

SOL PLAATJE MUNICIPALITY



COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

KOMMUNIKASIE EENHEID

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Verw.Ref. No.:

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MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA

EMBARGO: NONE

DATE: WEDNESDAY, 13 MARCH 2024

RE: SOL PLAATJE MUNICIPALITY SETTING IN PLACE SYSTEMS FOR FIVE-DAY WATER SUPPLY INTERRUPTION - THURSDAY 04 APRIL TO MONDAY 08 APRIL 2024

The Sol Plaatje Municipality (“**SPM**”) wishes to inform residents that a Planned Water Supply Interruption will be effected from **Thursday 04 April to Monday 08 April 2024** and will be preceded by an all-out-effort in raising awareness.

Our communications efforts will also entail the release of detailed information into the water supply contingency measures for all affected areas, healthcare facilities, old age care centres and other key points. Residents will be updated on a regular basis through different mediums ahead, during and post the interruption period.

We would also like to encourage residents to store enough water ahead of the water supply interruption.

As part of the scope of work to be carried out; water losses emanating from four key major leaks will be addressed. Our target is to end the **Nightly Water Supply Interruptions** through this intervention.

Scenario at Midstation (Roodepan); even though the situation relating to the Midstation leak has us on tenterhooks at this stage with the gasket in the chamber threatening to burst, our contractors have occupied site and all necessary equipment have been commissioned to address the emergency leak repairs.

The gasket on the 900 diameter butterfly valve has been leaking since mid-December 2023. The leak is getting worse by the day as the gasket is abraded due to the high pressure of water gushing out through the leak.

Extensive draining of the bulk pipeline will stretch into two days whilst the actual repair work at Midstation will last an estimated eight (8) hours. Other maintenance and repair work will make-up for the timeframe set into Monday 08 April 2024.

One of the major highlights relating to the scope of work of the forthcoming interruption is the isolation of the 600mm diameter and 900mm diameter pipelines which are currently interconnected at Midstation (chamber two). **The isolation will help with avoiding a total water supply outage in the future.**



The National Treasury's **Budget Facility for Infrastructure (BFI)** starts in earnest with the Emergency Phase into the refurbishment and maintenance interventions on the bulk water supply infrastructure through this intervention.

Critical work has unfolded at the **Riverton Water Treatment Plants** (old and new) through the recommissioning of dysfunctional two clarifiers and replacement of filter media aimed at improving water production. It is all hands on deck in working towards a future of providing uninterrupted and quality water supply to all residents. **The recommissioning of the two clarifiers will enhance production by 16megaliters.**

Misinformation Peddlers

We would like to appeal to residents to be wary of misinformation being peddled through voice notes and to rely on information from official Sol Plaatje Municipality sources.

We have also with grave concern noted confusion that emanated from a live interview on one of the national radio stations after a site visit to Midstation today, Wednesday 13 March 2024. The matter is being addressed and measures of rectifying the misinformation through which it was purported that a shutdown will be effected this weekend are being undertaken.

We will once again be appealing for patience during the planned interruption and trust that our efforts in ensuring water security shall meet the endorsement of all residents.

We take cognisance of the inconveniences and hardships that many an interruption has created, however, we would like to assure residents that the efforts being undertaken will set us on a path of a water security guarantee. **//END**

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