



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



EdST

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1621 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above question asked by Mr G R Morgan (DA) is attached for your consideration.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE:

20/06/2012

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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

DATE:

2012/06/30

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1621

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 15 JUNE 2012
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 18)

1621. Mr G R Morgan (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether any contracts have been awarded for the building of phase 2 of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether the loan capital for the building of the dam has been secured; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether all necessary agreements for the building of the project have been signed with the government of Lesotho; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (4) what is the estimated number of people who must be relocated for the purpose of building phase 2?

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REPLY:

- (1) There are two contracts that have been awarded for the building of phase 2 of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP).

Road

The first contract was for the construction of a 3.8 km access road to the measuring weir downstream of the Polihali Dam. This contract was awarded to Mops Civil a Lesotho based Company.

Status: The road was completed by the end of November 2011.

Measuring Weir

The second contract is for the construction of the measuring weir downstream of the Polihali Dam site on the Senqu River. This contract was awarded to BKS, a South African company.

Status: Still under construction, expected completion date is September 2012, that is if snow does not persist.

Project Management Unit (PMU)

The Lesotho Highlands Development Authority (LHDA) has completed negotiations with a preferred Bidder for the Project Management Unit (PMU) contract. Once the preferred bidder has responded to the client's concerns, an MOU will be signed which paves the way for the award of the contract. The commencement and mobilisation of the contract is expected to be by the end of July 2012.

Baseline Studies

The Request for Proposals for the Baseline Studies has already been advertised and the closing date of the proposals is 29 June 2012. Expected day for the award of contract is August 2012. Some of the studies will take 24 months to be completed.

LHWP Phase II Programme

Design and construction of the dam and tunnels have not been done. The following is the programme for Phase II of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project. Refer to the table below:

WATER TRANSFER SOUTH AFRICA	
ACTIVITY	TIMELINE
Environment and Social Development baseline studies and plans. This means that the EIAs will also be conducted during this time. The impact assessment studies will also take place during this period. The rescue and conservation of indigenous plants will also be conducted during this time.	August 2012 to July 2020
Appoint consultants, design and issue construction tenders.	Nov 2012 to January 2015
Construction of advance infrastructure.	July 2014 to December 2015
Construction of dam and tunnel.	January 2016 to March 2020
Start impounding to 2000 Metres above sea level (masl).	August 2018
Water Delivery to South Africa	August 2020
PUMP STORAGE GOVERNMENT OF LESOTHO	
Feasibility Study Completion	August 2012
Construction of the Pump storage (Provisional)	January 2013 to December 2017

- (2) The loan capital has not been secured yet. This will be informed by the outcome of the guarantee request which is currently under consideration by the National Treasury. The outcome of the decision is expected by the end of July 2012, once the Fiscus Liability Committee of the National Treasury has made recommendation to the Minister of Finance. The necessary Off Take and Implementation Agreements will be entered into once the loan capital is in place.
- (3) The Agreement on the Implementation of the LHWP Phase II was signed on 11 August 2011 in Maseru between the Government of Lesotho and the Republic of South Africa and will be tabled in Parliament in due course.
- (4) The feasibility study on the implementation of the LHWP Phase II identified 2 550 people which equals to 534 households from 17 villages that may be directly affected and would have to be relocated.

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MINISTER
WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Reference: 16/2/7/W122/B33

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Mr G R Morgan, MP
Parliament
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Dear Mr Morgan

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1663 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

In response to your National Assembly Question 1663, below are the names and designations of officials who conducted the last inspections at Forkor in Richards Bay.

No	Date of visit	Name of employee	Designation of employee
1	26 to 29 March 2012	Ms Coleen Moonsamy	Acting Control Biodiversity Officer
2	26 to 29 March 2012	Ms Zanele Mabuza	Assistant Director: Compliance and Enforcement
3	26 to 29 March 2012	Ms Innocent Mashatja	Assistant Director: Compliance and Enforcement
4	16 April 2012	Ms Coleen Moonsamy	Acting Control Biodiversity Officer
5	25 May 2012	Ms Coleen Moonsamy	Acting Control Biodiversity Officer

Yours sincerely

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

DATE: 2012/06/30