



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

EdTM

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 859 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Ms M S Khawula (EFF) is attached for your consideration.


DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 11/04/2016

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED


MRS NP MOKONYANE
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE: 20.04.2016

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 859

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 18 MARCH 2016
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 9)

859. Ms M S Khawula (EFF) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

When is the community of Siyancuma in the Northern Cape, Huhudi and Ipeleng in North West and Thabo Mofutsanyana District Municipality in Free State going to get water?

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REPLY:

NORTHERN CAPE:

The Siyancuma Local Municipality forms part of the Pixley ka Seme District Municipality located in the south-eastern parts of the Northern Cape Province. The Municipality is made up of three main urban settlements (Douglas, Griekwastad and Campbell) two restitution areas (Schmidtsdrift and Bucklands) and several smaller rural settlements (Plooyburg, Salt Lake, Witput, Belmont, Graspan, Heuningkloof, Volop, Witsand, Hayfield, Backhouse, Olierivier and Rietrivier Settlement West). The largest portion of the population in Siyancuma LM resides in the main towns of Douglas, Griekwastad and Campbell, which has a population of approximately 20079, 6432 and 2181, respectively.

According to the latest available service level profile of the Siyancuma Municipality, 91% of households in the Municipality have access to basic water supply. The water supply backlog in the Siyancuma Municipality amounts to 696 households.

A breakdown of the status of water supply in all towns and settlements in the Siyancuma LM is given in **Table 1** below.

Table 1. Water Supply Status in Siyancuma LM

Town/Settlement	Population	Households	Water Supply Backlog
Campbell	2181	546	30
Schmidtsdrift	1161	387	195
Belmont	27	6	0
Douglas	20079	4710	70
Griekwastad	6432	1506	0
Plooyburg	91	23	23
Salt Lake	183	46	37
Bucklands	1094	285	285
Volop	52	18	0
Witput	39	18	0
Backhouse	41	10	0
Hayfield	124	30	0
Heuningneskloof	83	20	0
Witsand	41	10	0
Riet River	83	20	20
Graspan	45	10	10
Olierivier	196	49	49
Total	31952	7694	696

In terms of water supply in the main towns, it must be noted that the water supply backlog in Griekwastad has been addressed as 512 households have been supplied with basic water supply through the Griekwastad Internal Water Reticulation Project that was completed in November 2015. As part of the bucket eradication program undertaken in Douglas (Bongani and Breipaal) during the 2015/16 financial year, a further 181 households received a basic water supply as part of the extension of the water supply network to these beneficiaries.

In order to address the remaining water supply backlogs and improve service levels, the Siyancuma LM will be implementing the following water supply infrastructure projects:

- construction of the Schmidtsdrift Water Treatment and auxiliary works and bulk supply pipelines is scheduled for completion in September 2016 and addressing the water supply backlog of 195;
- upgrading of the Douglas Water Treatment Works, which is scheduled for completion in June 2017, having the benefit of addressing the backlog of 70 and in addition, improving the reliability of water supply in Douglas;
- refurbishment of the production boreholes and water storage facilities in Campbell with an estimated completion date of June 2018.

In terms of the smaller settlements where the land is owned either by Spoornet (Witput, Graspan and Belmont) or private land owners (Plooyburg, Olierivier, Riet River, Bucklands and Salt Lake), water is supplied to households mainly from boreholes. Due to a combination of water resource scarcity, informal settlement, land owner disputes and aging infrastructure; the Siyancuma LM intermittently have to tanker water to a number of these settlements. The Siyancuma LM is currently conducting an assessment of the most feasible bulk groundwater water supply options in order to ensure sustainable water supply to these settlements, which have a combined water supply backlog of 401, by latest 2019/20.

NORTH WEST PROVINCE:

The construction of the new 7Mℓ Pudimoe Water Treatment Works (WTW) is at an advanced stage, which will ensure uninterrupted water supply to Huhudi community. The expected completion date for Pudimoe WTW is the end of December 2016.

In Ipelegeng; the existing water source (Wentzel dam) dried up due to the current drought situation. The water supply will fully be restored as the dam level increases. Through Municipal Water Infrastructure Grant and Water Services Operating Subsidy, the Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Municipality has prioritised the boreholes water augmentation projects to relieve the Wentzel Dam. In the interim, the water is supplied through four equipped boreholes and three water trucks. In the long term, the construction of the bulk water pipeline from Bloemhof WTW is underway which is expected to be completed by December 2017.

FREE STATE PROVINCE:

The **Thabo Mofutsanyana District Municipality** (comprising of Setsoto, Dihlabeng, Mantsopa, Phumelela, Nketoana and Maluti-A-Phofung Local Municipalities) has been hard hit by severe and persistent drought in 2015/16 financial year. The Free State Province has been declared drought stricken by Premier in August 2015. While improvements have been experienced after the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) and Local Municipalities (LMs) interventions, water rationing has been enforced to preserve and pro-long the little water available. It must be noted that very minimal rains have been received so far and as a result, the dam levels have not improved and consequently the water supply.

1. Setsoto Local Municipality

Ficksburg, Marquard and Clocolan

Ficksburg is currently dependent on Caledon River system. Due to drought, the dam levels are dropping at a higher rate. One of the main dams (Meulspruit) that can supply Clocolan, Marquard and Ficksburg is at 12%. Currently, the Water Treatment Works (WTW) are operating at 50% due to insufficient raw water supply.

