



# RAND WATER

HEAD OFFICE

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## MEDIA STATEMENT

### **BUSHBUCKRIDGE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY DEBT OWED TO RAND WATER INCREASES**

Rand Water has reduced its supply of bulk potable water to the Bushbuckridge Local Municipality.

This decision was a credit control action to compel the Municipality to meet its obligations to settle amounts due to Rand Water for water services rendered.

**The full arrears balance due by the Municipality to Rand Water is R 199 197 052. 56.**

**It is important to note that the Municipality had repeatedly failed to honour agreements made in a series of meetings held to settle outstanding amounts due to Rand Water.**

Rand Water has utilised all the appropriate efforts to resolve the matter of the outstanding debt due by the Bushbuckridge Local Municipality (BLM). Rand Water has sought the intervention of the Minister of Water and Sanitation, the Office of the Mpumalanga Premier and the Mpumalanga Provincial Department of Co-operative Government on this matter.

**Furthermore, a high level Task Team from the Rand Water Board met with the Executive Mayor of the BLM and her Mayoral Committee members to discuss the matter. The Executive Mayor and her Mayoral Committee could not make any commitment toward the payment of the outstanding debts. They have subsequently also refused to make any commitment towards servicing their debt.**

Rand Water was left with no option but to reduce the Water pressure to be aligned within the Municipality's affordability level. In order for Rand Water to continue with supply of purified water, the Municipality will have to cover the full cost of what they consume. The non-payment to Rand Water threatens the sustainable supply and the Municipality has to collect the revenue for services rendered in order to service its bulk water account with Rand Water.

Rand Water regrets the inconvenience to consumers affected as a consequence of the Municipality's non-payment of its account for bulk water services rendered.

It is important for residents to note that a speedy resolution to the matter must be provided by the Bushbuckridge Local Municipality.

**Issued by Rand Water**

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