

Duplicate of



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Enquiries: M J Kadiaka
Telephone: 013-759-7313
Reference: 6/2/2/6

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 252 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Mr M J Ellis (DA); is attached for your consideration.

[Signature]
DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: *25/2/10*

[Signature]
DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/~~AMENDED~~

[Signature]
MS BP SONJICA, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE: *27/02/2010*

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 252

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 19 FEBRUARY 2010
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 2)

252. Mr M J Ellis (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether, with reference to her reply to Question 1923 on 3 November 2009, any action has been taken against the municipality of Thaba Chweu following the notice of intention to issue a directive dated 16 September 2009; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) Whether the municipality made a representation to her Department dealing with the identified non-compliances; if not, why not; if so, how did it respond to each of the instances of non-compliance;
- (3) Whether there has been any improvement in terms of each of the identified instances of non-compliance; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

- (1) Yes, My Department followed up on the notice to issue a directive and the municipality responded in writing on the 28 September 2009.
- (2) Yes, the Municipality made a representation and the plan of action submitted was as follows:
 - Reducing ammonia levels to below 1,0 mg/l.
 - Increasing the removal of nitrate by less aeration and more sludge removal in the aerobic section.
 - Calibrate the flow meters.
 - Submitting coordinates for monitoring water quality.
 - Appointing and training appropriate staff to operate the Waste Water Treatment Works.
 - Install relevant warning signs.
 - Conduct a full audit of the plant.
 - Analyse sludge samples every six months.
 - Removing the sludge stockpiling within the boundary fence.
- (3) Yes, there has been significant improvement with regards to addressing the identified incidences of non-compliances as follows:
 - Ammonia levels have been reduced to below 1,0 mg/l and records for the previous indicate an average of 0,35 mg/l for the final effluent.

- O-Phosphate and E. coli which are still non-compliant as reflected by the water quality tests conducted on a monthly basis.
- The Municipality is in the process of calibrating the flow meters.
- Coordinates for monitoring water quality have been submitted.
- The Municipality is in the process of appointing and training appropriate staff to operate the Waste Water Treatment Works.
- An order was done for manufacturing the relevant warning signs which will be erected.
- A full audit of the plant is currently underway.
- The Municipality has committed to analyse the sludge samples every six months.
- The Municipality has committed to move the sludge stockpiling within the boundary fence.

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