



29 March 2022

## OVERVIEW OF DAWID KRUIPER LOCAL MUNICIPALITY WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS

### 1. INTRODUCTION

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2022, one of the projects that have been selected for oversight during the provincial week in the Northern Cape is the Dawid Kruiper Water Purification Plant. The aim of this brief is to provide an overview of the Dawid Kruiper Local Municipality and its water supply systems.

### 2. DAWID KRUIPER LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

The Dawid Kruiper Local Municipality (LM) is a Category B<sup>1</sup> municipality that forms part of the ZF Mgcawu District in the Northern Cape. It is the largest of five municipalities in the ZF Mgcawu District Municipality, making up almost half its geographical area, about 43% of the District<sup>2</sup>. The Dawid Kruiper LM comprises an area of about 44 231km<sup>2</sup> and is formally the largest Local Municipality in South Africa by land area. It was established by the amalgamation of the Mier and //Khara Hais Local Municipalities in August 2016<sup>3</sup>. Dawid Kruiper Local Municipality accommodates the three main towns of Upington, Mier and Rietfontein. Rietfontein functions as a border post with Namibia<sup>4</sup>.

Table 1 below briefly summarises the demographic profile of the Dawid Kruiper LM. It shows that in 2017, the population was 114 000 people and the unemployment rate stood at 26.2 per cent<sup>5</sup>. The main economic activities that the municipality contributes towards to in the Northern Cape province are related to the transport, manufacturing and construction sectors.

**Table 1: Demographic Profile**

Indicator	Year	Figure / Description
Population	2017	114 000 people
Unemployment rate	2017	26.2 %
Main economic sectors	n/a	<b>-Transport:</b> Upington is seen as the hub for all the Transport services, with the location of the airport and Upington being the centre of large transport corridors

<sup>1</sup> A Category B municipality shares municipal executive and legislative authority in its area with a category C municipality within whose area it falls (RSA, 1996).

<sup>2</sup> COGTA (2020)

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Dawid Kruiper Municipality (2022). Owing to data unavailability, the 2017 figures are provided.



		<p><b>-Manufacturing:</b> Manufacturing activities are dispersed throughout the ZF Mgcawu District Municipality with the highest concentration of manufacturing activities located within the Dawid Kruiper Local Municipality in Upington.</p> <p><b>-Construction:</b> Dawid Kruiper Municipality is responsible for nearly half of all construction related activities in the ZF Mgcawu District. The Construction sector around the Dawid Kruiper Municipality area comprises of the following: production of building materials, production of renewable energy plants equipment, assembly of steel pipes, Welding of storage equipment</p>
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Source: Dawid Kruiper Municipality (2022)

### 3. DAWID KRUIPER WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS

The Dawid Kruiper Municipality provides water services to the main urban centre of Upington town, to 9 rural settlements surrounding the town of Upington and to 9 rural towns in the Mier area<sup>6</sup>.

The town of Upington and the rural Villages of Louisvale Road and Kalksloot/Klipput are supplied with drinking water from the Abraham “Holbors” September Water Treatment Works (AH September WTW), which is situated in Upington. The remaining 7 rural villages in the Upington area are supplied with drinking water from 7 smaller water treatment works, which are situated in each of the villages<sup>7</sup>.

Table 2 below summarises the various water treatment works that supply the town of Upington and its rural areas as well as the rural villages of Louisvale Road and Kalksloot/Klipput. It also further outlines the various capacities of each water treatment works.

**Table 2: Water Treatment Works by Area**

Water Treatment Works	Area Supplied	Capacity
<b>Abraham “Holbors” September Water Treatment Works</b>	-Town of Upington - rural villages of Louisvale Road and Kalksloot/Klipput	capacity of 84 MI/day and is currently operating at a summer peak production of ± 63 MI/day.
<b>Lambrechtsdrift Water Treatment Works</b>	Lambrechtsdrift	288 kl/day

<sup>6</sup> Dawid Kruiper Municipality (2021).

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.



<b>Karos Water Treatment Works</b>		Karos	288 kl/day
<b>Leerkrans Water Treatment Works</b>		Leerkrans	288 kl/day
<b>Ntsikelelo Water Treatment Works</b>		Ntsikelelo	432 kl/day
<b>Leseding Water Treatment Works</b>		Leseding	432 kl/day
<b>Louisvale Water Treatment Works</b>		Louisvale	288 kl/day
<b>Raaswater Water Treatment Works</b>		Raaswater	576 kl/day

Source: Dawid Kruiper Municipality (2021)

With respect to the current projects in the Upington area, In the Mier area, drinking water was in the past supplied solely from boreholes, which supplied water directly into the distribution systems, with minimal to no treatment. The only water treatment works is situated in the village of Swartkopdam, where a desalination plant provides further treatment to the water abstracted from the boreholes. This water treatment also serves very little interest now as the boreholes are running dry<sup>8</sup>.

Due to the deteriorating levels of water quality and diminishing water sources in the Mier area, the Kalahari-East water supply scheme has been extended over the last few years, and the water supply from the pipeline has become operational during the 2016/2017 financial year in the villages of Rietfontein; Loubos; Askham; Groot Mier; Klein Mier; Philandersbron, and during the 2019/2020 financial year in Noenieput<sup>9</sup>.

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<sup>8</sup> Dawid Kruiper Municipality (2021).

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.



## REFERENCES

COGTA,2020. Profile and Analysis of District Development Model: ZF Mgcawu District  
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