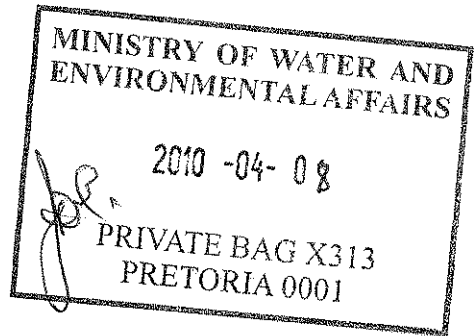


## water affairs

Department:  
Water Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA




Enquiries: MJ Kadiaka  
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Reference: 16/2/7/X205/D34

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1060 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Mr M J Ellis (DA); is attached for your consideration.

  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 7/4/10

  
DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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

DATE: 18/04/2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1060

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 30 MARCH 2010  
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 9)

**1060. Mr M J Ellis (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:**

- (1) Whether she has been informed of incidents in Malelane in the Nkomazi Municipality where sewage has been leaking from the town's infrastructure into the Crocodile River since the beginning of 2010; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what action has been taken by her department in this regard;
- (2) whether her department has issued any notices to the Nkomazi Municipality in terms of section 19(3) of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998, since 1 January 2007; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether, with reference to the regulations for the erection, enlargement, operation and registration of water care works published under Government Notice No R. 2834 of 27 December 1985, all water care works in the Nkomazi Municipality comply with the minimum requirements with regard to (a) staff complement and (b) educational qualifications and experience of staff; if not, (i) which water care works do not comply with the requirements and (ii) what are the details of the noncompliance in each case;
- (4) whether proof was provided for all sewage works that the disposal of waste is done in accordance with the guidelines prescribed in a certain document published by the Water Research Commission (details furnished); if not, how will this be rectified; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (5) what (a) were the compliance statistics of all sewage works at the latest compliance audit against the compliance requirements prescribed by her department and (b) was the Green Drop score in this regard?

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**REPLY:**

- (1) Yes, my Department has been informed of an incident in Malelane in the Nkomazi Municipality where sewage has been leaking into the Crocodile River. On 9 March 2010, my Department in conjunction with the complainant conducted a site inspection in the area.  
  
Subsequent to the inspection, my Department issued a notice in terms of section 19(3) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No 36 of 1998) [the Act] to the Nkomazi Local Municipality (LM) and is currently awaiting a response with regard to an action plan to address the problem.
- (2) Yes, my Department has issued notices in terms of section 19(3) of the Act to the Nkomazi LM. The relevant details are indicated in Table 1 below:

**Table 1: Notices issued to Nkomazi LM**

<b>Specific activity</b>	<b>Date issued</b>	<b>Directive or Notice</b>	<b>Section 19(3) and/or 53 of the Act</b>
Komatipoort Wastewater Treatment Works (WWTW)	12/10/2009	Directive	Section 19(3) and 53
Malelane WWTW	11/02/2009	Notice	Section 19(3)
Komati WWTW and pump station	08/04/2009	Notice	Section 19(3)
Malelane pump station	31/03/2010	Notice	Section 19(3)

- (3)(a)(i) Not all water care works in the Nkomazi LM comply with the minimum requirements with regard to staff compliment. The details of the non-compliances are reflected in **Annexure A & B**.

It should be noted that the Nkomazi LM has submitted registration forms for the works which are not classified (**Annexure A**), that is, Langeloop, Shongwe, Ka-Mhlushwa/ Madadeni, Komatipoort, Marloth Park, Hectorspruit and Malelane WTWs. The information submitted on these forms is undergoing a process of validation.

- (3)(b)(ii) The details of the non-compliance are reflected in Annexure A and B.
- (4) No proof was provided to confirm that all WWTWs comply with the Water Research Commission's guidelines for the disposal of sludge. My Department will issue section 19 and/or 53 directive where necessary as a corrective action.
- (5)(a) The latest statistics for all the WWTWs reflects non compliance to the prescribed standards.
- (5)(b) The Green Drop Report has not yet been released.

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ANNEXURE A

Table 2: Water Treatment Works in the Nkomazi Local Municipality

Water Works	Care Class	Actual staff complement	Actual educational qualifications and experience of staff	Required staff complement	Required educational qualifications and experience of staff	Compliance (Yes / No)
Langeloo WTW	Not classified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 personnel x 3 shift</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Process controllers have extensive experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least two process controllers &amp; 1 Supervisor per shift until it is Classified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not yet known until classified</li> </ul>	No
Driekoppies WTW	D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 personnel x 3 shift &amp; one supervisor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Process controllers have extensive experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1X Trainee,</li> <li>1X Class I operator</li> <li>Class II Supervisor,</li> <li>Class III weekly supervisor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trainee std 6,</li> <li>1X Class 1 std 6 and Maintenance Workers Certificate</li> <li>Class II std 7 and Maintenance Workers Certificate</li> <li>Class III std 8 or NTC1 and Maintenance Workers Certificate.</li> </ul>	Moderately Satisfactory
Tonga WTW	D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 personnel x 3 shift &amp; 1 Supervisor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Process controllers have extensive experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1X Trainee,</li> <li>1X Class I operator</li> <li>Class II Supervisor</li> <li>Class III weekly supervisor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trainee std 6</li> <li>1X Class 1 std 6 and Maintenance Workers Certificate</li> <li>Class II std 7 and Maintenance Workers Certificate</li> <li>Class III std 8 or NTC1 and Maintenance Workers Certificate.</li> </ul>	Moderately Satisfactory
Sibange WTW	D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 personnel x 3 shift &amp; 1 supervisor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Process controllers have extensive experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1X Trainee</li> <li>1X Class I operator</li> <li>Class II Supervisor,</li> <li>Class III weekly supervisor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trainee std 6,</li> <li>1X Class 1 std 6 and Maintenance Workers Certificate</li> <li>Class II std 7 and Maintenance Workers Certificate</li> <li>Class III std 8 or NTC1 and Maintenance Workers Certificate.</li> </ul>	Moderately Satisfactory

