

1. **Spotlight: The department of water affairs told me that when Senzo Mchunu was appointed in 2021, he received a report that showed that the Giyani project had been “marred by serious challenges of poor management and corruption which had led to the loss of billions of rands and the project stalling for several years”. Do you have any comment on this?**

Lepelle: The challenges have been ironed out for successful delivery of the project. The project has reached practical completion and Lepelle Northern Water (LNW) is busy with the commissioning and finalisation of the snag list.

2. **In 2016, the department of water affairs and sanitation [told SCOPA](#) that Lepelle had incurred R1.3 billion in irregular spending on the Giyani project in that year. What is Lepelle's response?**

An investigation in this regard is underway and LNW cannot comment on a matter that is *sub judice*.

3. **In 2018, the SIU [told SCOPA](#) that Lepelle had awarded contracts for the work on the Giyani project in an irregular manner, that the costs of drilling boreholes and supplying the treatment plant had been artificially inflated, that the treatment plant that had been built only worked for a month and that the communities still weren't connected to the water system. Does Lepelle have a response to this?**

The challenges have been ironed out for successful delivery of the project. The project has reached practical completion and LNW is busy with the commissioning and finalisation of the snag list.

4. **In June, the SIU [obtained](#) a preservation order to freeze the pension benefits of an ex-manager at Lepelle (Carel Schmahl) in connection with the allegedly irregular tenders that had been awarded for work on the Giyani project. Does Lepelle wish to comment on this?**

LNW reserves comment as the matter is *sub judice*.

Questions sent by Spotlight. Responses are from the spokesperson for Lepelle Northern Water, Yolande Nel.