



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Reference: 6/2/2/6

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 175

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 17 MARCH 2023
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 7)

175. Ms D C Christians (Northern Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

- (1) (a) Why the new generator that was procured less than six months ago for water plant is not in working condition, (b) when will it be repaired, (c) how was it procured, (d) why the generator not met procurement requirements as payment was made for a much larger one and (e) how will this matter be corrected;
- (2) (a) how will the Government assist the residents of Barkly West who have not received any water for up to six weeks as the tender to supply water was given to a company in KwaZulu-Natal (details furnished) and (b) how will the national and provincial government solve water crisis in Barkly West?

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

1 (a) In 2021/22 the Dikgatlong Local Municipality requested Frances Baard District Municipality to procure two generators for the municipality. Procurement was completed in 2022/23 and the generator was supposed to have been delivered on the 15 December 2022.

However, the Service Provider appointed by Frances Baard District Municipality did not deliver the generator as per the Service Level Agreement. The tender for the new generator was readvertised by the Francis Baard District Municipality and a service provider has been appointed. The expected delivery date is 15th June 2023.

To mitigate against the impact of loadshedding on continuation of water supply services, the Dikgatlong Municipality used the office back-up generator as a temporary measure at the Barkly West Water Treatment Works while waiting for the generator to be supplied by Frances

District Municipality as indicated above. However, the generator had to be switched off due to overheating and mechanical fault issues.

(b) The service provider has taken responsibility for the faults with the generator and the repairs are expected to be finalized by 30th May 2023.

(c) The Municipal office back-up generator was procured through normal procurement procedures.

(d) The municipality reported that the generator was meant as a temporary measure at the Barkly West WTW while waiting for the delivery of the generator that had been procured through the Francis Baard DM.

(e) In efforts to find a long term solution, the municipality engaged Eskom to exempt the plant from loadshedding. However, the electricity supply to the plant is embedded in the supply of the whole settlement which poses a challenge for the plant to be exempted. The municipality has already appointed a service provider to build a line directly from the sub-station to the water treatment plant which would facilitate exemption of the plant from loadshedding. The estimated period to complete this intervention is 30th June 2023.

(2) (a) In 2021/22 the Dikgatlong Local Municipality reported that it appointed a service provider for hiring of machinery (yellow fleet and other machinery) as and when required for a period of two years. The Municipality purchased the first water truck through a transversal contract and in 2022/23 another truck was purchased through the National Treasury transversal contract.

(b) It should be noted that decisions to put in place alternative sources of power for water and sanitation infrastructure must be taken by the institutions which own the infrastructure. The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) plays an advisory role but cannot decide on behalf of municipalities to install generators or any other sources of power for municipal water and sanitation facilities. The decision must ultimately be taken by municipalities, which must also cover the associated operating costs.

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


DR SEAN PHILLIPS
DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 08/05/23

DRAFT REPLY: APPROVED/ NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED


MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE: 19/03/23