



48-HOUR SHUTDOWN FOR ESSENTIAL WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT

Umgeni Water is the bulk potable water services provider to the uThukela District Municipality in terms of an agreement signed on 17th October 2018. In order to execute this function and achieve service level compliance, Umgeni Water operates and manages three water treatment plants within the town of Ladysmith and surrounding areas. These water treatment works are: Ezakheni, Olifantskop and Tugela Estate.

Effective and efficient bulk potable water (drinking water) services provision requires that these plants are maintained and upgraded on a regular basis. To enhance efficiencies in conveyance of drinking water in bulk so that the agreed volumes are received by the municipality, it is imperative that the amount of raw water entering these plants and the amount of treated water leaving them are constantly monitored. This is done through installation of inflow and outflow monitoring metres.

Umgeni Water wishes to share the following information with stakeholders so that they are adequately prepared to mitigate and manage possible water shortages that may occur sporadically during the period Tuesday, 15th September 2020, to Thursday, 17th September 2020. From 08h00 on 15th September 2020, Umgeni Water will be conducting essential work that is required to tie in a new potable water supply monitoring meter into the Ezakheni system. It is expected that the work involved will be completed by the morning of 17th September 2020, although if possible, every endeavour will be made to complete the project before then.

Tie in of the monitoring meter into the operating system will necessitate a scheduled 48-hour shutdown of the Aasvoelkop stream supplied from the Ezakheni waterworks. This stream supplies potable water to the 19MI (19 million litres) Aasvoelkop Reservoir, which supplies Ezakheni's residential areas. During the shutdown Umgeni Water will be able to fill this reservoir, but will not be able to release water from it. This means that all of the Ezakheni residential area will be affected and could receive little or no water as work progresses.

In the period preceding this vital work, effective from 4th September 2020 Umgeni Water increased by approximately 20% the amount of potable water it generally supplies to uThukela District Municipality.

Installation of the monitoring meter will ultimately result in improvement in the bulk operating system and enhanced tracking of the amount of water that leaves the Ezakheni plant, thereby achieving accurate metering.

Umgeni Water wishes to apologise to all stakeholders for any inconvenience that may occur during the shutdown. Once work has been completed, all protocols and measures for restoration of water supply to uThukela District Municipality will be instituted immediately.

Issued by the Corporate Stakeholder Management Unit Umgeni Water



**Think Water,
think Umgeni Water.**