



Media Statement

Monday, 4th March 2024

To: All Media

Bulk Water Supplied by Magalies Water Remains Complaint and Safe for Human Consumption

Magalies Water at the weekend noted speculation on the probable outbreak of typhoid in Bojanala Platinum District (Rustenburg, Moses Kotane and Madibeng Local Municipalities). While there has not been any scientific evidence to sustain this claim, Magalies Water acknowledges concerns and the need allay customers' fear about the safety of its potable water. In line with sectoral standards, Magalies Water consistently supplies its customers with potable water of supreme quality that consistently complies with the SANS 241 requirements and specifications. The water treatment processes have been designed to ensure that there are sufficient residual disinfectants in the bulk distribution network to keep the water sterile and safe from microbial contaminants such as typhoid. As such, the bulk water supplied by the water utility remains compliant and meets the industry norms and standards.

Water quality controls

Worth noting is that an ISO/IEC 17025 accredited laboratory renders quality assurance in all the service areas where Magalies Water supplied potable water. To this end, bulk water currently supplied is compliant and the laboratory conducts regular monitoring and water quality testing to ensure that it meets acceptable standards as stipulated in SANS 241 specifications and other international frameworks. In addition, the laboratory ensures that the supplied bulk water is of supreme quality and is safe for human consumption at all material times.

Further to the above, the Water Board reiterates that its water quality monitoring programme for *Escherichia coli* continues as per the requirements of the SANS 241 specifications. As an international norm and widely

known practice, *E. coli* is widely used as an indicator organism for faecal contamination. Magalies Water supplies drinking water that complies with the *E. coli* requirements as meticulously stipulated in SANS 241 specifications. Based on the results of indicator organism, it is therefore safe to conclude that *Salmonella typhi* is absent in the water supply and the water is suitable for human consumption.

At any point, if water supplied has been found to be non-complaint after the treatment processes, robust and swift corrective measures are taken to eliminate any anomalies which would otherwise have affected sustained supply for the benefit of public health.

As such, drinking water supplied by Magalies Water remains compliant with all the health requirements as stipulated in the SANS 241 standard and is safe for human consumption.

End.

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