



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Enquiries: L Mokoena
Telephone: 012 336 6574
Reference: 6/2/2/6

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES: QUESTION ★33 FOR ORAL REPLY

A draft reply to the above question asked by Mr M P Jacobs (ANC-FS) is attached for your consideration.

Act
M. Mokoena
DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 11/05/12

as
DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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

DATE: 2012/05/16

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NO ★33

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 08 MAY 2012
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 11)

★33. Mr M P Jacobs (ANC-FS) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

Whether she has put any measures in place to address the situation where communities do not have access to water from the dams that are nearer to them, whereas only (a) farmers and (b) far-away industrial areas benefit from the dams; if not, why not; if so, what measures?

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REPLY:

Yes, the Department has put in place a number of measures (indicated below) to address the situation where communities do not have access to water from the dams that are nearer to them.

1. Implementing a number of Bulk Infrastructure projects, through the Department's Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (RBIG) Programme

Currently, an amount of **R364.8 million** has been allocated for the 2012/13 financial year for six RBIG projects utilising water from single purpose dams with the aim of providing water services to communities. Such projects are allocated within three provinces, namely; one in the Eastern Cape, four in KwaZulu-Natal and one in the North West. The details of these projects are attached in **Annexure A**.

2. Developing a comprehensive study to identify all communities and potential projects that are in the vicinity of any single purpose dam or under-utilised dam owned by an organ of state

The Department is undertaking a study to identify any communities that could be serviced by single purpose or under-utilised dams that are owned by any government institutions or organ of state. The study has mapped all such dams on the Department's Geo-Database System and has compared these dams to communities without water services. However, the completion of the comprehensive study may still take some time due to the following requirements.

- Assessments of existing water utilisation of dams identified.
- Identification of infrastructure or projects needs through appropriate scoping and feasibility studies.
- Securing access to water from the dam through the water allocation process (i.e. water user validation, compulsory licensing etc).
- Discussion and negotiations with the relevant Water Services Authority and other key stakeholders a total infrastructure plan (source to tap, tap to source)

In order to accelerate service delivery, the study will produce an interim report within the next 2-3 months where a number of proposed additional projects in key priority areas will be identified and defined.

3. Giving priority to the identification and funding allocation of additional projects through RBIG

Based on the interim findings of the comprehensive "Single Purpose Study", the Department will endeavor to initiate additional infrastructure projects. The intension is that as soon as these potential additional projects are identified, priority will be given to allocating funding through the RBIG for their implementation over the next few years. These priority projects will also be included in the additional funding bid that will be submitted to National Treasury in the latter part of the current financial year.

4. Developing a re-active procedure to deal with any application for water by a community leaving near a dam which is built on private land

The identification and proactive approach of addressing community water service needs from dams built on private land can be very difficult and time consuming. It is estimated that there are thousands of farm and mine dams that are built on private land. The approach that has been adopted by the Department is that if a community or Water Services Authority has identified the need or potential for providing water from such dams to adjoining communities, the Department will assist the relevant Water Services Authority to gain access to such water, provided it is viable and the most appropriate solution. In this regard, the Department will soon develop a process and procedure on how to address and deal systematically and effectively with such situations.

In conclusion, it should also be noted that the Department is experiencing two major challenges and/or constraints in dealing with the issue of making water available to communities without water services from adjacent dams. Such challenges are (a) the Department does not have access to funds to allocate to the development of reticulation/distribution schemes and (b) In the event of a dam being privately owned privately (on private land), the process to gain access to the water maybe lengthy and challenging.

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LIST OF EXISTING REGIONAL BULK INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS ASSOCIATED WITH SINGLE PURPOSE DAMS

Eastern Cape: Regional Bulk

Scheme	District Municipality	Local Municipality	Total project budget including co-funding	Co-funding Breakdown				Total Expenditure from inception to 31 March 2011	Basic Accounting System (BAS) Expenditure by 15 November 2011	Budget Allocation 2011/12	Proposed Budget Allocation 2012/13	Proposed Budget Allocation 2013/14	Implementation/ Construction
				RBIG	32,250,000								
				MIG	In place								
				Province/ Municipality									
				Other	10,750,000								
Cluster 4 CHDM (Single purpose dams: Xhosa and Lubisi Dams)	Chris Hani	Intsika Yethu/ Sakhisizwe	110,000,000				11,274,532	11,609,851	8,500,000	23,250,000	40,000,000	Construction	

KwaZulu Natal: Regional Bulk

Mandlakazi (Single purpose dams: Pongolapoort Dam)	Zululand	Nongoma	208,110,000	RBIG	163,100,000	93,375,300	23,457,400	30,000,000	46,928,000	Construction
				MIG	43,010,000					
				Province/ Municipality						
				Other						
Hlabisa (Single purpose dams: Pongolapoort Dam)	uMkhanyakude	Hlabisa	198,900,000	RBIG	140,998,000	64,070,600	33,294,500	46,000,000	35,878,000	Construction
				MIG	57,902,000					
				Province/ Municipality						
				Other						
Pongolapoort Bulk Water Scheme (Single purpose dams: Pongolapoort Dam)	uMkhanyakude	Jozini	900,000,000	RBIG	101,000,000			26,000,000	37,000,000	Construction
				MIG						
				Province/ Municipality	86,000,000					
				Other						
Greater Mthonjaneni Bulk Phase (Single purpose dams: Goedertrouw Dam)	uThungulu	Mthonjaneni/ Nkandla/ Melmoth	855,501,957	RBIG	199,637,900	44,473,200	17,764,600	34,000,000	40,001,000	Construction
				MIG	655,864,057					
				Province/ Municipality						
				Other						

North West: Regional Bulk

Taung/ Naledi BWS (Single purpose dams: Taung Dam)	Dr Ruth Mompati	Naledi/ Taung	292,360,000	RBIG	33,695,713	19,381,560	97,708,673	72,000,000	70,000,000	Construction
				MIG						
				Province/ Municipality						
				Other						
Total			2,562,871,957		33,695,713	19,381,560	97,708,673	72,000,000	70,000,000	