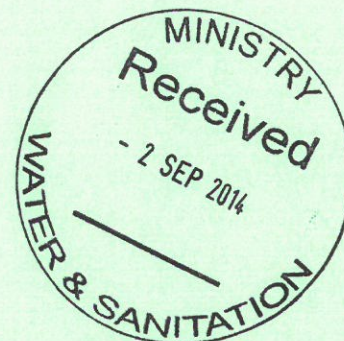




water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



M 19

EdTM

Enquiries: W vd Westhuizen
Telephone: 012 336 6861
Reference: S4/2/1

MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES: QUESTION 19 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Mr G Michalakakis (DA-FS) is attached for your consideration.

Sophie Mahler

DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE:

2014/09/02

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MRS NP MOKONYANE
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE:

09.09.14

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 19

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 04 JULY 2014
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 1)

19. Mr G Michalakakis (DA-FS) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

Sharing of Caledon River water resource

- (1) Whether there has been any formal agreements between the Kingdom of Lesotho and South Africa regarding the sharing of the Caledon River water resource; if not, why not; if so, what are the terms of the agreements;
- (2) whether the flow of sewerage into the Caledon River from the Setsoto Local Municipality in Ficksburg has been mentioned as a source of concern by the Lesotho Government; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, (a) what are the main concerns and (b) what was her department's response in this regard? CW19E

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REPLY:

- (1) Yes, there is a formal agreement between South Africa and the Kingdom of Lesotho for the transfer of water from Lesotho (Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP) to South Africa. The water delivered is measured in the delivery tunnel before the tunnel crosses the border between the two countries. The water currently being released from the LHWP to support the Mangaung area is released from the Caledon River into the Little Caledon River which is in South Africa. The Little Caledon River is a tributary to the main Caledon River. The Lesotho government was informed beforehand that water will be released from the South African side to support the Mangaung area and that the water will flow down the Caledon River.
- (2) The Lesotho government has not raised any concerns.
- (2)(a) Falls away.
- (2)(b) Falls away.

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ANNEXURE A

MUNICIPAL INTERVENTION

Van Soelen Street Sewer Spillages



Blocked Sewer Manhole in Van Soelen Street



Manhole spilling in Caledon River: Ficksburg sewer pipeline.

There was also stones blocked in this pipeline therefore the contractor needed to cut the pipe on the affected area to re-fix.



Unblocking of the manholes in Van Soelen street complete.



Picture 1 above shows this manhole blocked. This picture it has been unblocked.



Material coming out of these manholes



Unblocking complete on this manhole

Setsoto Local Municipality

Annexure B



Van Soelen Street Sewer Spillage

August 2014

1. Introduction

The Setsoto Local Municipality is obligated to provide a sustainable sanitation service to its citizens, while at the same time discharging treated effluent in compliance with the standards set by Central Government.

The raw sewerage discharges by gravity through the water borne sewerage network system, and then discharges further by gravity via the existing outfall sewer line running in a south-eastern direction from the northern portion of Meqheleng to the waste water treatment plant. Raw sewage currently overflows from the existing outfall sewer manholes on a constant basis; it then flows into the stream at the northern portion of Meqheleng, which then flows into the Caledon River. The situation is hazardous both to the environment and to the local residents. In addition, the high maintenance cost incurred by Setsoto Local Municipality to date now calls for a more permanent solution in alleviating the sewer overflow crisis in Meqheleng / Ficksburg.

2. Background

Setsoto local municipality has been receiving non-compliance letters due to the sewer spillage running into Caledon River as this poses a risk to the environment. Business plans were submitted both to the Department of Water Affairs and COGTA to assist in addressing this problem.

3. Intervention

The municipality has appointed several services providers to assist in unblocking these manholes but the situation could not be resolved refer to Annexure A. The department of COGTA also made funding of R3million available in the financial year 2013/2014 to assist the municipality with the unblocking of those sewer manholes identified. The contractor was appointed and started unblocking the manholes refer to Annexure B. This assisted the municipality even though after a week the problem re-occurred as this requires a major upgrade as it was reflected on the business plan submitted to DWA and COGTA. A 7km sewer outfall is required with a diameter of 650mm Ø,

this is also substantiated by the Setsoto Master Plan compiled in 2012 through DBSA. Refer to Annexure C.

