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NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 730

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 20 OCTOBER 2023 (INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 41)

730. Ms D C Christians (Northern Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

- (1) With reference to the alarming state of water and sanitation infrastructure in the Northern Cape as highlighted in the recent oversight visit by the National Council of Provinces, (a) what mechanisms are in place to collaborate with provincial and local authorities to address such challenges effectively and (b) how will his department hold (i) mayors and (ii) managers accountable for misrepresentations and/or the lack of progress in improving water and sanitation infrastructure in the province;
- (2) (a) what is the timeline for when any tangible improvements may be expected in water and sanitation infrastructure in the Northern Cape and (b) how his department plans to (i) monitor progress and (ii) measure success in addressing such critical issues?

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

1(a) The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) works in collaboration with Provincial and Local Government by organising and participating in meetings to discuss service delivery challenges and solutions, provide training and skills development for municipal officials to improve operations and maintenance of water and sanitation infrastructure.

The Northern Cape Water and Sanitation Services Master Plan is also being developed to provide provincial stakeholders with a document that gives a provincial perspective and overview of the water and sanitation services supply status together with a comprehensive associated infrastructure status and future development needs. The DWS is also in the process of developing five-year Water and Sanitation Reliability Plans for each municipality to provide a comprehensive implementation plan to achieve reliable water services.

Regional Bulk Projects are then identified, validated and prioritized through a funding model based on available Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (RBIG) Provincial allocations. Infrastructure development is funded through the Water Service Infrastructure Grant, Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant, managed by the DWS and the Municipal Infrastructure Grant which is managed by COGTA. The DWS also provides project management support to municipalities when infrastructure projects are under construction to ensure appropriate use of financial resources and completion of projects.

The DWS also regulates, monitors and enforces the management of water and sanitation services in the Northern Cape through the Blue Drop, No Drop and Green Drop programs. The Green Drop report is a comprehensive assessment of the state of all wastewater treatment systems in South Africa. The Blue Drop report is a similar assessment of the state of all drinking water systems in the country and the No Drop reports on water conservation and demand management and non-revenue water.

- (i) Administrative enforcement through non-compliance notices to best practise and directives enforcing legislation are issued to municipalities and the responsible political leaders (mayors) and officials of the municipality (municipal and technical managers).
- (ii) Notices and directives are issued to municipalities failing to adhere to the regulation as stipulated in the National Water Act, in cases where municipalities continue with the contraventions and ignore directives to implement remedial actions, the DWS institute criminal and civil cases against municipalities.
- 2(a) Municipalities are required to submit Corrective Action Plans and take steps to improve water and sanitation services. However, the implementation of corrective measures can take time and are dependent on the cooperation of municipalities, the availability of funds and proper project execution. For the 2022-23 financial year, the Department is targeting completion of 14 water and sanitation projects through WSIG in the Northern Cape.

Project completed	Financial allocations	Municipality/area to benefit from projects
Williston 127 Stands Sewage Reticulation	R 9,3 million	Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality
Refurbishment of pumpstations in Danielskuil, Kuilsville and Thakalatlou Phase 2	R 13 million	Kgatalopele Local Municipality
Installation of HDPE lining for existing sewer ponds in Vanderkloof and Phillipstown AC pipe replacement	R 6 million	Renosterberg Local Municipality
Supply & Installation of pour flush precast concrete structures	R 10 million	Thembelihle_Local Municipality
Colesberg_VIP toilets in Kuyasa (Phase 2)	R 16,6 million	Umsobomvu_Local Municipality
Brandboom Refurbishment Bulk Water Supply	R 7 million	Kheis Local Municipality
Madula Ranch Water Supply Project	R 27,5 million	Joe Morolong_Local Municipality
Upgrade of wastewater pumpstations and bulk outfall sewer lines in Pampierstad	R18,5 million	Phokwane_Local Municipality
Emergency repair of Warrenton WWTW & pumpstation Phase 1	R12 million	Magareng_Local Municipality
Leseding, Kalksloot, Klippunt Water Supply	R 7 million	Dawid Kruiper_Local Municipality
Pofadder upgrading of existing water supply section 2	R 10 million	Khai-Ma Local Municipality

Project completed	Financial allocations	Municipality/area to benefit from projects
Bankhara Bodulong Bulk Water Supply extensions.	R33,45 million	Ga-segonyana Local Municipality
Kuboes Bulk Water Supply Phase 1,2 & 3	R 16,9 million	Richtersveld Local Municipality
Calvinia East Sewer - Sewer Network Installation	R11,2 million	Hantam Local Municipality

Seven projects have already been completed as indicted in the table below:

Project completed	Financial allocations	Areas benefiting from completed projects
Williston Sewage Reticulation	R 9,3 million	Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality
Refurbishment of pumpstations in Danielskuil, Kilsville and Thakalatlou (Phase 2)	R 13 million	Kgatalopele Local Municipality
Installation of HDPE lining for existing sewer ponds in Vanderkloof	R 6 million	Renosterberg Local Municipality
Supply & Installation of pour flush precast concrete structures	R 10 million	Thembelihle_Local Municipality
Colesberg VIP toilets in Kuyasa (Phase2)	R 16,6 million	Umsobomvu_Local Municipality:
Brandboom Refurbishment Bulk Water Supply Project	R 7 million	Kheis Local Municipality
Madula Ranch Water Supply Project	R 27,5 million	Joe Morolong_Local Municipality

- (b)(i) Directives are issued to non-complying municipalities to submit remedial plans that are then utilised to monitor progress. The DWS forms part of the steering committees, participates and provides support to municipalities during planning and execution of projects to improve provision of water and sanitation.
- (ii) The Green, Blue and No drop certification programmes are used to measure success.

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DRAFT REPLY: RECOMMENDED/ NOT RECOMMENDED/ AMENDED

DR SEAN PHILLIPS

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 2 11 23

DRAFT REPLY: APPROVED/ NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED

MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP

MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE:

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

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