



## water affairs

Department:  
Water Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 141 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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

  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL (ACTING)

DATE: 3/3/10

  
DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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

DATE: 2010-03-09

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 141

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 11 FEBRUARY 2010  
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 1)

141. Mrs A T Lovemore (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) (a) How many wastewater treatment works have been assessed as part of the Green Drop certification programme and (b) which wastewater treatment works have qualified for the awarding of a Green Drop certificate;
- (2) whether the report will be made public; if not, (a) why not and (b) what caused the delay in the publication of the report; if so, when;
- (3) whether the publication of the report will be accompanied by a public commitment to a plan of action to address shortcomings identified in the report; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

- (1)(a) A total of four hundred and forty nine (449) out of eight hundred and fifty two (852) municipal Waste Water Systems (including the Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW)) were assessed for the first Green Drop Certification programme.
- (1)(b) To contextualise the findings of the report, the Green Drop status is awarded to WWTW that have achieved a total of 90% and above from the seven (7) critical performance areas namely: skills, monitoring program efficiency, credibility of the waste water sample analysis, regular submission of results to DWA, waste water compliance, response management in case of failures and the capacity of a WWTW to handle the load.

The results of the assessment are as follow

- 5% of the assessed WWTW achieved the Green drop status. The breakdown of the 32 systems that received the status is as follows:
  - Twelve (12) systems from Ethekwini Metro
  - Six (6) systems from City of Johannesburg
  - Seven (7) systems from City of Cape Town
  - Two (2) systems from City of Tshwane
  - Two (2) systems from Ekurhuleni Metro
  - Two (2) systems from Mbombela Local Municipality
  - Two (2) systems from George Local Municipality
- 39% of the assessed systems achieved from 50% - 89%. In this case there is room for improvement in some of the key critical performance areas.
- The remaining 56% of the assessed WWTW that scored below 50% is cause for concern. This is where the action plan will put more emphasis.

- (2)(a) Yes, the report will be made public.
- (2)(b) My Department expanded its waste water regulatory initiative to obtain more information on the remainder of systems not assessed in the formal Green Drop Certification programme to have a broader picture of all municipal waste water services systems.
- (3) Yes, an action plan is being finalised, based upon the findings of the assessment.

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