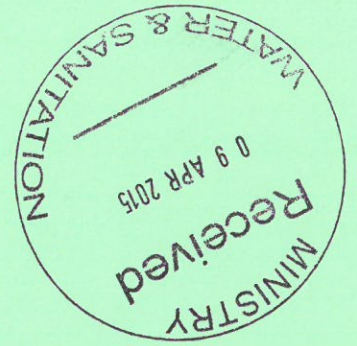




## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



EdPK

Enquiries: Ms P Makhanya  
Telephone: 043 604 5402  
Reference: 21/6/5/6/2

**MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1228 FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

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

**DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

DATE: 8/4/15

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

**MRS NP MOKONYANE  
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION**

DATE: 09.04.15

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1228

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 27 MARCH 2015  
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 9)

**1228. Mrs Z B N Balindlela (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:**

- (1) Whether the dam situated in Riebeek East in Makana Municipality falls within her department's area of responsibility; if not, who is responsible for the dam; if so, what are the details of (a) her department's responsibilities in relation to the dam and (b) her department's plans for the dam;
- (2) with reference to the ongoing water problems in Makana Municipality, what plan does her department have in place to ensure that residents receive a safe, sufficient and uninterrupted water supply;
- (3) has her department entered into a contract with Amathole Water to assist Makana Municipality to resolve its water challenges; if so, what are the details of the contract;
- (4) (a) what amount of money did her department transfer to Makana Municipality in the 2014-15 financial year and (b) for what purpose;
- (5) with reference to waste water treatment in Makana Municipality, what plans does her department have to (a) upgrade the Belmont Valley Waste Water Treatment Plant, (b) build additional capacity for the treatment of sewerage and (c) maintain and repair existing infrastructure?

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**REPLY:**

- (1) No, the small dam at Riebeek East is not a Departmental dam and the small size does not require it to be classified. The land owner is responsible for the dam. The town receives water from ground water sources via two municipal boreholes.
- (2) My department is participating fully in an Inter-governmental plan to restore effective water services to the residents of Makana Local Municipality (LM). There is both a High Level and Technical Task Teams responding to the Water Crisis Intervention Project. This project is ensuring the following:
  - Bulk water services are effectively managed and operated in Makana LM, through a service level agreement between Makana LM and Amatola Water Board;
  - Refurbishment of the rising mains and the water reticulation system to reduce failures and water leaks;
  - Prompt repairs to water pumps and motors at all water pump stations, particularly the high lift pumps;
  - Purchase and install additional (stand by) pump sets at both the high lift pump stations of Howisons Poort Pump Station and James Kleinhans Pump station to ensure sufficient redundancy in pumping capacity;

- Refurbish existing and install new additional, alternate electricity power line (Howisons Poort Pump Station);
  - Repair and refurbishment of the Water Treatment Works to ensure optimum operation;
  - Improve water conservation & demand management and metering through the Accelerated Municipal Infrastructure Program (ACIP);
  - Construction of new clear water storage reservoir for ward 12 in Grahamstown;
  - Improved communication between Authorities and the Communities served; and
  - Feasibility study for extension of James Kleinhans Water Treatment Works (WTW) and pump station to increase the supply of treated water to Grahamstown for future needs - Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (RBIG) project committed.
- (3) No, the five (5) year contract with the Amatola Water Board is between Makana LM and Amatola Water. The contract is for the Amatola Water Board to operate and manage the raw water abstraction infrastructure, the water treatment works and the bulk potable water supply infrastructure in all the towns in Makana LM. My Department has only used the Amatola Water Board as the Implementing Agent (IA) for the initial rapid response interventions.
- (4) No money was transferred to Makana LM.
- (5)(a) The Department allocated R2.5 million for the Makana Waste Water Infrastructure Refurbishment: Belmont Valley/ Mayfield and Alicedale Waste Water Treatment Works but has managed to do only maintenance and repairs.
- (5)(b) A Business plan to build additional capacity for the treatment of sewerage has been prepared for Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) funding; in addition the Eastern Cape Development Trust has committed an allocation of R100 Million for refurbishment work.
- (5)(c) The following maintenance and repairs were done to Belmont Valley Waste Water Treatment Works:
- Repairs to trickling filters, refurbishment of sludge drying beds; repair and where applicable replacement of inflow and outflow meters to allow for inflow and outflow measurements;
  - purchasing of testing equipment; repairs to pump stations; and
  - purchasing of Manhole covers; refurbishment of electrical works including a three (3) day training and capacity building programme for three (3) process controllers and general workers on general waste water treatment processes.

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