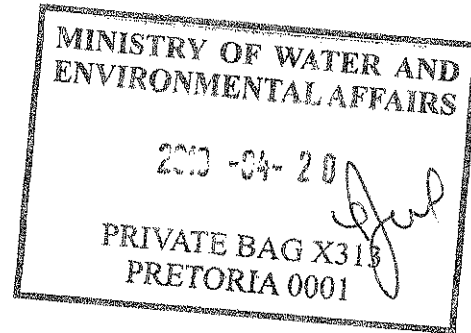




water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA




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Reference: 6/2/2/6

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 803 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: 16/4/10

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED →


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

DATE: 26.04.2010

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 803

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 23 MARCH 2010
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 8)

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

Whether she has been informed of the (a) continued spillage and (b) deliberate pumping of untreated or partially treated sewage into rives in the Blue Crane Route Municipality, particularly in Somerset East; if so, (i) what action will be taken to ensure that the municipalities comply with legislation and (ii) that the responsible managers in the municipalities are held accountable for their (aa) deliberate and (bb) negligent actions in this regard?

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REPLY:

- (a) Yes, my Department has been informed of recurring sewage spillages in the Blue Crane Route Local Municipality (LM).
- (b) Yes, my Department is aware that during an upgrade of the Blue Crane Route LM's sewage treatment works, progress on the upgrade came to halt due to inadequate municipal infrastructure grant funding. This resulted in an overload of the sewage treatment works (that is, overflow of partially treated effluent from the last pond). However, an embankment has since been created to block most of the last pond's partially treated effluent from overflowing.
- (b)(i) A non-compliance notice has been issued to the Blue Crane Route LM regarding the contravention of Section 19 of the National Water Act (Act No 36 of 1998).
- (b)(ii)(aa) The Director: Technical Services which was appointed during the time of the complaints in September 2009 was informed of the contravention.
- (b)(ii)(bb) With regard to the continued spillage, my Department is considering issuing a directive should there be continued non compliance.

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