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Reference: 6/2/2/6

MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2936 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

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

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 22 1/18

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MRS NP MOKONYANE
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE: 05.10.15

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 2936

<u>DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 14 AUGUST 2015 (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 30)</u>

2936. Mr L J Basson (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

- (1) With regard to her reply to question 2367 on 14 July 2015, what have been the results of the Metsi a Me project;
- (2) (a) when did the specified project start and (b) what has been the yearly cost of the specified project since it started;
- (3) whether her department plans to expand the specified project to other dams; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (4) whether raw sewage is still flowing into the dam from the Rietfontein Wastewater Treatment Plant and upstream of the dam; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (5) whether her department has put any measures in place to stop the flow of sewage into the Hartebeespoort Dam; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

- The results and outcomes since the initiation of the Metsi a Me (Hartbeespoort Dam Integrated Biological remediation Programme)(HDRP) is extensively covered within the annual reports, which are consolidated in the Phase I and Phase II progress reports. The outcomes can briefly be summarised in Annexure A.
- (2)(a) The HartiesMetsi a me Integrated Biological Remediation Programme) started with the development of the Phase I Business Plan in July 2006 after Rand Water was appointed as Implementing Agent.
- (2)(b) The yearly expenditure of the HDRP since it started was:

										TOTAL
998	9,518	24,999	20,500	20,552	18,447	26,837	28,331	17,473	5,580	167,660

^{*} Up to July 2015

(3) My Department plans to expand the successful pilot of the Hartbeespoort Dam Integrated Biological Remediation Programme to full scale implementation in the Hartbeespoort Dam and the upper catchment. This holistic and comprehensive Catchment solutions as developed and pilot implemented for the Hartbeespoort Dam will also be taken to other dams and catchments with additional alternativebiological solutions.

- (4) The Rietfontein Wastewater Treatment Plant upstream of the dam in the Swart Spruit is not functioning optimally as no refurbishment and upgrading of the Plant have happened since the last visit by the Portfolio Committee of Water and Sanitation. One aerator is still working hence partially treated anaerobic effluentis discharged.
- Yes, my Department has put in place measures to stop the flow of raw sewage into the Hartbeespoort Dam from pump stations. To date the pumping capacity has been restored at the 13 pumpstations and work is underway to reinstate the standby capacity (redundancy) as well.

The sewer pump stations owned by Madibeng Local Authority were upgraded and refurbished in the past, but could not be handed back to Madibeng Local Municipality due to outstanding work. The operations and maintenance of these pumpstations remain the wastewaterservice responsibility of the Water Services Authority but my Department will continue to support towards complete restoration.

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