



Honourable Marina van Zyl, MP

P. O. Box 15 Cape Town 8000 Tel: (021) 403 2802 Cellphone: 066 283 3435
E-mail: marina.vanzyl.da@gmail.com

12 December 2022

Mr. Nonjola, Acting Municipal Manager, Joe Gqabi District Municipality

RE: Sewerage Pump Station behind Thembisa

Dear Mr. Nonjola,

It is with great concern that I write you today. As the acting Municipal Manager of Joe Gqabi District Municipality, you are aware of the issue of the dysfunctional sewerage pumpstation in Thembisa in Burgersdorp.

The pumpstation does not house a pump and there is no electricity to the building to allow for the raw sewerage to be pumped to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Instead, the manhole has simply been blocked and manmade trenches has been dug to bypass the pumpstation, allowing raw sewerage to flow into the field, the Stormberg River and eventually the Gariep Dam.

The spillage poses a serious threat to the health of residents, the livelihoods of emerging farmers and the eventual risk of contamination of the groundwater is extremely high.

This is pollution, and according to the National Water, Act 36 of 1998 under section 151(1)(j) and section 2 of the act and/or NEMA act 107 of 1998 under section 49 A(1)(e) and (f); it is against the law and therefore a criminal offence.

I hereby request your office to respond within 7 days hereof with an acknowledgement of receipt and to provide a plan by the District Municipality for the repair of the pumpstation and the rehabilitation of the area.

Failure to fix the pumpstation by 12 January 2023 and have it in working condition, will result in me laying a criminal charge in terms of NEMA Act 107 of 1998.

I kindly await your response,

Signed electronically

Hon. Marina van Zyl, MP