

MINISTRY OF WATER AND **ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

2010 - 09- 14

PRIVATE BAG X313 PRETORIA 0001

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2389 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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

DIRECTOR-BENERAL (Acting)

DATE:

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MS/B P SONJICA, MP

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE:

09 2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 2389

<u>DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 30 AUGUST 2010</u> (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 25)

2389. Mr G R Morgan (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether, with reference to her reply to question 2087 on 18 August 2010, she has been informed of spillages of untreated or partially treated sewage from the Mbango Waste Water Treatment Works in Ugu Municipality since 1 July 2010; if not, how was this conclusion reached; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether there has been any improvement in the state of the waste water treatment works since the last communication from Ugu Municipality to her department on 30 June 2010; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether any further directives have been issued against the Ugu Municipality since 1 July 2010 in terms of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998, for the state of the waste water treatment works; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- what steps will her department take if the existing notices and directives against the Ugu Municipality in terms of the national Water Act do not result in improvements in the functioning of the waste water treatment works?

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REPLY:

- (1) No, my Department has not been informed of any spillages of untreated or partially treated sewage from the Mbango Wastewater Treatment Works (WWTW) since 1 July 2010.
- (2) Yes, there has been a marked improvement in the state of WWTW and its operation which attributes to the final effluent quality discharged from the Mbango WWTW. The improvement includes operational as well as installation of civil and mechanical equipment.
- (3) No further directives have been issued to the Ugu District Municipality since 1 July 2010. The lowest final effluent quality compliance for July was 57% and the largest three WWTWs owned by Ugu DM had compliance performance figures of 67%, 83% and 92% respectively.
- (4) If the notices do not result in requisite improvements, directives will be issued and non compliance with the directives will result in criminal charges being brought against the Municipality but the overall objective will be to improve the performance of WWTWs.