MINISTRY OF WATER AND **ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

2010 -12- 02

PRIVATE BAG X313 PRETORIA 0001



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Reference:

6/2/2/6

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 3423 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Ms E More (DA); is attached for your consideration.

A copy of the reply to question 1276 is attached for information.

ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL

DATE:

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MRS BEE MOLEWA, MP

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE: 20 10 19

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 3423

<u>DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 19 NOVEMBER 2010</u> (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 38)

3423. Ms E More (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether, with reference to her reply to question 1276 on 20 May 2010, the water use authorisation granted to Mr L Fourie is still valid; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether this mining operation has applied for a water use licence; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether there has been any noncompliance with the provisions of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998; if not, how was this conclusion reached; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (4) what are the (a) dates of the last three inspections by officials of her department to this mining site and (b)(i) names and (ii) designations of officials that conducted these inspections?

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REPLY:

- (1) No, the general water use authorisation for Mr L Fourie in relation to sand mining as at 23 November 2010 is not valid, as the validity of authorisation was subject to an existence of a valid mining permit in terms of Minerals and Petroleum Resource Development Act, 2002 (Act No 28 of 2002). It should be noted that as at 23 November 2010, Mr Fourie was still awaiting the outcome of his application for mining permits.
- (2) Yes, this mining operation has applied for a water use licence. The Limpopo Regional Mining Development and Environment Committee (REMDEC) held a meeting on 18 November 2010 to adjudicate his application for the mining permits and the conditions for managing the potential impacts. The water use licence and conditions thereof will be considered in line with parameters and/or constraints of such mining permits.
- (3) No, the Department has not identified/ observed non-compliance issues during site inspections conducted between July 2010 and November 2010 (refer to no 4 below for exact dates of inspections). Mr Fourie has not engaged in sand mining since January 2010.
- (4) Table 1 below reflects the dates, details of officials that conducted inspection within the past three months.

Dates	Names of officials	Designations
22 July 2010	Malegodi Mahlatji	Principal Water Pollution Control Officer
	Zama Masondo	Graduate Trainee
16 and 17 August	Donald Mabada	Deputy Director
2010	Ben Sengani	Assistant Director
	Malegodi Mahlatji	Principal Water Pollution Control Officer
	Zama Masondo	Graduate Trainee
14 September 2010	Thubelihle Mnisi	Chief Auxiliary Services Officer
	Zama Masondo	Graduate Trainee
2 and 3 November	Malegodi Mahlatji	Principal Water Pollution Control Officer.
2010	Zama Masondo	Graduate Trainee