



# RAND WATER

HEAD OFFICE

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## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **UPDATE ON RAND WATER'S PROACTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE**

Rand Water is pleased to inform its municipal customers that the infrastructure maintenance project, scheduled to run from 22 June to 29 July 2024, is progressing as planned.

This extensive and complex project is part of Rand Water's proactive maintenance efforts to preserve the integrity and quality of potable water, ensuring an uninterrupted supply to its municipal customers.

The first phase of the project began on 22 June, in Mogale City Local Municipality (MCLM) with the maintenance of the F5 Pipeline. This involved connecting the F16 Pipeline to the new F5 Pipeline, a task completed nine hours ahead of schedule.

The current phase of the maintenance project started on 24 June, at the Eikenhof, Mapleton and Zwartkopjes Systems. At the Eikenhof System, maintenance work includes, replacement of defective valves, cleaning the sedimentation tank at the Vereeniging Water Treatment Plant (VWTP) and new flexibility connections including the interconnection of Waterval 1 and 2 Reservoirs to the Eikenhof System. The replacement of defective valves and Waterval work has been completed and the commissioning of the system has resumed. The cleaning of the sedimentation tank at the Vereeniging Water Treatment Plant is progressing as planned.

## **Eikenhof System**

On 24 June, pumping was reduced to 50% for the first eight (8) hours and later increased to 67% as work progressed. Currently, maintenance work at the Eikenhof System is completed.

The following municipal customers may be affected:

- City of Johannesburg
- Merafong
- Rand West
- Mogale City
- Rustenburg
- Madibeng
- Royal Bafokeng
- Mines and industries

## **Zwartkopjes System**

At the Zwartkopjes System, maintenance work began on 24 June which included the replacement of defective valve at the VWTP, reducing pumping to 50% for 27 hours. Rand Water is pleased to report that the maintenance work at the Zwartkopjes System was completed on 25 June. However, normal pumping was temporarily disrupted on 26 June, at 18:30 due to a power supply failure. ESKOM technicians identified and repaired the fault, and pumping resumed early this morning, 27 June 2024.

The following reservoirs were affected by the power supply failure:

- Forest Hill
- Benoni
- Meredale
- Yeoville

The municipal customers affected include the Cities of Johannesburg and Ekurhuleni. All areas within these cities supplied by the Zwartkopjes System and the above reservoirs were affected.

## **Mapleton System**

Maintenance work at the Mapleton System began on Monday, 24 June. This work involves upgrading the transformer to increase power supply capacity to Trichardt Pumping Station. Currently, the maintenance work is at 90%, and is expected to be completed as scheduled. Pumping at Trichardt was not affected since generators were used as a backup.

## **Palmiet System**

Maintenance work at the Palmiet System will commence on Friday, June 28, 2024, involving the tie in of the J7 Pipeline to the G17 and J6 Pipelines.

The following customers may be affected:

- City of Johannesburg
- City of Ekurhuleni
- City of Tshwane
- ACSA
- SAA
- Madibeng Local Municipality

It is crucial for the water utility to undertake this maintenance work to extend the lifespan of its assets. As per the Communication Protocol, Rand Water has formally notified its municipal customers with a 21-day notice period, allowing them to implement appropriate contingency plans and manage storage capacity accordingly.

Rand Water emphasises that the completion of the maintenance project does not mean immediate access to water supply, it is anticipated that it might take up to seven (7) days for the system to fully recover and for all affected areas to receive water.

The organisation has requested municipalities to inform their customers about the extent and impact of water supply interruptions in their respective areas and to make alternative arrangements in the form of stationary and roaming water tankers to ensure that citizens continue to receive water.

Rand Water will continue to provide updates throughout the maintenance period.

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