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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 3810 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:

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MRS NP MOKONYANE
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE: 18-11. 15

#### NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

### **FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

#### **QUESTION NO 3810**

### <u>DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 23 OCTOBER 2015</u> (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 41)

# 3810. Mrs Z B N Balindlela (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

- (1) (a) To which catchment management agencies has her department delegated the authority to issue water use licenses and (b) on what conditions;
- (2) what is the process according to which a water use license is issued by (a) a catchment management agency and (b) her department;
- (3) whether her department is considering to extend this authority to other entities; if not, why not; if so, (a) which entities and (b) on what conditions?

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# REPLY:

- (1)(a) Inkomati-Usuthu and Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agencies has been delegated to issue water use licenses.
- (1)(b) The delegations are subject to conditions set out below:
  - (a) Access to the WARMS and any other system that might be required to support the functions hereunder and can readily interface with the Department's systems;
  - (b) A protocol/an action plan to coordinate water user's activities and foster cooperation between institutions;
  - (c) A Job descriptions of positions, that will be implementing the process contained in this delegation, are in place; and
  - (d) CMA, must -
    - (i) submit quarterly reports to my Department; and
    - (ii) report any change in the capacity and skills referred to in condition
    - (a) above
- (2)(a) If an applicant intends to apply for a water use license or has submitted application forms, the process for issuing water use application is as follows:
  - The applicant is to be consulted by a Technical Officer to ascertain the water uses and the activities that need authorization and to determine the extent of the activities.
  - A pre-application consultation meeting is conducted by the Water Use Licence Application (WULA), and the applicant is advised on the different water uses.
  - Applicant submits application to a Technical Officer, where after it is referred to a WULA assessor to check it for completeness and correctness. If the application is incomplete, it is returned to the applicant, if complete a reference number is generated, the application is acknowledged and registered on the licensing system.

- A WULA Assessor assesses the application and prepares a draft Record of Recommendation (ROR).
- A draft ROR and draft licence/decline letter is presented to the Provincial Water User Authorisation Assessment Advisory Committee (WUAAAC) for input. Comments are incorporated into the draft ROR and drance licence/decline letter. The key function of the Provincial WUAAC is to advise Assessors and will minimum meet twice per month.
- A final ROR and licence/decline letter is drafted and referred to a Reviewer for quality control. The Reviewer checks the quality of the documentation and whether the Business process was followed as prescribed.
- If approved the licence/decline letter is posted to the applicant by the Technical Officer and forwarded to the Water Authorisation Registration Management System (WARMS) for registration in the system.
- (2)(b) The process for water use licensing for the CMA and the Department is the same process outlined in number 2a
- (3)(a) Berg-Olifants, Pongola-Umzimkhulu, Vaal, Olifants, Limpopo-North West, Orange and Mzimvubu-Tsitsikamma Catchment Management Agencies.
- (3)(b) Refer to (2)(a) above.

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