



ADDENDUM

to the
Agenda of the Statutory Council Meeting
of **23 January 2025**

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tot die Agenda van die
Statutêre Raadsvergadering
van **23 Januarie 2025**

A4844	REPORT: IMPLEMENTATION OF WATER RESTRICTION LEVEL 1 IN ROBERTSON (SENIOR MANAGER CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES)	02
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REPORT: IMPLEMENTATION OF WATER RESTRICTION LEVEL 1 IN ROBERTSON (SENIOR MANAGER CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES)

The aim of this report is to provide information of the current state of raw water supply to Robertson.

Robertson receives its bulk water from three sources, namely from the Langeberg Mountains (the Dassieshoek and Koos Kok Dams), from the Robertson (Brandvlei) Irrigation Canal and from the Hoops River Irrigation Scheme. The water from the mountains and a portion of the water from the Hoops River and the Robertson Irrigation Canal are used for the potable water requirements of the Town and the other water sources for garden irrigation or "leiwater" purposes. Currently the water level at the Dassieshoek Dam is 29% and Koos Kok Dam 30%. Compared to last year this time the dam levels for Dassieshoek and Koos Kok Dam was 100% full. Due to the current levels of the Dassieshoek and Koos Kok Dam it is critical that interventions are implemented to manage the current water situation.

On 4 December 2024 Council approved that Leiwater to Robertson be reduced to every two weeks supply. Previous years there was rain in the catchment area during November, December or January, which assisted with the dam levels. Up to now very little rain has fallen in the catchment area. The reduction of Leiwater to Robertson did not have the required impact. With the current water dam levels and demand it will not be possible to provide the volume of water required for the rest of the season. In order to manage the current raw water sources effectively and to ensure a sustainable water supply to all, it will be required to install water restrictions.

The tables below provide a summary of the water demand (consumption of treated water and irrigation) versus the water sources available for these purposes. Table 1 indicates the water situation if irrigation water is supplied to Robertson every two weeks. Table 2 represents a scenario if stage 1 water restrictions will be implemented. It is important to note that the Willem-Nelsrivier-farmers is entitled to 145 440 m³ that must be released from December 2024 to March 2025. According to the agreement the Municipality must ensure that this water is available to the farmers. This places an additional burden on the water resources.

When the dam levels reach levels of 15% and lower the water quality also deteriorates. As indicated in Table 1 below, the storage capacity at the end of January approaches the critical low level.

Table 1: Irrigation water supplied every second week (Current situation)

Month 2024/25	WATER DEMAND		WATER SOURCE			Storage Dams Capacity Remains	Willem Nelsrivier (Farmers)
	Consumption (Treated water)	Irrigation Water	Robertson canal	Hoopsriver	Dassieshoek / Koos Kok water used		
		m ³	m ³	m ³	m ³	(m ³)	m ³
January	-274230	-20500	167000	38548	89182	210000	
February	-256070	-20500	167000	38548	71022	138978	-48480
March	-257900	-20500	167000	38548	72852	17646	-48480
April	-227166	-20500	167000	38548	42118	0	
May	-220030	-20500	167000	38548	34982	0	

Should the current provision of irrigation water to Robertson continue (supply leiwater only every second week), critical dam levels are expected at the end of February 2025. The dam levels in February will however be below 8% and the water quality will be negatively affected due to the low water levels.

Table 2: Implementing Level 1 Water Restrictions

Month 2024/25	WATER DEMAND		WATER SOURCE			Storage Dams Capacity Remains	Wilhelm Nelsrivier (Farmers)
	Consumption (Treated water)	Irrigation Water	Robertson canal	Hoopsriver	Dassieshoek / Koos Kok water used		
	m ³	m ³	m ³	m ³	m ³	m ³	m ³
January	-274230	0	167000	38548	68682	210000	
February	-230463	0	167000	38548	24915	185085	-48480
March	-232110	0	167000	38548	26562	110043	-48480
April	-204449	0	167000	38548	-1099	62662	
May	-220030	0	167000	38548	14482	48180	

From table 2 above the water resources will be available up to end of March 2025.

As indicated in the above tables, it is clear that the current water sources are not sufficient to accommodate the water demand should the current status be maintained.

Conclusion

Taking the above into consideration and the fact that no significant rain has fallen in the past two months and that the Willem-Nelsriver-farmers is entitled to 145 440 m³ that must be released up to end of March 2025, it is critical that urgent measures be implemented in order to manage the resources effectively. It is proposed that Level 1 water restrictions be implemented in Robertson from 1 February 2025 in terms of the approved Drought Management Policy. Should the stage one measures not be effective higher water restriction levels could be considered. The detail regarding the levels of water restrictions is provided below:

Restriction Stage 1:

1. Suspension of Leiwater.
2. Watering of gardens may only be undertaken for two hours per day between 18H00 — 20H00, two days per week.
3. A fine in terms of Section 75 A of the Systems Act, being a 50% penalty on tariffs for monthly consumption in excess of 30 kilolitre per month per household connection, excluding indigent households.
4. At sport fields only watering of cricket pitches, golf course greens and bowling greens is permitted for two hours per day, twice per week, unless own source of water is used.
5. No hosing of roofs and driveways and no washing of vehicles with a garden hose will be permitted.
6. That the restriction referred to in 4 above not be applicable to any bona fide and full-time commercial enterprises whose business it is to wash cars.
7. Effective awareness and education campaign processes must be conducted. The public awareness campaign must be intensified.
8. That water restrictions become effective immediately after being advertised in the media and in public places.
9. Consumers must be closely monitored and those that do not heed the restrictions identified. The Law Enforcement department must undertake this function.
10. Maintenance teams must be made available to address leakages in indigent households.
11. All contraventions must be reported to the call centre and followed up immediately by the law enforcement.
12. Any person who contravenes these restrictions is guilty of an offence and is, upon conviction, liable to a fine as published in the annual tariffs list.

Restriction Stage 2:

1. Suspension of leiwater.
2. No watering of gardens using municipal water
3. A fine in terms of Section 75 A of the Systems Act, being a 100% penalty on tariffs for monthly consumption in excess of 15 kilolitre per month per household connection, including indigent households.
4. No watering of sport fields, cricket pitches, golf course greens and/or bowling greens is permitted unless own source of water is used.
5. No filling of swimming pools. No washing of vehicles with any hose will be permitted including commercial enterprises whose business it is to wash cars.
6. Stricter policing and implementation of a complaint line and whistle blowers facility.
7. Consultation with bulk consumers in the industrial and business sectors as identified through the billing system.
8. Installation of flow restrictors to non-compliant consumers to water restrictions.

Restriction Stage 3:

1. Suspension of leiwater.
2. A fine in terms of Section 75 A of the Systems Act, being a 200% penalty on tariffs for monthly consumption in excess of 6 kilolitre per month per household connection, including indigent households.
3. Media to be used extensively for public awareness.
4. Stricter policing and implementation of a complaint line and whistle blowers facility.
5. Bulk consumers in the industrial and business sectors to reduce consumption to 30% of the average for that specific month over the last 3 years.

Recommendation:

1. It is recommended that Level 1 water restriction be implemented in Robertson from 1 February 2025.
2. That the water levels be monitored and if necessary, Level 2 water restrictions be implemented from 1 March 2025 to ensure sustainable water supply.