MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2010 -03- 26

PRIVATE BAG X313



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Reference:

7/1

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 809 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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

DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE:

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MS B P SONJICA, MP

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE:

29.03.2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 809

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 23 MARCH 2010 (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 8)

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

- (1) As at the latest specified date for which information is available, (a) what is the (i) total amount of money owed by municipalities to all water boards and (ii)(aa) current debt and (bb) arrears and (b) what is the (i) total amount owed by municipalities to each water board and (ii) how is each figure broken up in each case according to (aa) current debt and (bb) arrears:
- (2) whether her department is making an effort to assist the boards in obtaining payment from the municipalities; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

(1)(a)(i) R1 262 047 056

(1)(a)(ii)(aa) R 653 416 344

(1)(a)(ii)(bb) R 608 630 712

WATER BOARD	(1)(b)(i)	(1)(b)(ii)(aa)	(1)(b)(ii)(bb)
Albany Coast Water	R 332 424	R 332 424	R 0
Amatola Water	R 16 925 810	R 15 521 574	R 1 404 236
Bloem Water	R 68 669 111	R 20 925 227	R 47 743 884
Botshelo Water	R 33 812 711	R 4 474 385	R 29 338 326
Bushbuckridge Water	R151 369 685	R 3 884 511	R147 485 174
Lepelle Northern Water	R249 624 440	R 18 021 416	R231 603 024
Magalies Water	R 11 084 591	R 5 261 905	R 5 822 686
Mhlathuze Water	R 3 673 773	R 3 673 773	R 0
Namakwa Water	R 1 073 744	R 1 073 744	R 0
Overberg Water	R 577 312	R 577 312	R 0
Pelladrift Water	R 61 630	R 61 630	R 0
Sedibeng Water	R146 185 611	R 25 005 670	R121 179 941
Rand Water	R442 797 949	R424 259 672	R 18 538 277
Umgeni Water	R135 858 265	R130 343 101	R 5 515 164

- (2) Yes, My Department assists water boards in mediating disputes with regards to debt owed by water boards in the following manner:
 - Performing preliminary investigation on the extent and nature of debt
 - Meeting with stakeholders to clarify facts, mediate and recommend solutions
 - Reporting back to My Department, CoGTA and National Treasury and following up with progress reports
 - If the above fails, then My Department recommends that the dispute be mediated formally by National Treasury
 - If this fails, the dispute will go to arbitration