

**MINISTRY**

**PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTIONNUMBER: 1796 [NW2187E]**

**INTERNAL QUESTIONPAPERNO.: 29**

**DATEOFPUBLICATION: 31 JULY2020**

**DATEOFREPLY: 18 AUGUST2020**

**1796. Ms S J Graham (DA) asked the Minister of Public Works andInfrastructure:**

Whether, given the Covid-19 pandemic whereby the iThemba land in Cape Town hasbeenearmarkedasatransitionalresidentialsitewhereidentifiedresidentsfrom informalsettlementswouldbemovedtoaspartofthere-blocking,shehasgiventhe Western Cape provincial government and/or the Housing Development Agency the powerofattorneytocommencewiththevariousstatutoryprocesses;ifnot,whynot; if so, what are the (a) relevant details and (b) anticipated time frames for the completion oftheprocess? **NW2187E**

**REPLY:**

**The Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure:**

Farm Eersteriv No. 981 Stellenbosch also known as iThemba land is a property under the custodianship of DPWI and is allocated and utilised by the South African Police Service (SAPS). In order to make available a portion of the property as requested by the DepartmentofHumanSettlements,SAPSwasrequestedtoconfirmifDPWImayproceed to release the required portion of FarmEersteriv.

The SAPS has indicated that the property is utilised as a shooting range with various Specialised Units such as Provincial training, Anti-Gang, Public Order Policing, Tactical Response as well as residential accommodation for SAPS officials. Further, the SAPS pointed out issues relating security concerns that would be brought about by the abutting housing development as the base is occupied by highly specialised operational units. The proximityoftheshootingrangetoahousingdevelopmentwassightedasaseriousconcern that would pose risks to members of thePublic.

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