



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Enquiries: T Ntli
Telephone: 082 803 3204
Reference: 6/2/2/6

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 505

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 15 June 2023
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 26)

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

What interventions have been made to combat the prevailing challenges of water and sanitation that are endangering the lives of residents in the Free State?

CW588E

---0000---

MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) conducts inspections and audits regularly on the operation and maintenance of the Wastewater Collector Systems (WWCS), that is, Wastewater Treatment Works (WWTWs), pump stations, and sewer network in all Water Services Institution (WSIs) in the Free State Province. The inspections are intended to assess if WWCS are operated and maintained in a manner that does not contaminate water resources and increasing risks to human health and the environment. The final effluent released back to the water resource is also monitored to see if it complies with water use authorization conditions or general authorization limits where water use authorization is not available.

DWS also conducts regular inspections and audits on the operation and maintenance of the Water Supply Systems (WSS). Drinking water samples are collected from WTWs final treated water for analysis on a quarterly basis. This is done as part of the DWS regulatory function to monitor and ensure that drinking water supplied to consumers is compliant with the South African National Standard (SANS) 241 and is safe for human consumption.

Administrative enforcement by issuing of non-compliance letters or directives is done to the WSIs to ensure there is improvement on the status of water and sanitation infrastructure operation and maintenance of water and sanitation infrastructure. In areas where non-compliances still exist after directives are issued or when there is material breach the DWS proceeds with either or both criminal and civil enforcement actions.

Apart from the regulatory interventions above, the DWS has allocated R925 million through the Regional Infrastructure Grant and R427 million through the Water Services Infrastructure Grant towards the implementation of water and sanitation interventions to address water quality and supply challenges as follows:

- Water supply interventions include the refurbishment and upgrading of water treatment works, the construction of bulk water supply pipelines with pump stations where required and construction of potable water storage reservoirs.
- Sanitation interventions include the refurbishment and upgrade of wastewater treatment works and also the construction of sewer pumpstations and outfall sewer pipelines. The interventions funded by DWS are aimed at providing a safe water and sanitation environment to the people living in South Africa.
- Further to the funding and implementation of water and sanitation interventions, DWS also forms committees to assist municipalities where there is a lack of technical capacity. These committees bring stakeholders together and assist and monitor actions to improve the water and sanitation services within the municipality.

---0000---

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



DR SEAN PHILLIPS
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DATE: 12/07/23

DRAFT REPLY: APPROVED/ NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED



MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION
DATE: 27/7/23