



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



NA 402

EdCM

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION ★402 FOR ORAL REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Ms J M Maluleke (ANC) is attached for your consideration.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 10/11/14

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MRS NP MOKONYANE
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE: 14/11/2014

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NO ★402

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 04 NOVEMBER 2014
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 24)

★402. Ms J M Maluleke (ANC) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

- (1) What (a) is the number of water infrastructure projects that have been delayed, (b) are the reasons for the delay and (c) are the new time frames for the completion of these projects;
- (2) which water projects have been delayed due to acquisition and settlement problems;
- (3) whether she is engaging with national and provincial departments within the intergovernmental and co-operative governance framework in order to work together to fast-track challenges of infrastructure development to ensure service delivery to affected communities?

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REPLY:

- (1)(a) There are currently three (3) major water infrastructure projects that the department is implementing that have been delayed. These include:
- The raising of Hazelmere Dam
 - The raising of Clanwilliam Dam
 - Olifant River Water Resources Development Project Bulk Distribution System
- (1)(b) The reasons for the delays are as follows:
- Hazelmere Dam - The initial tender for the raising had to be cancelled because the bids received exceeded the financial resources of the department. The design also changed to a piano key method which meant that the tender had to be re-advertised. More favorable bids were received and an award is imminent.
 - Clanwilliam Dam - The Environmental Management Plan is still outstanding, physical construction activities on the dam can only commence on approval of the Environmental Management Plan and the appointment of an Environmental Control officer. The unavailability of approved Environmental Management Programme for the development of the quarry may further delay the project.
 - Olifant River Water Resources Development Project Bulk Distribution System - An earlier decision by government demands that the commercial portion of the project be funded off-budget. To date, the mining sector was not in a position to commit to the project. The global economic downturn and recession after 2008 had a direct impact on the readiness of the mining sector to commit. The department has to date funded Phase 2C from the fiscus in an attempt not to delay the project.

My predecessor approached the minister of Finance to consider the issuing of an explicit government guarantee to cover the commercial component. Officials of the department are in contact with the fiscal liability committee to advance this initiative.

(1)(c) Yes, new time frames have been identified as follows:

- The raising of Hazelmere Dam - Construction to commence in the last quarter of the current financial year and will be completed in 2018/19 financial year.
- The raising of the Clanwilliam Dam - Construction is anticipated to commence in February 2015 and will be completed during the 2018/19 financial year. This is subject to the approval of the Environmental Management Plan and Environmental Management Programme.
- The Olifant River Water Resources Development Project Bulk Distribution System - Currently the department is finalizing institutional arrangements and will commence with land acquisition in the 2015/16 financial year and construction thereafter. The project will be commissioned by 2020.

(2) No, none of the delays are due to acquisition and settlement problems.

(3) Yes, there are engagements with relevant departments.

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