedibeng residents but also the communities of the surrounding or entire neighbourhood.

She told the cheering crowd that the project is a multi-faced venture which includes water purification, water quality, sanitation, housing, drinking water accessibility and many other benefits. "That is why government regards this project as a major venture," added Minister Mokonyane.

The SRSS has been identified by the Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Council (PICC) in 2005 and approved as a Strategic Infrastructure Projects (SIPs) 18 catalytic project that should bring solutions to raw sewage spillage, unlock job opportunities and improve service delivery in the Sedibeng District Municipality (DM) area.

The main aim of the public engagement was to inform the residents on the progress around the SRSS project. The project has been broken down into three stages of implementation, namely: short-term, medium-term and long-term interventions.

The short-term solution entails the refurbishment of the existing infrastructure in Emfuleni and Midvaal Local Municipalities to reduce the occurrence of spillages of raw sewage whilst consistently maintaining better effluent quality from the Wastewater Treatment Works (WWTW).

The Medium-term solution entails the extension of the existing Wastewater infrastructure in both these municipalities to address under capacity of the WWTW, while the long-term solution entails the construction of a new WWTW around the Sedibeng DM.

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