

**MINISTRY FOR COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS**

**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN**

**QUESTION NUMBER 2018/1998**

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**1998. Mrs A M Dreyer (DA) to ask the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs:**

(1) Whether the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality conducted any water quality tests of any water bodies within its boundaries (a) in each of the past five financial years and/or (b) since 1 April 2018; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the details of the findings in each case;

(2) Will he furnish Mrs A D Dreyer with copies of each report? NW2157E

**Reply:**

The information was provided by the Gauteng Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs.

(1) The Water Quality subsection within the Water and Sanitation department samples predefined monitoring points within storm water channels, spruits, rivers, storm water retention ponds, pan and dams throughout the City of Ekurhuleni on a monthly basis. The purpose of this monitoring is to identify any pollution emanating from sewer blockage or illegal industrial effluent discharges.  The water samples are evaluated against the Instream Water Quality Standards of the River Forums in terms of the CMA’s monitoring of the water bodies as directed in the National Water Act.

If any of the samples test results exceeds the allowable limits, the potential type or source of pollutant is investigated to try and find the source. This information is then communicated to the relevant department to investigate, resolve and take appropriate action.

It must be noted that sometimes there are challenges with regards to sampling or monitoring points due to accessibility and/or unsuitable samples as a result of sample points being dry or stagnant water. However, the City of Ekurhuleni will at all times obtain samples under normal circumstances.

Statistics

Number of monitoring points.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | North East region | South West region |
| Monitoring points | 141 | 110 |
| Number of Lakes, Dams and storm water retention ponds and ponds | 20 | 10 |
| Number of rivers and spruits | 3 | 3 |

Analysis done over the period January 2014 to April 2018.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Actual samples | 9869 |
| Actual analysis | 138836 |

Rivers and spruits in the boundaries of the City of Ekurhuleni:

* Small portion of the Jukskei river
* Blesbokspruit
* Kaalspruit
* Swartspruit
* Elsburg spruit
* Natalspruit
* Small upper portion of Rietspruit