



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2011 -09- 02

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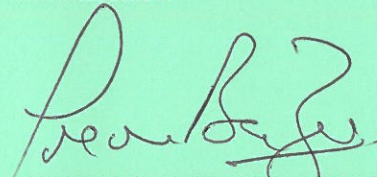
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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2310 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above question asked by Mrs J F Terblanche (DA) is attached for your consideration.



ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 2/09/2011

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED



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

DATE: 2011/09/03

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 2310

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 26 AUGUST 2011
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 26)

2310. Mrs J F Terblanche (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether, with reference to her reply to question 1490 on 12 August 2011, her department has taken cognisance of the poor water quality of the Dorps River in the vicinity of Kudu Range; if so, what (a) steps is her department taking and (b) measures have been implemented to rectify the situation; if not,
- (2) whether her department intends to investigate the situation; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? NW2686E

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REPLY:

- (1)(a) Yes, the Department is continuously monitoring the operation and/or performance of the Lydenburg Wastewater Treatment Plant and also continues to engage the Thaba Chweu Local Municipality to improve the water quality of the treated effluent released into the Dorps River.
- (1)(b) The Department has taken measures to rectify the situation by requesting the Thaba Chweu Local Municipality to immediately implement, among others, the following recommendations:
 - Prior to the discharge into the Dorps River, treat all effluent to the required standards as stipulated in the license conditions
 - Submit all reports, including those regarding water quality monitoring, to the Department as required by the above-mentioned water use license conditions
 - Implement reasonable measures to prevent the pollution of the Dorps River due to the malfunctioning of the Wastewater Treatment Plant
 - Repair all the mechanical breakdowns on the plant to ensure optimal functionality daily
 - Ensure that there is a spare chlorine gas tank at all times on site to avoid the discharge of untreated effluent into the Dorps River
 - Submit an action plan to the Department to address the continuous malfunctioning of the plant and the measures to be implemented to prevent the further deterioration of the Dorps River water quality because of the inadequate operation of the plant, and to ensure full compliance with the water use license conditions
- (2) Yes, the Department will investigate the matter to establish the impact on Kudu Ranch and other downstream water users due to the Dorps River's poor water quality. Appropriate remedial action shall be taken thereafter to rectify the situation.

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