



Media Release

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To: All Media

### **Water and Sanitation Minister – Senzo Mchunu, Launches Moretele South Bulk Pipeline Project In Response to Water Supply Challenges**

After extensive research and implementation readiness studies completed which started in 2014, Magalies Water had shown its expertise and capability to deal with bulk water provision, in the Moretele Local Municipality, further north of the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality. The area, had been hogging news headlines in recent years over water supply challenges, including water shortages and limited access of clean drinking water in numerous villages within the municipality. The municipality has been receiving its bulk water supply from the neighbouring City of Tshwane in Gauteng Province, despite this arrangement CoT did not have adequate capacity to provide bulk water supply to Moretele.

Three years after the commencement of the feasibility studies which were undertaken by Magalies Water, detailed designs of what would become the new bulk water pipeline supplying Moretele had been completed. Subsequently, a contractor was appointed to kick-start with the physical work and installation of the new supply line. The construction of the 30-kilometer pipeline consisting of four off-takes that were previously used by the City of Tshwane will be now under the auspices of Magalies Water's Klipdrift Water Treatment Plant, situated along the N1 highway linking Gauteng and Limpopo Province. The facility will be pumping about twenty-seven mega-litres per day to various areas within the Moretele jurisdiction. The four off-takes are Carousel View, Bosplaas, Mogogelo, and Far West.

Water and Sanitation Minister, Senzo Mchunu, accompanied by North West Premier Bushy Maape, Moretele Local Municipality Troika, the Board of Magalies Water and its executive committee started proceedings at the Klipdrift Water Treatment Plant, to see the facility which will now be responsible for bulk water supply in Moretele. Councillor George Manyike, the Mayor of Moretele Local Municipality said, the completion of the

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project had brought jubilation to the community, which had experienced serious water challenges in the part. He continued “Minister, we are happy that you are here today, so that the community of Moretele can see that we are a government at work, and we will strive to improve their lives. We will also extend an invitation to your office, where you can come and get an in-depth understanding of the challenges we are faced with” Mayor Manyike concluded.

North West Premier, did not hold back in saying while community protests had been used as instruments of dissatisfaction by communities in respect of service delivery, the provincial government was committed to ensure that it listens and accelerates service delivery with the objective of bettering the standard of living. Premier Maape emphasized “it is our responsibility to come and listen to all your challenges, but also to strategize on how we can implement solutions in addressing those challenges. North West, for the longest time, has been making news headlines over service delivery issues, particularly water supply. It pleases the provincial government today, that a project of such magnitude has been successfully completed and the host community will start to reap the rewards” said North West Premier.

Minister Mchunu, pleaded with communities to ensure that the infrastructure that has been rolled out in the municipality, is not vandalized and or used as a bargaining tool in instances of protests within the community “I would like to plead with you all to ensure that, you protect all this infrastructure. Water Boards, around the country, find themselves in a precarious position currently. We have commenced work which includes reviewing their mandate and functions, to that extent many do not get funding from government like Magalies Water and as such any destruction of property would be a setback on their part as they would need to raise the capital to maintain and operate the system. Work with them and pay them on time, for the Board to function optimally, it must be paid for the services it has rendered”. Minister Mchunu reiterated.

Magalies Water is looking into additional infrastructure development in Moretele which is set to kick-start during the 2022/23 financial year.

End.

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