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MEDIA STATEMENT

Attention: News Editors (All Media)

Subject: Amatola Water Board Impresses Minister with Performance Results in Makana Local Municipality

Date: 16th August 2023

AMATOLA WATER BOARD INTERVENTION PERFORMANCE IN MAKANA MUNICIPALITY GETS THUMBS UP

On Wednesday, 16 August 2023 Minister of Water and Sanitation, Senzo Mchunu, gave the Amatola Water Board a thumbs up for overall successful project implementation of the James Klyenhans Water Treatment Plant in Makana Municipality.

The Minister conducted an oversight visit which included engagements with members of the community around matters of interests related to the provision of safe and drinkable water.

The Department of Water and Sanitation appointed Amatola Water on 01 June 2023 on an initial six-month contract to implement emergency interventions to address the water crisis in Makana Local Municipality. These are required to be sustainable solutions that can permanently resolve water challenges in the area.

Since its appointment, Amatola Water has successfully managed to increase the bulk water distribution to Makana Local Municipality and surrounding communities from 10 to 19 mega litres per day. Other interventions included the maintenance and repairing of boreholes in Alicedale and the upgrading of Waainnek while the Riebeeck East Water Treatment Plants is still being assessed.

Amatola Water is on track to finish the refurbishment of the James Kleyhans and its emergence intervention in Makana Municipality by 31 December 2023. The refurbishment

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will witness the overall improvement of water quality standards and bulk water supply to local communities.

Minister Mchunu was accompanied by Eastern Cape MEC of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Zolile Williams, Sarah Baartman Executive District Mayor Deon De Vos and Makana Local Municipality Executive Mayor Yandiswa Yara. The political leaders were well received and sought to provide clarity and make feasible commitments to local stakeholders of Makhanda. In attendance at the community consultation were residents, local business, academics, students, and community organisations.

This experience at Makana Municipality proves that Amatola Water's water intervention support to municipalities is demonstrably making an impact in the lives of local communities. This success further encourages exploring collaboration with various spheres of government.

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Issued by the Amatola Water Board

END

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