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MINISTER CONDUCTS A SITE VISIT AT UMNGENI-UTHUKELA WATER IN KWAZULU-NATAL

The Minister of public Works and Infrastructure, Dean Macpherson conducted an oversight visit at uMngeni-Uthukela Water's Lower uMkhomazi Bulk Water Supply Scheme in the eThekwini Metropolitan Municipality, in KwaZulu-Natal. The project is supported by Infrastructure South Africa (ISA) and has been gazetted as a Strategic Integrated project (SIP).

The uMkhomanzi Water Scheme Project is worth more that R20 Billion. It meets water supply needs for approximately 50 000 households on the South coast, located between the eThekwini and Ugu District Municipalities. The project includes the construction of a new dam within the uMkhomanzi River. The associated infrastructure will also include a 32 kilometre raw water conveyance tunnel and 5 kilometre pipeline to the uMlaza river.

During the oversight visit, Minister Macpherson said "Infrastructure South Africa has been instrumental in Lower uMkhomanzi Bulk Water Supplu Scheme to unblock the bureaucratic blockages, in some cases shortening the time of approvals in half. Importantly, their assistance and support have ensured that the project remains on timr and within budget."

The minister says that the Lower Lower uMkhomazi Bulk Water Supply Scheme is a prime example of how through collaborative efforts, infrastructure investments can be unblocked.











JOINT FORCES TO FIGHT THE CONSTRUCTION MAFIA

The Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure, Dean Macpherson has welcomed the joint announcement by the City of Cape Town, Atterbury, Old Mutual Properties and others to join forces to address the growing occurrence of the so-called construction mafia at developmental projects.

The minister says the department will work together with all organisations, and look into new and innovatory approaches, in order to fight the crime and lawlessness that is being committed on construction sites across the country. "The construction sector should be playing a bigger and more important role in growing our country's economy. This is only possible if we ensure that our sites are safe." says Minister Macpherson.

Furthermore, the department is making plans to work with the South African Police Services (SAPS) and the South African Revenue Services (SARS), to further identify the culprits and expedite accountability. The minister says "by working together, we will be able to turn the tide against the construction mafia in South Africa to ensure that they no longer operate in impunity."





