



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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01 June 2023

Hon. Fikile Xasa
Chairperson – Portfolio Committee on Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs
Per e-mail: scassiem@parliament.gov.za

Dear Hon. Xasa

REF: Request for Committee report and plans, budgets and infrastructure upgrade plans from the Gauteng Province and the City of Ekurhuleni for the installation of generators at Water Towers, reservoirs and water feeds and systems to ensure the supply of water , and provision of constant power outages in the City of Ekurhuleni

Thank you for the opportunity for the 2 petitions from Benoni residents to be heard.

I am writing to request that your office provide me with follow up reports from Gauteng Province and the City of Ekurhuleni with regard to discussions and action plans to address the issues raised in the 2 petitions.

With regard to the water petition – the plans to provide generators to all Reservoirs and water feeds and systems providing water to residents , businesses, schools, etc.

With regard to the constant power outages ---- sometimes residents have to endure many hours of power outages out of loadshedding times. Residents and businesses have to endure days of no power and there are some senior citizens that rely on oxygen tanks that actually can't recharge these tanks due to no power at all. This is costing lives and livelihoods.

Discussions on infrastructure upgrades were very relevant- I hereby, request these infrastructure upgrade plans with budgets and implementation plans from the Gauteng Province and the CoE as requested at the meeting / petition hearing.

Please if these plans can be sourced from the relevant Governments and emailed to me, I will appreciate it.

Residents in the City of Ekurhuleni face significant challenges accessing water when the supply is interrupted by power cuts due to loadshedding.

Residents have petitioned both the CoE and Parliament for a targeted intervention to address the issue of power and water outages, it is unfortunate that despite efforts by residents to seek a quick resolution to the issue, there has been no practical intervention at City level to resolve it.

As a Member of Parliament and the Constituency Head for Benoni in the City of Ekurhuleni, I have taken it upon myself to seek answers on their behalf.

In section 27 of the Bill of Rights it is stated that: *“Everyone has the right to have access to sufficient food and water... The state must take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources, to achieve the progressive realisation of these rights.”* The continued failure to address the water challenges is a direct infringement on the residents of Ekurhuleni.

The supply of electricity is essential to households, business, schools and health facilities

I look forward to hearing from your office.

Thank you.

Kind Regards

Haseena Ismail

Member of Parliament

National Assembly

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