



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Reference: 6/2/2/6

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1187

**DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER:
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 12) 31 MARCH 2023**

1187. Mrs M R Mohlala (EFF) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

Whether he has taken any immediate measures to deal with the critical state of infrastructure of sewer pump stations in the eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality, given that 19 out of the 27 wastewater treatment works are non-operational and the specified municipality is resorting to dumping sludge into the ocean which results in environmental pollution and a health hazard to beachgoers; if not, why not; if so, what measures?

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

Following the floods in April 2022, the Minister immediately established the War Room for the purpose of providing support to eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality to deal with the damaged infrastructure and the pollution resulting from same. The Department then issued a directive in terms of Sections 19 and 20 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) compelling the municipality to stop the pollution emanating from affected sewerage infrastructure. The directive also instructs the municipality to implement measures to prevent and remedy the effects of sewage pollution originating from its damaged sewerage infrastructure. There are ongoing engagements between the Municipality and the Department on these matters.


Discharges into coastal waters is a mandate of the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment.

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DRAFT REPLY: RECOMMENDED/ ~~NOT RECOMMENDED/ AMENDED~~


DR SEAN PHILLIPS
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DATE: 05/04/23

DRAFT REPLY: APPROVED/ [✓]NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED


MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION
DATE: 14/04/23