

[Media Statement]



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TO: All Media
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SUBJECT: MCWAP-2 Reaches Milestone

The Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority, TCTA, has, on 23 July 2025, announced that a significant milestone has been reached for the second phase of the Mokolo Crocodile Water Augmentation Project (MCWAP-2) with the formal signing of the construction contract paving way for construction. This follows a signing of the Memorandum of Understanding which took place on June 4, 2025.

During a meeting held in Pretoria on 22 July, Percy Sechemane, Chief Executive Officer of TCTA and Zhang Peiliang, Chief Representative of PowerChina/Sinohydro South Africa, signed the contract, confirming the appointment of a joint venture between PowerChina/Sinohydro and Entsika Consulting Services as the contractor for the project. Sechemane confirmed that the joint venture will construct key infrastructure, including abstraction works, pumping stations, reservoirs and pipelines, along with related multidisciplinary and ancillary works necessary to deliver the project.

Sechemane also described the contract signing as a decisive moment for the country's water resource. "The project seeks to ignite hope to the people of South Africa, particularly Thabazimbi, Lephalale and surrounding areas," he said. "Mining and power generation activities, along with population growth, have placed increasing pressure on water resources. MCWAP-2 therefore forms part of South Africa's long-term water security strategy. It is especially critical for Limpopo Province, a region of growing industrial demand. While MCWAP-1 successfully augmented supply to the Medupi and Matimba power stations, the scale of current and future demand calls for a stronger solution", he said. He also noted that the contract signing marks the conclusion of the award process for the construction of MCWAP-2.

TCTA and the Department of Water and Sanitation is to hold a sod turning ceremony later in the year. The ceremony seeks to officially mark the commencement of construction for this national key-point project.

The project will transfer water from the Crocodile (West) River to Steenbokpan and Lephalale. The future water supply point for Steenbokpan will be determined by the project engineer, ensuring optimal delivery for both industrial and community use. A notable feature of the project is the River Management System (RMS), which will regulate water flow downstream of the Hartbeespoort and Klipvoor dams and select tributaries, extending to the proposed Vlieëpoort Weir near Thabazimbi. The RMS will enable more sustainable water management, supporting both environmental preservation and developmental needs and strengthening the country's future water resilience.

Issued by TCTA

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