



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



EdST

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2688 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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

Act

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 1/10/2012

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED ^{as}

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

DATE: 2012/10/07

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 2688

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 21 SEPTEMBER 2012
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 31)

2688. Mr G R Morgan (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether, with reference to her reply to question 2366 on 14 September 2012, she has been informed that in practice the mine management is not negotiating with affected landowners about water compensation, but rather determining the compensation unilaterally; if not, what steps does she intend to take to ascertain the facts in this regard; if so, what is her response;
- (2) whether she has been informed that the mine is not paying the full cost of water delivered to affected land owners and expects the land owners to pay part of the cost; if not, what steps she intends taking to ascertain the facts in this regard; if so, what is her response;
- (3) whether, with reference to the option of affected landowners to sell their farms to the mine, she has been informed that the price per hectare that is being offered to the affected land owners is considerably lower than the recent price per hectare of other transactions in the vicinity; if not, what steps she intends taking to ascertain the facts in this regard; if so, what is her response;
- (4) whether the Department of Water Affairs intends to interact with affected landowners about their concerns about the mine's compliance with the terms of its water use licence; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NW3306E

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REPLY:

- (1) The Department is not aware that the mine management is not negotiating with affected landowners about water compensation nor that compensation of affected landowners is determined unilaterally. As far as the Department is aware, the 12 affected landowners have entered into mutually accepted agreements with the mine in respect of water compensation including the provision of alternative water supply and grazing. An investigation will be conducted by the Department into the allegations.
- (2) The Department is not aware that the mine is not paying the full cost of water delivered to affected land owners and expects the land owners to pay part of the cost. The Department is conducting an investigation on the allegations and will be concluded around 30 November 2012.
- (3) The Department has been informed that the properties of six affected landowners have been purchased by the mine. However, the price per hectare of those properties is not known to the Department since the mine and the individual affected landowners have included confidentiality clauses in their purchase agreements.

- (4) The Department has interacted with affected landowners about the mine's compliance with the terms of its water use licence through the relevant environmental forums as well as the Tshiping Water Users Association. Given the recent spate of allegations made by affected landowners, the Department will arrange an engagement session with affected landowners to discuss the mine's compliance with the terms of its water use licence.

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