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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 3301 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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

ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE:

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MRS BEE MOLEWA, MP

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE: 2010/11/30

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 3301

<u>DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 12 NOVEMBER 2010</u> (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 37)

3301. Mrs H Lamoela (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether any (a) pre-notices, (b) directives and (c) criminal charges have been laid against the Kungwini Municipality in terms of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998:
- whether the Godrich sewerage plant in this municipality is being (a) expanded and (b) refurbished; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether her department is assisting this municipality in any way to improve its sewerage infrastructure; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- to what extent (a) does each waste water treatment works in this municipality comply with effluent release standards and (b) does the actual flow comply with the design flow?

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REPLY:

- (1)(a) No, during the current year, there has been no pre-directive issued against the Kungwini Local Municipality (LM). However, my Department has recently received a complaint regarding pollution and subsequently conducted an investigation. Depending on the outcomes of the report, a notice could issued.
- (1)(b) No. During the current year, there has been no directive issued against the Kungwini LM.
- (1)(c) No. During the current year, there have been no criminal charges laid against the Kungwini LM.
- (2) No, the Godrich Sewerage Plant is not being expanded and/or refurbished. However, for the 2011/12 financial year, an amount of R11 million from Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) will be utilised for the refurbishment of the plant.
- (3) Yes, my Department is providing assistance to the Kungwini LM as follows:
 - An allocation of R1.6 million for the operation and maintenance of the Inkangala Ponds through my Department's Transfer Programme.
 - Replacement of the Inkangala Ponds with a new sewage treatment plant. Such
 initiative is a joint venture between my Department and COGTA though utilising MIG
 with a budget allocation of R48 million and R78 million respectively. The construction
 is currently in progress.
 - Training of 12 staff which were transferred by my Department (as part of my Departmental Transfer Programme) and four Process Controllers through a joint venture between my Department and the Local Government Sector Training Authority Capacity Building Programme.
- (4)(a) There are three wastewater treatment works operated by the Kungwini LM, namely, the Godrich Sewage Plant; the Inkangala Oxidation Ponds and the Rithabiseng Ponds. Currently, only the Godrich Sewage Plant complies with the effluent standards. However as indicated in (3) Bullet 2 above, the replacement of Inkangala Ponds is in construction process while Rithabiseng Ponds will be attended to in due course.

(4)(b) With regard to the Godrich Sewage Plant, the actual flow is within the design flow.
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