



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Reference: 6/2/2/6

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NO 374

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 29 AUGUST 2023
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 26)

★374. Ms M L Pietersen (ANC) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

What measures will he implement to ensure a constant water supply to communities and areas that are experiencing severe water challenges despite the water infrastructure that the Government rolled out to even the most remote areas?

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) undertakes planning studies over different planning horizons, to derive interventions that are implemented for ensuring water security for the country. These interventions include the following:

- Construction of new dams
- Reduction of demand by implementing water conservation and demand management.
- Development and exploitation of ground water sources
- Investment in desalination, water reuse and recycle-water reclamation and water harvesting.
- Development, operations, maintenance and refurbishment of infrastructure.
- The DWS, through its Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant provides assistance to municipalities for to provide water and sanitation services by building bulk infrastructure projects and refurbishing current infrastructure that will assist in the improvement and continuous supply of water and sanitation services
- Furthermore, the DWS has established a Water Partnerships Office in collaboration with the Development Bank of South Africa (DBSA) and South African Local Government Association

(SALGA), to support municipalities with financial structuring, feasibility studies and contracting with the private sector, to harness private sector skills and commercial and blended finance for Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) for water and sanitation services.

The DWS is in the process of a legislative reform through proposed amendments to the Water Services Act: The amendments will:

- Create the framework for certainty regarding minimum requirements for water services providers by introducing a WSP licensing regime.
- Enable the Minister to support sector sustainability through enforcing compliance with licensing conditions, norms and standards and the Act.
- Enable the regulator to support rectification by the WSA / WSP by issuing directives and responding appropriately through an enforcement protocol.
- Enable the Minister to appoint a WSP where the WSA consistently fails to do what is required by law of the WSA to do to ensure service delivery in its area of jurisdiction.

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


DR SEAN PHILLIPS
DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 04/09/23

DRAFT REPLY: ~~APPROVED/ NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED~~


MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE:

8/9/23