



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



EdTM

Enquiries: T Ntli
Telephone: 051 405 9281
Reference: 6/2/2/6

MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 481 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Dr P J Groenewald (FF Plus) is attached for your consideration.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 23/3/15

~~DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED~~

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

DATE: 31.03.15

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 481

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 06 MARCH 2015
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 5)

481. Dr P J Groenewald (FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:†

- (1) Whether, in the light of her department's Zero Tolerance Campaign whereby the dumping of sewage will not be tolerated, her department has taken any steps against the Matlosana Municipality, who have admitted that they are dumping untreated sewage in the Vaal River because the sewage treatment farms are out of commission; if not, why not; if so, when;
- (2) whether she will make a statement on the matter? NW559E

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REPLY:

- (1) Yes, my Department has taken steps against the Matlosana Municipality for dumping untreated sewage in the Vaal River because the sewage treatment farms are out of commission. My Department through the Free State Provincial Office inspected the Klerksdorp Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW) on 20 November 2014. Thereafter, a non compliance letter was issued to the Municipality on 8 December 2014 to correct the situation (refer attached **Annexure A**).

The Orkney and Stilfontein WWTW were also inspected on 11 December 2014 and the investigation revealed that indeed they were also not complying. Non compliance letters for both WWTW were issued to the Municipality on 8 January 2015 to correct the situation (refer attached **Annexure B**).

A follow up meeting was held on 25 February 2015 with the Municipality to discuss the problems at the Municipality. A response together with an Action Plan to address the problem was received from the Municipality on 4 March 2015 (refer attached **Annexure C**).

- (2) No statement will be issued at this point as work is still in progress and the Municipality is very cooperative in resolving the problems.

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water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Enquiries: George Nel
Telephone: 051 405 9000
Reference: 16/27/C241/D4

The Municipal Manager
Matlosana Local Municipality
PO Box 99
KLERKSDORP
2570

COMPLAINT: NON FUNCTIONAL WASTE WATER TREATMENT WORKS (WWTW) AT KLERKSDORP

A complaint regarding sewage spills at Klerksdorp WWTW was received by this office in October 2014.

A site investigation was carried out on 20 November 2014 by the Compliance and Enforcement section of the DWS: Free State Regional Office.

The following was observed on the day of the inspection:

- The mechanical screens at the inlet are non functional due to missing motor and gearbox.
- Primary settling tank is not working due to missing pumps.
- At the Aeration basins 4 aerators are not working due to power, motor and gearbox problems.
- Out of 7 Secondary Clarifiers 5 are non functional.
- The discharge from the plant is polluting the Schoonspruit and this is causing problems for downstream users due to poor water quality.

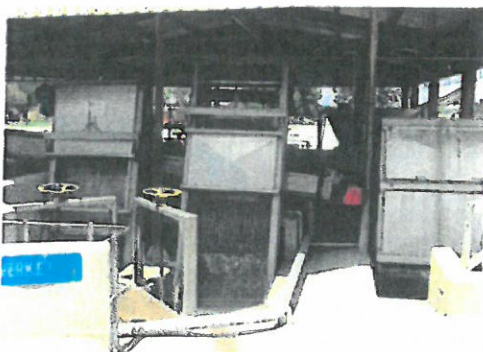


Figure 1 & 2 – Mechanical Screens



Figure 3 – Primary settling tank



Figure 4 – Grit removal not taking place

Figure 3 shows the primary settling tank not functioning due to pumps not working at the plant.

Figure 4 shows grit removal not taking place at the inlet.



Figure 5 & 6 – Activated sludge and Aerators

Figure 5 & 6 shows the activated sludge basin with several aerators not working.



Figure 7 & 8 – Secondary Clarifiers

Figure 7 & 8 shows secondary clarifiers of which several are non functional

CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

The problems at the Klerksdorp WWTW are unacceptable and must be addressed by the Municipality. The Department is requesting a completed action plan with achievable time frames and budgets to be submitted to this office on or before 15 January 2014. Waste Water Infrastructure at the WWTW is in need of immediate attention and the municipality needs to make this a priority.

