



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

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PRETORIA 0001

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1133 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Mrs A T Lovemore (DA); is attached for your consideration.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 22-04-2010


DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED



MS B P SONJICA, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE: 26-04-2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1133

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 19 APRIL 2010
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 10)

1133. Mrs A T Lovemore (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether she has been informed of any functionality problems at sewage treatment plants in the Buffalo City Municipality; if so, (a) what are the relevant details and (b)(i) how and (ii) when will the problems be resolved;
- (2) whether the rivers and coastal waters into which sewage treatment works in the Buffalo City Municipality discharge are monitored regularly; if not, why not; if so, what have the results of this monitoring shown;
- (3) whether her department has issued any notices to the Buffalo City Municipality in terms of section 19(3) of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998, since 1 January 2008; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (4) whether, with reference to the regulations for the erection, enlargement, operation and registration of water care works published under No. R.2834 of 27 December 1985, all water care works in the Buffalo City Municipality comply with the minimum requirements with regard to staff (a) complement, (b) educational qualification and (c) experience; if not, (i) which water care works do not comply with the requirements and (ii) what are the details of the noncompliance in each case;
- (5) whether the sewage treatment plants in Buffalo City Municipality are included in the Green Drop report; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details of the assessment?

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REPLY:

- (1)(a) Yes, my Department is aware that certain Wastewater Treatment Works (WWTWs) such as King William's Town, Bhisho and Breidbach oxidation ponds, Central works and Gonubie works are operating beyond their design capacity.
- (1)(b)(i) The Schornville, Bhisho & Breidbach WWTWs will be accommodated in the Regional Works planned at Zwelitsha. This is a R400 million project over four years and the first phase of this regional scheme is due to commence.

The diversion of load from Central to Reeston WWTW is a R80 million project over two years. Project planning is complete and ready for tender.

The upgrade of Gonubie WWTW has one further phase costing R55 million and should take one year. The project is at appointment of contractor phase.
- (1)(b)(ii) The time frames for Zwelitsha Regional works is four (4) years, for Central diversion is two (2) years and Gonubie upgrade is one (1) year.
- (2) Yes, there is regular monitoring of the Buffalo, Yellowwoods and Nahoon Rivers. The water quality varies from fair to poor depending on season, rainfall and runoff. Recently, my Department has started sampling the coastal and urban streams, where elevated levels of fecal coli forms have been found.

- (3) Yes, my Department has issued a letter / notice of non-compliance on 31 March 2010 along with the first order assessment report for Buffalo City WWTWs.
- (4) Most of the WWTWs in Buffalo City do comply with the minimum requirements with regard to staff compliment. The details of this record are reflected in **Annexure A**
- (5) Yes, the WWTWs were included in the Green Drop assessment; however, the Green Drop Report has not yet been released.

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Annexure A

Buffalo City Local Municipality: Summary of WWTW with staff requirements based on Regulatory Requirements (Regs 2834) as compared to actual staff resourcing

WWTW	Class	Staff Capacity Regulatory Requirement (Regs 2834)		Current Situation - Existing Capacity: Staff Employed on Works (Supervisor / Process Controller, & registered class e.g.: class V operator etc)			
		Supervisor	Supervisor: (number Employed)	Supervisor: (Actual class)	Supervisor: (Number employed)	Process Controllers: (Class)	Process Controllers: (Number)
Amalinda/Central	D	Class V	Class IV	Class IV*	1*	Class 0	1
Berlin	D	Class V	Class II			Class II	1
Bisho Ponds	D	Class V	Class II	Class V *	1*		0
Breidbach Ponds	D	Class V	Class II	Class V *	1*	NI	0
Dimbaza	C	Class V	Class III		0	Class II	2
East Bank	A	Class V	Class III	Class V	2	Class IV Class II Class I	5
Gonubie	C	Class V	Class III	Class V	1	Class IV	1
Kayser's Beach	E	Class V	Class I	Class IV*	1*		0
Kidd's Beach	E	Class V	Class I	Class IV*	1*	Class IV	0
Mdantsane East	C	Class V	Class III	Class V	1	Class I Class II	3
Mdantsane West/ Potsdam	C	Class V	Class III	Class III	1	Class II	2
Reeston	C	Class V	Class III	Class V	1	Class IV	1
Schorrville/ KWT	B	Class V	Class IV	Class V	2	Class IV	4
West Bank /Hood Point Marine Outfall	C	Class V	Class III	Class IV	1		0
Zwelitsha	C	Class V	Class III	Class IV	1	Class I Class II Trainees	2
Current Employed - C & NC					12		27

NI - No information available from the WSA

1* - denotes part time availability