



MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2010 -08- 10

water affairs
PRIVATE BAG X313
PRETORIA 0001

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2010 -08- -6

PRIVATE BAG X313
PRETORIA 0001

Enquiries: A Starkey
Telephone: 014 604 5402
Reference: 6/2/2/6

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1904 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: 4/8/10


DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED


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

DATE: 14. 08. 2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1904

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 26 JULY 2010
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 17)

1904. Mrs A T Lovemore (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether her department regularly monitors the quality of the water in the Swartkops River in the Eastern Cape; if so, what are (a) the details of the monitoring regime and (b) the results of analyses of samples taken since 1 January 2010; if not, (i) why not and (ii) who is responsible for such monitoring;
- (2) whether her department has issued a directive in terms of section 19(3) of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998, in respect of the pollution of the Swartkops River; if not, why not; if so, (a) what are the details of the directive and (b) what action has been taken in response to the directive;
- (3) whether her department intends prosecuting the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality in terms of section 151 of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NW2290E

---00000---

REPLY:

- (1) Yes, my Department regularly monitors the quality of the water in the Swartkops River in the Eastern Cape.
- (1)(a) My Department conducts monthly samples at the following identified points:
 - Frans Claassen Bridge,
 - Van Schalkwyk #1,
 - Van Schalkwyk #2,
 - Perseverance – Elands Avenue (old broken bridge),
 - La Farge Quarry – in estuary; tidal reach,
 - Redhouse at Girdlestone Road – in estuary, and
 - Motherwell Canal – in estuary.
- (1)(b) Refer to **Annexure A** reflecting the results of the samples taken since 1 January 2010.
- (1)(b)(i) Falls away
- (1)(b)(ii) Falls away
- (2) No, my Department has not issued a directive in terms of section 19(3) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No 36 of 1998) in respect of the pollution of the Swartkops River as I have written to Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality (NMBM) in this regard who have committed to provide me with an action plan to address the challenges.
- (2)(a) Falls away
- (2)(b) Falls away

- (3) No, my Department does not intend prosecuting the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality in terms of section 151 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No 36 of 1998). It should be noted that in terms of the Enforcement Protocol, currently in progress with NMBM, my Department will only consider prosecution once all possible corrective measures and procedures have been exhausted.

---0000---

DATE	pH	COND	TSS	OA	COD	NH3	PO4	NO3	Turbidity	TDS	F.COL	E.coli	SO4
2010/02/11	8	397	24		57	<0.08	8.1	0.47			188	88	
2010/03/10	8.3	510	28		28	0.85	7.21	2.53			330	210	
2010/05/04	8	330	33		32	0.13	4.37	0.85			128	98	

ZWARTKOPS RIVER @ MOTHERWELL CANAL

DATE	pH	COND	TSS	OA	COD	NH3	PO4	NO3	Turbidity	TDS	F.COL	E.coli	SO4
2010/02/11	8	592	35		57	<0.08	0.03	2.76			1,900	1,300	
2010/03/10	8.1	3,720	104		34	3.75	0.09	1.08			113,000	60,000	
2010/05/04	7.9	2,540	80		495	0.15	0.66	1.23			380	190	