



## water affairs

Department:  
Water Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2011 -09- 21

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EdST

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### MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

#### NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2366 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above question asked by Mrs G M Borman (ANC) is attached for your consideration.

ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 21/09/2011

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED See amendment.

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

DATE: 24/09/2011

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 2366

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 02 SEPTEMBER 2011  
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 27)

**2366. Mrs G M Borman (ANC) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:**

Whether (a) her department and (b) the entities reporting to her have implemented any energy-saving (i) practices or (ii) devices for buildings, offices and boardrooms in the 2010-11 financial year; if not, why not, in each case; if so, what are the relevant details in each case?

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**REPLY:**

- (a) Yes, the Department has implemented energy-saving practices and devices.
- (b)(i) The Department has drafted, issued and implemented energy-saving measures both for the Head Office buildings as well as buildings occupied by the Regional Offices. The following are the guidelines issued by the Department with regard to energy-saving practices.
- All users must switch off all lights and appliances on leaving offices and places of work, especially by close of business.
  - Lights should be switched on only when necessary (i.e. ambient light levels are too low or when delicate work is done) and must be switched off as soon as a user leaves a room (office, boardroom, store rooms, etc)
  - Optimum use of natural light was encouraged such as opening the curtains where possible.
  - Air conditioners and heater to be used only when necessary. Doors and windows to be closed when these appliances are in use.
  - The temperatures of hot water cylinders are to be set to the lowest acceptable level to minimise energy consumption and heat loss.
  - All users to ensure that taps are tightly closed to avoid energy loss through dripping hot water and to save water in general.
  - Users to ensure that only required amount of water is boiled every time kettles/urns are used.
  - Equipments are not to be left on standby mode.
- (b)(ii) The Department has also implemented energy-saving devices in some of the buildings, offices and boardrooms we occupy. Refer to the outlined details below:
- Broken and old equipments were replaced with energy efficiency equipments.
  - Incandescent lamps were replaced with compact fluorescent lamps.
  - Replacement of fluorescent lights with LED tube replacement lights.
  - Installation of smart switches, which can switch half or all of the lights in an installation on or off as may be required for different conditions.
  - Installation of energy management devices and remotely and timer operated isolators on appliances such as air-conditioners was done.
  - The buildings were fitted with energy saving light fittings.

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