



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2972 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above question asked by Mrs M Wenger (DA) is attached for your consideration.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE:

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED ^{with} / AMENDED


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

DATE: 2012/11/23

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 2972

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 26 OCTOBER 2012
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 36)

2972. Mrs M Wenger (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether, with reference to her reply to question 57 for oral reply on 7 March 2012, any progress has been made in finalising the feasibility study on the proposed Umzimvubu Dam; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) What amount has been budgeted for this project for the (a) 2013-14, (b) 1014-15 and (c) 2015-16 financial years?
- (3) whether the (a) Department of Water Affairs and/or (b) Trans Caledon Tunnel Authority will be responsible for building the dam; if not, (i) why not, in each case and (ii) which entity will be responsible; if so, what are the relevant details in each case?

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REPLY:

- (1) Yes, progress has been made with the feasibility study for the uMzimvubu Water Project. Based on a review of previous studies, preliminary assessment of water requirements, environmental screening and stakeholder input, the investigations progressed in reducing the potential sites from nineteen dam sites to the best few or one site(s). Further geological and hydrological investigations have started to allow further screening with the object to select the single best dam site that will be investigated in great detail during the second phase of the feasibility study. The full feasibility study is scheduled for completion by 2014 and construction started then, however this programme is continuously being reassessed with a view to expedite the start of construction.
- (2) Currently the secured budget is only for the feasibility planning work and expenditure thereof is estimated as follows:
 - It should be noted that it is too early to provide budget for the actual construction of the dam. However such budget will be available during the 2012/13 MTEF cycle. This is one of the dams for which we will through TCTA raise funds off budget to add to the budget that will have been provided for by Government especially for the social component. TCTA has already received a directive from the Minister to be a developer.
 - R7.4 million during 2012-13 and
 - R8.9 million during 2013-14 financial years.
The feasibility study will firm up on preliminary cost estimates for the project and provide information for further budgetary allocation.
- (3) The dam will be built as a government waterworks either by the Department of Water Affairs itself and / or with the Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority as the implementing agent. TCTA will decide which aspect of construction they require external capacity for.

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