



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref: O2/1/5/2

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 2669 {NW3057E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 27 of 2023

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Mrs V van Dyk (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

- (1) Whether, with reference to her replies to questions 2798 on 23 December 2021 and 2114 on 9 June 2022, CAS 19/09/2020 that was opened in Alexander Bay regarding the illegal cofferdam mining by Alexkor has been finalised; if not, on what date can the outcome of the case be expected; if so, what are the relevant details of the outcome;
- (2) whether she intends to collaborate with the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy to stop illegal cofferdam mining activities in the Republic, particularly in the Northern Cape; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

2669. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

- (1) The criminal investigation into this matter was finalised by the Environmental Management Inspectors ("EMIs") from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) and the case docket (Alexander Bay CAS 19/09/2020) was referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions: Northern Cape province.

- (2) The DFFE cooperates and collaborates regularly with the Department of Minerals and Energy (DMRE) on several issues including, unlawful mining activities that trigger the provisions of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended) (NEMA). The primary responsibility to enforce the provisions of the NEMA as they relate to mining activities lies with the DMRE. The DFFE provides support and continues to work with the DMRE in addressing unlawful activities related to cofferdam mining.



MS B D CREECY, MP
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

DATE: 8/9/2023