



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2010 -10- 05

PRIVATE BAG X313
PRETORIA 0001

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2658 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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


DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 4/10/10

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED


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

DATE: 05/10/2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 2658

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 17 SEPTEMBER 2010
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 29)

2658. Mr M J Ellis (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) With reference to her reply to question 2135 on 3 September 2010, (a) when was the last time that a certain person (name furnished) consulted on the Hartebeespoort Dam remediation project and (b) what was the nature of the consultation that he provided;
- (2) what study found that the 5712m² of floating area has an equivalent functionality of about 856 800m² of land-bound wetland;
- (3) whether the above ratio of 1:150 between floating area and land-bound wetland is the same as the ratio that a certain product (name furnished) provides; if not, how can her department make sure that the floating islands which they are using which is not part of this product offer the same ratio; if so, what are the relevant details? NW3317E

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REPLY:

- (1)(a) Mr Sjoberg has never consulted on the Hartbeespoort Dam Remediation Project.
- (1)(b) Mr Sjoberg was the Project Manager responsible for the compilation of the documents during the development of the initial Remediation Plan (Phase 1 & 2) which was sponsored and documented by the North West Department of Agriculture Conservation and Environment during 2004.
- (2) The conclusion comes from a Floating Wetlands study that was commissioned by my Department in July 2009.
- (3) No, the ratio is not the same as the ratio provided by BioHavens product, but it is an estimated ratio which provides a general comparison between land-bound wetland and floating wetlands. It should be noted that floating wetlands provides extensive surface area with its floating root system comparable to very limited surface area provided by land-bound wetlands.

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