



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



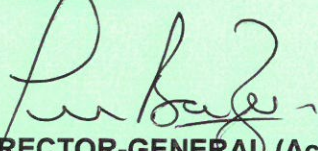
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Enquiries: L Kobe
Telephone: 015 290 1230
Reference: 16/2/7/A700/X41

MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1061 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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


DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 29/02/2014

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/~~AMENDED~~



MRS NP MOKONYANE
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE: 09.09.14

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1061

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 22 AUGUST 2014
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 10)

1061. Mrs Z N Balindlela (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

- (1) When was the last inspection conducted on the Sewage Treatment Facility serving Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality;
- (2) what were the findings of any such inspection;
- (3) has any action been taken as a result of such findings; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

- (1) The last inspection conducted on the Sewage Treatment Facility was on 31 July 2014. The Vhembe District Municipality has staff allocated to the facility on a 24 hour basis.
- (2) Makhado Town is growing at a rate that surpasses the level of sewage collection and treatment. The situation is exacerbated by the power outages resulting from vandalism and theft of electrical cables at the pump station near South African Brewery (SAB) Depot.

In the past, this has resulted in severe blockages and spillages which prompted the Department to issue a directive to the Vhembe District Municipality (Water Services Authority for Makhado Local Municipality) in order to repair and upgrade the Sewage Works.

The Acting Municipal Manager Mr MB Masuluke has responded to the directive indicating that the Vhembe District Municipality has done the following:

- Spilling manholes and non-functional pump stations have been repaired.
- The Makhado Sewage Treatment Works has been upgraded however it is yet to be commissioned and connected to the old treatment works.
- Vhembe District Municipality has placed 24 hours -a day armed security to prevent vandalism, theft of electrical cables and motor pump at the pump station.
- In addition to this, Vhembe District Municipality is installing electronic security monitoring systems to most of its water services stations in and around Makhado Town.

The Vhembe District Municipality has so far lost millions of rands trying to ensure provision of a basic service such as water services, while at the same time thefts are reported on a weekly basis. This negatively impacts on financial resources for provision of water to the approximately 1.2 million people of Vhembe.

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- (1) When was the last inspection conducted on the Sewage Treatment Facility serving Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality;
- (2) what were the findings of any such inspection;
- (3) has any action been taken as a result of such findings; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

- (1) The last inspection conducted on the Sewage Treatment Facility was on 31 July 2014. The Vhembe District Municipality has staff allocated to the facility on a 24 hour basis.
- (2) Makhado Town is growing at a rate that surpasses the level of sewage collection and treatment. The situation is exacerbated by the power outages resulting from vandalism and theft of electrical cables at the pump station near South African Brewery (SAB) Depot.

In the past, this has resulted in severe blockages and spillages which prompted the Department to issue a directive to the Vhembe District Municipality (Water Services Authority for Makhado Local Municipality) in order to repair and upgrade the Sewage Works.

- (3) The Acting Municipal Manager Mr MB Masuluke has responded to the directive indicating that the Vhembe District Municipality has done the following:

- Spilling manholes and non-functional pump stations have been repaired.
- The Makhado Sewage Treatment Works has been upgraded however it is yet to be commissioned and connected to the old treatment works.
- The Vhembe District Municipality has placed 24 hours -a day armed security to prevent vandalism, theft of electrical cables and motor pump at the pump station.
- In addition to this, Vhembe District Municipality is installing electronic security monitoring systems to most of its water services stations in and around Makhado Town.

The Vhembe District Municipality has so far lost millions of rands trying to ensure provision of a basic service such as water services, while at the same time thefts are reported on a weekly basis. This negatively impacts on financial resources for provision of water to the approximately 1.2 million people of Vhembe.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. R.', is located in the bottom right corner of the page.

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(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 10)

1061. Mrs Z N Balindlela (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

- (1) When was the last inspection conducted on the Sewage Treatment Facility serving Louis Trichardt in the Makhado Local Municipality?
- (2) what were the findings of any such inspection;
- (3) has any action been taken as a result of such findings; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?
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REPLY:

- (1) A follow-up visit was conducted on 31 July 2014. VDM has staff allocated to the facility on a 24 hour basis)
- (2) Makhado Town is growing at rate that surpasses the level of sewage collection and treatment. The pump station near South African Brewery (SAB) Depot kept on spilling power outages as a result of vandalism and theft of electrical cables and motor pump. In the past, this has resulted in severe blockages and spillages which prompted the Department to issue a directive to the Vhembe District Municipality (Water Services Authority for Makhado



Local Municipality) in order to repair and upgrade the Sewage Works. In response to the directive, the Municipality has done the following:

Spilling manholes and non-functional pump stations have been repaired. The Makhado Sewage Treatment Works has been upgraded however it is yet to be commissioned and connected to the old treatment works.

- (3) Vhembe District Municipality has placed 24- hours -a day armed security to prevent theft of electrical cables and motor pump at the pump station. In addition to this, VDM is installing electronic security monitoring systems to most of our water services stations in and around Makhado, which unfortunately the thieves are able to bridge. The Municipality has lost millions of rands trying to ensure provision of a basic service – water services, while at the same time thefts are reported on average of a weekly basis. This negatively impacts on financial resources for provision of water to the approximately 1.2 million people of Vhembe as a whole.

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Signed : 25/08/2014
Acting Municipal Manager
MASULUKE MB



25/08/2014

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FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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- (2) what were the findings of any such inspection;
- (3) has any action been taken as a result of such findings; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

- (1) The last inspection conducted on the Sewage Treatment Facility was on 31 July 2014. The Vhembe District Municipality has staff allocated to the facility on a 24 hour basis.
- (2) Makhado Town is growing at a rate that surpasses the level of sewage collection and treatment. However, the situation is exacerbated by the power outages resulting from vandalism and theft of electrical cables at the pump station near South African Brewery (SAB) Depot resulting with water pumps kept spilling. In the past, this has resulted in severe blockages and spillages which prompted the Department to issue a directive to the Vhembe District Municipality (Water Services Authority for Makhado Local Municipality) in order to repair and upgrade the Sewage Works.

In responding to the directive, a response was received from the Acting Municipal Manager Mr MB Masuluke in this regard.

The Municipality has done the following:

Spilling manholes and non-functional pump stations have been repaired. The Makhado Sewage Treatment Works has been upgraded however it is yet to be commissioned and connected to the old treatment works.

- (3) Vhembe District Municipality has placed 24 hours -a day armed security to prevent vandalism, theft of electrical cables and motor pump at the pump station. In addition to this, Vhembe District Municipality is installing electronic security monitoring systems to most of its water services stations in and around Makhado Town.

The Vhembe District Municipality has so far lost millions of rands trying to ensure provision of a basic service such as water services, while at the same time thefts are reported on a weekly basis. This negatively impacts on financial resources for provision of water to the approximately 1.2 million people of Vhembe.

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