

2010 -12- 01

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water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 3181 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Mrs S V Kalyan (DA); is attached for your consideration.

ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE:

30/11/2010

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

**MRS B E E MOLEWA, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

DATE:

2010/12/30

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 3181

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 05 NOVEMBER 2010
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 36)

3181. Mrs S V Kalyan (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

Whether the Green Drop System (GDS) website is operational; if not, why not; if so, what (a) was the cost to (i) develop and (ii) host this website, (b) does the website aim to achieve, (c) aspects of the website will members of the public be restricted from accessing, (d) is the motivation for restricting certain aspects of this website and (e) are the further relevant details?

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REPLY:

- (a) Yes, the Green Drop System (GDS) is operational although it is still in development phase.
- (a)(i) The cost for the development of the GDS is R 550 000.00
- (a)(ii) Hosting costs are expected to be about R 800 000.00 p/a.
- (b) The primary objective of the system is to communicate wastewater services data and information between Water Services Authorities and my Department as the regulator. In addition, its benefit includes among others the formulation of reports from both compliance and operational information to inform management planning for each treatment facility where such a need would arise.
- (c) The system will eventually (once fully operational) provide the public with compliance information but access to raw data and data inputs (capturing fields) will be restricted.
- (d) The motivation behind the restriction is to prevent unauthorised users to amend data; especially to avert malicious manipulation of records.
- (e) It is envisaged that the GDS will be fully operational by the second quarter of 2011.

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