



Democratic Alliance
Email: info@da.org.za
www.da.org.za
P.O. Box 1475, Cape Town, 8000

13 February 2023

Att: Mr Roshan Pillay
Bibi Bedir
Eskom Regional Manager

Re: Wilge Water Treatment Plant, Sterkfontein Water Treatment Plant, Fika Patso Water Treatment Plant, Metsi Matso Water Treatment Plant.

Due to ongoing loadshedding schedules and no end in sight for the foreseeable future, many residents of Maluti-a-Phofung have made peace with the fact that this is now the new normal.

Unfortunately, no water in their taps due to various stages of loadshedding is not something that residents should have to make peace with. After all, our constitution makes provision to safe guard residents basic human right to clean water supply. It should further be noted that no noticeable or concrete plans have been made by Maluti-a-Phofung municipality to put in place measures to ease the strain on residents or to shield them from water supply interruptions. The above mentioned water treatment plants provide water either directly or indirectly (water tankers) to 100% of the residents of Maluti-a-Phofung.

The water services act provides that:

- *Everyone has a right of access to basic water supply and sanitation services.
- *Every water services institution must take steps to realise these rights.
- *Every municipality must plan in its water services development plant to realise these rights.

Other regional treaties that enshrine the right to water and sanitation include:

- *The African Charter on Human and People's Rights (1981)
- *The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (1990)
- *The Additional Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights in the Area of Economic Social and Cultural Rights (Protocol of San Salvador)(1988) and
- *The Arab Charter on Human Rights (2008)

Taking the above into consideration, I am therefore kindly requesting the following:



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1. That the electricity line feeding to Sterkfontein, Wilge, Fika Patso and Metsi Matso Water Treatment Plants be excluded from loadshedding.
2. If the above is not possible, that the electricity line feeding Sterkfontein, Wilge, Fika Patso and Metsi Matso be placed on lower loadshedding stages to ensure more running hours between each loadshed schedule in order for reservoirs to fill up.
3. If the above is not possible, that the electricity line feeding Sterkfontein, Wilge, Fika Patso and Metsi Matso be allowed to do load curtailment. Therefore allowing for reservoirs to fill sufficiently before power is disconnected for stipulated period.

I further humbly ask you to please take the above requests in a very serious light, as the livelihoods and lives of Maluti-a-Phofung residents are at stake. Maluti-a-Phofung has an official population of 380 000 residents. 60% of whom live in poverty. It is critical that there be at least a bulk supply to all areas to ensure residents receive some water daily. Water tankers are used extensively to supply many traditional areas in Qwa-Qwa and township areas in the municipality.

I look forward to your response.

Regards

Councillor Eleanor Quinta
DA Ward Councillor
Maluti-a-Phofung Local Municipality
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