EASTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

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Attention: MEC for CoGTA, Hon Zolile Williams

Dear Hon Williams

Re: Request for further urgent intervention in Makana Municipality

I write this to appeal to you for further urgent intervention in the crisis which is unfolding in the Makana Municipality, and specifically in Makhanda.

There are areas in town, specifically around Campbell Street, Chapel Street and the Queen Street taxi rank, which have not had water for more than two months. There are also high lying residential areas which very seldom can access municipal water in their taps. The municipality delivers water to affected parties from time to time, but their vehicle is unreliable and the rest of their yellow fleet is allegedly broken or being repaired.

Communication from the officials is spasmodic at best, but usually they fail to communicate what work is being done, who will be affected, and which areas will receive water from the truck. Furthermore, repair works that have been completed have been sabotaged by corrupt officials, who allegedly are doing business with the municipality and want the contracts for repairs.

This municipal collapse has brought Makhanda to its knees and residents from all parts of the town bear the brunt of this state of affairs. I know you have taken steps to support the municipality in discharging its duties. I am appealing to you to take further steps against officials who are wilfully obstructing service delivery, and ensure that the yellow fleet is repaired and functional so that residents can once again access the services they are entitled to.

I would truly appreciate your further assistance and look forward to hearing from you in this regard.

Kind regards,

Jane Cowley