



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 244 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Mrs NWA Michael (DA); is attached for your consideration.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 27/02/2012

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/~~AMENDED~~ ✓

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

DATE: 2012/02/29

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 244

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 17 FEBRUARY 2012
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 02)

265. Mrs NWA Michael (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) What is the current state of operation of all waste water treatment works (WWTWs)
In the (a) Tswaing and (b) Ditsobotla Local Municipalities in the North West
- (2) whether any (a) maintenance or (b) repairs have been conducted on any of these WWTWs to improve their performance; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) when is expected that each of these WWTWs will attain Green Drop status? NW265E

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REPLY:

- (1)(a) In general, all four wastewater treatment works (namely, Ottosdal, Delareyville, Atamelang and Sannieshof/ Agisanang) in the Tswaing Local Municipality (LM) are in a good state of operation. Regarding the slight over-loading in the Sannieshof Wastewater Treatment Works, special attention has been given to increase the operations' efficiency (e.g. through proper manning of screening inlet, raising of the pond walls, reinstatement of the aerators) in order to handle the additional load. As a long-term plan, the Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality (DM) as the responsible water service authority has planned to construct a new wastewater treatment works by end of 2012.
- (1)(b) Although two of the three wastewater treatment works (i.e. Lichtenburg and Coligny) in the Ditsobotla LM are able to handle sewage treatment, they are however not fully operational due to certain unit components not being functional which results to overload of their current available capacity. The third wastewater treatment works (i.e. Itsoseng) is currently not in operation and as an interim measure, sewage is currently diverted and treated in the existing (old) oxidation pond system.
- (2) During 2010, the Ngaka Modiri Molema DM appointed consulting engineers/ contractors to perform limited repairs, operation and maintenance in all wastewater treatment works in the Ditsobotla and Tswaing LMs. Such limited work (amid budgetary constraints) resulted in considerable improved operational levels e.g. raising of pond walls to prevent sewage overflow; diverting of sewage from the Itsoseng Wastewater Treatment Works to oxidation ponds to prevent the flowing of raw sewage into the Springbokpan River.

In an attempt to further improve operation levels of Ditsobotla LM, for the 2012/13 financial year, the Department has set aside a total amount of R11.3 million from its Accelerated Community Infrastructure Programme to assist with emergency refurbishment of the three wastewater treatment works. The funding will be allocated as follows:

No	Wastewater treatment works	Funding
1	Lichtenburg	R4 million
2	Coligny	R4.2 million
3	Itsoseng	R3 million

- (3) The Department is not in a position to indicate the period when each of wastewater treatment works will attain Green Drop status as such is dependent on a number of processes to be put in place by the responsible water service authority (e.g. investment in process optimisation, asset management, process control skills and all other relevant risk areas, and to maintain those performance levels of excellence) prior a regulatory acknowledgement can be given in form of Green Drop certification.

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