My Department has drilled boreholes in Clocolan and Marquard to augment water supply. Emergency water supply scheme was completed to ensure water supply to both Marquard and Clocolan. While water supply in the three towns is currently adequate through the emergency scheme, there is still insufficient pressure on the high lying areas of the towns and this challenge is affecting 15% of the population of these towns. One water tanker has been provided to supply water to Clocolan as part of the short term intervention. My Department is currently also upgrading the raw water pipeline from Caledon to Meulspruit dam to ensure water storage long-term sustainability and the project is planned to be completed by end June 2016.

Senekal

The WTW in Senekal currently can only produce about 2 ML/day of clean water adequate to supply about 80% of the population. However, my Department together with Setsoto LM has provided seven water tankers to ferry water from Paul Roux to high lying areas in Senekal on daily basis. Furthermore, my Department is drilling boreholes which will be completed in July 2016 to also augment water supply.

2. Dihlabeng Local Municipality

In this municipality, the towns of Paul Roux, Fouriesburg and Rosendal were the most affected when coming to water supply challenges. This was mainly due to poor planning in the past for water supply infrastructure especially in the black area settlements. Through the Department endeavors to develop water supply infrastructure for all South African citizens, studies were conducted in 2009 to ensure a sustainable solution for the water supply problems that had been experienced in the three towns.

Fouriesburg

The community of Fouriesburg is getting raw water from Caledon River. Currently, a bulk water scheme was completed for sustainable water supply in Fouriesburg. There are future plans to have adequate raw water storage.

The WTW of Fouriesburg is currently being operated at 50% due to inadequate raw water supply from Caledon River which currently has low water levels due to drought. Currently, two water tankers have been provided by Dihlabeng LM to ferry water to high lying areas.

Rosendal

The WTW is currently not operational because the off storage dam is empty due to drought. The Rosendal town has been surviving on Dihlabeng LMs water tankers (4) especially the outskirts and farm areas. A total of three boreholes are operational and supplying the town. Recently, three additional boreholes were refurbished and connected. The water supply status quo is stabilised.

The Department through Regional Bulk Infrastructure (RBIG) is constructing a potable water pipeline from Paul Roux to Rosendal. This is to ensure sustainability in water supply.

Bethlehem and Paul Roux are not having challenges with water supply.

3. Mantsopa Local Municipality

Ladybrand

Ladybrand still benefits from the release of water from Katse Dam in Lesotho and no challenges experienced except for occasional pipe burst and leakages due to dilapidated and aged infrastructure.

Excelsior and Tweespruit

Boreholes are currently being refurbished in both towns of Excelsior and Tweespruit through funding provided by my Department and should be connected before end of April 2016 to improve water supply in these areas. Tweespruit has water shutdowns between 18h00 and 00h00 while Excelsior closes water from 09h00 -17h00.

4. Phumelela Local Municipality

Phumelela LM confirmed that there are no water supply challenges in most of their towns with the exception of Memel. The water rationing is currently happening between 21h00 to 05h00.

5. Nketoana Local Municipality

The Nketoana LM consists of the towns Reitz, Petrus Steyn, Arlington and Lindley. Water networks are in place in all the towns but water supply needs to be augmented.

Reitz

The WTW at Reitz has reliable water source from the Liebensbergvlei River which receives its flow from the Lesotho Highlands water scheme. The WTW is currently being upgraded to 17 ML/day to ensure water supply sustainability.

Petrus Steyn

The Middelpunt Dam is currently at 40% and the WTW has recently been re-commissioned and producing 50% of the demand in the area. A total of 15 boreholes have been drilled and connected through the Department for augmentation of water supply. The municipality is also implementing water rationing between 16h00 - 09h00.

Lindley

The Piekniek Dam is currently at 20% and the WTW has been re-commissioned and producing 40% of the demand. A total of four boreholes are also operational and augmenting water supply. The municipality is also implementing water rationing between 05h00 - 09h00.

Arlington

The Spoorweg is at 50% and the portion of the WTW is operational and supplies 30% of the demand. A total of three boreholes are operational and augmenting water supply. The municipality is implementing water rationing between 06h00 -08h00 and 17h00 - 20h00.

6. Maluti-A-Phofung Local Municipality

Qwaqwa (Phuthaditjhaba)

Qwaqwa is the worst affected town. Fika Patso Dam levels is currently at approximately 11% full. The 40 ML/day plant is now only operated at 6 ML/day due to limited raw water supply. Qwaqwa relies on daily water tankering provided by my Department from the abstraction of Sterkfontein water scheme to various villages in Qwaqwa area. Some water disruptions occurred during Easter holidays due to high demand and some local trucks breaking down. To counteract the challenge, the municipality has indicated that they will supplement with five more water tankers. My Department continues to provide seven water tankers to the community of Qwaqwa to stabilise water supply to the area since January 2016. A few boreholes have been refurbished by the LM and one drilled by Gift of the

Givers. A massive reservoir funded by my Department was erected on 2 April 2016 where the borehole water will be stored and then distributed. This should improve water supply in the area of Bolaka and water tankers will be then shifted to needy areas.

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