



KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Office

Leader: Sithembiso Ngema

Chairperson: Dean Macpherson

Provincial Managing Director: Greg Dalton

Tel: +27 31 263 0351

www.dakzn.org.za

Second Floor, Suite 125, Island Office Park, 35 - 37 Island Circle

10 September 2026

The Mayor

EThekweni Municipality

Councillor Cyril Xaba

Via email: cyril.xaba@durban.gov.za

Water Crisis: Request for Urgent Intervention

We have a water crisis in Durban.

I am unsure if that has been brought to your attention yet.

It appears that neither of you are aware of the serious situation given your noticeable silence on the serious situation that the residents are facing.

Whenever you drive in this city, fresh drinking water flows on our streets and into drains. Millions of litres are wasted every day. Yet the city calls on its residents almost every day to conserve water.

We are aware that there are 13000 active water leaks across our city and neither you, nor your head of water have addressed the city's residents on the progress you are making to mitigate this crisis.

I am certain that someone in your department has briefed you that we are now sitting at around 65% water loss (NRW) in the city.

Ten years ago, this figure was around 33%. This is a clear indication that the situation has worsened over the last decade. Since the launch of your water turnaround strategy, the water loss has increased from 58% to 65%.

Your plans are not working.

Your actions are failing.

Your silence is concerning and the people of this city are frustrated.

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Although the crisis has worsened over the years, your salaries have increased to their maximum potential without any delay.

I have taken note of your decision in December last year to promote Mr. Ednick Msweli and increase his salary by a further 1 million rands.

Another increase was passed in council recently which will incentivise failure even further.

This is why I am calling for urgent and immediate action to end this crisis.

I am writing to demand the immediate suspension of your Executive Director of Water and Sanitation, Mr. Ednick Msweli.

You simply cannot maintain the status quo with this level of failure and poor performance record.

For far too long your leadership has become synonymous with mediocrity and failure.

It is my hope that you will act with the seriousness that this crisis deserves. If you choose not to do so, we give you notice that we will take appropriate action to end this crisis in the first week of November 2026.



Haniff Hoosen
DA Mayoral Candidate



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