

## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

## QUESTION 1017

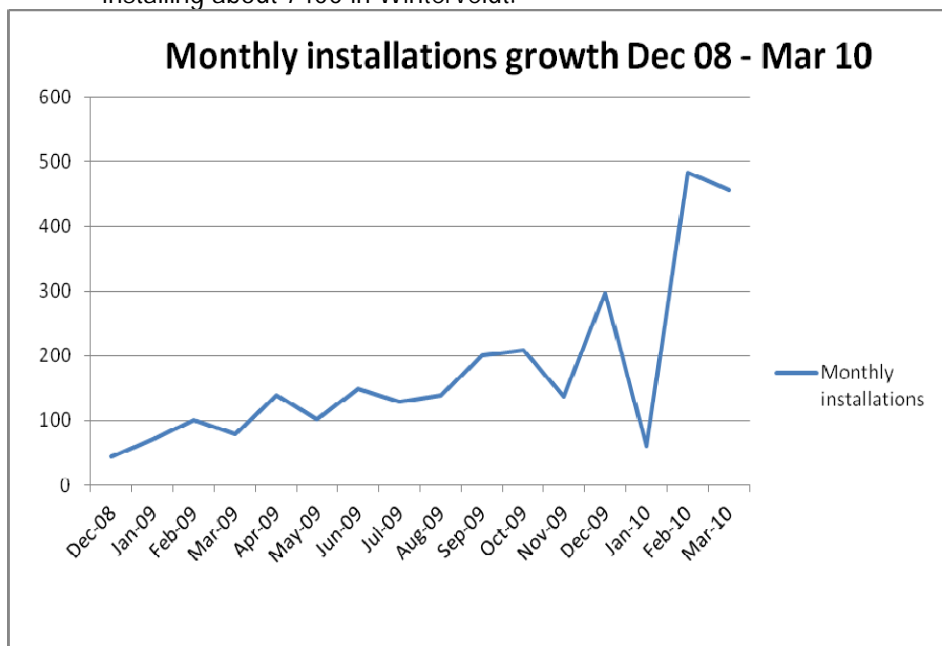
## QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

**1017. Mr S C Motau (DA) to ask the Minister of Energy:**

- (1) Whether the target to install 1 000 000 solar water heaters (SWHs) in households by 2013 will be met; if not, how many are projected to be installed; if so, (a) how many SWHs have been installed since commencement of the programme, (b) at what cost and (c) what (i) impact has this had on electricity saving and (ii) are the further relevant details;
- (2) whether she intends conducting a survey to establish these facts; if not, why not; if so, (a) what will the impact be on electricity saving, (b) what will the cost be to complete the task and (c) how many SWHs are projected to be installed in the country;
- (3) whether she has been informed of allegations that SWHs of an inferior quality, which are not as energy efficient as claimed, are being installed in some households; if so, what are the relevant details; if not,
- (4) Whether she will investigate these allegations; if not, why not; if so, what (a) steps have been taken or (b) will be taken to rectify this situation? NW1163E

**Reply**

- (1) Yes the target will be met.
- (a) Eskom has installed approximately 1500 systems as indicated in the graph and government is installing about 7400 in Winterveldt.



- (b) R12 683 269 (Eskom) and R74 million allocated by government.
- (c)(i) In terms of savings the Measurement and Verification of the programme has started and we will report on measured savings once the data has been finalised and collated.

- (ii) The program has been extended beyond Eskom in the past few months with the introduction of a government-led initiative. The funding framework was only confirmed in March 2010 with the determination by NERSA of the MYPD.
- (2) This survey has been done and can be seen in the draft SWH Framework released 5 November 2009.
- (3) Suppliers installing systems on the SHW programme would have had their systems tested to the SANS national standard. This includes a thermal test on the systems. The national standard has a minimum energy rating but not a maximum. Therefore there will be systems that are not as efficient in heating water as others, but they passed the minimum standard to heat water for their size according to the National standard.  
A larger concern would be that there is no maximum limit placed on the systems, which results in systems being oversized, with the potential to heat water to a high temperature that could be dangerous to end consumers.
- (4) This allegation was investigated and found that all systems abide by the minimum standards as set out by SABS. Every system will have a difference performance depending on type of system, area and usage patterns. The identified issue here is that no maximum performance standard exists which poses a problem of providing excessively hot water to homes. This is what is being investigated and will be managed.