



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2011 -10- - 4

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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 2976 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Mrs H N Ndude (Cope) is attached for your consideration.

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ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 3/10/2011

approved QS *[Signature]*
DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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MRS B E E MOLEWA, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE: 20/10/11

Error, amend & send through to Parliament
Amended

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 2976

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 23 SEPTEMBER 2011
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 30)

2976. Mrs H N Ndude to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (1) Whether her department has given mines a directive with regard to acid mine drainage (AMD); if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, (a) what is the current directive that has been given to mines regarding AMD and (b) which mines have not complied with the said directive
- (2) whether her department intends to issue a new directive to mines regarding their role in AMD; if not, why not; if so, what will the new directive include? NW3453E

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REPLY:

- (1) No, since May 2010, none of the Witwatersrand mines have been issued with any directives in respect of Acid Mine Drainage (AMD). The Department is instead working closely with the existing mines to achieve specific short-term interventions including, among others, the use of existing mine water treatment plants for the management of AMD in the area.
 - (1)(a) Falls away.
 - (1)(b) Falls away.
- (2) Yes, the Department intends to invoke sections 19 and 20 notices in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) that will direct defunct and existing Witwatersrand mines to participate in AMD management solutions. Through the Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (currently acting as an implementing agent for the short-term AMD management solution) depending on the outcome of work being done and conclusion of investigation of solutions that may be used, the mines may be issued with directives that will require them to contribute towards the costs of the implementation of the short-term solution.

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