

Councillor Thys Daniel Janse van Rensburg

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CC: MM Uthukela - Mr Bongani Mnguni
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Dear MEC, Ms Mbali Frazer

REQUEST FOR URGENT INTERVENTION AROUND WATER PROVISION TO SCHOOLS IN THE GREATER UTHUKELA

I write to you as the official School Calendar year is starting. A small sample of schools yesterday revealed that most have either; no water, or water contaminated and deemed unfit for consumption.

Many Communities and most regions in Uthukela has endured challenges around the provision of safe drinking water of late, and the holiday season seem to have exacerbate the dire situation. Pair this with the re-opening of schools and the current heat wave being experienced, and one could only imagine the difficulties Educators must endure on an hourly basis.

The sample yesterday included:

Winterton Primary that has water that is unfit for human consumption and parents are asked to provide kids with drinkable water. The irony is however that most parents are in the same geographical area where there home water is also contaminated.

Aloe Park Primary and Ladysmith secondary, two schools adjacent with a combined 2 500 learners. They have installed some buffer bulk water capacity, but this also runs empty on a almost daily basis.


St Gregory Primary School in Estcourt with a 170 learners that is/was without water.

It come as no surprise that the failing of the Uthukela District Municipality to provide Water to its communities are now having a major effect on the functionality of our Schools and Education system.

I therefore request that you consider among your actions steps:

- 1) To establish the full scope of the problem by doing a urgent inquiry with all the urban, peri urban and rural schools in the Uthukela Region.
- 2) That you share the results with relevant stakeholders, including Uthukela District Municipality. .
- 3) That a urgent action plan with measurable steps be formulated, and spearheaded by your Department, to ensure potable water provision to all Schools.
- 4) Any action necessary to ensure Education can continue in a dignified and effective manner.

Yours faithfully



Cllr Thys Janse v Rensburg
Councillor - Uthukela