



## 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. 2684 {NW3073E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 27 of 2023

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 1 September 2023

#### **Mr D W Bryant (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:**

Whether she and/or her department has investigated the veracity of certain claims made by a certain person (name and details furnished) in a sworn statement signed at Melkbosstrand Police Station, dated 12 October 2022, in which he presented himself as an independent specialist and further presented himself to her department as the holder of a BSc Environmental Management (Chemistry) Degree; if not, why not; if so, what (a) were the results of the investigation undertaken by her department and (b) further action is being contemplated in this regard?

#### **2684. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:**

The issue regarding the accreditation and qualification of the specialist who conducted and prepared the Major Hazard Installation assessment for the various Karpowership gas to power projects was not raised during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process. This issue was raised in the media

- a) At that stage, the Department already made certain decisions on the three (3) Karpowership gas-to-power applications for Environmental Authorisation (EA), and these decisions were before myself on appeal.

On 28 August 2023, the Department issued an interim appeal decision on the Karpowership gas-to-power project in Coega. In the interim appeal decision, the Minister recorded that he is unable to make an informed decision on the appeal due to the various gaps in information, including the status of the Major Hazard Installation Assessment Report, amongst others. The Minister therefore directed that Karpowership provide the Department with, amongst others, confirmation of the relevant qualifications, accreditation and experience of the specialist who conducted and prepared the Major Hazard Installation assessment, within seven (7) days of the interim appeal decision.

b) The appeal is still under consideration.



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

DATE: 8/9/2023