



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

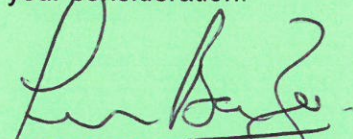


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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS


NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES: QUESTION 434 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Mr K A Sinclair (COPE-NC) is attached for your consideration.


DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 31/10/2013

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/~~AMENDED~~


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

DATE: 2013/11/13

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 434

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 25 OCTOBER 2013
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 35)

434. Mr K A Sinclair (COPE-NC) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

Whether her department will provide a progress report on studies that were conducted to build more dams and reservoirs in the Northern Cape in order to enhance water availability and sustainability in the province; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? CW644E

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REPLY:

The Department conducted Reconciliation Studies countrywide including for the Northern Cape to investigate all possible interventions that will reconcile the requirements for water with the available resources. Recommendations from these studies are water use efficiency measures (Water Conservation and Water Demand Management), the re-use of water, desalination of either brackish groundwater or seawater, groundwater resources development and its management, and in some cases, further development of surface water resources (building dams etc.).

Bulk infrastructure development options identified for further investigation include a dam on the lower Orange River near Vioolsdrift. This dam is intended to re-regulate the flow in the lower Orange River to provide environmental flow requirements in the lower Orange River as well as increasing the yield for the Orange River system for the benefit of Namibia and South Africa.

The other follow up programmes by the Department on bulk infrastructure development include the Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (RBIG) programme, which has prioritized 38 bulk water and sanitation projects in the Northern Cape. Of the 38 prioritized projects, 28 are bulk water supply and 10 being bulk waste water projects.

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