



## **environmental affairs**

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**Ref:02/1/5/2**

**MINISTER**

### **QUESTION NO. 842 FOR WRITTEN REPLY: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

A draft reply to **Mr P G Atkinson (DA)** to the above-mentioned question is enclosed for your consideration.

**MR ALF WILLS  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL (ACTING)**

**DATE:**

**DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED**

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

**DATE:**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**(For written reply)**

**QUESTION NO. 842**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 8 of 2015 {NW991E}**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: 20 March 2015**

**Mr P G Atkinson (DA) to ask the Minister of Environmental Affairs:**

- (1) Why has a national electronic permitting system not been introduced to prevent information leakage from (a) regional and (b) provincial offices on the (i) capture and (ii) relocation of (aa) animals and (bb) horn stocks;
- (2) What facilities are provided for the bulk storage of rhino horns;
- (3) Have any facilities been offered to the private sector to minimise (a) theft and (b) risk to human life; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NW991E

**842. THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS REPLIES:**

- (1) The department is in the process of developing a national electronic permitting system for all activities regulated in terms of national biodiversity and environmental legislation. In terms of the Minimum Information Security Standard, the Head of every institution has the overall responsibility for the provision and maintenance of security in his/her institution under all circumstances, including leakage of information
- (2) Due to the security risk involved, information on the facilities cannot be provided.
- (3) No facilities have been offered to the private sector to minimise (a) theft and (b) risk to human life to date. The Department of Environmental Affairs is exploring the feasibility of a national safekeeping facility or facilities for rhino horns which will possibly include provincial and private sector safe storage.

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