



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2010 -05- 14

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PRETORIA 0001

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1389 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Mrs S V Kalyan (DA); is attached for your consideration.


DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 11/5/10


DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED


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

DATE: 19/05/2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1389

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 07 MAY 2010
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 12)

1389. Mrs S V Kalyan (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether, with reference to her reply to question 1047 on 20 April 2010, any landowners around Sishen Mine have been compensated since 6 June 2008 for loss of water or poor quality of water owing to the operations of the mine; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether any (a) directives or (b) notices of intention to issue a directive have been issued against Sishen Mine since 6 June 2008 for transgressions of the terms of its water use licence; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether she will revoke the water use licence of Sishen Mine if it was established that it was continually breaching the terms of its water use licence; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

- (1) A total of eighteen affected landowners have been compensated for the loss of water owing to the operations of the mine since the licence was issued to Sishen Mine on 6 June 2008 (even prior to the issuance of the licence affected landowners were also compensated as per agreement). The compensation ranges from the drilling and equipping of boreholes, the supply and installation of water storage tanks, the supply of potable water from the Vaal Gamagara Pipeline, monetary compensation for the proven loss of grazing and the provision of grazing land for livestock.
- (2)(a) No, my Department has not issued any directives against Sishen Mine since 6 June 2008 due to the fact that there has been no transgression of the conditions of water use licence.
- (2)(b) No, my Department has not issued any notices against Sishen Mine since 6 June 2008 due to the fact that there has been no transgression of the conditions of water use licence.
- (3) My Department will take appropriate steps against Sishen Mine should there be non compliance with the terms of its water use licence. It must be noted that in terms of Section 54 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), a water use entitlement can only be suspended or withdrawn if the responsible authority has directed the water user to take specified steps to rectify the failure within a specified period, and the water user concerned has failed to do so to the satisfaction of the responsible authority. The water user concerned must also be given a fair opportunity to make representations, within a reasonable period, on any proposed suspension or withdrawal of an entitlement to use water.

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