



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

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Reference: 2/1/5/1

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 691 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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

[Signature]
ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 5/04/2011

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED
[Signature]

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

DATE: 13.04.2011

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 691

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 07 MARCH 2011
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 04)

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

- (1) With reference to a certain report (details furnished) with special emphasis on acid mine drainage, (a) what is the expected total cost to the State of pumping and limestone treatment for each year and (b) how many years is it expected that this treatment will need to be pursued;
- (2) whether the mines in the Western, Central and Eastern Basins will be required to pay for any costs associated with the pumping and treatment of mine water; if not, how is this justified; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether the State intends paying any costs for the pumping and treatment of mine water in any other mining areas; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

- (1) The engineering solution that is being prepared for implementation addresses the recommendations from the report of the team of experts. While the report included preliminary cost estimates for both capital and operation these costs are being refined. The full details of the engineering solution and the final cost estimates are not yet available for circulation.
- (2) The Department is currently engaging with the Chamber of Mines and existing mines in the 3 basins to determine a basis for the possible apportionment of cost.
- (3) The report by the panel of experts deals specifically with the Witwatersrand Gold Fields and very specifically the Eastern, Central and western Basins.

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