WAISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2010 -00- 10



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Department: Water Affairs REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2010 -08- - 6

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Reference:

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1904 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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

DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE:

DRAFT-REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MS'BPSONJICA, MP

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE:

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2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1904

<u>DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 26 JULY 2010</u> (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 17)

1904. Mrs AT Lovemore (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether her department regularly monitors the quality of the water in the Swartkops River in the Eastern Cape; if so, what are (a) the details of the monitoring regime and (b) the results of analyses of samples taken since 1 January 2010; if not, (i) why not and (ii) who is responsible for such monitoring;
- (2) whether her department has issued a directive in terms of section 19(3) of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998, in respect of the pollution of the Swartkops River; if not, why not; if so, (a) what are the details of the directive and (b) what action has been taken in response to the directive;
- (3) whether her department intends prosecuting the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality in terms of section 151 of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

- (1) Yes, my Department regularly monitors the quality of the water in the Swartkops River in the Eastern Cape.
- (1)(a) My Department conducts monthly samples at the following identified points:
 - Frans Claassen Bridge,
 - Van Schalkwyk #1,
 - Van Schalkwyk #2,
 - Perseverance Elands Avenue (old broken bridge),
 - La Farge Quarry in estuary; tidal reach,
 - Redhouse at Girdlestone Road in estuary, and
 - Motherwell Canal in estuary.
- (1)(b) Refer to **Annexure A** reflecting the results of the samples taken since 1 January 2010.
- (1)(b)(i) Falls away
- (1)(b)(ii) Falls away
- (2) No, my Department has not issued a directive in terms of section 19(3) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No 36 of 1998) in respect of the pollution of the Swartkops River as I have written to Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality (NMBM) in this regard who have committed to provide me with an action plan to address the challenges.
- (2)(a) Falls away
- (2)(b) Falls away

(3) No, my Department does not intend prosecuting the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality in terms of section 151 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No 36 of 1998). It should be noted that in terms of the Enforcement Protocol, currently in progress with NMBM, my Department will only consider prosecution once all possible corrective measures and procedures have been exhausted.

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ANNEXURE A

SWARTKOPS RIVER SAMPLES RESULTS: FEBRUARY TO MAY 2010

SWARTKOPS RIVER ATPERSEVERANCE ELAND ROAD (OLD BROKEN BRIDGE)

| DATE | рН | EC | TSS | ΑO | COD | TSS OA COD NH3 | P04 | NO3 | PO4 NO3 Turbidity TDS F.COL | TDS | F.COL | E.coli | SO4 |
|--|-----|--------|--------|----|---------|----------------|--------------------|------|---|-----|-------|--------|-----|
| 2010/05/06 | 7 | 354 | 53 | | 70 | 4.14 | 70 4.14 4.84 0.62 | 0.62 | | | 9 | 9 | 196 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SWARTKOPS RIVER AT FRANS CLAASEN BRIDGE | SR | /ER AT | FRA | SN | SLAA | SEN | RIDG | щ | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DATE | μd | EC | TSS OA | | COD NH3 | | P04 | NO3 | Turbidity TDS | SQL | F.COL | E.coli | 804 |
| 2010/02/04 | 7.2 | 596 | 25 | 7 | 42 | 1.02 | 42 1.02 2.35 | 1.95 | | | 132 | 82 | 128 |
| 2010/05/06 | 7.1 | 254 | 27 | | 114 | 5.73 | 920 | 840 | | | 920 | 840 | 144 |
| - Control of the Cont | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SWARTKOPS RIVER AT VAN SCHALKWYK BRIDGE1 | S | /ER AT | VAN | SC | ALK | WYK | BRID | Ę, | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DATE | Hd | EC | TSS | OA | cop | NH3 | P04 | NO3 | TSS OA COD NH3 PO4 NO3 Turbidity TDS F.COL. | TDS | F.COL | E.coli | 804 |
| 2010/02/04 | 7 | 322 | <10 | 9 | 35 | 18.6 | 18.6 6.75 0.32 | 0.32 | | | 370 | 138 | 141 |
| 2010/05/06 | 7.1 | 277 | 12 | | 59 | 4.07 | 4.07 6.46 0.38 | 0.38 | | | 280 | 210 | 152 |
| | | | | | ! | | | | | | | | |

