



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



EdTM

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 355 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: 11/7/15

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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

DATE:

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 355

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 20 FEBRUARY 2015
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 2)

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

Whether her department issued a water use license to a fire station in Vaal Marina in Gauteng; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NW383E

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REPLY:

No. Midvaal Local Municipality started construction of the Vaal Marina Fire Station without a water use license, which should have been applied for in terms of Section 21(c) & (i) and Section 40 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998). A directive was subsequently issued by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), for the municipality to cease the construction until the water use license is obtained.

The Municipality argued that the construction was started based on the advice given by the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development that their operation is not a listed activity and therefore did not need a water use license.

DWS requested the municipality to conduct a Wetland Delineation study to prove that the construction is not within the 500m radius of the wetland. The study findings proved that the construction was within the 500m radius, therefore requiring an application of a water use license. DWS received the water use license application on 21 October 2013, where additional information was requested. The information was completed on the following dates:

- Environmental management plan (EMP); Impacts and Mitigation and the Monitoring Plan mailed - 27 June 2014.
- Wetland Management and Rehabilitation Plan report - 04 August 2014.
- Storm water Management Plan signed by applicant - 18 September 2014.

On 01 August 2014, DWS held a meeting with consultants representing Midvaal Local Municipality regarding the reports submitted. The DWS: Gauteng Provincial Office received comments from the Department's specialist on the following dates:

- Civil design comments and recommendations - 30 January 2015.
- Sub-Directorate: In-stream Water Use - 20 February 2015.

Currently the draft record of recommendations (ROR), have been submitted to the Chief Directorate: Water Use Authorization who are undertaking quality checks and a date to present the application to the Water Use Authorisation Authority and Application Committee (WUAAAC) has been requested. After presentation, the committee will advise the Director-General to issue or decline the application.

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