



**environment, forestry  
& fisheries**

Department: Environment, Forestry  
and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**Ref: O2/1/5/2**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**(For written reply)**

**QUESTION NO. 835 {NW1042E}**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 15 of 2020**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: 15 May 2020**

**Ms H S Winkler (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:**

- (1) How does her Department intend to manage the disposal of personal protective equipment (PPE), given the large volume of PPEs that is being utilised during the period of the Covid-19 pandemic;**
- (2) whether her Department has implemented a PPE waste management plan; if not, why not; if so, on what date was the specified plan implemented; and**
- (3) whether all municipalities have been instructed to implement the PPE waste management plan; if not, (a) by what date is it envisaged will such a plan be implemented and (b) what is the time-frame for the implementation thereof; if so, what is the time frame for the implementation thereof?**

**835. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:**

- 1. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) waste is managed based on its source. PPE waste generated from isolation units / wards, designated quarantine facilities, points of entry (land, sea and air), self-isolation / quarantine at homes of COVID-19 suspected cases and/or patients is handled as Health Care Risk Waste.**

The PPE waste generated from households, workplaces and public places will be treated as general waste.

The Department of Health (DoH) has led the development of the COVID-19 National Public Hygiene Strategy and Implementation Plan to which the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DEFF) has contributed on waste management guidelines. There are further details on waste management guidelines under section 3.3 of the COVID-19 National Public Hygiene Strategy and Implementation Plan (attached).

2. The COVID-19 National Public Hygiene Strategy and Implementation Plan is under implementation.
3. The COVID-19 National Public Hygiene Strategy and Implementation Plan has been shared with municipalities. SALGA is part of the work-stream that led the development of this Plan, together with the waste management guidelines, under the guidance of DEFF.
  - (a) The COVID-19 National Public Hygiene Strategy and Implementation Plan is under implementation.
  - (b) The COVID-19 National Public Hygiene Strategy and Implementation Plan was finalised mid-April 2020 and has been implemented since then.

**Regards**

  
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**MS B D CREECY, MP**  
**MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT**  
**DATE: 29/5/2020**