| SWARTKOPS RIVER AT VAN SCHALKWYK BRIDGE 2 | SRI | /ER AT | VAN | SC | ALK | WYK | BRID | GE 2 | | | | | |
|---|-----|------------|-----------|----|-----|------|-------------------------|-------------------|--|-----|-------|----------|-----|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DATE | ЬH | EC | TSS | ΑO | COD | NH3 | P04 | NO3 | TSS OA COD NH3 PO4 NO3 Turbidity TDS F.COL | TDS | F.COL | L E.coli | 804 |
| 2010/02/04 | 7 | 316 | 316 <10 7 | 7 | 38 | 20.5 | 7.12 | 38 20.5 7.12 0.29 | | | 332 | 156 | 141 |
| 2010/05/06 | 7.1 | 7.1 276 12 | 12 | | 37 | 3.02 | 37 3.02 5.29 0.25 | 0.25 | | , | 400 | 310 | 148 |

| ZWARTKOPS ESTUARY @GIRDLESTONE REDHOUSE | Š ES | TUARY | <u>(ක</u> | 8 | EST(| ONE F | X E E E | SOC | | | | | |
|---|---------|---------------|-----------|----|------|-------|----------------------|------|---|-----|-------|--------|-----|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DATE | 표 | COND | TSS | OA | COD | NH3 | P04 | NO3 | PH COND TSS OA COD NH3 PO4 NO3 Turbidity TDS F.COL E.coli SO4 | TDS | F.COL | E.coli | 804 |
| 2010/02/11 | 7.8 | 7.8 4,420 172 | 172 | | 889 | 0.14 | 889 0.14 0.53 | 58 | | | 144 | 28 | |
| 2010/03/10 | 8.6 | 8.6 5,340 112 | 112 | | 876 | 0.86 | 876 0.86 1.75 0.31 | 0.31 | | | 0 | 0 | |
| 2010/05/04 | ω | 8 2,750 88 | 88 | | 618 | <0.08 | 618 < 0.08 2.04 0.53 | 0.53 | | | 128 | 98 | |

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| DATE | H | COND | TSS | O A | COD | NH3 | P04 | NO3 | pH COND TSS OA COD NH3 PO4 NO3 Turbidity TDS F.COL E.coli SO4 | TDS | F.COL | E.coli | S04 |
|----------------|-----|---------|-----|--------|-----|----------------|------|------|---|-----|-------|--------|-----|
| 2010/02/11 | 8 | 397 | 24 | | 57 | <0.08 8.1 | 8.1 | 0.47 | | | 188 | 88 | |
| 2010/03/10 8.3 | 8.3 | 8.3 510 | 28 | | 28 | 0.85 7.21 2.53 | 7.21 | 2.53 | | | 330 | 210 | |
| 2010/05/04 | 80 | 330 | 33 | | 32 | 0.13 4.37 0.85 | 4.37 | 0.85 | | | 128 | 98 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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|------------------------------------|-----|---------------|-----|---|-----|--------------------|------|------|--|-----|----------------|------------|-----|
| ZWARTKOPS RIVER @ MOTHERWELL CANAL | SR | ER @ | MOT | H | | CAN | 4 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DATE | 표 | COND | TSS | ٥ | COD | NH3 | PO4 | NO3 | pH COND TSS OA COD NH3 PO4 NO3 Turbidity TDS F.COL | TDS | | E.coli SO4 | 804 |
| 2010/02/11 | ∞ | 592 | 35 | | 57 | 57 <0.08 0.03 2.76 | 0.03 | 2.76 | | | 1,900 | 1,300 | |
| 2010/03/10 | 8.1 | 8.1 3,720 104 | 104 | | 34 | 34 3.75 0.09 1.08 | 0.09 | 1.08 | | | 113,000 60,000 | 60,000 | |
| 2010/05/04 | 7.9 | 7.9 2,540 80 | 80 | | 495 | 495 0.15 0.66 1.23 | 99.0 | 1.23 | | | 380 | 190 | |