



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 447

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 02 JUNE 2023
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 23)

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

(a) How will his department address the (i) delays in the completion of the new water purification plant and (ii) inefficiencies in the repairs of the damaged water pipeline at the Magareng Local Municipality, specifically regarding the contracting out of repairs without considering all the necessary specifications (details furnished) and (b) what measures will be implemented to ensure better (i) planning and (ii) coordination between the said municipality, Frances Baard District Municipality and other relevant stakeholders in order to prevent and effectively manage future water crises and natural disasters? CW564E

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

- (a) (i) The main delay for the completion of the Water Treatment Works project was due to poor performance by the mechanical contractor. The mechanical contract was subsequently terminated by the municipality. The department will play an oversight role during the process of appointing a new mechanical contractor process. Furthermore, the department is funding the total project cost.
- (a) (ii) The municipality appointed a professional service provider to develop a temporary technical solution. The solution is to install a HDPE pipeline across the river, which will be connected to the existing water supply system. This is an interim measure to speedily restore water until construction of a pipeline across the old N18 bridge is completed. The temporary solution was meant to be completed within 14 days, however during construction the Vaal River levels rose high making it difficult for the diving team to repair the pipeline timeously. Currently the project

is 95% completed and the contractor will start flushing the pipeline to ensure water quality is adheres to the SANS 241 standards. The long-term solution project is 60% complete with anticipated completion by July 2023.

- (b) The incident took place in Warrenton within Magareng Local Municipality. Due to the small localization of the incident, the Frances Baard District Municipality was responsible for declaring the area as a disaster according to the National Disaster Management Act, No. 57 of 2002. This declaration process started without significant delay. Various meetings were held between the affected stakeholders to devise immediate, short-term, and long-term solutions.

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



**DR SEAN PHILLIPS
DIRECTOR GENERAL**

DATE: 30/06/23

DRAFT REPLY: APPROVED/ NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED



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

DATE: 6/7/23