



**MINISTRY:
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, WATER AND SANITATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 543

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(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 10)

543. Mr M Bagraim (DA) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation:

- (1) (a) What number of wastewater treatment plants are currently in operation in the Joe Gqabi District Municipality and (b) what is the exact location of each treatment plant;
- (2) whether all the plants are functioning optimally; if not, (a) which ones are not functioning optimally and (b) what are the reasons the plants are not functioning optimally;
- (3) whether any untreated waste water is running in any stream and/or river; if so, what plans are in place to prevent this? NW1539E

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MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, WATER AND SANITATION

- (1)(a) There are 16 Wastewater treatment works (WwTW) in operation in Joe Gqabi District in the Eastern Cape Province.
- (1)(b) The exact location of each treatment plant is presented with GPS Coordinates in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Location of treatment plants in Joe Gqabi District Municipality

Description	WwTW Type	Observation	Latitude	Longitude
Aliwal North WwTW	Activated sludge	Prime Condition	-30.6799448770	26.7160608150
Mount Fletcher WwTW	Oxidation ponds	Vandalised	-30.6838888890	28.5105555560
Maclear WwTW	Activated sludge	Prime Condition	-31.0605555560	28.3377777780
Maclear WwTW	Oxidation ponds	Vandalised	-31.0607090030	28.3378840060

Description	WwTW Type	Observation	Latitude	Longitude
Prentjiesberg WwTW	Activated sludge	Operational	-31.1886054290	28.2514474910
Steynsburg WwTW	Oxidation ponds	Operational	-31.2844444440	25.8075000000
Oviston WwTW	Activated sludge	Operational	-30.6964892960	25.7636853450
Burgersdorp WwTW	Activated sludge	Prime Condition	-31.0058333330	26.3380555560
Jamestown WwTW	Oxidation ponds	Prime Condition	-31.1419444440	26.8075000000
Sterkspruit WwTW	Oxidation ponds	Vandalised	-30.5169444440	27.3686111110
Sterkspruit WwTW	Package plant	Operational	-30.5169444440	27.3686111110
Lady Grey WwTW	Oxidation ponds	Prime Condition	-30.7094444440	27.1825000000
Barkley East WwTW	Oxidation ponds	Operational	-30.9652777780	27.6044444440
Barkley East 2 WwTW	Oxidation ponds	Operational	-30.9521538460	27.5953846150
Herschel WwTW	Activated sludge	Operational	-30.6109075780	27.1590028000
Ugie WwTW	Oxidation ponds	Operational	-31.1880555560	28.2500000000

(2)(a) The Mount Fletcher, Maclear and Sterkspruit Waste Water Treatment Works are currently being monitored by my department as they are not functioning properly.

(2)(b) The three treatment works are not functioning optimally due to poor operations and maintenance, overloading and the challenge of vandalism as indicated in the table below:

Table 2: Plants that are not functioning optimally and the reasons thereof:

(a) Not functioning optimally	Process	(b) Reasons not functioning optimally
Mount Fletcher WwTW	Oxidation ponds	Poor O&M, Overloading & Vandalism
Maclear WwTW	Oxidation ponds	Poor O&M, Overloading & Vandalism
Sterkspruit WwTW	Oxidation ponds	Vandalised

(3) Yes, the three WwTW not functioning optimally are discharging partially treated effluent into the local streams. Table 3 below shows the local streams into which each plant (as mentioned above) discharges partially treated effluent.

Table 3: Streams/Rivers impacted by partially treated effluent

WWTW not functioning optimally	River
Mount Fletcher WwTW	Tokwana River
Maclear WwTW	Mooi River
Sterkspruit WwTW	Sterkspruit River

The Department, through the Eastern Cape Regional office has been in communication with the local municipalities to resolve this issue. Non-compliance letters requesting the action plan to address the issues were sent to the local municipalities. The action plan will be monitored by the Department.

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