



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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Reference: 2/1/5/1

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 356 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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

DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 04/3/10

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DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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

DATE: 2010 - 03 - 09

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 356

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 26 FEBRUARY 2010
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 4)

356. Mrs A T Lovemore (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) What is her department's acceptable level for water loss by a municipality between the point of water purification and the points of delivery to customers;
- (2) whether municipalities incur losses in excess of the acceptable level; if so, (a) what are the details of the losses for each water service authority and (b) what action her department has taken, is taking or will be taking to ensure that the excessive losses are curbed?

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REPLY:

- (1) Acceptable losses are in the order of 15%. This is also an international level of water loss between Water Treatment Facility and consumers.
- (2)(a) Yes, a Water Research Commission study entitled "An Assessment of Non-Revenue Water in South Africa, report number TT 300/07" was conducted to determine amongst others the water losses in Municipal water distribution systems. The study found that of the 62 systems investigated, the water losses were in the order of 31%. The details of the individual systems investigated as part of the study and the relevant detail is available within the study.
- (2)(b) My Department has been supporting municipalities through the development of business plans, project implementation plans, the installation of meters to enable metering, active leakage control, retrofitting, etc. A total of thirty four (34) municipalities have been supported. My Department has also supported Metros with the implementation of jointly funded projects, of which the Department's contribution is R 83 million for this financial year. My Department will also support the implementation of Local Government turnaround strategy to ensure that water losses are minimized.

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