

**MINISTRY OF MINERAL RESOURCES & ENERGY**

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**Memorandum from the Parliamentary Office**

**National Assembly: 2723**

Please find attached a response to Parliamentary Questionfor***written reply*** asked**byMr K J Mileham (DA)** to ask the **Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy**

**Mr. Tseliso Maqubela**

**Deputy Director-General: Mineral & Petroleum Regulation**

**………………/………………/2020**

Recommended/ Not Recommended

**Adv. T.S Mokoena**

**Director General: Department of Mineral Resources and Energy**

**………………/………………/2020**

Approved / Not Approved

**Mr. S.G Mantashe**

**Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy**

**………………/………………/2020**

**2723. Mr K J Mileham (DA) to ask the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy:**

(1) Whether the Astron Energy refinery in Milnerton intends to return to operational service in the near future; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, by what date is the refinery envisaged to return to full production capacity;

(2) whether (a) a safety and (b) environmental inspection and/or audit will be conducted prior to the facility returning to operational status; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? NW3492E

**Reply:**

1. The Department does not have specific date at which the refinery is scheduled to start operating, what was shared with the Department from Astron Energy is that the assessments of the incident arestill ongoing and there is no firm date of when the refinery would come back to be operational.
2. Safety and environmental inspectionsand/or audit do not fall within the ambit of the Department of Mineral, Resources and Energy.