

Dear Hon Minister Sihle Zikalala

As DPWI officials we are very concerned with the recent developments by some of your senior Management decision to collapse the core function of the National Department of Public works by moving over hundred funded projects to Implementing Agencies such as IDT, COEGA and DBSA. This is going to open up corrupt activities as there is no stringent control outside Public works on how Public funds will be utilised. Mr Wasnaar Hlabangwane said this is a mandate from you sir in order to accelerate expenditure which has an impact on your 2024 elections as a political party. Our Concern is the nature on how approvals were also acquired where it is evident that this is an organized plan of action involving high ranking officials to syphon money out of Public work with the help of the implementing Agencies. High level will sway, with help of these implementing Agencies over the awarding of contracts to their service providers will cause projects to be assigned to unqualified companies controlled by Mr Wasnaar Hlabangwane's cronies. These companies will be permitted to inflate Prices artificially, and return a portion of their illegal profit to dishonest officials like Mr Hlabangwane and also support particular political candidates in upcoming 2024 elections.

All the above is orchestrated in the name of implementing so called turnkey projects to enhance performance on infrastructure delivery for Public Works and the piloting of this planned to be done by different implementing Agencies yet public works is also an implement agency. All these has been done on an urgent basis without proper regulatory approvals and consultations in order to avoid being held accountable. Minister keep in mind that this will increase an already ballooned infrastructure budget as a certain percentage will be paid to implementing agencies for being a middle man between public works and service providers.

History indicates that these implementing agencies have failed before since some projects are still running with over budget, time overruns and with poor quality and management since these implementing Agencies appears to lack capacity.

The Idea of moving these projects seems to be accelerating expenditure before the next elections, this is evident on the attached fast tracked approvals acquired by Ms Kolele, Mr Hlabangwane and others.

Mr Wasnaar Hlabangwane seems to be the pillar of Public works in ensuring that he controls using amendments of delegations to tailor them to his powers. He serves in all committees that are concerned with financial decisions of public works infrastructure such as Variation Order Committees, National Bid Adjudication Committee and approves all extension of times with costs and waiver of penalties, all these come at a cost to service providers since his signature is of greater monetary value.

All the above will be a lasting legacy even after he is long gone as Ms Thembeke Kolele who happens to be a very close ally of his is under his wing to continue with the plan of ensuring that public works continue to fund his expensive life style during his retirement period.

The aim of this letter to you is a request to thoroughly investigate the real reason for introduction of turnkey procurement method, moving of projects to different implementing agencies, the current projects that badly managed by these implementing agencies and the amendments of delegations that gives controlling powers to Mr Wasnaar Hlabangwane from collapsing the Department by his shenanigans. It is important that the Minister and the DG as accounting officers take this matter very seriously since this is not the only or first report regarding the unscrupulous behaviour of Mr Wasnaar Hlabangwane and nothing seems to be done about it.

The most concerning thing is that now public works is attached to ANC yet it is supposed to non-politically affiliated and serve the People of South Africa regardless of race, political affiliation or religion etc.

With Thanks

Concerned officials.