4. Challenges

The municipality does not have funding required to upgrade this pipe line as about R25Milion is required. Furthermore the municipality was also taken to court to answer on the issue of Van Soelen Sewer Spillage as stipulated in the National Water Act 36 of 1998, Clause 19 (I) by the DA Councillor (Cllr. Bath)who indicate that this causes health Hazard.

5. Conclusion

The municipality has engage in several intervention in trying to resolve this matter but the challenge still remains. In order to address this problem completely funding should be made available to the municipality to upgrade the 7km pipeline to the required standard.

SETSOTO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

**REFURBISHMENT OF
MEQHELENG SEWERAGE SYSTEM
(Phase 3)**

COMPLETION REPORT

PREPARED FOR :	PREPARED BY :
 SETSOTO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY P O BOX 116 FICKSBURG 9730 TEL : 051 933 9300 FAX : 051 933 3321 CONTACT PERSON : MR T RAMAKARANE	 Miletus P O BOX 800 HARRISMITH 9880 TEL : 058 623 1078 FAX : 058 623 1070 CONTACT PERSON : MR AW LATEGAN

MARCH 2014

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1. Background

On 15 May 2013 the PMU Manager/Acting Director Technical Services Me T Zondi instructed Miletus to continue with the implementation of the third phase to the value of R5,040m (VAT inclusive), as part of the initially allocated budget of R16,9m.

Miletus engaged engineering contracting companies WSSA and Inkanyenzi Construction to complete the third phase.

TABLE 1
COST ESTIMATE AND EXPENDITURE vs APPROVED ACIP BUSINESS PLAN

Item	Description	Original ACIP business plan (R)	Progress	Expenditure to date on Phases 1 & 2 (R)	Balance (R)	Budget for Phase 3 (R)	DWA R1m brought forward (R)
1	Installation of 315Ø outfall sewer	3 165 000	72%	2 740 000	425 000		148 200
2	Refurbishment of main outfall sewers	1 195 000	45%	595 000	600 000	600 000	
3	Installation of outfall sewers	1 900 000	25%	475 000	1 425 000	1 420 000	
4	Connecting of functional toilets to sewer	1 800 000	0%	0	1 800 000	1 730 000	
5	Refurbishment of existing sewage pumpstation	3 290 000	60%	3 290 000	0	0	
6	Refurbishment at WWTW	700 000	0%	0	700 000	490 000	491 476
7	Professional fees, disbursements, etc.	2 200 000	50%	1 100 000	1 100 000	800 000	246 678
8	Senekal clarifier						113 646
9	Estimated total project cost to date	14 250 000	50%	8 200 000	6 050 000	5 040 000	1 000 000

TABLE 2
PHASE 3 COST ESTIMATE AND EXPENDITURE TO DATE

Item	Description	Progress	Allocation for 2013/14 (R)	Expenditure to date (R)	Current claim (R)
1	Refurbishment of main outfall sewers	44%	600 000	260 200	
2	Installation of outfall sewers	81%	1 420 000	1 149 000	
3	Connection of functional toilets	131%	1 730 000	2 269 000	
4	Refurbishment at WWTW	91%	490 000	462 974	
5	Professional fees, disbursements, etc.	100%	800 000	800 000	116 000
6	Additional disbursements a) Geotech services b) Occupational health and safety services c) Environmental control			98 475	98 475
7	Estimated total project cost for 2013/14 (VAT included)	100%	5 040 000	5 039 649	214 826

