



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



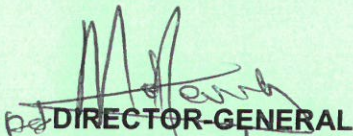
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Reference: 6/2/2/6

MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

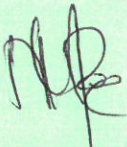
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 615 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Ms Z B N Balindlela (DA) is attached for your consideration.


DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 18/03/15

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED



MRS NP MOKONYANE
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE: 22.02.15

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 615

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

615. Ms Z B N Balindlela (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

- (1) (a) What is the cost of the Mokolo Crocodile Water Augmentation Project that will supply water to the Medupi Power Station and (b) did the National Treasury issue a guarantee for the specified project;
- (2) whether the Trans Caledon Tunnel Authority managed to raise funds to build the pipeline; if so, what (a) is the amount, (b) are the loan conditions and (c) is the loan period;
- (3) has an environmental impact assessment been done; if not, (a) why not, and (b) when will it be done; if so, when (i) was it started and (ii) will it be completed;
- (4) when will the project (a) start, (b) be completed and (c)(i) what factors caused the project to be (i) delayed and (ii) what are the relevant details in this regard;
- (5) how will the transfer of water out of the Crocodile River (a) impact on the (i) Hartebeespoort Dam and (ii) Roodekopjes Dam and (b) affect farmers who have water rights from the specified river and dams, respectively?

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REPLY:

- (1)(a) The Mokolo and Crocodile Water Augmentation Project, which will supply Medupe Power Station (MCWAP-1 & 2) is estimated at R 13 406 million.
- (1)(b) Yes, an implicit guarantee was issued by the National Treasury for MCWAP-1 to cover the commercial funding.
- (2) Yes, an amount of R2 000 million is approved until 31 March 2017 noting that the social component (25%) is covered by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS). Debt is payable over a period of 20 years after commissioning.
- (3) Yes, an environmental impact assessment (EIA) was done and culminated in Environmental Authorisation granted on 3 December 2010.
- (4)(a) Construction started on 14 September 2011.
- (4)(b) Ready for operation by 8 October 2015 after which refurbishment of the existing pipe will proceed.
- (4)(c) Delays were due to severe flooding (1: 20 year flood) in project area experienced in 2014, slow pipe laying progress (contractor's risk) and labour issues (strikes).

- (5)(a)(i) The Hartbeespoort Dam currently has surplus water, thus the transfer will not affect users from the dam. The operating level of the dam will fluctuate as per seasonal rains.
- (5)(a)(ii) The Roodekopjes Dam in this instance will convey water released from the Hartbeespoort Dam to Lephalale, the current storage of the dam will be left for the current users.
- (5)(b) The water needs and entitlements of users, including farmers, in the Crocodile River West catchment have been fully accounted for in assessing the availability of water for transfer towards Lephalale. This is documented in the Crocodile River West Reconciliation Strategy.

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