



## **water & sanitation**

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**



EdTM

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Reference: 21/19/D1

### **MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION**

#### **NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 358 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: 1/3/15

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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

DATE: 08.03.15

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO 358**

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

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

- (1) (a) Why is the new waste water treatment plant at Zongesien in Lephalale Town, Limpopo, not in use and (b) when will it be commissioned;
- (2) what was the (a) cost of building the waste water treatment plant and (b) how was the construction of the plant funded;
- (3) whether she will take action against the Lephalale Municipality for polluting the river with untreated sewage; if not, why not; if so, (a) what action will she take and (b) when will she take such action?

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**REPLY:**

- (1)(a) The Zongesien Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW) is not in use because during commissioning some construction defects were identified and required to be attended to before using the plant.
- (1)(b) To correct the defects, the Lephalale Local Municipality took a decision to appoint Independent Engineering Body to conduct full assessment of the infrastructure to ensure effective functionality of the WWTW. The Municipality is in the process of finalising the appointment of Independent Engineering Body.
- (2)(a) The total cost for the building of waste water treatment plant was R14, 5 million.
- (1)(b) The construction of the plant was funded through Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) programme.
- (3) Yes action has been taken against the Lephalale Local Municipality for polluting the river with untreated sewage.
- (3)(a) A notice dated 7 July 2014 was prepared and sent to the Lephalale Local Municipality to take all reasonable measures to prevent the pollution of water resources and rehabilitate the affected river system as provided in Section 19 of the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998. This transgression was at the sewage oxidation ponds and the matter was resolved as the Municipality commenced with the disinfection of final effluent.
- (3)(b) The Department is continuously conducting monthly inspection regarding compliance and a directive in terms of Section 19 of the National water Act will be issued, should it be found that pollution of water resource is continuing.

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