



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 695 [*226]

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 13 OCTOBER 2023
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 38)

695. Mr M S Moletsane (Free State: EFF) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation: [★226]

(a) What interventions have been made to assist the Matjhabeng Local Municipality which is experiencing serious sewage spillage challenges and even declared itself a sewage disaster municipality and (b) what are the further relevant details in this regard?

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

(a) The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) has availed funding through the Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (RBIG) and Water Services Infrastructure Grant (WSIG), for the implementation of the Matjhabeng Bulk Sewer Intervention project to address sewer spillages in Matjhabeng Local Municipality (LM).

The cost of the project is estimated at R2.2 billion over a four-year period of implementation. The Vaal Central Water Board (VCWB) was appointed as the implementing agent. The scope of work includes:

- Repair and unblocking of 1 543 kilometres of sewer network and dilapidated network
- The refurbishment or upgrading of 11 Wastewater Treatment Works (WWTWs)
- Refurbishment and upgrading of 52 pumpstations in the major towns of Allanridge, Hennenman, Odendaalsrus, Ventersburg, Virginia and Welkom.

The project is to be implemented over a four-year period due to its magnitude and budget required. It is comprised of 59 Prioritised Projects from 78 Projects. Details are indicated below:

Financial Year	Prioritised Projects
Year 1 (2022/23)	Commenced in Sept 2022 to April 2023 The appointment of the PSPs was finalised. Procurement for 3 sewer network contractors have commenced with unblocking of sewers.
Year 2 (2023/24)	29 projects are to be implemented
Year 3 (2024/25)	26 projects are to be implemented
Year 4 (2025/26)	4 projects are to be implemented

At the inception of the project, the Vaal Central Water Board appointed contractors to curb sewer spillages in the Matjhabeng LM communities. The table below summarises the progress made to date with the three emergency interventions:

Pipe Network Repair/Replacement	Number of Collapsed Pipeline Replaced	Number of Manhole's Unblocked	Pumpstations Refurbished	Number of Households Affected:
716 m of Sewer Pipe Network Repaired	128 of 463 (30% of 1543 km) estimated collapse pipelines	6040 of 30 000 manholes had been unblocked (20%)	4 Pumps Stations have been refurbished and 2 pump stations were cleaned out of 52 (11%)	33 271 of 127 000 households (26%)

For the long-term intervention, the Vaal Central Water Board appointed new contractors to continue with the repairs and unblocking of sewer network and dilapidated or collapsed network. Furthermore, eight contractors have been appointed for the refurbishment of sewer pumpstations.

Two (2) contractors have been appointed for the Refurbishment of Wastewater Treatment Works as follows:


Contractor	Project Name	Progress
Isiphethu Water Services	Refurbishment/Upgrading of Thabong WWTWs	Site handover on 18 September
HT Pelotona (Ptd) Ltd	Refurbishment/Upgrading of Kutlwanong WWTWs	Site handover on 18 September

(b) Two projects are funded through the Water Services Infrastructure Grant as part of the Intervention:

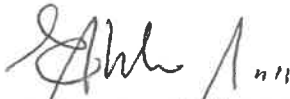
- Upgrading of Theronia Wastewater Treatment Works has reached practical completion.
- Construction of Outfall Sewer Line from Theronia WWTW to Sand river - 5% (Detail Design). The consultant is currently busy with the Environmental Impact Assessment, Water Use License Application, and servitude for the pipeline.

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DRAFT REPLY: RECOMMENDED/ NOT RECOMMENDED/ AMENDED


DR SEAN PHILLIPS
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DATE: 7/1/23

DRAFT REPLY: APPROVED/ NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED


MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION
DATE: 12/12/23