

PREMIER'S MINUTE

PORTFOLIO: DEPARTMENT OF COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

REFERENCE: (HOD) 1/3/DP/12/14

DATE: 15 September 2016

SUBJECT

1. EXTENSION OF THE DECLARATION OF A KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCIAL STATE OF DISASTER.

PURPOSE

2. To request the Honourable Premier to extend the declaration of a KwaZulu-Natal provincial state of disaster from 11 October to 10 November 2016, in accordance with the provisions of section 41(5)(c) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002) ("the Act"), as a result of the continued drought and the subsequent damage and possibility of loss of life.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

3. Section 41(5)(c) of the Act states as follows:

(5) A provincial state of disaster that has been declared in terms of subsection (1)–

(a)

(b); and

(c) may be extended by the Premier by notice in the provincial gazette for one month at a time before it lapses in terms of paragraph (a) or the existing extension is due to expire.

DISCUSSION

4.1 By resolution of the Premier-in-Executive Council, a Provincial State of Disaster was declared on 11 November 2015, as a result of the protracted drought and the subsequent damage and possible loss of life.

4.2 Despite some rain in isolated areas, this Province continues to be in the grips of a prolonged drought situation. To date the Department of Water & Sanitation as well as the National Disaster Management Centre and line function departments have allocated a total of R1 020 990 825.00 to alleviate the effects of the continued drought conditions. This amount includes the R150 million allocated by Provincial Treasury to address the drought conditions in the current financial year.

4.3 Although some rain has fallen in isolated areas, very little, or no, rain has fallen in the main catchment areas which significantly contributes to a drop in stream and river flows impacting negatively on dam levels. Dams are losing water at an alarming rate in part due to higher than normal temperatures but also due to the fact that some municipalities are not heeding and enforcing the increased restrictions implemented by the Department of Water & Sanitation. Drastic measures such as the prohibition of extraction from certain dams have been implemented by the Department of Water & Sanitation.

4.4 Current predictions by the South African Weather Service indicate that most of the province should continue to experience a below-normal probability for rainfall for the months of September, October and even November 2016. The likelihood of La Niña (above-normal rainfall) conditions next summer is slowly increasing with normal to above-normal rainfall predicted from December 2016.

It must be remembered that sustained above-normal rainfall is required to restore dam levels and agricultural conditions and that it will not happen within a month of good rains. The SAWS has also predicted that above-normal minimum and maximum temperatures can be expected to prevail throughout the Province.

4.5 The Department of Health continues to implement their contingency plans to address the provision of water at provincial health facilities by drilling boreholes and erecting static water tanks to ensure a reliable supply of water to maintain their daily activities. The Department is implementing a program to reduce water leaks and install self-closing taps in all their facilities. The Department is utilising their own budget to implement the emergency relief measures in-house.

4.6 The Department of Human Settlements is including water storage tanks in all new housing projects being implemented throughout the Province in this financial year. They are planning to erect approximately 15 000 static water tanks at new housing units at a cost of R105million.

4.7 The Department of Agriculture & Rural Development has just about completed Phase 1 of their drought relief scheme valued at R 114,000,000.00. The scooping of dams continues in the current financial year.

The Department is also considering a second relief scheme aimed primarily at stock farmers where they will be encouraged to voluntarily reduce the size of their herds, although the details are still to be confirmed. Final approval is still awaited.

4.8 The Department of Education continues to install static water tanks at schools for the provision of potable water as well as rain harvesting purposes. The districts which have benefited from this project are Ugu, Umgungundlovu, Uthukela, Umzinyathi, Amajuba, Zululand, Umkhanyakude, Uthungulu, Ilembe and Harry Gwala. These include the tankering of water to affected schools as well as rain harvesting interventions. To date the Department's expenditure from its own funds are in excess of R35million.

The projects are being managed by the Department of Public Works as implementation agent on behalf of the Department of Education.

4.9 The Department of Public Works is acting as implementing agent on behalf of most of their client (provincial and national) departments with funding provided by the respective departments. The Department has however expressed serious concerns about the large amounts of water that is being lost through unmaintained infrastructure and lack of maintenance at major institutions such as prisons and large government facilities.

