Cnr. Carrington Str and 1st Avenue, Industrial Site, Mahikeng, 2745 | Tel: (018) 381 9400|Fax (018) 381 4300
Private Bag X2167, Mahikeng, 2745| www.nmmdm.gov.za

JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT

31 March 2014

WATER RESTORED IN MOKGOLA VILLAGE OUTSIDE ZEERUST

Following the recent protest leading to road blockade by the residents of Mokgola village outside Zeerust in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality, the District would like to put the following on record that it must be noted that the incident was highly unfortunate as there was already work that was underway repair the collapsed boreholes.

The village is currently serviced by 8 boreholes and some had collapsed last week leading to shortage of water which was amongst other factors that sparked this unfortunate protest action.

Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality and Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality supported by the Department of Water Affairs immediately intervened and dispatched a team of engineers to increase the number of technicians who were on site to restore water supply in the area whereby, residents had already blocked the road leading to Botswana demanding answers from Government.

The Executive Mayor of the District Municipality, Cllr Phaladi Saku and the Mayor of Ramotshere Local Municipality, Cllr Africa Thale tried in vain to address the residents who were unruly at the time and not willing to listen to them.

The District Municipality note with deepest concern on the protest as there is partnership with the Community through the Councillor and Water Committee chaired by Mr Pule whom surprisingly led the protest;

The District Municipality as the Water Service Authority in the locality is busy with a long term project to alleviate water shortage in the area for a long time to come, and this is the project that the Minister of Water Affairs alluded to, during her visit to the village late last year.

District Municipality has placed **23 Jojo Water Tanks 200m radius** around Sections that have no infrastructure and those who experience inadequacy of water supply, and has further allocated Water Trucks to continuously refill those Jojo tanks as an iterim measure as it remains government's plan to continue improving access to basic services and this is captured in the action plan to immediately resuscitate the collapsed boreholes and bring all 8 boreholes to a fully functional level as well as to urgently equip four (4) more boreholes to bring the total number to twelve by the financial year 2014/15 commencing in July 2014 and hopefully meet the demands of the growing village whilst the long term planned project is underway.

Government in the ***"20 years of Freedom and Democracy"*** will continue to provide access to basic services to the citizens of South Africa.

"TOGETHER WE MOVE SOUTH AFRICA FORWARD"

End.

Joint Statement

Issued by: Water Affairs and Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality

Enquiries: Water Affairs – Bigboy Moagi – 082 604 7051

Ngaka Modiri District Municipality - Lehlohonolo Matsose – 083 638 1456/0834488960