



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Reference: 6/2/2/6

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NO 113

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 1 MARCH 2022
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 2)

113. Mrs M R Mohlala (EFF) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

Whether his department has conducted an audit of water infrastructure backlogs across the Republic; if not, why not; if so, (a) what is the extent of the backlog and (b) by what date is it envisaged that his department will have dealt with the backlogs?

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

Water infrastructure backlogs are regularly verified through the analysis of the census and annual general household surveys data from Statistics South Africa. The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) carries out audits of water and sanitation supply services infrastructure based on the Statistics South Africa data:

- (a) Out of a total of 19,149,485 households in the country, the water service infrastructure backlogs amount to 2,125,333 households, which translates to (11%).
- (b) According to the National Development Plan (NDP), by 2030, South Africans will have affordable, reliable access to sufficient safe water and hygienic sanitation. The NDP further states that service provision will vary depending on the needs of the local area and community.

Local Government is mandated by the Constitution to deliver services in all areas within their jurisdiction with the support of National and Provincial Government. However, addressing water and sanitation services backlogs is a complex moving target in the face of numerous service


The Department is not in a position to render financial assistance since the grant framework prevents the use of the Water Services Infrastructure Grant (WSIG) within metropolitan. The Urban Settlement Development Grant (USDG) administered through the Department of Human Settlements is meant for this purpose.

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DRAFT REPLY: RECOMMENDED/ ~~NOT RECOMMENDED~~/ ~~AMENDED~~


DR SEAN PHILLIPS
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DATE: 04/03/22 ✓

DRAFT REPLY: APPROVED/ NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED


MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION
DATE: 18/03/2022