



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref:02/1/5/2

MINISTER

QUESTION NO. 234 FOR WRITTEN REPLY: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

A draft reply to **Mr J P Parkies (Free State: ANC)** to the above-mentioned question is enclosed for your consideration.

**MS NOSIPHO NGCABA
DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

DATE:

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

**DR B E E MOLEWA, MP
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

DATE:

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 234 {CO355E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO.29 of 2017

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 10 October 2017

Mr J P Parkies (Free State: ANC) to ask the Minister of Environmental Affairs:

What is the policy of her department in cooperation with other state departments to expand employment opportunities and commercialisation of waste management (details furnished)?

CO355E

234. THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPLIES:

The Department uses the National Environmental Management Policy of 1997 from the Consultative National Environmental Policy Process (CONNEPP) of 1996 to 1998.

This policy is followed by the National Environmental Management Act, (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA), the Integrated Pollution and Waste Management Policy of 2000 and the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008) (NEMWA). We cooperate with other authorities in the different spheres of government (state departments) in implementing these policies, laws and related regulations.

I have together with the MECs for Environment in the Nine (9) Provinces established a Programme called Recycling Enterprise Support Programme (RESP) which is helping in expanding employment opportunities and commercialisation of waste recycling and waste management. This programme involves support to new entrants and emerging enterprises, SMMEs and Co-operatives as well as to incorporate the informal waste pickers.

Other programmes includes the Youth Jobs in Waste where the youth throughout the country is given employment opportunities through waste recycling. This involves cooperation with other Departments.

Through the NEMWA, the Industry Waste Management Plans which I have published the initial Section 28 Notice for, calling for stakeholders to prepare for submission are also aimed at job creation, enterprise development and diversion of waste from going to Landfill Sites.

There is Operation Phakisa Lab which we hosted for Chemicals and Waste Economy and in the Phakisa as well, the focus was job creation, contribution to economic development and diversion of waste from going to Landfill Sites. This programme is implemented in an integrated manner with other Government departments and Municipalities (see attached Waste and Chemicals Operation Phakisa Programme). The Phakisa initiatives envisage contributing approximately 127000 jobs over the next 5 years through various initiatives and role-players.

The department also participates in the broader Expanded Public Works Programme and over time working with the municipalities and the provinces has been implementing labour intensive projects that are meant to address waste management. Infrastructure development for waste management ranging from recycling (Material Recovery facilities, buy-back centers, transfer stations), composting and disposal (Landfill site rehabilitation and establishment of new) as well waste management services have been delivered through this programme. To date. In this financial year alone the Working on Waste focus area has created a total of 3425 Work Opportunities and 1351 Full Time equivalents with biasness towards employing young people (65%), women (63%) and people with disabilities (2%).