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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 699 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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

DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Actin

DATE:

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/ AMENDED

MS BP SŎNJICA, MP

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE:

29.03.2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 699

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 15 MARCH 2010 (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 7)

699. Mr M M Swathe (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

(a) Which municipalities in Limpopo currently have a section 19(3) notice in terms of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998, issued against them by her department, (b) when was the notice issued in each case, (c) why was it issued and (d) what has been the response from each municipality as at the latest specified date for which information is available?

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REPLY:

- (a) The municipalities against whom My Department has issued notices in terms of section 19(3) of National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) are Makhado Local Municipality, Thulamela Local Municipality, Lephalale Local Municipality, Mopani District Municipality and Modimolle Local Municipality.
- (b) The dates on which the notices mentioned in paragraph (a) were issued are as follows:

Makhado Local Municipality : 14 November 2008
Thulamela Local Municipality : 3 September 2009
Lephalale Local Municipality : 3 September 2009
Mopani District Municipality : 14 September 2009
Modimolle Local Municipality : 25 September 2009

(c) The reasons for the issuing of the notices in each case were the following:

<u>Makhado Local Municipality</u>: The directive was issued for the malfunctioning of treatment units which resulted in partial treated effluent and also two overflowing manholes which were discharge raw sewage into Madadzhe River.

<u>Thulamela Local Municipality:</u> The directive was issued for the sewage pump station which was not operational thus resulting in continuous pollution the Myudi River.

Lephalale Local Municipality: The directive was issued for the overloaded Paarl and Zongesien WWTW and also sewage pump station which was not operational.

Mopani District Municipality: The directive was issued for the overflowing manholes.

Modimolle Local Municipality: The directive was issued for the blocked manholes and sewers which result in polluting the Nyl River

(d) The municipalities' responses to the notices are as follows:

Municipality		Response/s
Makhado Municipality		The municipality is currently planning to increase the capacity of the sewage works.
Thulamela Municipality	Local	The municipality has attended to the over flowing pump station
Lephalale Municipality		The municipality has plans to address the matter but the key challenge is lack of funding.
Mopani District		The municipality has repaired the sewer blockages but they require funds. They also indicated that the infrastructure was transferred to them from the Department in a dilapidated state.
Modimolle Municipality		They have attended to the problem but it keeps on recurring. There is a need for a comprehensive long-term strategy to address the problem.