



MEDIA INVITE

Consultation Meeting with Commercial Farmers

And the Launch of Construction of Homes

12 November 2013

The Honourable Premier of the Free State, Ace Magashule, and the MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development Mamiki Qabathe, will meet commercial farmers and all relevant stakeholders in Danielsrus, near Bethlehem. This will serve as a robust consultation between the stakeholders as Premier Magashule and his Cabinet understands that effective planning can only be done with the involvement of all relevant role-players and the commitment of government to the implementation of plans that will lead to economic growth in the province.

On the same day, Premier Magashule and MEC Qabathe will join the MEC for Cooperative Governance, Traditional Affairs and Human Settlements, Olly Mlamleli, to launch the construction of the new government subsidized homes in Vogelfontein, near Bethlehem.

The construction of these houses came after Premier Ace Magashule and his Executive Council took a decision to build houses for this community a year ago. The relocation of these beneficiaries from Silahlwe to Vogelfontein happens within the 100th year of the native land act which denied people homes and disowned them as citizens in their own land. The launch of these human settlements forms part of government's concerted effort to ensure that there is indeed homes, security and comfort as the security of their land tenure is assured.

Some of the beneficiaries as old as 70 years have been prioritized as these have never had homes and have had to move from one shack to another and raising families in undesirable situation, growing old in these and almost going through this life without having had a solid home. Our government is working hard to ensure that the 70- year old Nkgono Mamohlolo Tshabalala and Ntate Fusi Buthelezi are likely to have their houses by the end of this year.

The first Phase of the Project, Bakenpark phase one consists of 500 low cost houses of no less than 50m². These differently designed houses will have 2 bedrooms, lounge and kitchen and a full bathroom. Save for electricity which will be installed as construction progresses infrastructure for services has already been installed, roads prepared.

The human settlement development will include solar lights, solar geysers as part of their contribution to environmental consciousness.

With construction targeted to start immediately, the houses are due for progressive completion within the current financial year.

The project is aimed at involving the beneficiaries in building of these houses as part of creating a sense of ownership so that they could take care of their homes better. The beneficiaries will be inspired to 'own' the project from start to finish and help keep the houses safe, 'project' manage and ensure quality construction.

DETAILS OF THE EVENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Date: 14 November 2013

TIME: 09H00

Venue: Danielsrus Farmer's Hall, near Bethlehem

Time: 12H00

Venue: Volgefontein, near Bethlehem

Issued by; Free State Provincial Government Communication Services.

For further media enquiries, please contact:

Senne Bogatsu Cell: 082 774 1014 Email: senne@fscogta.gov.za	Pulane Tsupane Cell: 071 302 2595 Email: pulane.tsupane@fspremier.gov.za
Modiehi Tlhobelo Cell: 073 260 5173 Email: Tlhobelo@fs.agric.za	

“The Pulse of Communication Excellence in Free State Government”