



**water affairs**

Department:  
Water Affairs  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

2010 -04- 23

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1174 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: 22-04-2010

  
DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED



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

DATE: 26. 04. 2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1174

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 19 APRIL 2010  
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 10)

1174. Mr G R Morgan (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

Whether her department has complied with all the requirements of section 12 of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998; if not, how will this be rectified; if so, what are the relevant details?  
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REPLY:

Yes. The responsibility for the management of water resources requires protection from over-utilisation or impacts which cause degradation. Chapter 3 of the National Water Act, 36 of 1998 (NWA), sets out measures that need to be undertaken to ensure the protection of water resources within the context of sustainable use. The measures referred to in this regard include the progressive development of a prescribed system to classify water resources. In terms of section 12 of the NWA, my Department has developed a National Water Resources Classification System (NWRCS) which consists of procedures to be followed for recommending a class when classifying water resources. The system provides for a definition of these classes which takes into account the volume of water in a water resource, the reserve and the water quality requirements of water users. The NWRCS has undergone an extensive public consultation process which has culminated into a set of Regulations, the promulgation of which is anticipated in due course. In addition, my Department has developed a range of procedures and guidelines that will give effect to the classification of water resources.

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