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TO THE EDITOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SUBJECT: BLM EXPERIENCING RAW WATER SHORTAGES IN TREATMENT PLANTS**

Two water treatment works within Bushbuckridge Local Municipality namely Sand River and Thulamahashe are experiencing raw water shortages due to lack of rainfall. Both rivers are drying up every day; Sand River is not operational while Thulamahashe is highly running down. This has resulted in less water quantity been purified and distributed as a result of the shortages.

Affected areas in Thulamahashe include Ludlow and Thulamahashe location while under Sand River affected areas are Songeni, Zola and Buffelshoek. As relief strategy, the municipality with the support of Rand Water Board will direct water from Inyaka treatment plant to Thulamahashe and surrounding areas. This is an early drought warning and we hope the water gods will have mercy on us. Water tankers will be dispatched to ensure that residents have access to water.

The department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs will be engaged to assist the municipality to ensure that community members have access to water. The municipality is appealing to all its consumers to utilize water very sparingly and store water for future uses. The municipality would like to apologize for any inconvenience that might be caused as a result of this.

Regards,

Aubrey Mnisi

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