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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 3128 (NW4200E)
INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 33 of 2023

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Mrs Y N Yako (EFF) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

With regard to the dried-up slurry that is dumped and heaped close to the residential areas around the power plants in Lephalale, which must be causing health hazards for the communities during windy seasons, what steps has her department, in collaboration with Eskom, taken to manage the spread of deadly fine particles that get swept into the surrounding communities?

3128. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

Medupi and Matimba Eskom power stations in Lephalale under the jurisdiction of the Waterberg District Municipality. Dust generated from the ash dumps is managed as part of the atmospheric emission licence conditions issued to the power stations by the district municipality. Eskom is required to continuously spray water on ash dumps to suppress dust generation, monitor dust fall-out in accordance with the National Dust Control Regulations and Standards, and report monthly to the Waterberg District Municipality on the implementation of the Dust Mitigation and Monitoring Programme.

Accordingly, the Honourable Member is requested to direct further questions to the relevant officials within the Waterberg District Municipality.

MS B D CREECY, MP

MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

DATE: 3.110 2023