



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

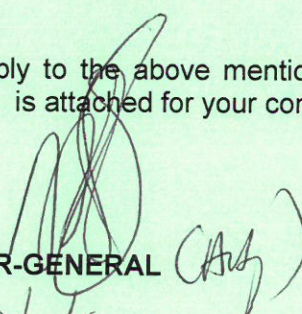
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Enquiries: M Diedricks  
Telephone: 012 336 6696  
Reference: 6/2/2/6

### MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES: QUESTION 458 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Ms T G Mpambo-Sibhukwana (Western Cape: DA) is attached for your consideration.

  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 8/11/15

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

MRS NP MOKONYANE  
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE: 18.11.15

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 458

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 16 OCTOBER 2015  
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 36)

**458. Ms T G Mpambo-Sibhukwana (Western Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:**

Whether the Orange-Fish River Tunnel hydro system's electricity generation components will be put into operation; if not, why not; if so, (a) for how much electricity generation was it designed, (b) how much will it cost to put these components into operation and (c) how soon will this be commissioned?

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**REPLY:**

According to Section 2.2 of the Memorandum of Agreement between Electricity Supply Commission (now Eskom) and the Department of Water Affairs (now DWS) regarding the operation of hydroelectric power stations at Hendrik Verwoerd (now Gariep) and PK Le Roux (now Vanderkloof) Dams, signed on 5 October 1984 (by Eskom) and 8 October 1984 (by DWS), it was recorded that Eskom had elected not to make use of the hydroelectric potential of the Orange-Fish Tunnel, but retained the right of taking over any existing works or the construction of any additional works or the operation of any undertaking in terms of Section 67(4) of the then Water Act (Act 54 of 1956).

With this understanding, therefore, it is Eskom that has the right to make use of the hydroelectric potential of the Orange-Fish Tunnel components and DWS is not able to tell when Eskom will implement this right.

Requesting that the Honorable Member refer the question to the Department of Public Enterprise and/ or Eskom which would be in a better position to respond to the Orange-Fish River Tunnel hydro system.

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