



**FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES, AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
(DFFE) – EASTERN CAPE (MTHATHA AREA)**

---

27-03-2025

## PSA expresses concern over employee threats at Ethwa Forest Estate

The PSA has been alerted to serious threats faced by employees at Ethwa Forest Estate. Members were subjected to numerous security challenges, with unknown persons, allegedly local community members, carrying out acts of violence and theft. Incidents of house break-ins, theft of personal belongings, including clothing and car tyres, and even gun-pointing and shootings, have become an unfortunate part of daily life for these employees. Despite these alarming incidents being reported to the police, no substantial action was taken until the PSA became involved.

In response to the severity of the situation, the PSA arranged a meeting with employees and the Forest management to discuss potential solutions. It was agreed that formal police reports would be filed, and it was recommended that affected employees be relocated to ensure their safety. In a notable development, the police suggested that the employees be moved to another area, with a preference for relocation to Cengcane Forest, where the working environment remains peaceful and secure.

The PSA escalated the matter to the Regional and Head Office management, urging swift action to address the dangerous situation. Following these efforts, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE) confirmed that it will facilitate the relocation of employees from Ethwa Forest to Cengcane Forest as soon as possible. The PSA is monitoring the implementation of the relocation and is putting pressure to the DFFE management to prioritise the move, as resolved.

Employees interested in joining the PSA can contact Kenneth Qikani on 880 2936 / [kenneth.qikani@psa.co.za](mailto:kenneth.qikani@psa.co.za).

Reuben Maleka  
GENERAL MANAGER