The Department is making the municipality aware of Section 19 (1) of the National Water Act, Act No. 36 of 1998:

- 19 (1) An owner of land, a person in control of land or a person who occupies or uses the land on which –
- (a) any activity or process is or performed or undertaken; or
 - (b) any other situation exists.
- which causes, has caused or is likely to cause pollution of a water resource, must take all reasonable measures to prevent any such pollution of a water resource, must take all reasonable measures to prevent any such pollution from occurring, continuing or recurring.**
- (2) The measures referred to in subsection (1) may include measures to –
- (a) cease, modify or control any act or process causing the pollution;
 - (b) comply with any prescribed waste standard or management practice;
 - (c) contain or prevent the movement of pollutants;
 - (d) eliminate any source of the pollution;
 - (e) remedy the effects of the pollution; and
 - (f) remedy the effects of any disturbance to the beds and banks of a watercourse.

Please do not hesitate to contact this office for any enquiries on any of the given information.

Regards,



F Ntuli

PROVINCIAL HEAD: FREE STATE

Letter signed by: Mr W Grobler

Designation: Deputy Director: Water Regulation

DATE: 8/12/2014



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Enquiries: George Nel
Telephone: 051 405 9000
Reference: 16/27/C241/D8

The Municipal Manager
Matlosana Local Municipality
PO Box 99
KLERKSDORP
2570

COMPLAINT: NON FUNCTIONAL WASTE WATER TREATMENT WORKS (WWTW) AT STILFONTEIN

A complaint regarding sewage spills at Stilfontein WWTW was received by this office in October 2014.

A site investigation was carried out on 11 December 2014 by the Compliance and Enforcement section of the DWS: Free State Regional Office.

The following was observed on the day of the inspection:

- Screens at the inlet are non functional.
- Grit removal not taking place.
- At the Aeration basins there are several motors not working.
- Clarifiers are non functional.
- Broken infrastructure and missing motors and pumps at the plant.
- Broken chlorination unit.
- The discharge from the plant is polluting the Koekemoerspruit and this is causing problems for downstream users due to poor water quality.

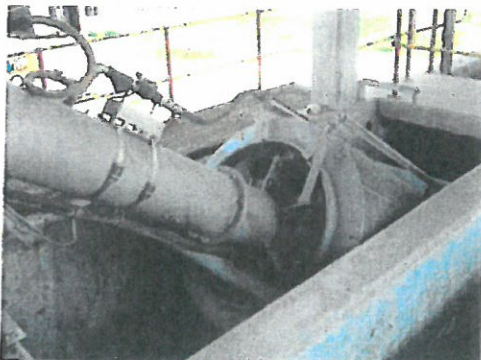


Figure 1 & 2 – Screens non functional



Figure 3 – Missing pumps



Figure 4 – Broken Infrastructure

Figure 3 shows a missing sludge pump.
Figure 4 shows broken infrastructure



Figure 5 & 6 – Aerators

Figure 5 & 6 shows several aerators not working.



Figure 7 – Broken motors

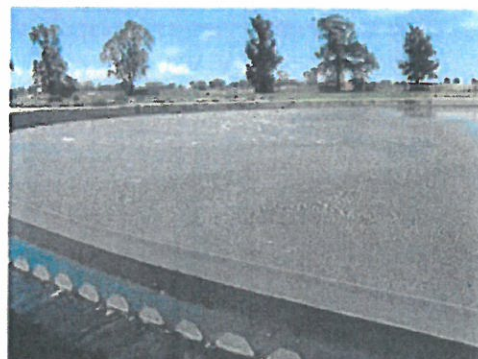


Figure 8 – Secondary Clarifier

Figure 7 & 8 shows more broken motors and non functional clarifier.

