



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Enquiries: I Lekalake  
Telephone: 082 875 9029  
Reference: 6/2/2/6

### NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

#### FOR WRITTEN REPLY

#### QUESTION NO 1188

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

#### **1188. Mrs M R Mohlala (EFF) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:**

What (a) immediate measures of intervention has he put in place to address the (i) critically failing sewage works in Springbok, Northern Cape, and (ii) broader issue of municipal service failures, which have resulted in sewage works scoring 30% or less in the Green Drop Assessment and (b) plans has he and/or his department put in place to ensure that municipalities prioritise and allocate sufficient resources to (i) maintain and (ii) upgrade the specified critical infrastructure?

NW1329E

---0000---

#### **MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION**

- (a) (i) The operation and maintenance of the Springbok Wastewater Treatments Works (WWTW) and associated pumpstations has failed consistently over the past 10 years resulting in spillages to the environment. The failures of the sanitation infrastructure were investigated by the Department of Water and Sanitation. Administrative enforcement actions that have been taken include the following:
- Notices and Directives were issued to the Kammiesberg Local Municipality by the DWS.
  - The Kammiesberg Local Municipality, which is responsible for operating and maintaining the Springbok WWTW, responded with rectification of spillages.


- The DWS, in cooperation with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, is pursuing legal action against the municipality for recurring incidents at the Tolweg pumpstation.

(ii) Wastewater Systems in 23 of the 26 local municipalities in the Northern Cape scored less than <30% in the Green Drop Assessment. In April 2022, non-compliance Notices were issued by the DWS requiring WSAs to compile and submit action plans. Municipalities are guided on requirements to ensure that the management of the wastewater treatment plants improves.


- (b) The need for allocation of sufficient human and financial resources is emphasised when engaging with WSAs. The department is prioritising its Water Services Infrastructure Grant and Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant allocations towards addressing Green Drop challenges. Further assistance is given through supporting the planning of upgrades and refurbishments of WWTW where that is required.

---0000---

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: 14/4/23