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Department:  
Trade, Industry and Competition  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

### QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

#### QUESTION NO. 1386

**Mr R W T Chance (DA) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:**

What discussions has he held or intend to hold with relevant departments to explore an alternative development model for the Vhembe District Municipality in Limpopo as an alternative to the Musina-Makhado Special Economic Zone, whose focus on a metallurgical complex is a bad fit with the three pillars of his department, which are decarbonisation, diversification, and digitalisation? NW1548E

#### REPLY:

The Musina-Makhado Special Economic Zone (MMSEZ) comprises of two (2) sites. The North Site, known as Antonvilla (3500 ha), which is located in Musina; and is approximately 15 km southeast of Beitbridge Border Post between South Africa and Zimbabwe. The site is planned for light- and medium manufacturing industries, including logistics, and agro-processing.

The South Site, known as Mopani (7262 ha), is located in Makhado, it is approximately 60 km north of Louis Trichardt and 40 km from the Northern Site. The site was planned for an energy and metallurgical cluster, along with other associated heavy industries.

None of the two mentioned sites are operational, despite the Southern Site being designated on, 01 December 2017. To ensure the operationalisation of the MMSEZ, the Limpopo Provincial Government, through the Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, has establish a provincial steering committee, chaired by Head of the Department for Limpopo Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET), Dr Rathumbu.



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Municipal Managers from the Vhembe District Municipality, Musina Local Municipality, and Makhado Local Municipality, form part of this steering committee. Senior representatives from other departments, such as the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), and the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI), actively participate, whilst key State-Owned Entities (SOEs) crucial to infrastructure (Eskom, Transnet, relevant Water Boards, SANRAL), are invited to the meetings based on the needs.

**the dtic**, through the SEZ unit, actively participates in the steering committee and uses it to discuss and monitor the implementation of the MMSEZ, to ensure that it complies with the required Environmental Regulatory Frameworks and aligns with the Department's Industrial Policy, which focuses on - decarbonisation, diversification and digitalisation.

To align with the decarbonisation agenda, the MMSEZ has reported they have signed an MoU with the Red Rocket Renewable Energy, to establish a renewable energy facility on the Southern Site with an investment value of R10 billion and a generating capacity of 500 MVA.

**-END-**