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Attention: News Editors

Date: 31st August 2023

Subject: Amatola Water Reaches Milestone in Bulk Water Supply in Makhanda

AMATOLA WATER REACHES MILESTONE IN ITS BULK WATER SUPPLY TO MAKHANDA

The Amatola Water is pleased to announce that it has, today, reached one of its milestones to deliver 10 megalitres of bulk water per day in its major upgrade of James Kleynhans Water Treatment Works in Makhanda, Makana Local Municipality.

The milestone adds 10ML/D capacity to the existing treatment plant thus delivering 20 megalitres per day water supply to Makhanda Town (formerly known Grahamstown). The water infrastructure development currently exceeds the targeted 18ML/D required to prevent drought conditions that the university town frequently experiences.

The Department appointed Amatola Water Board on the 1st of June 2023 as part of its Emergency Intervention to prevent water outage crisis in Makhanda. The contract is for a period of six months ending on the 30th of November 2023. The 15 Million intervention is intended to restore the treatment capacity of both treatment works that supply Makhanda town. Both treatment works have been restored to capacity. The remaining scope is to ensure that there is backup equipment to reduce the risk of catastrophic failure.

Water and Sanitation Minister Senzo Mchunu recently visited the project during his site inspection tour of the Sarah Baartman District Municipality on the 16th of August 2023. Following his walkabout inspection, the minister satisfactorily found the project to be aligned with the Department's expectations. Other interventions include fixing of water leaks in Makana Local Municipality

Welcoming the milestone today, the Board Chairperson Ms. Pam Yako expressed satisfaction that local communities and businesses will now receive interrupted portable water supply.

“We consider this critical milestone a great achievement. It is, in our view, a collective testimony of our Board and Management resolve to provide quality drinkable water to the communities. In many ways, this is our Amatola Water Women's Month celebratory gift to all women of the Makana Municipality and Sarah Baartman District.”

Acting CEO, Siyabulela Koyo considered the milestone a watermark on Amatola Water's performance commitment to their stakeholders.

"We are very pleased with this development. As a result, we believe our target to deliver this essential project as part of our contractual obligation to the Department, local communities and municipality is on track".

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Communication Services

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