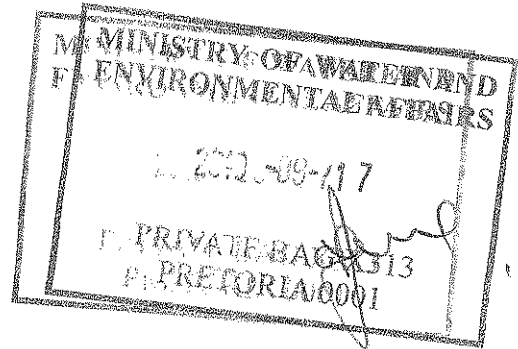




water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Enquiries: Mr M. Keet
Telephone: 012 392-1306
Reference: 2/1/5/1

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2353 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: 17/9/10

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED _____


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

DATE: 18. 09. 2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 2353

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 30 AUGUST 2010
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 25)

2353. Mrs A T Lovemore (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether the new interdepartmental team of senior executives of her department and of the Department of Mineral Resources to consider the problem of the impact of mining on water resources in the Witwatersrand area has been established, as referred to in her speech to the AgriSA Water Conference on 11 August 2010; if so, when was it established; if not, (a) why not and (b) when is it anticipated to be formed;
- (2) what are the (a) details of the persons who have been selected to form part of this team and (b) what are the proposed (i) terms of reference and (ii) time frames for the implementation thereof;
- (3) whether the mandate of the team is of an (a) advisory or (b) executive nature;
- (4) (a) to whom and (b) how often will the team be required to report?

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REPLY:

- (1) Yes, the team of experts was established on the 8 September 2010 after the first Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) on Acid Mine Drainage (AMD).
- (2)(a) The Team consists of experts of the Department of Mineral Resources, Science and Technology, my Department, and representatives from the Council for Geosciences (CGS), Water Research Commission (WRC) and MINTEK.
- (2)(b)(i) The terms of reference are as follows:
 - to appraise the risks;
 - to assess what has been done by various institutions;
 - to assess available solutions and technology;
 - to interrogate and assess viability and costs of critical short-term interventions;
 - to integrate lasting and sustainable medium and long term solutions; and
 - to explore possible partnerships with the private sector.
- (2)(b)(ii) The Team has to report within six weeks (Middle October).
- (3)(a) The mandate of the team is of an advisory nature.
- (4)(a) The Team will report to the Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC).
- (4)(b) The frequency of reporting is still to be determined.

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