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Reference:

2/1/5/1

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES: QUESTION 25 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Mr O de Beer (COPE-WC); is attached for your consideration.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 13/02/2011

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MRS BEE MOLEWA, MP

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE: 25-2-2011.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 25

<u>DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 11 FEBRUARY 2011</u> (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 01)

25. Mr O de Beer (COPE-WC) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

Whether, with reference to the 2009-10 Annual Report, her department has successfully prosecuted any (a) persons, (b) companies or (c) municipalities for the pollution of water resources as a result of (i) commercial activities or (ii) the overflow of sewerage; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

(a)(b)(c)

No persons, companies or municipalities have been successfully prosecuted in the 2009-10 financial year.

Due to the complexity and technical nature of these cases it takes considerable time to investigate and develop a detail charge sheet by the South African Police Service (SAPS), and only then will it be considered for prosecution by the National Prosecution Authority (NPA). Of the nine criminal cases that were reported in the 2009-10 Annual Report, one case is against a mine and eight are against Water Service Authorities. Seven of these cases are being investigated by the SAPS, one is with the NPA and one is in a Regional Magistrate Court.

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