



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM
AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

OFFICE OF THE MEC

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Programme/Sub-Programme: Office of the MEC

THE HONORABLE MS. N N BOYCE
SPEAKER OF KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE
241 LANGALIBALELE STREET
PIETERMARITZBURG
3200

WRITTEN REPLY

**NO. 275/2026 MS H LIDGETT (DA) TO ASK THE MEC FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:**

With reference to the Climate Change Act, 2024:

**1. WHICH PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR LEADING THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE ACT IN KWAZULU-NATAL?**

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), and the Climate Change Act, 2024, the Member of the Executive Council (MEC) responsible for Environmental Affairs leads the technical coordination of the implementation of the Climate Change Act at the provincial level. In particular, Section 17 of the Climate Change Act assigns the MEC the responsibility of conducting climate change needs assessments and response planning within the province. In fulfilling this mandate, the MEC also oversees and coordinates the implementation of other relevant provisions of the Act, including those contained in Section 7, to ensure a coherent and effective provincial response to climate change.

2. WHAT CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSIBILITIES FALL UNDER:

a. EDTEA;

- Leads and coordinates the implementation of the Climate Change Act.
- Develops and coordinates the Provincial Climate Change Needs Assessment and Response Implementation Plan;



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- Coordinates climate change sectoral actions across provincial departments and municipalities.
- Provide technical guidance, capacity building and support
- Monitors and reports on the implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.
- Facilitating capacity building, stakeholder engagement and access to research and climate information.
- Coordinates the Intergovernmental Committee on Climate Change (IGCCC).

3. WHO IS THE POLITICAL OFFICE-BEARER AND SENIOR OFFICIAL ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATING THE PROVINCE'S CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE?

MEC Rev, Zondi is responsible for technical coordination and implementation.

The Head of Department, Dr NG Zulu

The Head of overall Environmental Management Programme, Dr Dlamini,

The Director responsible for Climate Change, Ms N Walingo

4. HAS THE PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FORMALLY APPROVED THE DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES BETWEEN EDTEA AND THE OFFICE OF THE PREMIER;

This matter is currently being finalized. The Heads of the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA), the Office of the Premier, and the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA) will formalize the institutional arrangements and responsibilities arising from the Climate Change Act through a jointly endorsed position paper. It is envisaged that the position paper will subsequently be submitted to Cabinet for consideration and formal adoption.

5. IF SO, WILL THE MEC PROVIDE A COPY OF THE RELEVANT RESOLUTION OR POLICY?

Not yet. When it is ready it will be provided.

6. WHAT ROLE DOES THE PREMIER'S INTERGOVERNMENTAL FORUM PLAY IN COORDINATING THE PROVINCIAL CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE;

Office of the Premier to respond.

7. HAS THE PREMIER'S INTERGOVERNMENTAL FORUM MET IN ITS CAPACITY AS THE PROVINCIAL FORUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE?

Office of the Premier to respond.



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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

8. WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE KWAZULU-NATAL CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN?

The KwaZulu-Natal Climate Change Strategy and Implementation Plan is currently in its third year of implementation. Progress is monitored through the Intergovernmental Committee on Climate Change (IGCCC), which operates under the leadership of the Head of Department and is coordinated through the Head of Programme.

9. HAS THE STRATEGY BEEN APPROVED BY THE PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL;

The Strategy was approved on 04 October 2023.

10. WHAT ACTIONS HAS EDTEA TAKEN TO PREPARE THE PROVINCE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE ACT?

- Contributed to the development of technical guidelines required to support the implementation of responsibilities outlined in the Climate Change Act.
- Reviewed the KwaZulu-Natal Climate Change Strategy and Implementation Plan to identify gaps and ensure alignment with the provisions of the Climate Change Act.
- Continued to strengthen climate change governance and coordination through established provincial climate change structures.
- Enhanced the capacity of provincial departments and municipalities through training, awareness, and skills development programmes.
- Developed tools and guidance documents to support the integration and implementation of climate change measures across sectors.
- Supported municipalities in incorporating climate change considerations into planning, policy development, and decision-making processes.
- Improved climate information and data management systems, including the updating of the provincial greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory.
- Facilitated stakeholder engagement and collaboration among national departments, municipalities, academia, civil society, the private sector, and development partners to promote coordinated implementation of climate change initiatives.
- Mobilised climate finance and technical assistance through partnerships with national and international programmes to support climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives.



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**11. WHAT IS THE TOTAL CLIMATE CHANGE BUDGET ALLOCATED TO EDTEA FOR:
R14 041 848 (TOTAL FOR 3 FINANCIAL YEARS)**

a. 2024/25;

R5 400 000,00 (Adaptation: R3m., Mitigation: R2.4m)

b. 2025/26;

R3 641 848,00 Adaptation: Transformative Riverine Management Programme - R1.2m.,
Mitigation: Green and Smart Municipality - R2m., and International funding: R441 848)

c. 2026/27.

R5 000 000,00 Adaptation: Transformative Riverine Management Programme - R2m,
Mitigation: Green and Smart Municipality R2m, and Just Transition: R1m)

**12. WHAT IS THE TOTAL CLIMATE CHANGE BUDGET ALLOCATED TO THE OFFICE OF
THE PREMIER FOR THE SAME FINANCIAL YEARS?**

Office of the Premier to respond.

13. WILL THE MEC PROVIDE A BREAKDOWN OF THESE BUDGETS, INDICATING:

a. The programme or project;

Transformative River Management Programme (TRMP)

Green & Smart Municipality Programme (GSM)

b. The amount allocated;

TRMP: R1.1 mil

GSM: R2 mil.

Future Fund: R441 848

c. The amount spent;

All of it as per allocation

d. Any underspending or reallocation.

R3,3m underspending in 2025/26 due to poor response by municipalities.



- Office of the Premier to respond.

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COMPILED BY: _____ DR B R DLAMINI CHIEF DIRECTOR: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES DATE: _____	
RECOMMENDED BY: _____ DR. N.G. ZULU HEAD OF DEPARTMENT DATE: _____	APPROVED BY: _____ REV. K.M. ZONDI, MPL MEC FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS DATE: _____



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