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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 468 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Mr D A Kganare (Cope); is attached for your consideration.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE:

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 468

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

468. Mr D A Kganare (Cope) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) (a) Which provinces does the Sedibeng Water Board serve; (b) what is the relationship between the stakeholders of these provinces and the board and (c) what instrument does she use to assess this relationship;
- (2) whether these stakeholders are aware of this instrument; if not, why not; if so, how were they made aware of it;
- (3) whether she has a list of these stakeholders in each province; if not, how does she interact with them; if so, when last did she correspond with these stakeholders?

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REPLY:

- (1)(a) Sedibeng Water serves parts of the Free State, North West and the Northern Cape provinces.
- (1)(b) Sedibeng Water Supplies bulk potable water to selected municipal clients in the provinces listed above.
- (1)(c) The relationship between a water board and a municipality as its client is usually tied down in a formal written contract between the water board as Water Services Provider and the municipality as the water services Authority. While the Minister does not assess each one of the municipal relationships, she is often requested to intervene when there is a breakdown in relationship between a municipality and a water board.
- Yes, water boards at the very start of a relationship with a municipality endeavour to get the municipality to sign a written contract, which is a legal requirement in terms of section 32 (b) of the Water Services Act (Act No108 of 1997)
- (3) Yes, on a monthly basis My department gets a list of each water board debtors' age analysis which lists each municipal debtor. I communicate with municipalities at respective forums including Minmecs, Water Indabas and other meetings.