



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1491 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: 20/06/2011

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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

DATE: 26-6-2011

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1491

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

1491. Mr G R Morgan (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) What is the role of the Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA) in responding to the acid mine drainage challenge;
- (2) (a) who appointed this authority to be involved in this matter and (b) on what date was the appointment made;
- (3) what recommendations of the response of the report entitled *Mine Management in the Witwatersrand Goldfields with special emphasis on acid mine drainage* will the TCTA, or any contractor appointed by the TCTA, implement;
- (4) whether the TCTA has put any of the functions that it is expected to perform in response to the acid mine drainage challenge out to tender; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (5) when does she expect the first pump stations for pumping and treating acid mine drainage in the Witwatersrand to be brought into commission? NW1658E

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REPLY:

- (1) The TCTA was directed to implement the following recommendations as emergency works:
 - Installation of pumps to extract water from the mines to on-site treatment plants
 - Construction of an on-site water treatment plant in each Basin with the option of refurbishing and upgrading the existing ones owned by the mines
 - Installation of infrastructure to convey treated water to nearby watercourses

The above recommendations are contained in the Cabinet-approved Report titled "*Mine Water Management in the Witwatersrand Gold Fields with Special Emphasis on Acid Mine Drainage*" (AMD Report).

- (2)(a) The TCTA was appointed through My directive in terms of section 103 (2) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998).
- (2)(b) The appointment was made on 6 April 2011.
- (3) Refer to (1) above.

- (4) Yes, in order to increase technical capacity, TCTA went out on tender for a professional service provider (PSP) to complete the following tasks:
- Due diligence
 - Tender design
 - Detailed design and construction supervision
 - Project close out.

On 9 May 2011, BKS Pty Ltd in association with Golder Associates Africa was appointed by the TCTA as the PSP. The PSP has already commenced with the due diligence to define the optimum interim solution for each Basin.

- (5) Final decisions on time frames and milestones regarding pump stations and treatment plants will only be known once the due diligence currently being done by the TCTA and the appointed consultants is completed by July 2011.

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