



## **water affairs**

Department:  
Water Affairs  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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Enquiries:  
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Reference:

### **MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

#### **NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 443 FOR ORAL REPLY**

A draft reply to the above question asked by Mrs C N Z Zikalala (IFP) is attached for your consideration.

**DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

**DATE:**

**DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED**

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

**DATE:** 2012/11/15

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NO ★443

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 13 NOVEMBER 2012  
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 40)

**★443. Mrs C N Z Zikalala (IFP) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:**

- (1) What prevented her from addressing community members of De Aar in the Northern Cape at the imbizo organised by the National Council of Provinces to which she was invited to hear the concerns of the residents;
- (2) how does she intend to remedy the matters raised by the residents;
- (3) whether she has any plans in place to visit the people of De Aar to listen to their concerns; if not, why not; if so, what (a) plans and (b) are the further relevant details?

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**REPLY:**

Honourable Deputy Speaker, this has been one of the most difficult questions I have had to respond to in my tenure as Minister of Water Affairs. It is difficult in the sense that I battled to really think of what it is that I will say. Hon. Member would have heard that during the days when this Imbizo was held in De Aar, I was sick as it was publicised all over.

I have also told and gave, the Hon. Chief Whip and the Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces, the necessary documentation to that effect. I would take it that the Hon. Member is not asking about my state of health, hence, I have opted to respond to the question which is, what are my plans in resolving issues that were raised in that Imbizo.

Furthermore, I am also offering to give a full report on the work that we are doing in that area, in case I run out of time – whole lot of work. We are aware that the area of De Aar, the entire district of Pixley Ka Seme does have water challenges. We have projects that range from ensuring that there is reticulation of water to bulk services that are presently provided for, utilisation of borehole and so forth. Some of them have been completed; however, I am just going to refer to those that are currently under implementation for this year. I am sure, in particular, that the Hon. Member would like to understand what is being done about the new pipeline that was announced by the Hon. Deputy President.

There is currently a project of bulk supply, a programme under regional bulk infrastructure grant, which is indeed a big grant. Its abstraction point is at Usombomvu local municipality, a 23 km pipeline which is being installed to the tune of R12, 5 million. The first phase has been completed and we are now on the second phase. An upgrade of Colesburg Water Treatment Plant, the Noupoot bulk water supply is also being implemented.

There are three scenarios in that regard to ensure that we arrive at the correct solution in providing water, particularly in the Noupoot area. We are looking at the installation of the pipeline from the Orange River, which is the first scenario, which has not been opted for, and we are aware that the people of that area actually want that pipeline. However, the problem

with that, is that, this is going to be a very expensive pipeline that will actually increase the cost of water for the people in that area.

There are also other programmes that we are looking at, at Thembelihle Local Municipality that are under implementation. Programmes such as the Hopetown New Water Treatment Plant that will be completed in March next year; the Strydenburg bulk groundwater supply project. In Siyathemba local municipality we are looking at the Niekerkshoop bulk groundwater supply project which is under implementation. In Kareeberg local municipality we are looking at the water supply of Vanwyksvlei and Carnavon which is currently being implemented. In Ronesterberg Municipality there are also projects of refurbishment of water reticulation programmes and of wastewater network in Phillipstown and Petrusville. As I have undertook, I will give this whole report to the Honourable Member as well.

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