



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

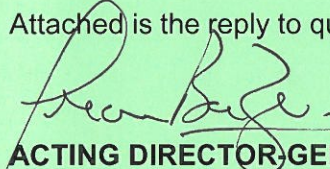
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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1350 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Mr I O Davidson (DA) is attached for your consideration.

Attached is the reply to question 2285.


ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 24/06/2011

*This reply was submitted
on 12/08/2011*

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED^{as}/AMENDED


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

DATE: 11.07.2011

*Error must amend & send in by
also furnish the author with our*

*Serial copy
Amended: 11/7/11*

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1350

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 21 APRIL 2011
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 12)

1350. Mr I O Davidson (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) With reference to her reply to question 2285 on 5 October 2010, what is the name of the owner of the abandoned pit at Jackaroo Park in the Emalahleni Municipality from which the mine or toxic water is emanating;
- (2) whether her department has issued any directives or laid any criminal charges in terms of sections 19 and 53 of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998, against the alleged polluter since her reply; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether the mine or toxic water in the vicinity of Jackaroo Park is emanating from any source other than the abovementioned pit; if not, how was this conclusion reached; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (4) whether her department will conduct a study to determine the extent of liability of each specified polluter in the vicinity of Jackaroo Park; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

- (1) The abandoned pit at Jackaroo Park in the Emalahleni Municipality is owned by a company (Details furnished). There is a company (Details furnished) that has occupied and uses the property where the abandoned pit is located.
- (2) Yes, the Department has issued a directive in terms of sections 19 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) on 11 May 2011 to compel the alleged polluter to take steps to rectify the problem.
- (3) No other sources of pollution were observed during the site investigations conducted on 7 June 2010 and 10 August 2010. Only the coal processing and the abandoned pit were observed.
- (4) No, the Department will not conduct a study to determine the extent of liability of each specified polluter in the vicinity of Jackaroo Park as the determination of mining liability remains the competency of the Department of Mineral Resources and this matter will be brought to their attention. However, the Department has initiated a process of making the company (Details furnished) that has occupied and is using the property liable for the water pollution impacts linked to its operations.

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