

Zululand

DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY
UMKHANDLU WESIFUNDA



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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Ref: zdmc20/183

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Date: 08 June 2018

The Public Protector
Advocate Busisiwe Mkhwebane
Private Bag X677
PRETORIA
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VIA EMAIL: kgalalelom@pprotect.org
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Dear Advocate Mkhwebane

COMPLAINT AGAINST MHLATHUZE WATER REGARDING R185 MILLION TRANSFERRED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FOR ZULULAND DISTRICT DROUGHT INTERVENTION

In the 2015/16 financial year Mhlathuze Water was appointed by the Department of Water and Sanitation to complete water supply projects in Abaqulusi, and Nongoma local municipalities. These projects were undertaken as part of ministerial directives issued to Mhlathuze Water to address water supply challenges within Zululand District Municipality.

Mhlathuze Water is a public entity owned by the Department of Water and Sanitation, that operates in Northern Kwazulu Natal.

An amount of R185 million was allocated by the Department to Mhlathuze Water according to the budget allocation indicated below:

Abaqulusi 5, 6, 7 & 22	R 40,437,851.00
Nongoma Ward 5,10 & 11	R 72 051 764.72
Nongoma Ward 14 & 17	R 63 260 384.05
Implementing Agent Fees	R 9 250 000.00
TOTAL	R 185 000 000.00

As of January 2018, Mhlathuze Water had already utilized R115 million of the total allocation and requested National Treasury for a rollover of R70 million.

As the Water Service Authority for the Zululand District, the municipality has no evidence to show that R185 million worth of water infrastructure has been rolled out by Mhlathuze Water. Instead the communities identified in the above wards still have no access to water.

We hereby request your good office to launch an investigation as to how the R185 million authorized by the Department of Water and Sanitation was spent by Mhlathuze Water.

The municipality is of the view that resources from the national fiscus meant for poor communities have been diverted elsewhere.

Your prompt attention to this matter will be highly appreciated.

Kind Regards



Reverend Thulasizwe Buthelezi
MAYOR – ZULULAND DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

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