



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 474

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 09 June 2023
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 25)

474. Mr G Michalakis (Free State: DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

- (1) Whether the Trident Water Treatment Plant in the Ngwathe Local Municipality in Parys ceased to operate (details furnished); if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the reasons for that;
- (2) whether the said plant has been dismantled on the instruction of a certain company (details furnished); if so, what are the reasons for that;
- (3) whether his department will investigate the wasteful expenditure and/or sabotage in view of the grant funding which funded the project; if not, why not; if so, (a) when will the investigation commence and (b) what are the further relevant details?

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION


- (1) The Trident Package Plant at Parys Water Treatment Works (WTW) is currently not in operation. Raw water for Parys is abstracted from the Vaal River. The turbidity in the Vaal River increases drastically during the rainy season with turbidity of the raw water measured at 1 500 NTU or more. The Trident Package Plant can treat water with a turbidity of up to 400 NTU and therefore during periods of high turbidity, up to and exceeding 1 500 NTU in the Vaal River, the filtering system of the Trident Plant is not able to treat the water efficiently, which results in sludge built-up and blockage to the filtering system.
- (2) Trident Package Plant was refurbished in 2020, in attempt to enable the plant to treat water with high turbidity. Changes were made to the filtering system in attempt to stop it from clogging up during the periods of high turbidity of the Vaal River water. The Trident Plant was not dismantled. The filter system was taken out to clean and replace it because it blocked again after putting it in operation.
- (3) The Trident plant was funded through Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) managed by CoGTA and implemented by the Municipality. The Department is currently funding the refurbishment of the conventional Parys WTW through Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (RBIG). The feasibility and the past work conducted on the Trident Plant will be investigated as part of the refurbishment project. The municipality went on tender for the refurbishment of the Parys WTWs. The tender is closing on the 15 June 2023.

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


DR SEAN PHILLIPS
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DATE: 23/06/23

DRAFT REPLY: APPROVED/ NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED


MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION
DATE: 27/06/23