



**forestry, fisheries  
& the environment**

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

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Ref: O2/1/5/2

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**(For written reply)**

**QUESTION NO. 770 {NW947E}**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 9 of 2022**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: 11 March 2022**

**Mr M N Paulsen (EFF) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:**

(a) To whom is her department currently leasing the Zingcuka Forest between Keiskammahoek and Hogsback and (b) what is the (i)(aa) duration and (bb) financial implications of the specified lease agreement and (ii) nature of community involvement in the management of the forest?

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

- a) The Amatola Forestry Company (Pty) Ltd is currently leasing the Zingcuka Forest from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE).
- b) (i) (aa) The lease agreement is for a period of seventy (70) years. The lease agreement was concluded and/or signed in 2005.
- (i) (bb) In terms of the lease agreement, the Amatola Forestry Company pays market-related rentals to the DFFE annually. The DFFE, through Kabelo Land Restitution invests the rentals in an interest-bearing account with the Public Investment Corporation (PIC).

- (ii) Communities are not involved in the day-to-day management of the Zingcuka Forest. Communities that have land rights in the forest will receive rentals after their rights have been confirmed by the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD). There are also shares in the company, currently held by SAFCOL, that have been reserved for these communities.

**Regards**



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

**DATE:** 25/03/2022