



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



EdTM

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 29 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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

DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 28/06/2014

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/~~AMENDED~~

MRS NP MOKONYANE
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE: 26-06-14

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 29

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 17 JUNE 2014
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 1)

29. Mrs Z B N Balindela (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

Whether, with reference to her gazetted intention (Notice 863 of 2013, GG36760, 23 August 2013), she has declared the exploration for and/or production of onshore unconventional oil or gas resources and any activities incidental thereto, including but not limited to hydraulic fracturing, a controlled activity; if not, (a) why not and (b) when will such declaration be made; if so, (i) what are the relevant details and (ii) will she gazette regulations to describe requirements to obtain a water licence for the described activities? NW34E

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REPLY:

- (a) No. With regards to the declaration of the exploration for production of onshore unconventional oil gas the Department is considering comments on the declaration, following the public consultation process which identified other techniques associated with unconventional gas that may detrimentally impact on water resources.
- (b) Such a declaration shall be made when these comments have been properly considered.
- (b)(i) Techniques such as coalbed methane extraction and underground coal gasification still have to be investigated.
- (b)(ii) Yes, regulations shall be gazetted for water use licensing in the foreseeable future.

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