### **NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

## **FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

## **QUESTION NO 350**

# <u>DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 7 MARCH 2008</u> (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 8)

## 350. Mr L W Greyling (ID) to ask the Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry:

Whether all local authorities are devoting sufficient funds and expertise to maintain and develop their waste-water and sewage treatment works infrastructure; if not, (a) which local authorities are not doing so and (b) what action has been taken since this problem was made known to her?

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### **REPLY:**

- (a) No. A list of municipalities cannot be provided at this stage, but the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry is engaged in a process of developing an assessment report of all Waste-Water Treatment Works (WWTW) which do not comply with the required standards.
- (b) My Department is engaged in a process of developing an assessment report of all Waste-Water Treatment Works which do not comply with the required standards. That will enable my Department to prioritise the critical municipalities and provide targeted intervention support.

Water Pollution Control Officers from my Department conduct regular inspections at the sewage works and also the reticulation system.

The findings of the inspections are communicated with the municipalities, my Department supports the municipalities in the development of action plans to address the identified problem. In addition to intervention plans referred to above Operational and Maintenance Plans are included in the Water Service Development Plans (WSDP).

My Department is also negotiating additional funding to municipalities ring-fenced for waste-water treatment works.

Training of operators is being provided. My Department is facilitating discussions to make recommendations for the release of Municipal Infrastructure (MIG) Funding for this purpose.