environmental aFairs

Department: Environmental Affairs

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 49 {NW1006E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 1 of 2019

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 20 June 2019

Mr N Paulsen (EFF) to ask the Minister of Environmental Affairs:

What is the total amount of revenue collected from the leasing of state-owned forests in the 2018-19 financial year?

# 49. THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT FORESTRY AND FISHERIES REPLIES:

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) indirectly manages 230 264 hectares of State plantations (Category A) through lease agreements signed with four forestry companies. The companies are MTO Forestry (Pty) Ltd; Amathole Forestry (Pty) Ltd; SiyaQhubeka Forest (Pty) Ltd; and Singisi Forest Products (Pty) Ltd. In addition to this, an area of 187 320.27 hectares is managed by the South African Forestry Company (SAFCOL), which is a State-owned company.

In January of every year, the forestry companies pay lease rental into the DAFF bank account. The lease rental money is then transferred and invested with the Public Investment Corporation (PIC) in an interest bearing account which is administered by DAFF. The balance as of 31 March 2019 is R788 397 015.

Rental Money collected during the 2018/19 financial year

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Forestry  package | Leaseholder | Date of lease  signature | Extent (ha) | Lease rental collected  from 01 April 2018 to  31 March 2019 in Rands |
| MTO | MTO Pty Ltd. | 24 Jan 2005 | 57 061(ha) | 4 708 502,31 |
| AMATHOLE | Amathole Pty Ltd | 24-Jan-2005 | 25 405(ha) | 3 273 446,00 |
| SQF | SQF Pty Ltd | 06 Mar 2001 | 21 956(ha) | 14 113 388,54 |
| SINGISI | Singisi Forests  Products Pty Ltd | 06 Mar 2001 | 76 563(ha) | 10 485 743,67 |
| Total | | | | 32 581 080,40 |

Source: Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Regards



## MS B CREECY, MP

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

DATE: . . ...