



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

Ref: 02/1/5/2

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 3203 {NW4276E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 34 of 2023

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 13 October 2023

Mr D W Bryant (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

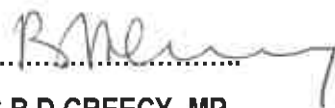
Whether any (a) charges and (b) fines were issued in terms of the Minimum Emissions Standards of 2015, relating to (i) the recent refusal of Sasol's application for sulphur dioxide emission limits at its Secunda operations and (ii) any other specified incidents of noncompliance at the Secunda operations in the past three years; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

3203. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

(a)(b)

- (i) Sasol Secunda Synfuels Operation non-compliance with provisions of the Atmospheric Emission License is still under investigation. The recently refused application for postponement of compliance with the minimum emission standards with respect to the sulphur dioxide emission limit by the facility has been appealed by the applicant, and the matter is under review by the Minister.
- (ii) In relation to other environmental laws, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment has carried out comprehensive compliance verification aimed at determining

Sasol Secunda Synfuels Operation's compliance status in relation to various environmental authorisations following allegations of vanadium discharge into the Vaal River. After these claims were verified, criminal investigations were initiated. There is currently a criminal case with reference number Secunda CAS 19/06/2021 in court. This case relates to contraventions of section 49A(1)(a) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 and contraventions of Section 26(1)(a) of the National Environmental Management, Waste Act, Act 59 of 2008. The next court appearance is on 20 November 2023 for a plea.


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MS B D CREECY, MP
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT
DATE: ...21.10.2023