8 FEBRUARY

MEDIA STATEMENT

ECDoH ON HIGH ALERT FOLLOWING INCLEMENT WEATHER IN KOMANI

BHISHO — The Eastern Cape Department of Health is on high alert with teams on standby to assist with any eventuality in Komani following inclement weather overnight.

The inclement weather, which has resulted in power outages in the small town has forced the Frontier Hospital to once again operate with backup generators.

Parts of Komani have been flooded, resulting in fears of possible flooding victims.

MEC for Health Nomakhosazana Meth said teams were activated overnight.

"Our teams are on standby ready to do what they do best — save lives.

"We are working with the Life Queenstown Hospital and private ambulances because we are all in the business of saving lives.

"No life is more important than the other hence we are collaborating with the private sector to ensure Eastern Cape people in need of medical assistance get it," she said.

Head of Department, Dr Rolene Wagner echoed MEC's sentiments.

"Our Emergency Medical Services is working with the private sector ambulances so that they are able to transfer critically ill patients to hospitals of safety.

Similarly, our teams of the Komani District and Frontier Hospital are working with the private hospital team to accept patients — it's really heartwarming to see how the public and private sector teams during this time of crisis, are sharing resources to ensure we provide healthcare services for all," she said.

MEC Meth said the department was hoping and praying that no one would be displaced, lose their belongings or lose their lives as a result of the floods.

The department will remain on high alert and continue to monitor the situation until things return to normality.

Issued by the Eastern Cape Department of Health.

For enquiries, contact:

Mr Mkhululi Ndamase, Spokesperson to MEC on 071 851 8338

Sizwe Kupelo, Provincial Health Spokesperson on 083 378 0196