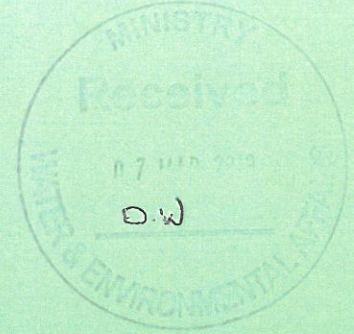




water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Enquiries: H Smit
Telephone: 012 392 1301
Reference: 6/2/2/6

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 301 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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

DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 6/8/2013

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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

DATE: 2013/03/10

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 301

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 01 MARCH 2013
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 03)

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

- (1) Whether there are any concerns for the health of cattle that are watered at the Wonderfonteinspruit; if not, how was this conclusion reached; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether any tests have been done to determine the levels of (a) cadmium, (b) uranium and (c) lead in cattle that are given water originating from the Wonderfonteinspruit; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NW378E

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REPLY:

- (1) No, based on existing information for water quality within the Wonderfontein Spruit, there are no concerns for livestock consuming water sourced from the Wonderfontein Spruit. Contaminants that may be of concern are largely confined in the sediment of the watercourse. Accordingly, the water is deemed safe for livestock watering provided that cattles are watered using watering troughs.
- (2) No, the Department of Water Affairs has not conducted any tests to determine heavy metal (cadmium, uranium and lead) values in cattle consuming water sourced from the Wonderfontein Spruit.

Routine monitoring of discharges to the Wonderfontein Spruit as well as monitoring of the water quality within the Wonderfontein Spruit confirms that levels of the foregoing metals are below regulatory limits.

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