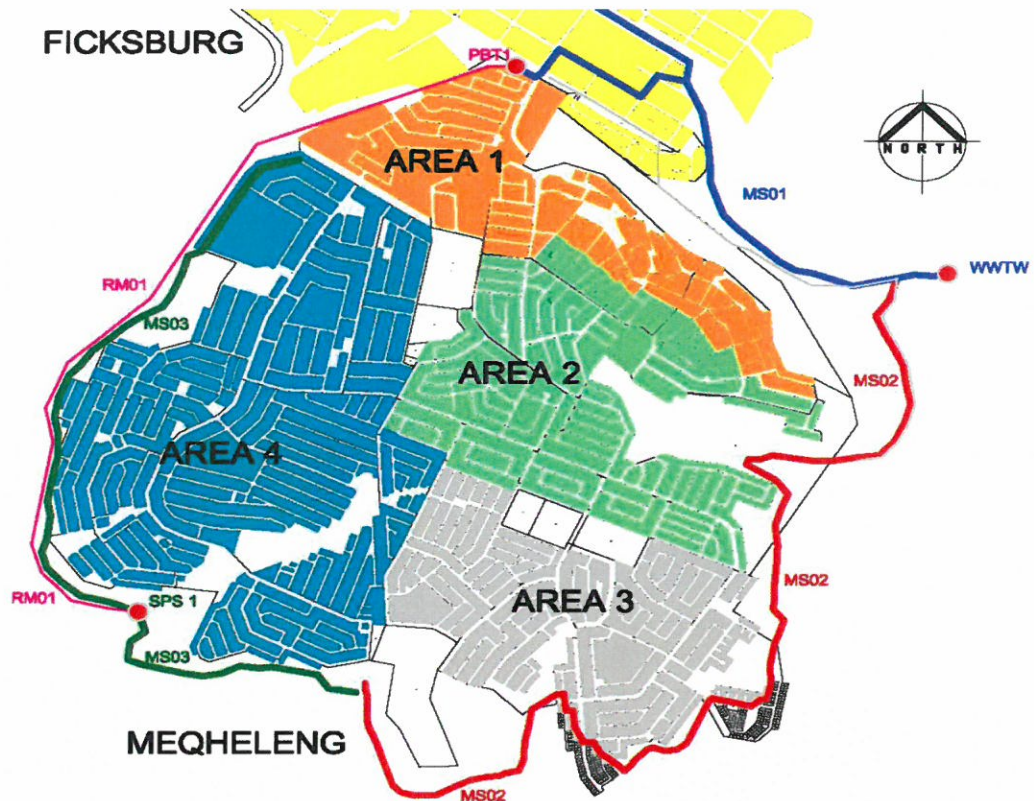
2. Project information

The project "Refurbishment of Meqheleng Sewerage System (Phase 3)" commenced in May 2013.

The aim of this project is :

- To install site connecting sewers where there is a functional toilet to alleviate immediate sewage spills generated by Drainage Areas 4
- To install a new 160mm diameter outfall sewer along the eastern side of Drainage Area 4 to drain sewage to the sewage pumpstation situated to the south of Meqheleng Area 4 SPS1
- To refurbish and clean main outfall sewers
- To install a new 400mm treated effluent pipeline at the Ficksburg WWTW to stabilise the erosion at the main outlet to the Caledon river and to start with Phase 1 of the gabion installation

- To refurbish 1320 existing toilets



3. Current progress

3.1 Installation of outfall sewers

- 1969m x 160mm diameter sewers have been installed
- 23m x 315mm sewer installed
- 45 manholes constructed

3.2 Connecting of functional toilets and refurbish cisterns

- 301 toilets have been connected to the main outfall sewer
- 1066 x 110mm diameter site connecting sewers have been installed
- 1300 new cisterns was installed

3.3 Open and cleaning of the main outfall sewers

A total of 2345m main outfall sewers and 16 manholes were unblocked and flushed

3.4 Open and cleaning of the main outfall sewers

Installation of the new treated effluent pipeline to the Caledon river is completed

3.5 Phase 1 : Gabion installation

The installation of the first phase of the gabions are completed

4. Photographs



Gabion installation at Ficksburg WWTW



Sewage level noticable lower

5. Comments

The initial scope of work identified as part of Phase 3 is completed

Although most of the sewage spills in drainage Area4 have been contained, there are still problems with mainline sewers overflowing namely :

- WSSA have installed 1300 cisterns to date which had a major influence on the quantity of effluent reaching SPS1
- During our site visit on Thursday 13 February 2014 the sewage inflow at SPS1 seems to be normal, according to the operator pump No.1 was still non operational due to v-belts that needs to be replaced
- The main outfall sewer to the east of Meqheleng was still blocked and flow was recorded at Ficksburg WWTW

6. Recommendations

It is therefore our recommendation to engage in the following :

- To consider extending the refurbishment of toilet cisterns to other areas serviced by waterborne systems
- To discuss and review the Sanitation Master Plan (GLS Consulting, February 2012), to identify all potential future development, and to prioritise and phase changes to the system accordingly
- Community awareness relating to the use of the sewerage system
- Additional funding should be sourced to complete all outstanding issues related to the bulk and internal sewerage system
- Additional gabion installation at the Ficksburg WWTW are essential to stabilise erosion

7. Summary

We consider the execution of the 'Refurbishment of Meqheleng Sewerage System Phase 3' as completed and hand over to the client.