



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 23 FOR ORAL REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Mr C.J. de Beer (ANC-NC) is attached for your consideration, please.


DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 26/5/10

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED ~~AMENDED~~


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

DATE: 27/05/2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NO 23

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 24 MAY 2010
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 13)

★23 Mr C J de Beer (ANC-NC) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) What progress has been made with the building of the dam in the Vioolsdrift area in the Orange River;
- (2) whether any talks were held with the Namibian government on the building of the dam in partnership; if not; what is the position in this regard; if so, what was the outcome?
CO203E

REPLY:

- (1) A joint pre-feasibility study undertaken between South Africa and Namibia, has identified the construction of a dam near Vioolsdrift as a viable alternative to increase the available water yield from the Orange River. However, a feasibility study to confirm water demands, the environmental flow requirements, optimize the size of storage required, the engineering design and cost of development is still required. Prior to this feasibility study, both countries will embark on an initial base-line environmental monitoring of the river this year.
- (2) Currently, there are ongoing negotiations with Namibia regarding the sharing of costs of the feasibility study as well as the principles for sharing the development costs and sharing the water resources.

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