



**water affairs**

Department:  
Water Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2010-08-13

PRIVATE BAG X313  
PRETORIA 0001

Enquiries: K Pillay  
Telephone: 012-336-7681  
Reference: S.9/5/2/1

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2084 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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

  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 16/8/10

  
DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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

DATE: 14. 08. 2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 2084

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 06 AUGUST 2010  
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 19)

**2084. Mrs S V Kalyan (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:**

- (1) Whether employees in the subdirectorate Water Quality Management have been categorised as nonscientists according to the occupation specific dispensation (OSD); if so, why;
- (2) whether employees in this subdirectorate have disputed their classification; if not, how was this conclusion reached; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether her department will revisit the decision in order to classify employees in this subdirectorate as possessing scarce skills; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (4) whether any steps will be taken to retain employees of the subdirectorate who indicate that they will resign because of the OSD classification as nonscientists; if not, why not; if so, what steps?

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**REPLY:**

- (1) Yes, the job profiles as well as the Performance Agreements and the duties performed by the employees concerned are in line with the provisions of the Bio-diversity OSD.
- (2) Yes, written enquiries have been received from the affected employees and written responses will be provided to the employees.
- (3) The employees are already classified as possessing scarce skills, hence their translation to the Bio-Diversity OSD. In terms of Resolution 1 of 2007, various occupational categories were determined as scarce skills of which Bio-Diversity is one.
- (4) In terms of the OSD provisions, Part V C 3 of the Public Service Regulations that deals with retentions of staff has been withdrawn for production grades. My Department therefore is not in the position to make counter offers to employees who resign.

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