



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NO 127

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(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 5)

127. Ms N N Sihlwayi (ANC) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

In light of the fact that many financially distressed municipalities have ageing and broken water and sanitation infrastructure, what are the details of the (a) interventions that have been put in place by his department to assist such municipalities to ensure that they provide quality water and sanitation services and (b) progress and/or outcomes that his department can highlight in this regard?

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

- (a) The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) has developed a new model to strengthen its role in supporting and intervening in municipalities where water and sanitation services and infrastructure are failing.

Working together with the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), National Treasury and Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA), DWS will lead the development and implementation of a range of inter-related and coordinated support measures and interventions which will include doing the following differently:


- Strengthen and extend the roles, responsibilities and capacity of water boards so that they are able to provide water and sanitation services in instances where municipalities are failing to provide the services

- Review the geographical boundaries of the water boards to make them more sustainable. This process has already started with the disestablishment of Sedibeng Water
 - Increase involvement of private sector financing and management in municipal water and sanitation services
 - Strengthen regulatory interventions based upon the results of monitoring mechanisms such as the Blue Drop, Green Drop and No Drop programmes
 - Strengthen the National Norms and Standards and put in place a framework to guide the provision of sanitation services
 - Introduce longer term interventions such as, for example, taking over the management of wastewater treatment works from municipalities for a longer prescribed period where there is continued non-compliance with norms and standards
 - More effectively link the allocation of municipal water and sanitation grants to enable support and interventions
 - Use DWS internal construction capacity for rapid deployment to address urgent intervention needs
 - Put in place appropriate financing frameworks and mechanisms for support and interventions
 - Improve coordination and linkages of the interventions made in terms of sections of various legislation
- (b) The Department is managing two infrastructure grant funding programs namely Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (RBIG) and Water Services Infrastructure Grant (WSIG) to subsidise Water Services Authorities to implement bulk projects as well as intermediate and reticulation projects. Projects that can be highlighted as examples are indicated below:
- In the **Eastern Cape** the following projects are focused on refurbishment of ageing infrastructure and associated components to improve the water services for the Makana and Sundays River Valley Local Municipalities:
 - The James Kleynhans Bulk Water Supply and Paterson Bulk Water Supply which are expected to be completed in June 2022
 - The refurbishment of the Caesar's Dam water treatment works has already been finalised
 - In the **Free State**, the following projects are underway:
 - The Edenville Bulk water supply scheme and refurbishment of Koppies WTW in the Ngwathe Local Municipality is currently under construction with an expected completion date of October 2022.
 - Refurbishment of the ageing wastewater treatment works in the town of Ladybrand at the Mantsopa Local Municipality will be completed by August 2022
 - In **Mpumalanga**, in the Msukaligwa and Steve Tshwete Local Municipalities projects under implementation are:
 - The Msukaligwa Regional Water Bulk Supply Scheme for Breyten Cluster 2 (Phase 1 & 2 of 2) includes scope of works for Refurbishment of the existing WTW and pump stations to be completed by May 2024
 - The Msukaligwa Regional Water Bulk Supply Scheme for Davel Cluster 3 also includes Refurbishment works at the Davel WTW to be completed by April 2022
 - The Steve Tshwete Water Services Phase 1 is solely dedicated to refurbishment of the Waste Water Treatment Works in Vaalbank and the expected completion date is April 2022


- The Kameelmond Wastewater Treatment Works project in the **Northern Cape** is meant to refurbish the Wastewater Treatment Works in the Dawid Kruiper Local Municipality. The expected completion date is September 2022.
- In Gauteng, DWS is implementing an intervention in Emfuleni Local Municipality in terms of Section 63 of the Water Services Act, in conjunction with Section 193 of the Constitution. In October 2021, the Department appointed Rand Water as the implementing agent for this Section 63 intervention which comprises of two major programmes in the Sedibeng District Municipality, i.e. the Sedibeng Regional Sanitation Scheme (SRSS) and the Vaal River System Intervention (VRSI). These interventions are being funded through the infrastructure grants. The objectives of the interventions are to:
 - Upgrade the current capacity sewerage of the in Emfuleni Local Municipality
 - Increase the capacity of the waste water treatment plants to meet the future demands of the sanitation infrastructure in the region
 - Optimize operation of critical pump stations and replace rising mains of the critical pump stations
 - Pipe repairs and unblocking key bulk mains, and refurbish old modules of the existing WWTW
 - Safeguard the infrastructure.

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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: 17/03/2022