Water Works	Care Class	Actual staff compliment	Actual educational qualifications and experience of staff	Required staff compliment	Required educational qualifications and experience of staff	Compliance (Yes / No)
Shongwe WTW	Not classified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 personnel x 3 shift</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Process controllers have extensive experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least two process controllers &amp; 1 Supervisor per shift until it is Classified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not yet known until classified</li> </ul>	No
Ka-Mhluhwa/Madadeni WTW	Not classified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 personnel x 3 shift</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Process controllers have extensive experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least two process controllers &amp; 1 Supervisor per shift until it is Classified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not yet known until classified</li> </ul>	No
Magudu WTW	D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 personnel x 3 shift</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Process controllers have extensive experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1X Trainee, 1X Class I operator, Class II Supervisor, Class III weekly supervisor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trainee std 6, 1X Class 1 std 6 and Maintenance Workers Certificate, Class II std 7 and Maintenance Workers Certificate, Class III std 8 or NTC1 and Maintenance Workers Certificate.</li> </ul>	Moderately Satisfactory
Komatipoort WTW	Not classified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 personnel x 3 shift</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Process controllers have extensive experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least two process controllers &amp; 1 Supervisor per shift until it is Classified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not yet known until classified</li> </ul>	No
Marloth Park WTW	Not classified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 personnel x 3 shift</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Process controllers have extensive experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least two process controllers &amp; 1 Supervisor per shift until it is Classified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not yet known until classified</li> </ul>	No
Hectorspruit WTW	Not classified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 personnel x 3 shift &amp; 1 supervisor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Process controllers have extensive experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1X Trainee, 1X Class I operator, Class II Supervisor, Class III weekly supervisor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trainee std 6, 1X Class 1 std 6 and Maintenance Workers Certificate, Class II std 7 and Maintenance Workers Certificate, Class III std 8 or NTC1 and Maintenance Workers Certificate</li> </ul>	Moderately Satisfactory

Water Works	Care	Class	Actual staff complement	Actual educational qualifications and experience of staff	Required staff complement	Required educational qualifications and experience of staff	Compliance (Yes / No)
Naas WTW		D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 personnel x 3 shift &amp; 1 supervisor</li> </ul>	Process controllers have extensive experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1X Trainee,</li> <li>1X Class I operator,</li> <li>Class II Supervisor</li> <li>Class III weekly supervisor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trainee std 6</li> <li>1X Class 1 std 6 and Maintenance Workers Certificate</li> <li>Class II std 7 and Maintenance Workers Certificate, Class III std 8 or NTC1 and Maintenance Workers Certificate</li> </ul>	Moderately Satisfactory
Malelane WTW		Not classified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 personnel x 3 shift</li> </ul>	Process controllers have extensive experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least two process controllers &amp; 1 Supervisor per shift until it is Classified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not yet known until classified</li> </ul>	No
Mbuzini WTW		D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 personnel x 3 shift &amp; 1 supervisor</li> </ul>	Process controllers have extensive experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1X Trainee</li> <li>1X Class I operator</li> <li>Class II Supervisor,</li> <li>Class III weekly supervisor</li> </ul>	Trainee std 6, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1X Class 1 std 6 and Maintenance Workers Certificate,</li> <li>Class II std 7 and Maintenance Workers Certificate</li> <li>Class III std 8 or NTC1 and Maintenance Workers Certificate.</li> </ul>	Moderately Satisfactory

## ANNEXURE B

Table 3: Waste Water Treatment Works in the Nkomazi Local Municipality

Water Works	Care	Class	Actual staff compliment	Actual educational qualifications and experience of staff	Required compliment	Required staff	Required qualifications and experience of staff	educational and experience of	Compliance (Yes / No)
Komatipoort WWWTW		Not classified	No adequate staff compliment	Extensive experience only	Will be informed by Classification of the Works	Will be informed by Classification of the Works	Will be informed by Classification of the Works		No
Hectorspruit WWWTW		Not classified	No adequate staff compliment	Extensive experience only	Will be informed by Classification of the Works	Will be informed by Classification of the Works	Will be informed by Classification of the Works		No
Malelane (Mhlathiplaas) WWWTW		Not classified	No adequate staff compliment	Extensive experience only	Will be informed by Classification of the Works	Will be informed by Classification of the Works	Will be informed by Classification of the Works		No
Malelane (Mhlathikop) WWWTW		Not classified	No adequate staff compliment	Extensive experience only	Will be informed by Classification of the Works	Will be informed by Classification of the Works	Will be informed by Classification of the Works		No
Tonga WWWTW		Not classified	No adequate staff compliment	Extensive experience only	Will be informed by Classification of the Works	Will be informed by Classification of the Works	Will be informed by Classification of the Works		No
Schoemansdal WWWTW		Not classified	No adequate staff compliment	Extensive experience only	Will be informed by Classification of the Works	Will be informed by Classification of the Works	Will be informed by Classification of the Works		No