

MINISTRY OF WATER AND **ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

2011 -08- 15

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Reference: 2/1/5/1

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2042 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above question asked by Mr G R Morgan (DA) is attached for your consideration.

Attached is a letter for your signature to the Member.

ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE:

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MRS B E E MOLEWA, MP

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE: 23.08.2011

Response Amended as per Suggestion 25/08/11

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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION 2042

NW2288E

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 2042

<u>DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 5 AUGUST 2011</u> (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 21)

2042. Mr G R Morgan (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether staff in the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement (CME) Directorate (Blue Scorpions) are encouraged to attend courses accrediting them as environmental management inspectors; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) what (a) is the name of each official at each specified office of the Department of Water Affairs who has attained qualifications as environmental management inspectors since 1 April 2009 and (b) level has each specified person attained;
- (3) (a) how many members of the CME directorate at head-office level have resigned from their posts and (b) what (i) is the name of each specified person and (ii) reason for the resignation in each case;
- (4) whether the CME Directorate has a transport policy at head-office level which supports members of the branch to investigate water transgressions outside the office; if not, what steps does she intend to take to rectify the situation; if so, how was this conclusion reached?

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REPLY:

- (1) Staff in the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement (CME) Directorate are encouraged to attend courses that improve their investigative skills. Currently, they are not encouraged to attend the Environmental Management Inspectorate (EMI) training as the training is primarily based on enforcement of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and does not cater adequately for law enforcement regarding water crimes. However, this situation that does not cater for CME in the EMI training for members of the Blue Scorpions has been identified and steps have been taken for the development of training that is specific to the enforcement of water legislation. The first phase of this training was conducted in September 2010. The next phase of the training is envisaged for the fourth quarter of 2011.
- (2)(a) None, however three (3) officials are currently undergoing training.
- (2)(b) Falls away
- (3)(a) Two (2)
- (3)(b)(i) Currently, only two (2) officials have resigned from their posts (details furnished).

- (3)(b)(ii) Reasons may be personal and we are therefore unable to disclose but we can put Honourable Member in contact with those individuals for them to respond if they can.
- (4) The CME Directorate does not have its own transport policy, but adheres to the transport policy of the Department.

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