

**MINISTRY**

**MINERAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY**

**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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 **Memorandum from the Parliamentary Office**

**National Assembly : 898**

Please find attached a response to Parliamentary Questionfor **written reply** asked by **Prof C T Msimang (IFP) to the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy:**

**Mr T. Maqubela**

**Deputy Director General: Mineral and Petroleum Regulation**

**………………/………………/2022**

Recommended/ Not Recommended

**Ms P Gamede**

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

**………………/………………/2022**

Approved / Not Approved

**Mr. S.G Mantashe**

**Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy**

**………………/………………/2022**

**898.** **Prof C T Msimang (IFP) to ask the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy:**

In view of section 31BB of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Act 107 of 1998, which empowers him to designate persons as environmental mineral resource inspectors to monitor compliance of NEMA, as of 1 March 2022, what (a) total number of environmental mineral resource inspectors are currently employed by his department, (b) is the total breakdown of the inspectors in each province, (c) specific factors are taken into consideration to determine the number of environmental mineral resource inspectors required in each province and (d) prescribed standards are in place to ensure that the monitoring and compliance functions fulfilled by the environmental mineral resource inspectors give effect to NEMA? **NW1079E**

**Reply:**

(a) Total number of environmental inspectors is 94

(b) The breakdown in respect of Environmental Mineral Resource (EMRIs) in each province is as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| No. Seq | REGIONS  | EMRIs |
| 1. | Head Office  | 16 |
| 2. | Limpopo | 12 |
| 3. | Northwest  | 14 |
| 4. | Mpumalanga  | 12 |
| 5. | Northern Cape  | 10 |
| 6. | Free State  | 7 |
| 7. | KwaZulu Natal  | 7 |
| 8. | Gauteng  | 7 |
| 9. | Western Cape  | 6 |
| 10 | Eastern Cape  | 3 |

(c) A number of dynamics are taken into consideration when Inspectors are assigned with the functions and responsibilities, which may amongst others include the Inspectors capacity (skills and experience) required to perform functions relating to the dynamics of such a province’. The environmental challenges and dynamics of a particular Region/Province would also form the basis of the capacity required to deal with such.

(d) All the EMRIs have undergone the necessary training by an assigned Institution with more focus on the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998). The training largely revolves around the functions they need to perform as per the relevant legislation, primarily being NEMA. All the Performance standards set for the inspectors in this regard revolve around NEMA. The adherence to the standards in this regard are duly monitored by their managers and supervisors who are graded as Grade 1 EMRIs.