



## water affairs

Department:  
Water Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2011-03-29

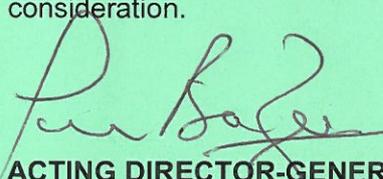
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Reference: 16/2/7/A 230/D7/X2

### MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

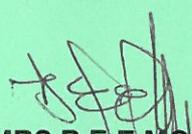
#### NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1058 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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

  
ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 29/03/2011

#### DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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

DATE: 29-3-2011

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1058

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 25 MARCH 2011  
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 09)

**1058. Mrs. S V Kalyan (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:**

- (1) Whether, with reference to the reply to question 775 on 07 September 2009, any (a) pre-notices, (b) directives or (c) criminal charges have been brought against the Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality for any transgressions of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998, at the Rooiwal sewage treatment works; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether she has been informed that the river below the Rooiwal sewage treatment plant has been foaming for much of 2011; if so, what steps will she take to rectify this situation;
- (3) (a) what are the relevant details of the water quality samples that have been taken downstream from the Rooiwal sewage treatment plant in terms of the monitoring programme in the past three months, (b) to what extent does the sewage treatment plant comply with its design capacity and (c) how does effluent discharge from the plant during the period 1 January 2011 up to the latest specified date for which information is available compare with the effluent discharge standard;
- (4) whether any efforts are being made by the municipality to rehabilitate this sewage plant; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NW1176E

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**REPLY:**

- (1)(a) A notice of intention to issue a directive a directive in terms of section 19 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) was issued on 19 January 2011 .
- (1)(b) A directive in terms of section 19 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) was issued on 8 March.
- (1)(c) No criminal charges have been laid against the Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality as the Municipality submitted an action plan and made representations to the Water Tribunal requesting an extension of time to allow for due process to be followed in line with the Municipal Financial Management Act, 2003 (Act No. 56 of 2003) regarding the procurement of the required goods and services.
- (2) The Department is aware of the foaming taking place as a result of the discharge of the partially treated effluent from the Rooiwal Sewage Works, hence the reasons for the issuance of the pre-directive and directive to compel the Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality to take corrective measures at the works to address the problem.
- (3)(a) The Municipality monitors the quality of water downstream from the Rooiwal sewage treatment plant on a monthly basis. The Department audits the results on a quarterly basis. The auditing of water quality results will resume, upon completion of the refurbishment programme, as per action plan submitted by the Municipality.

- (3)(b) The design capacity for the plant is 220 megalitres per day (ML/d) and it is currently operating above the design capacity.
- (3)(c) The current effluent discharge does not meet the effluent discharge standards. The action plan submitted by the Municipality for the refurbishment of the plant will address this challenge.
- (4) According to the action plan submitted to the Department on 16 March 2011 (in line with the directive issued), the following action is being taken:
- The Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality is currently in the process of appointing the consulting engineers for the extension of the Rooiwal Wastewater Treatment Works.

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