



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



EdST

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Reference: 6/2/2/6

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 3087 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above question asked by Mr E J Marais (DA) is attached for your consideration.

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DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 12/11/2012

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED ^{with} ~~amendments~~

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

DATE: 2012/11/16

Outstanding ← 3053 ✓ Done
 3056 ✓ Done
 3057 ✓ Done
 3068 ✓ Done
 3069 ✓ Done
 3096 ✓ Done

NW3916E

Outstanding ← 2972

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 3087

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 02 NOVEMBER 2012
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 38)

3087. Mr E J Marais (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether the large cattle feedlot within the Seringveld Conservancy in the region Oog van Boekenhoutskloof in Cullinan, Gauteng, has a water use licence; if so, what are the relevant details; if not, how can operations be allowed by the Department of Water Affairs if no water licence has been approved;
- (2) whether an application for a water use licence has been submitted; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether any (a) directives, (b) notices or (c) criminal charges have been brought against the proprietors of the feedlot for transgressions of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NW3916E

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REPLY:

- (1) The Cattle feedlot does not have a water use license, however, the Cattle feedlot applied for a water use license which was received by the Department in November 2009 for the Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm: Oog van Boekenhoutskloof of Tweefontein 288JR, Cullinan. The assessment of the water use licence was placed on hold subject to the outcome of the appeal against the Record of Decision issued by the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The Department has instructed Kameeldrieff Voere in the pre-directive issued on 19 October 2011, the water use that is currently taking place is within the provision of the General Authorisation for the area i.e. the property extent is currently 261ha and ground water recharge for the area quaternary drainage (A23B) = 75 m³/ha/annum, there for the volume of fround water available for the property = 75x261= 19 575 m³/annum. If a water use is 20 m³/Large Stock Unit/annum (about 60 litre per Large Stock Unit/ per day), therefore a maximum number of large stock unit that can be supplied under General Authorisation is 1072 Large Stock unit..

- (2) Yes, the water use license application has been submitted in November 2009 and evaluated by the Department. However, due some outstanding information requested in the Department letter dated 12 October 2012; the Records of Decision (ROD) appeal process not finalised and the fact that the activity had a potential to pollute water resources and impacting on the wetland, the applicant was instructed in the Pre-directive issued on 19 October 2011 to submit additional information in terms of the National water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) for water uses defined in terms of section 21 (c) and (i) water uses and conduct a wetland delineation studies and operate within the General Authorisation requirements as indicated in (1) above until the license is issued.

- (3)(a) No directive was issued since the owner of the feedlot responded through their lawyers in a letter dated 10 November 2011 requesting time to conduct the wetland studies, agrees to operate within the general authorisation requirement and conditions 3.3.1 -3.3.3, 3.3.4 (a-e), 3.3.4 (a), (i), (q), (r), (s),(t) and 3.5.4 of the ROD (pending appeal process) until the water use license has been issued. The wetland was delineated and fenced off well before the operations of the feedlot. The study required by the Department is to confirm the initial report, soil and rocks interactions to determine the potential of pollution pathways from the manure dam.
- (3)(b) As indicated in response (2) above, a Pre-directive was issued on 19 October 2011 and the applicant submitted representation to the Department indicating that the feedlot will operate within those limits until information required for further processing of the feedlot application is submitted and approved by the Department. To date, such information has not been submitted and when follow up was done earlier this year the Department was informed by the Cattle feedlot that, the consultant is working on the application and additional information will be submitted. By the time this response was prepared, the Department has still not yet received additional requested information and follow up is being be made to check progress.
- (3)(c) No Criminal Charges has been opened since the owner of the feedlot agrees to operate within the General Authorisation requirement until the water use license has been issued.

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