



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2010 -05- 19

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PRETORIA 0001

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1348 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Mr E J Marais (DA); is attached for your consideration.


DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE:

14/5/10

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED


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

DATE:

22/05/2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1348

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 07 MAY 2010
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 12)

1348. Mr E J Marais (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

Whether there are any long-term plans to build another large dam in the Orange River in order to sustain the overflows of the Vaal, Bloemhof, Van der Kloof and Gariep Dams; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

The construction of a dam in the lower Orange River near Vioolsdrift has been identified in joint planning studies conducted with Namibia as a viable alternative to increase the available water yield from the Orange River. The site lies on the common border between South Africa and Namibia and is envisaged as a joint development that would serve the projected needs of both countries.

Furthermore, joint feasibility planning studies with Namibia are required to confirm water demands, the environmental flow requirements, optimizing the size of storage required, the engineering design and development costs. Agreements will have to be concluded with Namibia on sharing costs of the feasibility study, the development costs and sharing the water resources.

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