

**FOR PSA MEMBERS: FREE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DoH)**

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11-04-2025

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## Update: Closure of Regional Laundry – Free State Department of Health: OHS non-compliance

The Regional Laundry (Department of Health) was officially closed on 10 April 2025 owing to severe occupational health and safety (OHS) non-compliance. The following concerns were identified during an on-site inspection:

- **No access to warm water:** This poses a serious health and hygiene risk, especially given the nature of duties involving handling contaminated laundry.
- **Broken windows:** This compromises the safety and working conditions of employees.
- **Lack of tools of trade:** Staff members are expected to perform duties without the necessary equipment, severely impacting on service delivery and workplace morale.
- **No uniforms or PPE provided:** This exposes workers to unnecessary risks and directly violates basic occupational safety protocols.
- **Non-functional laundry machines:** Critical equipment is not operational, further affecting productivity and service efficiency.
- **No evacuation plan available:** In the event of an emergency, there is no clear, accessible evacuation plan in place, posing a major risk to all personnel.
- **Inadequate toilet facilities:** Toilet facilities are either lacking or not functioning, contributing to unsanitary and undignified working conditions.
- **Water leakage in ceiling near electrical wiring:** Water is visibly running through the ceiling in areas where electrical wires are installed, creating an extreme fire and electrocution hazard.
- **Poor external maintenance:** Grass around the facility is overgrown and not maintained, creating an untidy and unsafe environment.

### PSA recommendations

Given these conditions, the facility cannot continue operations without posing serious health and safety risks to employees. Immediate closure was necessary to protect staff and allow for corrective measures to be implemented. Members will be updated on the progress with repairs and compliance measures. Operations will resume once the facility meets the required health and safety standards.

For any enquiries or assistance, please contact the PSA Provincial Office in Bloemfontein on (051) 403 1300 / (051) 403 1315 / [psa.bloem@psa.co.za](mailto:psa.bloem@psa.co.za).

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