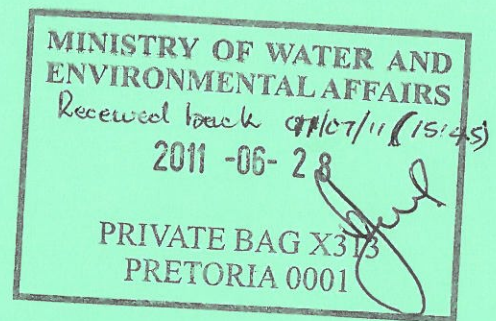




water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Enquiries: FA Mntambo
Telephone: 013 759 7310
Reference: 6/2/2/6

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1490 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Mrs S V Kalyan (DA) is attached for your consideration.

ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 27/06/11

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

and send away - copy me before sending off

Amended - 11/7/11

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

DATE: 11.07.2011.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1490

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 03 JUNE 2011
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 14)

1490. Mrs S V Kalyan (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) With reference to her replies to questions (a) 1373 of 20 May 2010, (b) 252 on 2 March 2010 and (c) 1923 on 3 November 2009, what is the current status of the functionality of the Lydenburg waste water treatment plant in the Thaba Chweu municipality;
- (2) whether the Dorps River, into which the waste water treatment plant discharges its outflow, is regularly tested downstream of the plant to determine the effect of the discharge on the river; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether this sewage plant is to be included in the Green Drop Report of July 2011; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (4) whether any (a)(i) directives or (ii) notices have been issued and (b) criminal charges have been laid against the municipality for pollution emanating from the waste water treatment works since 20 May 2010; if not, why not, in each case; if so, what are the relevant details in each case?

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REPLY:

- (1) Firstly, we need to clarify that in all three previous instances including this one, our responses have been limited to monitoring, compliance and intervention by way of support because as the Honourable Member knows, the actual mandate implementers are the Municipalities and the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA).

The site inspection on 29 March 2011 has revealed that the plant was functioning irrespective of some of the following minor breakdowns in some of the plant sections:

- (2) Yes, the Department does monitor the quality of the Dorps River. The details are provided in table below:

Variable	Location of monitoring points in relation to the sewage works	September 2010	October 2010	February 2011	March 2011
Ortho phosphate (mg/l)	Upstream	0.1	0.8	1.9	0.2
	Downstream	7.9	7.6	7.9	5.2
E. coli (Cfu/100ml)	Upstream	483	2419	2419	2419
	Downstream	92	2419	0	1120

- (3) Yes, the assessment results of the Lydenburg wastewater treatment plant will be included in the July 2011 Green Drop Report.

- (4)(a)(i) No directives have been issued against the Municipality since 20 May 2010 because the Municipality responded positively to the prior notices with action plans to address the non-compliances. The municipality assisted by ESKOM restored the full electrical power supply to the plant on 31 March 2011 to ensure the optimal functioning of all the plant sections.
- (4)(a)(ii) No notices have been issued against the Municipality since 20 May 2010 as the Department has been monitoring the implementation of the action plan by the Municipality. However, a no-compliance letter has been issued to the municipality on to address the issues noted during the site visit.
- (4)(b) No criminal charges have been laid against the Municipality since 20 May 2010 because no criminal offences have been established against the Municipality.

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