



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Reference: 21/21/21

MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES: QUESTION 350 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Mr L B Gaehler (Eastern Cape: UDM) is attached for your consideration.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE:

26/8/13

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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

DATE:

30.08.12

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 350

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 7 AUGUST 2015
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 27)

350. Mr L B Gaehler (Eastern Cape: UDM) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

- (1) Whether, in respect of the Umzimvubu Dam Project regarding the planning, implementation and monitoring, any significant progress has been made to date; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether an operational centre or office will be located within the OR Tambo District Municipality where the dam is physically situated; if not, why not; if so, what will its scope of work be;
- (3) what opportunities will be created as the scope of the project will generate direct beneficiation of the local business in terms of training, business and job opportunities?

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REPLY:

- (1) Planning has been finalized and provisional environmental authorisation granted pending finalization of the appeal process. The final authorization is awaited. With regard to implementation, the draft inception report has been submitted and it is under review by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS). The pre-concept design reports of the Ntabalanga Dam, water treatment works and the bulk distribution system has been submitted and are still to be reviewed by experts.
- (2) The location of the operational centre or office Project Management Office (PMO) will be determined by the Minister, preferably within the OR Tambo District Municipality. Amongst the activities of the PMO, the PMO shall set up and operate a recruitment centre in the project area through a Labour Forum for the duration of the project. The PMO shall ensure, on a preferential basis, first preference is given to the four (4) Local Municipalities i.e. Elundini, Mhlontlo, uMzimvubu and Ntabankulu. However, the greater Eastern Cape Province will also be considered. The roles and responsibilities of the PMO will include:
 - Assume day-to-day overall project management without taking away project ownership from relevant implementing departments, municipalities and entities;
 - Provide the information nerve center for the Umzimvubu Integrated Development Project, providing easy access spatially referenced data for all projects;
 - Provide secretariat support to all coordinating committees (political, technical, working group) and convene work-stream meetings;
 - Monitor implementation of all decisions taken at technical and political steering committee level, and escalate where necessary;
 - Sift, verify and process work-stream inputs and reports into a quarterly consolidated project progress reports for technical and political steering committees (for onward processing to the Provincial Economic Transformation Cabinet Committee, the Executive Committee and the Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Commission); and
 - Develop a plan and implement development of SMMEs.

- (3) The general socio-economic principles, upon which the implementation of the uMzimvubu project is based, are:
- Contribute to local and regional economic development by optimising the use of locally available skills, materials and resources;
 - Promote transformation, technology and skills transfer within the infrastructure development industry through employment creation, preferential procurement, enterprise development, training and skills development objectives;
 - Ensure the project is implemented in a socially responsible and sustainable manner; and
 - “**Project Area**” four (4) Local Municipalities i.e. Elundini, Mhlontlo, uMzimvubu and Ntabankulu

The Department is committed to optimise the employment opportunities for local African people and African women and youth in particular; and preferentially employ local people through appropriate channels to minimize the chances of an influx of migrant work seekers. DWS is committed to preferential procurement of goods and services from local enterprises and/or suppliers that meet the requirements of Preferential Procurement Beneficiary. Targets for preferential procurement: Black Owned Enterprises (BOE), Black Owned Local Enterprises (BOLE), Black Women Owned Enterprises (BWOE) and Black Women Owned Local Enterprise (BWOLE).

The Department is committed to transformation and enterprise development that will lead to an increase in competent construction and consulting companies that are owned and managed by black people and generate net positive jobs in the economy. Established contractors and consulting firms will be using the State’s buying power, coerced to engage a specified number of local Nominated Enterprise Development Beneficiaries (NEDBs) to undertake parts of the works which are core to the scope of this project. The **preference point system** will be tailor-made to prioritise local contractors and suppliers and entities owned and managed by blacks, women and youth.

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