

# EASTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

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Attention: Acting Municipal Manager, Mr T. Machelesi  
Sundays River Local Municipality

Re: Collapsed water and sanitation infrastructure in SRLM

On an oversight visit to Addo last week, I was deeply disturbed by the rivers of untreated sewage that I witnessed flowing alongside Valencia and into the Sundays River. I was further dismayed to see the same situation at Aquapark in Kirkwood, where the untreated sewage flows into a canal which then feeds a source of clean water.

This wilful neglect of vital infrastructure which is meant to provide the basic services of clean drinking water and sanitation to communities is in contravention of both the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and the National Water Act (NWA).

I strongly urge you to take immediate steps to effect the replacement of broken pipes and the maintenance of pump stations to ensure that communities are no longer living under constant threat of waterborne diseases. Furthermore, the flow of this sewage into the Sundays River must be prevented at all costs if an environmental disaster is to be avoided.

I would like a written response to this letter within seven days, which clearly outlines the immediate, medium term and long term plans to replace broken infrastructure and maintain repaired infrastructure so that this matter is properly resolved. Failing this, I shall escalate the matter to the national sphere of government and I shall lay criminal charges against you.

I trust this issue will receive the attention it deserves.

Yours in health for all,

Hon Jane Cowley

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane Cowley'.

