



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NO 228

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 11 OCTOBER 2023
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 15)

★228. Mr C F B Smit (Limpopo: DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

With reference to his reply to Question 239 on 7 July 2023, what are the reasons for the total amounts of 123, 251, 734, 666 litres of water that were lost by water boards throughout the country from the 2021/22 financial year to 31 March 2023?

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

Water losses reported by Water Boards in the response provided to question 239 are due to the following:


- Bulk infrastructure that has reached the end of its lifespan and needs to be replaced.
- Water hammer caused by load shedding and electrical supply failures which result in the stop and start of water supply systems causes more irregular pipe breaks.
- Vandalism of control valves, scour valves, air valves, and electrical cable theft at pump stations.
- Vandalism of bulk conveyance infrastructure.
- Illegal connections.
- Some water is lost during the process of maintaining the bulk pipelines (scouring of pipelines to depressurise the pipelines/emptying the pipes), particularly during the winter maintenance program which is conducted annually as a preventative maintenance strategy for the Entity.
- Water is also lost during the potable water production process and storage due to undetectable levels of water leaks.

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


DR SEAN PHILLIPS
DIRECTOR GENERAL
DATE: 08/10/23

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


MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION
DATE: 10/10/23