4.10 KZN Ezemvelo Wildlife has reported their interventions have put an additional strain on their budget as most of them are being funded from their operational budget. They are investigating alternative options to acquire the additional funds (approximately R15 million) to address the most serious issues in the Province's major parks and reserves so as to ensure they remain open and an important source of tourist revenue for the Province. Ezemvelo is working closely with the Department of Water & Sanitation and municipalities to access reliable water sources. KZN Ezemvelo Wildlife is currently implementing a project to extract water from the Umfolozi River bed.

4.11 The Provincial Drought War Room continues to meet with representatives from the Departments of Agriculture, Education, Water & Sanitation, Human Settlements, Health, Social Development, Labour and Transport as well as KZN Ezemvelo Wildlife, SALGA and non-governmental relief organizations on a weekly basis to facilitate and coordinate responses.

4.12 In addition to the above, the Provincial Disaster Management Centre continues to:

- (a) Build awareness among the stakeholders and end users about the drought situation affecting the Province at every possible platform;
- (b) Encourage users to conserve and share water resources in an equitable manner;
- (c) Influence behavioural change and reduce demands on water supplies;
- (d) Improve water security literacy;
- (e) Build partnerships with end-users and make them aware of the efforts government is putting in to ensure that no one goes without the basic water supply;
- (f) Outline short to long-term intervention plans by Government; and
- (g) Explain the role of all stakeholders in water conservation and demand management.

4.13 Given the latest weather predictions and the deteriorating state of the major storage dams in the Province, it is imperative that further short-term emergency interventions are implemented throughout the Province to deal with the current situation and the effects of the long term drought conditions. In order to give effect to the extension of the declaration of a provincial state of disaster, a Notice must be published in the Provincial Gazette, in accordance with the provisions of Section 41(5)(c) of the Act, which Notice is attached hereto as Annexure A.

5. CONTACT PERSON

Mr. J M Ndlazi

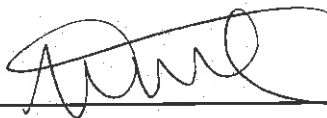
Chief Director: Disaster Management

Cooperative Governance & Traditional Affairs

Tel: 033 – 846 9004

RECOMMENDATION

6. It is recommended that the Honourable Premier signs the attached Notice for publication in the Provincial Gazette, to give effect to the extension of the declaration of a Provincial State of Disaster in respect of the current drought conditions in terms of Section 41(5)(c) of the Disaster Management Act, Act No.57 of 2002, for the period 11 October 2016 to 10 November 2016.



MR. T W MCHUNU, MPL

PREMIER OF KWAZULU-NATAL

DATE: 27/09/2016

DEPARTMENT OF COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

EXTENSION OF THE DECLARATION OF A KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCIAL STATE OF DISASTER

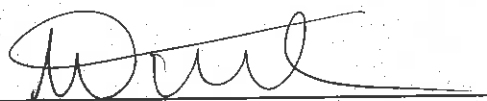
I, T W Mchunu, in my capacity as Premier of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal, under powers vested in me by section 41(5)(c) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002), hereby, as a result of the continuing protracted drought and the subsequent damage and possibility of loss of life, extend the declaration of a state of disaster in-

(a) the eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality; and

(b) the Local Municipalities contemplated in Column 2 of the Schedule, falling within the area of jurisdiction of the District Municipalities contemplated in Column 1 of the Schedule,

for a period of one month from 11 October 2016 to 10 November 2016.

Given under my hand at DURBAN on this 27th day of 09, Two Thousand and Sixteen



MR. T W MCHUNU, MPL
PREMIER OF THE PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

SCHEDULE

DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY	LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES
Ugu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ray Nkonyeni • UMdoni • UMzombe • UMuziwabantu
UMgungundlovu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UMshwathi • Richmond • Mpofana • Mkhambathini
UThukela	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INkosi Langalibalele • Alfred Duma • Umtshezi
Amajuba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newcastle • EMadlangeni • Dannhauser
UMzinyathi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UMrhetha • Nqutu • UMsinga • ENDumeni
Zululand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abaqulusi • Ulundi • EDumbe • Nongoma • UPhongolo
UMkhanyakude	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UMhlabuyalingana • Jozini • Big Five Hlabisa

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mtubatuba
King Cetshwayo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Umlalazi • Nkandla • UMfolozi • UMhlatuze
ILembe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maphumulo • Ndwedwe • KwaDukuza • Mandeni
Harry Gwala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater Kokstad • UBuhlebezwe • Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma • UMzimkhulu