



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Reference: 6/2/2/6

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NO 1

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 05 APRIL 2023

(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 10)

1. Ms S Shaik (Limpopo: ANC) to ask the Deputy President:

Whether the Government considered any special measures to address the escalating debt of municipalities to Eskom and water entities in a sustainable way (details furnished); if not, why not; if so, (a) how the government intends to accelerate the payment of municipalities' debts as a matter of urgency and (b) what are the further relevant details?

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DEPUTY PRESIDENT

1. DWS is currently consulting with municipalities regarding the following measures to strengthen billing and revenue collection and address the escalating debt of municipalities to water boards:
 - The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) will collaborate with National Treasury to ensure that equitable share allocations are withheld from non-paying municipalities.
 - DWS will ensure that standardised credit control and debt recovery processes is in place across all the water boards. This includes consistent enforcement of water limitations/restrictions on non-paying municipalities and legal processes to attach municipal bank accounts where necessary.
 - Bulk prepaid meters will be installed by water boards in municipalities with a poor payment record.

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DRAFT REPLY: RECOMMENDED/ NOT RECOMMENDED/ AMENDED

SPhillips

**DR SEAN PHILLIPS
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DATE: 12 April 2023**

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DRAFT REPLY: APPROVED/ NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED

S. Mchunu
**MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION
DATE: 18/04/23**