GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION

NO. 2738 14 November 2022

INTENTION TO EXTEND THE SERVICE AREA OF AMATOLA WATER TO COVER THE ENTIRE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

- I, Mr Senzo Mchunu, in my capacity as Minister of Water and Sanitation, hereby, in terms of section 28 of the Water Services Act, 1997 (Act No. 108 of 1997), propose the following:
 - a) Gazette the extension of the geographic area of Amatola Water to cover the entire Eastern Cape Province.
 - b) That the process will be done in terms of section 28 (1) (a) (b) (c) and (d) of the Water Services Act, 1997 which states that: "The Minister may, by notice in the Gazette, establish a water board; give it a name or approve a change of its name; determine or change its service area or disestablish it".

I give the reasons for the transfer and extension of area as follows:

The Department has reviewed the Water Boards in terms of financial sustainability, servicing areas that are not currently serviced and institutional confusion caused by having multiple Water Boards serving the same province.

The purpose of the review of the Water Boards is to strengthen the capacity and capability of the entity in Province (leveraging on existing technical skills), improve and enhance institutional efficiencies and rationalise the number of institutions in the water sector to ensure economies of scale, maintain financial viability and enhance the ability to raise capital from the market for infrastructure projects, to enable Water Boards to better support Water Services Authorities, (WSAs), to ensure transformation and improved governance and to ensure that all geographical areas are serviced by Water Boards.

Following the working sessions with the Provincial Governments, various Water Services Authorities and Water Boards regarding issues of governance, financial viability, accountability, and broader service delivery issues, a decision was taken to review Water Boards. The review is based on considerations of financial sustainability, servicing areas that are not currently being serviced and is also intended to address institutional confusion caused by having multiple water boards servicing the same area. I approved the proposal to extend the service area of Amatola Water to cover the entire Eastern Cape Province.

All interested persons are invited to comment in writing on the extension of the service area of Amatola Water to cover the entire Eastern Cape Province, the comments will be accepted for a period of sixty (60) days from the date of publication of this notice. All such comments must be addressed to:

Director-General

Department of Water and Sanitation

Attention: Mr Sinky Letsholo 164 Waterbron Building

191 Francis Baard Street, Pretoria, 0001

or

Private Bag X313, Pretoria, 0001. Email: <u>LetsholoS@dws.gov.za</u>

Tel: 012 336 8043

MR'S MCHUNU.MP

MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE: