



**MINISTRY  
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER: 6189 (NW6919E)**

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**QUESTION:**

**6189. Mr G Michalakis (DA) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:**

Whether her department is involved in the stalled Western Holdings, Rheederpark Extension 2, land donation; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what (a)(i) are the full details of the current status of the Western Holdings, Rheederpark Extension 2, land donation, which has been pending for more than 10 years and (ii) exact stage is the process currently stalled, (b) specific administrative, legal or procedural obstacles are preventing the finalisation of the land donation and (c) department and/or officials are directly responsible for resolving the obstacles? NW6919E

**REPLY:**

(1) The National Department of Human Settlements is not directly involved in the stalled Western Holdings, Rheederpark Extension 2 land donation matter, and no engagements have been held with the Matjhabeng Local Municipality to date.

However, the Department requested the Provincial Department of Human Settlements to provide clarity on the matter. The Province has since reported as follows:

(a) The Matjhabeng Local Municipality has formally requested Harmony Gold Mining Company Ltd to donate Farm Vlakvlei RE/121, which forms part of the Western Holdings mining area.

(i) Records obtained from the Matjhabeng Local Municipality confirm that Farm Vlakvlei RE/121 is privately owned by Harmony Gold Mining Company Ltd. The Municipality identified the land for potential human settlements development and accordingly submitted a formal request to the owner for donation. To date, no formal response has been received from the landowner.

(ii) As a result, the process is currently stalled at the stage where the landowner has not yet provided consent for the donation or transfer of ownership. Consequently, the Municipality cannot proceed to formal registration or development planning on the property.

(2) The Provincial Department of Human Settlements further indicated that:

(a) The Municipality has taken preliminary steps to formally request Harmony Gold Mining Company Ltd for the donation of Farm Vlakvlei RE/121, but no response has been received from the landowner, which remains the primary constraint to progress.

The key administrative and procedural obstacles identified are as follows:

- a. The absence of a response from the landowner, Harmony Gold Mining Company Ltd, to the Municipality's written request for land donation;
- b. The land remains under private ownership, as verified through Deeds Registry records (Title Deed T33509/2003);
- c. There are no servitudes or transfer authorisations recorded in favour of either the Municipality or the Department; and
- d. The Department of Human Settlements has no legal standing to compel a private entity to donate land.

It should be noted that the land donation request was initiated and is being managed at Municipal level. The National Department, through the Provincial Department of Human Settlements and the Housing Development Agency (HDA), stands ready to provide technical support and legislative guidance to the Municipality upon receipt of an official request.