



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2010-03-06

PRIVATE BAG X313
PRETORIA 0001

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2003 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: 08/08/2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 2003

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 30 JULY 2010
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 18)

2003. Mrs A T Lovemore (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) whether, with reference to her reply to question 1276 on 20 May 2010, her department has undertaken further inspections to ensure that sand mining in the Mogol River in Limpopo does not have a detrimental impact on the water use or land of other users; if not, why not; if so, (a) what are the (i) details and (ii) outcomes of these inspections and (b) what action has been taken to ensure compliance;
- (2) whether her department has liaised with the Mokolo Irrigation Board on the issue of sand mining in the Mogol River; if not, why not; if so, what are the details of the interactions and the outcomes thereof;
- (3) whether her department has verified the existence of valid mining permits in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, Act 28 of 2002; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

- (1)(a)(i) Yes, my Department has conducted two site inspections on 02 June 2010 and 19 July 2010.
- (1)(a)(ii) During the two inspections indicated in (1)(a)(i) above, no non-compliance issues were detected.
- (1)(b) Falls away.
- (2) Yes, my Department conducted stakeholder engagement meetings with representatives of Mokolo Irrigation Board and the broader farming community in December 2009 and March 2010. Furthermore, the company which supplies sand to the Medupi Power Station has hired an expert to conduct ongoing impact study on the Mokolo River as a result of the sand mining activity.
- (3) Yes, my Department's Regional Office: Limpopo has with the assistance of the Department of Mineral Resources verified the existence and validity of the mining permits of the three known sand mining sites in the Mokolo River.

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