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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 356 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: /8 03 5

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MRS NP MOKONYANE
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE: 31.03.15

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 356

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

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

- (1) Whether she can explain why the construction of a second wastewater treatment plant in Thabazimbi was stopped; if not, why not; if so, (a) what are the relevant details and (b) when was the construction stopped;
- (2) (a) what amount was budgeted for the construction of the treatment plant and (b) what amount had been spent when construction stopped;
- (3) who funded the project;
- (4) (a) when will the treatment plant be completed and (b) what will the final cost of completion be;
- (5) has her department taken any measures to ensure that samples taken from the current wastewater treatment plant test below an E.coli level of 1000/100ml; if not, (a) why not and (b) when will measures be implemented; if so, what are the relevant details?

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REPLY:

- (1)(a) The project was funded by Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG), Anglo American Platinum and Northam Platinum Limited. The project was stopped due to financial constraints which resulted to non-payment of service providers hence they pulled out of construction site.
- (1)(b) The construction was stopped in April 2013.
- (2)(a) The budgeted amount for the construction of the treatment plant was R 84.4 million.
- (2)(b) The amount spent when the construction stopped was R 21 million.
- (3) Refer to (1)(a) above.
- (4)(a) It is anticipated that the project will be completed in June 2016.
- (4)(b) The final cost of completion of the project will be R63 million.
- (5)(a) No, the Department of Water and Sanitation did not take measures regarding samples taken at the wastewater treatment plant, because Thabazimbi Municipality had showed commitment by prioritising the upgrading of wastewater treatment plant to address the issue of over-capacity. The Municipality has further applied for a Water Use License in order to comply.
- (5)(b) Measures would be taken if any non-compliance could be detected. The Department is supporting the Municipality to ensure compliance.