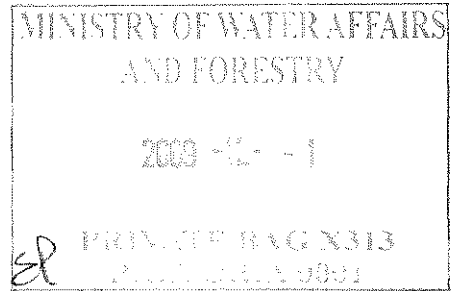




## water affairs

Department:  
Water and Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

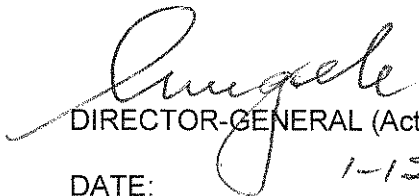


Enquiries: Ms C. Rajah  
Telephone: 012-336-8130  
Reference: 2/1/5/1

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1549 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Mrs A T Lovemore (DA), is attached for your consideration, please.

  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 1-12-09

  
DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

  
MS B P SONJICA, MP  
MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE: 2009/12/01

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1549

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 09 OCTOBER 2009  
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 20)

1549. Mrs A T Lovemore (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether the Artificial Recharge Strategy (details furnished) has been finalised; if not, why not; if so, (a) when will it be implemented, (b) what are the further relevant details and (c) when will it be tabled;
- (2) whether managed artificial recharge of aquifers are actively being pursued as a water augmentation mechanism; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether any legislative or other barriers exist which might impede the implementation of managed artificial recharge; if so, (a) what are the relevant details and (b) what action is being taken to address the barriers?

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REPLY:

- (1)(a) Yes, the Artificial Recharge Strategy was finalised and published in June 2007. Its implementation was initiated in November 2007.
- (1)(b) The Strategy addresses seven (7) themes, namely: Knowledge, Legislation and Regulation, Planning, Implementation, Management, Research and Strategy Implementation. It is available in the Departmental and South Africa's Artificial Recharge Information Centre websites.
- (1)(c) Refer to (1)(a)
- (2) Yes, artificial recharge of aquifers is pursued as a water augmentation mechanism. Furthermore, it is encouraged as another option in water resource planning within reconciliation strategies and other planning initiatives.
- (3)(a) No, legislative measures are meant to complement the implementation of the strategy and this is enhanced by good cooperative governance. However, insufficient information in some areas (e.g. hydraulic properties of the aquifer) might impede the implementation and management thereof.
- (3)(b) Actions to address impediments include the introduction of awareness on the principles of artificial recharge at university level and through the reconciliation studies, ground water potential maps and regular updates of the national groundwater database.

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