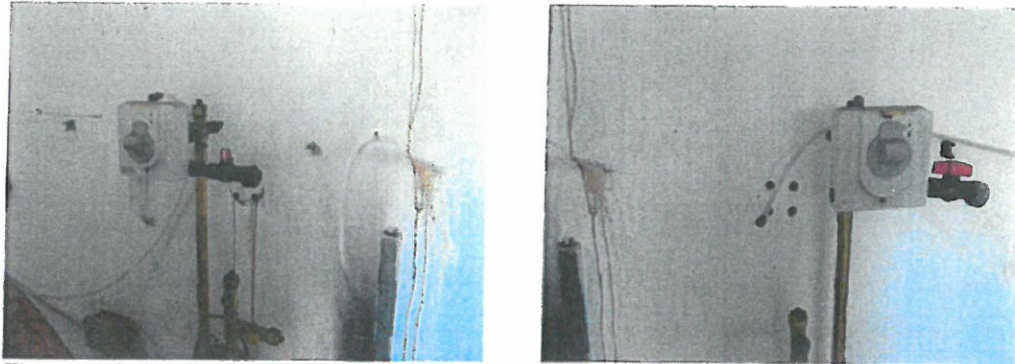


Figure 9 & 10 - Broken chlorination unit at the plant

CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

The problems at the Stilfontein WWTW are unacceptable and must be addressed by the Municipality. The Department is requesting a completed action plan with achievable time frames and budgets to be submitted to this office on or before 30 January 2015. Waste Water Infrastructure at the WWTW is in need of immediate attention and the municipality needs to make this a priority.

The Department is making the municipality aware of Section 19 (1) of the National Water Act, Act No. 36 of 1998:

- 19 (1) An owner of land, a person in control of land or a person who occupies or uses the land on which –
- (a) any activity or process is or performed or undertaken; or
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- which causes, has caused or is likely to cause pollution of a water resource, must take all reasonable measures to prevent any such pollution of a water resource, must take all reasonable measures to prevent any such pollution from occurring, continuing or recurring.**
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 - (b) comply with any prescribed waste standard or management practice;
 - (c) contain or prevent the movement of pollutants;
 - (d) eliminate any source of the pollution;
 - (e) remedy the effects of the pollution; and
 - (f) remedy the effects of any disturbance to the beds and banks of a watercourse.

Please do not hesitate to contact this office for any enquiries on any of the given information.

Regards,

T Ntini
PROVINCIAL HEAD: FREE STATE
Letter signed by: Mr W Grobler
Designation: Deputy Director: Water Regulation

8/11/15



Annexure C

CITY OF
MATLOSANA

17/3/4/1 KOSH

1 Pilusa

03 March 2015

Head of Department: Water and Sanitation
Private Bag X5
MMABATHO
2735

ATTENTION: MR. MOKINO
FAX NO: 086 558 3709

Sir

ACTION PLAN ON THE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS

The above-mentioned subject and your email dated 26 February 2015 refer.

(a) STILFONTEIN WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

-To repair the mechanical and electrical components of the plant. Severely affected plant

ACTION TAKEN:

The service provider was appointed on the 27 February 2015. The repair work duration is 90 days. The contractor started on 02 March 2015 as per contractual standards.

(b) ORKNEY WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

-To repair the mechanical and electrical components of the plant.

ACTION TAKEN:

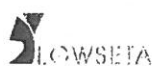
The funds adjustment requests done to Council. Repair work will be done internally using the Electrical Department of Council where possible. The service provider is finalising the assessment report of the plant which is due by Friday, 06 March 2015.

(c) KLERKSDORP WASTEAWATER TREATMENT PLANT

-To repair the mechanical and electrical components of the plant.

S MABUDA
ACTING MUNICIPAL MANAGER
PO Box 99 Klerksdorp 2570

Telephone: +27 18 487 8009 · Fax: +27 18 464 1980 Email: dnkosi@klerksdorp.org



ACTION TAKEN:

The funds adjustment requests done to Council. Repair work will be done internally using the Electrical Department of Council where possible. The service provider is finalising the assessment report of the plant which is due by Friday, 06 March 2015.

(d) HARTBEEFSFONTEIN WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

-To repair the mechanical and electrical components of the plant.

ACTION TAKEN:

The funds adjustment requests done to Council. Repair work will be done internally using the Electrical Department of Council where possible. The service provider is finalising the assessment report of the plant which is due by Friday, 06 March 2015.

(e) WESTERN OUTFALL SEWAGE PUMPSTATION (Jouberton ext 24)

-To repair the mechanical and electrical components of the Pump station.

ACTION TAKEN:

The funds adjustment requests done to Council. Repair work was done internally by the Electrical Department of Council. The two of four pumps are running, the Council fitters are busy with the other remaining two pumps.

Hope you find the above in order.



S. MABUDA
ACTING MUNICIPAL MANAGER
48JJP.mw

Copy for your information

Mr G Nel – Department: Water & Sanitation

Tel: 051 405 9000

Email: NelG@dwa.gov.za

S MABUDA

ACTING MUNICIPAL MANAGER

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