



**DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC ENTERPRISES  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO.: 2358**

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**2358. Mr G R Morgan (DA) to ask the Minister of Public Enterprises:**

(1) Whether he has been informed of the security risks that the unguarded railway line through Kloof in the eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality poses to surrounding communities since it gives criminals access to their properties; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so,

(2) Whether Transnet Rail Freight and the railway police are prepared to conduct ongoing enforcement operations along this stretch of railway line to improve security for the surrounding community; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

(3) Whether Transnet Rail Freight intends to station permanent guards at sections of this railway in order to improve security for the surrounding community; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

(4) Whether Transnet Rail Freight is prepared to offer an ongoing stakeholder engagement with relevant stakeholder bodies and civic associations involved in improving security in that area; if not, why not; if so, what (a) are the relevant details and (b) is the (i) name, (ii) designation and (iii) contact details of each person in Transnet Rail Freight with whom the community should be engaging?

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**REPLY**

(1) Yes, two enforcement operations were conducted over the past six months. During these joint operations different approaches of dealing with the various forms of crime were used including the mophotouch machine (fingerprint identification) with the intention of identifying criminal elements in the surrounding areas. Guards have been deployed on an *ad-hoc* basis as and when requested by the community in order to control the influx of trespassers.

(2-3) At this stage it is not Transnet's intention to permanently deploy guards to this area. However, it should be noted that Transnet is currently monitoring the situation via its engagements with the Community Forum in order to assess the risk and deploy guards on an ad-hoc basis.

(4) Yes, Transnet has started and is willing to participate in these ongoing stakeholder engagements with all the relevant bodies and civic associations. The company is also encouraging the community to continue to mobilise and assist in fighting crime in the area. The Transnet Freight Rail (TFR) Security and Communications Departments have already made inroads in this community through their interactions with the community structures where some decisions were made including regular patrols by TFR, completing the erection of a fence by the Community Forum and TFR infrastructure's pledge to make the company's signage visible.