



environment, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref: O2/1/5/2

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES (For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 460 {CW604E}
INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 28 of 2021

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 27 August 2021

Mr A Arnolds (Western Cape: EFF) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

- (1) Whether there has been compliance with the 30-day requirement for payment of service providers' invoices; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) what are the consequences for noncompliance with the 30-day payment requirement?

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

1. The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment's performance with regards to 30 days payments is outlined below.

Month	No. Invoices paid within 30days	No. Invoices paid after 30days	% Compliance
April 2021	1 079	4	99%
May 2021	1 786	145	92%
June 2021	1 663	55	97%
July 2021	1 461	104	93%

The following are the common reasons for late and/or non-payment of invoices:

- The number of positive covid 19 infections within the finance branch resulted in a higher number of invoices not being processed timeously.

- The rotation of staff also impacted on the turnaround time for project managers to certify and confirm the satisfactory delivery of goods and services. This in turn delayed the approval of invoices for payment to service providers.
2. In the majority of instances delays are due to factors beyond the control of staff. The Department has developed an improvement control process in order to receive specific reasons for late payment for each invoice paid after 30 days, and if necessary implement consequence management.

Regards



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

DATE: 10/09/2021