

Media statement

DATE: Saturday , 21 September 2024

TO: All Media

ATTENTION: News Editors / Transport Reporters / All Reporters

For immediate use

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**TRANSPORT MINISTRY URGES MOTORISTS TO COMPLY WITH TRAVEL ADVISORIES AND DELAY NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL DUE TO SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS**

The Minister of Transport, Ms. Barbara Creecy, and the Deputy Minister, Mr. Mkhuleko Hlengwa, are advising motorists traveling between Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal to delay their trips due to severe weather conditions.

Heavy snowfall continues to blanket the N3 highway, particularly between Warden and Tugela Plaza in KwaZulu-Natal, making travel extremely hazardous.

The Ministry is deeply concerned about the situation, especially as many travelers spent the night stranded at filling stations and along the N3, unable to move due to the road closures.

Minister Creecy and Deputy Minister Hlengwa are receiving regular updates through the Road Traffic Management Cooperation and SANRAL on the ongoing rescue efforts coordinated by state agencies and other stakeholders. Emergency services, including paramedics and other necessary personnel, are being deployed to assist those affected.

The N3 Toll Route remains CLOSED between Estcourt in KwaZulu-Natal and Harrismith in the Free State due to the dangerous snowy conditions.

Motorists are urged to avoid the affected areas, and follow the guidance of authorities, and prioritize their safety by delaying non-essential travel.

Ends-

ISSUED BY: National Department of Transport

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