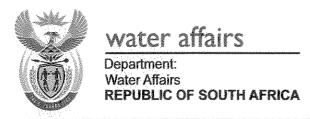
MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

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Enquiries: N Musekene Telephone: 012 336 7277

Reference: 2/1/5/1

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES: QUESTION 121 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above by Mr O de Beer (COPE-WC) is attached for your consideration.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 16/03/2012.

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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

DATE: JOY HOS/17

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 121

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 09 MARCH 2012 (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 06)

121. Mr O de Beer (COPE-WC) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether any interventions were made to address the backlog of water licensing in different catchment areas since 2009; if not, why not; if so,
- (2) whether a status report of the interventions will be made available; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

- (1) The Department launched a project called "Letsema" meaning, "working together" whose approach is to mobilise relevant resources from all regional offices and head office to a single venue as an intervention to fastrack the eradication of water use licences applications backlog. This project was pilotted in August 2009 and has been fully operational since January 2010.
- (2) A detailed report giving a breakdown of such Water Use Licence Applications (WULAs) is available through the Office of the Department's Director-General when required. To date, the project has processed 3250 WULAs leaving 521 still to be finalised as at 9 March 2012. However, 71 of the 521 WULAs have been evaluated and are at the final stage, therefore leaving 450 WULAs still being assessed.

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