



MEDIA STATEMENT

DRINKING WATER QUALITY MONITORING IN JUNE 2023

Attention: News Editors / Journalists / Press Members

Date: 26 June 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Over the past week, the focus has been on the issues of contamination of drinking water in certain parts of Makhanda due to the detection of the bacteria known as *E. coli*. The presence of *E. coli* in drinking water indicates the presence of faecal contamination and requires prompt disinfection for deactivation of bacteria as well as follow-up testing to ensure that disinfection is effective.

Makana Municipality Water Services Department in partnership with Rhodes University's RUBIC Water Testing Laboratory has been conducting follow-up water quality tests over the past month at several sites. Amatola Water and the District Environment Health Department have also been taking samples from various sampling points to assist with more data collection to fast track the identification of the cause of failures.

The previous microbiological failures that were identified in May 2023 prompted the Makana Municipality's Water Services department to increase chlorine dosing at both the Treatment Works and the reservoirs over the past few weeks. From the data tabulated in the table below, there is a decrease in *E. coli* levels at certain sites. Test results showed that all water exiting both JKWTW and Waainek WTW does not show the presence of *E. coli*. It is believed that the current hotspots where *E. coli* is still present may be associated with contamination from groundwater as the water moves from the reservoirs to the water usage points.

Last week's water quality results clearly indicates that there has been a positive improvement with almost all samples taken reflecting no presence of *E. coli* except for one sample of Raglan Road Clinic. This failure will be monitored carefully this week along with other sampling points so that this can be rectified.

Makana Municipality shall strive to ensure sustainable, affordable, equitable and quality services in a just, friendly secure and healthy environment, which promotes social and economic growth for all.

...a great place to be

SANS 241 Drinking Standards of 2015 prescribes that there should be no or zero presence of *E. coli* count in drinking water. Due to the microbial failure that was found, residents are urged to continue taking precautions as indicated in the Boil Water Notice that was issued by the municipality.




Compliance Status

MAKANA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

Makhanda Drinking Water Quality

E.coli

SANS 241:2015 Limit = 0

Year		2023	JUNE							
Date:			29/05/2023 MKN/RU	29/05/2023 Amatola Water	01/06/2023 MKN/RU	01/06/2023 EHS	04/06/2023 MKN/RU	14/06/2023 MKN/RU	20/06/2023 MKN/RU	20/06/2023 EHS
	Raw water - JKWTW									
	Raw water - Waainek WTW									
S	WTW-JK			0					0	
	WTW-Waainek									0
A	High Level	High level	0	1	0	1		0	0	
B	High Level	Military Base	2		1		156	1	0	
C	Intermediate	Worcester Mews	0		0		0	0	0	
D	Intermediate	MBB Offices	1		0			2	0	
E	Low Level	Env Health Offices	9	4	2	4	2	0	0	0
F	Low Level	GHT Police Office	221		0		0	0	0	
G	Tantyi	Reglan Rd Clinic	4		5		0	0	13	0
H	Tantyi	Nyaluza Sec School	0				0		0	
I	Tantyi	J-Street Comm Tap	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
J	Bothas Hill	V Shumane Clinic	0							
K	Bothas Hill	Dlukulu Clinic	0	0		0		0	0	0
L	Bothas Hill	Duna Library			0			0	0	
M	Bothas Hill	Indoor Sports Cnt		38	250	0	16	0	0	0
N	Bothas Hill	Transit Camp			0			0	0	
O	Bothas Hill	Nkanini						0	0	
P	Bothas Hill	Extension 10 HH Tap			250		14	27	0	
Q	RU	Desmond T					0			
R	RU	Gilbert House					0	0	0	
T	Tantyi	George D School		0						
Maximum:			221	38	250	4	156	27	13	0
Minimum:			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of samples:			11	7	11	5	11	15	17	6
Number of COMPLIANT samples			6	4	6	3	7	12	16	6
COMPLIANCE STATUS:			55%	57%	55%	60%	64%	80%	94%	100%
	Failure									
	Compliant									
	No Sample Taken									

ENDS

**Issued by the Makana Municipality Communications Office.
Enquires:
Mr Anele Mjekula, 083 768 0515.**