



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 140

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 10 MARCH 2023
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 5)

140. Ms H S Boshoff (Mpumalanga: DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

What engagements he had with the National Treasury to facilitate funding to assist all water boards and municipalities to ensure that the nation will not be left high and dry (details furnished)?

CW141E

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

The Department of Water and Sanitation convened a joint workshop with Water Boards, National Treasury, Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs and South African Local Government Association on 5 December 2022. The purpose of the workshop was to develop strategies to improve Billing and Revenue Collection in the water sector. The resolution for the workshop was to draft standardised operating processes (SOP) for debt recovery, covering both the Water Boards and the Department's Water Trading Entity. Measures put in place include the following steps would be implemented:

- The possibility of installing Bulk Prepaid meters by Water boards for Municipalities will be investigated and consideration will be given for Prepaid arrangements to be agreed between Water Boards and Municipalities to supply a specific water volume. Deposits could also be paid by Municipalities to cover short term non-payment obligations. National Treasury supports this initiative.
- Consistent enforcement of water limitations/restrictions for non-paying municipalities.
- Legal processes to attach municipal bank accounts where necessary.

- Collaboration with National Treasury to withhold equitable share allocations for municipalities not paying their current invoices from water boards
- The Minister is further consulting the 144 Water Services Authorities on the outcome of the above-mentioned workshop.

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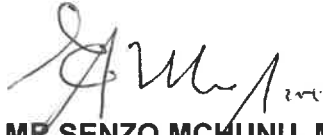
DRAFT REPLY: RECOMMENDED/ ~~NOT RECOMMENDED~~/ AMENDED



**DR SEAN PHILLIPS
DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

DATE: 04/04/23

DRAFT REPLY: APPROVED/ NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED ✓



**MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION**

DATE: 14/04/23