



## 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 396

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 19 May 2023  
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 19)

**396. Mr M S Moletsane (Free State: EFF) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:**

What interventions has he made to provide relief to the community of Matjhabeng that has access to water for only four hours a day between 05:00 and 09:00 in the morning?

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#### **MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION**

Consistent bulk water supply to Ventersburg is impacted by critical challenges including stage 6 loadshedding and burst pipelines, amongst others. Interventions that are being implemented by the municipality, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) as well as Bloem Water include:

- The deployment of water tankers by the municipality to communities when there are water supply challenges.
- Bloem Water is in the process of obtaining exemption from Eskom regarding load shedding of the affected booster pump station (Brabant). A diesel generator set is currently being procured as a backup at the same pump station.
- Critical maintenance currently is currently being conducted at Balkfontein water plant and throughout the whole water supply scheme.
- The Matjhabeng LM has appointed qualified Civil Engineers, Technologists, Technicians and thirty qualified artisan plumbers and purchased four new heavy equipment vehicles (TLBs) to assist with water network maintenance and pipe bursts.
- In the 2023/2024 FY, the municipality will run the following water business programmes:
  - Pressure management to reduce pipe bursts and water losses.

- Non-Revenue Water Management to reduce water losses and improve revenue collection.
- SCADA System to measure and monitor water losses in the reticulation system.
- Active leak detections to locate invisible pipe bursts.
- The municipality will also appoint a suitable Professional Services Provider to develop a Water Demand and Water Conservation Management (WDWCM) Strategy as a fundamental step in promoting water use efficiency and to be compliant with both the Water Services Act and the National Water Act, Act 36 Of 1998, which together emphasizes effective management of water resources and supply services.
- The municipality has procured over six thousand water meters in the 2022/2023 FY to start addressing the issue of unmetered consumers and to improve revenue collection.

Additional funding is required to address the more than ten years of unmaintained strategic infrastructure assets of the disestablished Sedibeng Water. The current water provider, Bloem Water does not have the required funds.

Matjhabeng LM has submitted a business plan to Infrastructure South Africa (ISA) for replacement of old asbestos and old galvanized pipes with an estimated cost of R1,4 billion.

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

*SPhillips*

**DR SEAN PHILLIPS**  
**DIRECTOR-GENERAL**  
**DATE: 4 June 2023**

DRAFT REPLY: APPROVED/  NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED

*S Mchunu*

**MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP**  
**MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION**  
**DATE:** *6/6/23*