



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2010 -10- 12

PRIVATE BAG X313
PRETORIA 0001

Enquiries: Mr L.S. Mabuda
Telephone: 012-336-8779
Reference: 2/1/5/1

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2635 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

Minister has signed the reply to this question on 5 October 2010, however the Acting Director General felt that the response needed to be revised. Attached is the revised reply to the question and the department will withdraw the previous reply and replace it with this one.


DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 11/10/10


DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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

DATE: 14/10/2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 2635

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 17 SEPTEMBER 2010
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 29)

2635. Mr I O Davidson (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether the 18-month timeline from initiation to completion of the Witwatersrand underground mine water project (details furnished) takes into account the urgency of the growing threat that acid mine drainage (AMD) poses in the affected basins; if not, what will be done to rectify the situation; if so, how was this conclusion reached;
- (2) whether the timeline for the project provides sufficient time to implement the necessary outcomes following the pre-feasibility study before the AMD under the city of Johannesburg rises above the environmentally critical level; if not, what will be done to rectify the situation; if so, how was this conclusion reached;
- (3) whether her department will consider shortening the period required to deliver on the pre-feasibility study; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NW3291E

---0000---

REPLY:

- (1) In view of the urgency of the Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) in the Witwatersrand, an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) has been established by cabinet to address the current AMD challenges. My Department has therefore decided to discontinue the pre-feasibility study as its scope of work will be covered by the IMC's sustainable medium to long-term strategy.
- (2) Falls away.
- (3) Falls away.

---0000---