



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

EdTM

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Reference: 6/2/2/6

MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

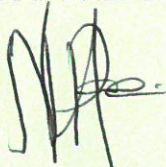
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION ★169 FOR ORAL REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Ms M S Khawula (EFF) is attached for your consideration.


DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 27/10/2017

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED



**MRS NP MOKONYANE
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION**

DATE: 28. 10. 17.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NO ★169

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 24 OCTOBER 2017
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 38)

★169. Ms M S Khawula (EFF) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

What steps has her department taken to fix the leaks in our water system that cause our country to lose 1,3 trillion litres of water in one year?

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REPLY:

The Department takes direct responsibility for 1080km of bulk pipe-line which is conveying raw water as part of our National Water Resource Management accountabilities. As part of routine operations, the water control duties include “driving” the pipelines to detect any abnormalities (which include leak detection), that will inform required maintenance work. A case in point is, the department implemented an integrity assessment project using advanced technology for the pre-stressed concrete pipelines on the Usutu system whilst in operation to identify pipe-sections where leaks may occur and thus require replacement.

Although the department does not have a direct mandate to deal with the physical fixing of water leaks at municipality level, it supports this government sphere by building capacity of the requisite water loss management skills through the War on Leaks programme. This programme aims to assist municipalities with fixing water leaks through providing essential skills of artisans, water agents and plumbers to unemployed South African youth.

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