

**DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC ENTERPRISES**

**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR ORAL REPLY**

**QUESTION NO. 241**

**QUESTION:**

**241. Mr M Waters (DA) to ask the Minister of Public Enterprises:**

(a) How often does Eskom inspect electricity pylon;

(b) What number of inspectors does Eskom currently have;

(c) What number of pylons are there in the Republic and

(d) What preventative maintenance is being done on the power lines and pylons? NW1200E

**REPLY:**

**According to the information received from Eskom**

1. The frequency of inspections of pylons varies between 3 monthly to 10 yearly, depending on the categorisation of the infrastructure.

(b) Eskom currently has 7281 inspectors.

(c) Eskom has a total of 11 599 773 pylons across the country.

(d) Eskom conducts extensive condition monitoring time based maintenance on pylons, and powerlines according to prescribed maintenance standards. Preventative maintenance includes:

* Vegetation management - monitor vegetation under or near the powerlines to ensure that safety clearances are not compromised.
* Visual aerial inspections and ground patrol - determine the physical integrity of towers, stays, foundations, insulators, conductors, shield wires and fibre optic system.