

**MINISTRY**

**MINERAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY**

**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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 **Memorandum from the Parliamentary Office**

**National Assembly: 1253**

Please find attached a response to Parliamentary Questionfor ***written reply*** asked **by Prof C T Msimang (IFP) to ask the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy:**

**Mr Zizamele Mbambo**

**Deputy Director General: Nuclear**

**………………/………………/2021**

Recommended/ Not Recommended

**Adv. T.S Mokoena**

**Director General: Department of Mineral Resources and Energy**

**………………/………………/2021**

Approved / Not Approved

**Mr. S.G Mantashe**

**Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy**

**………………/………………/2021**

**1253. Prof C T Msimang (IFP) to ask the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy:**

1. What is the position of the Government regarding the procurement of nuclear energy;
2. What quantity of nuclear power is targeted for purchase;
3. From whom will the nuclear energy be purchased; and
4. By what date will it be procured? NW1444E

**Reply**

1. The Integrated Resource Plan 2019 (IPR2019), Decision 8: directed the Government to commence with the preparations for a nuclear build programme to the extent of 2500 MW, at a pace and scale that the country can afford because it is a no-regret option in the long term. To implement this decision, in June 2020 the Department commenced with the preparations, including issuing a non-binding Request for Information (RFI), to test the market’s appetite for the 2500MW nuclear new build programme.

In terms of the Electricity Regulations Act, 2006 (Act No. 4 of 2006), the Department has submitted the Ministerial Section 34 determination to request the concurrence of the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) for the procurement of additional 2500MW from nuclear energy. The Department is awaiting NERSA’s decision on the Ministerial section 34 determination. Subject to the Regulator’s approval, the Department will issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the procurement of 2500MW nuclear new build programme, at a pace and the scale that the country can afford.

1. As indicated in the IRP2019 Decision 8, the Department targets to procure the 2500MW from nuclear energy.
2. The decision from whom to procure the 2500MW nuclear energy will only be known once the procurement process has been concluded and successful bidder(s) appointed. This decision has not been made at this stage because procurement has not started. The Department is still awaiting NERSA’s verdict on Ministerial section 34 determination.
3. To ensure security of energy supply and in line with the Medium-Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) 2019-2024, the Department plans to complete the procurement of the 2500MW nuclear new build programme by 2024.