



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref: 02/1/5/2

MINISTER

QUESTION NO. 2839 FOR WRITTEN REPLY: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

A draft reply to Ms M R Shinn (DA) to the above-mentioned question is enclosed for your consideration.

**Ms Nosipho Ngcaba
DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

DATE:

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED

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

DATE:

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 2839

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 30 NW3305E

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 23 September 2011

Ms M R Shinn (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

Whether the intention of the former Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism to declare the area around the Prince Edward Island a Marine Protected Area (MPA) (details furnished) has been abandoned; if not, (a) why was the Prince Edward Island not included in the list provided in her reply to question 644 on 25 March 2011 and (b) what are the details with regard to (i) submissions received from (aa) the public and (bb) government entities in response to the proposal and (ii) work being done towards declaring the area in question around the island an MPA?

Ms M R Shinn (DA)

SECRETARY TO PARLIAMENT

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2839. THE MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS ANSWERS:

No, the intention to declare the area around the Prince Edward Island a MPA has not been abandoned.

(a) The Prince Edward Island Marine Protected Area (MPA) was not included in the list provided by the Minister in reply to Question 644 on 25 March 2011, because that list contained only the names of MPAs that had already been declared.

(b) (i) (aa) The submissions received from the public were largely in favour of the Prince Edward Island to be declared as a Marine Protected area. Submissions included support from international NGOs such as the WWF and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Only two objections were received, one of which was from a company with fishing interests in the region. The other objection was from an academic involved in Fisheries Sciences.

(bb) South African Government entities were fully consulted during the development of the proposal and were in support thereof.

(ii). The proposal to declare the Prince Edward Island as a Marine Protected area has now been amended to accommodate some of the concerns raised in the two objections, and will be taken forward during the next six months.

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