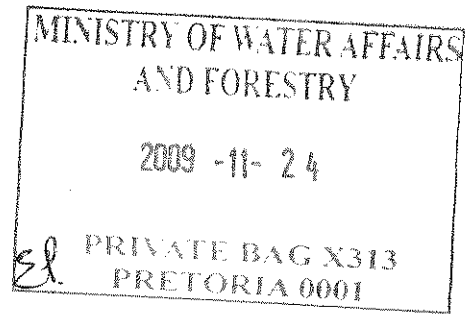




water affairs

Department:
Water and Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Enquiries: M Kadiaka
Telephone: 013-759-7313
Reference: 6/2/2/6

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2156 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Mr G R Morgan (DA), is attached for your consideration, please.


DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 19.11.09

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/~~AMENDED~~


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

DATE: 24.11.2009

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 2156

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 06 NOVEMBER 2009
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 27)

2156 Mr G R Morgan (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether, with reference to her reply to Question 303 on 18 September 2009, a letter of refusal has been issued to Vuna Mining Enterprises for a water licence at their operation in Bronkhorstspuit; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether any application for a water licence is currently before her department for approval; if so, what are the relevant details; if not, why is the mine still operating?

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REPLY:

- (1) A letter of refusal has not been issued to Vuna Mining Enterprises. My Department is still awaiting further outstanding information from the applicant to be able to make an informed decision on the application.
- (2) Yes, however My Department has not taken a decision based on the incomplete application that was submitted by the mine. My Department has also issued a Directive to Vuna Mining Enterprises to stop with the unlawful Water Use activities. It should however be noted that the responsibility and authority to stop a mining operation rests with the Department of Mineral Resources and the mandate of the Department of Water Affairs is limited to water use. My Department is currently following up to investigating as to whether the mine has complied with the issued Directive (i.e. stopping the unlawful water use). Should the investigation reveal that the Directive has not been complied with, My Department will lodge a criminal case against the mine.

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