



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2011 -10- 19

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EdST

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2977 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

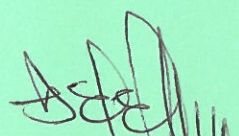
A draft reply to the above question asked by Mrs H N Ndude (Cope) is attached for your consideration.

Attached is the reply to question 990 and 1065.


ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 19/10/2011


DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED


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

DATE: 20/10/2011

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 2977

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 23 SEPTEMBER 2011
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 30)

2977. Mrs H N Ndude (Cope) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

Whether her department has been following reports of the (a) diminution of aquifers and (b) contamination of water in the United States, Queensland, Australia, and elsewhere in the world as a result of fracking; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NW3454E

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Yes, the Department is indeed following international reports on fracking and these includes diminution of aquifers as well as contamination of water as these two aspects are also major reasons of concern to me and the Department.

The Department continually uses its technical expertise and international networks to ensure that we distinguish between sound technical and multitude of sensationalist reports. International experience, knowledge and legislation combined with our own unique geo-hydrological situation will be used to develop a policy position that can guide possible future applications for water use licenses.

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