



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



EdTM

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Reference: 6/2/2/6

MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 1653 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 4/6/15

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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

DATE: 01.06.15

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 1653

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 22 MAY 2015
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 15)

1653. Ms J Steenkamp (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

- (1) Whether her department has received any complaints with regard to the water quality of the Kaalspruit River; if so, (a) how many complaints and (b) what action was taken with regard to each complaint;
- (2) (a) when last was the water quality of the Kaalspruit River tested, (b) what was the result of the test, (c) from which location in the Kaalspruit River was the water sample sourced and (d) what action has been taken to reduce the pollution in the Kaalspruit River;
- (3) what are the names of the (a) businesses and/or (b) organizations found to be polluting the Kaalspruit River?

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REPLY:

- (1)(a) Yes, six complaints regarding water quality pollution in the Kaalspruit River were received by my Department between the period April 2015 and May 2015.
- (1)(b) For the six complaints received, site inspections were conducted and it was revealed that indeed pollution took place. Therefore, the polluters were instructed to provide action plans stipulating how the challenges will be resolved. However, similar incidents were reported before April 2015, where site inspections were conducted and non-compliance notices and directives were issued to the polluters. Furthermore, a task team has been established by my Department to monitor implementation of the action plans.
- (2)(a) The latest water quality tests for the Kaalspruit River were conducted on 17 February 2015.
- (2)(b) The results indicated unacceptable level of ammonia and nitrate with low levels of chemical constituents.
- (2)(c) The water samples were sourced at Hennops River at Erasmia Bridge. My Department, under the regulatory function, conducted site inspections at the affected areas and issued non-compliance letters, pre-directives and directives to both the City of Johannesburg and Ekurhuleni metropolitan municipalities instructing them to comply. Due to the fact that pollution is across different municipal boundaries, a task team has been established by my Department to address the identified pollution issues. I have also engaged both the Honourable Premiers and Executive Mayors of Ekurhuleni and the City of Johannesburg to discuss amongst others pollution issues. Further, I have requested them to produce an action plan to deal with human settlement and sanitation issues amongst others.
- (3)(a) No businesses were identified.
- (3)(b) Ekurhuleni and the City of Johannesburg metropolitan municipalities.

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