

REPORT FOR JANUARY 2020

ON SITE VISITATIONS

- Harmony Gold's Doornkop Operations and Slovoville


COMMENTS ON:

- Integrated Vaal River System Strategy Meeting Minutes (Phase 3).
- Ergo Mining (Pty) Ltd: The Valley Silts Project, Riverlea and Booysens Reserve, Johannesburg. Draft Environmental Impact Assessment. DMRE Ref. No. GP 184.
- Application for the Klipspruit Colliery expansion.
- Application for prospecting rights on Farm Zandfontein, North West Province.
- Application FOR A MINING RIGHT BY RIVANET MINING AND EXPLORATION (PTY) LTD

NEWS MEDIA

- Dennis Tshetlhane – SABC 2 regarding illegal chrome mining
- Reuters. Helen Reid.

RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

-  [Stichting Onderzoek Multinationale Ondernemingen](#)
[Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations](#)
(Virginia Sandjojo): “Mind the Gap: 3d. Irresponsibly disengaging to avoid responsibility for addressing impacts and providing remedy” (3.d.1. “Mintails’ strategies of disengagement in South Africa”)
- Ntsako Mabasa: MSc Geochemistry University of the Free State. Focus on gold tailings dam in Orkney - design and environmental impact.
- Felicia Lufuno Nemathanga of the Inkomati-Usuthu CMA (Manager: Water Resource Utilisation): Examining the Efficacy of Mining Policies and Legislation for the Reclamation of Mined Lands in South Africa.
- Ngaki Mogopodi: Trees and Climate Change (West Rand gold fields)
- Rosina Nkuna (Ph.D. candidate). Institute for the development of energy for African Sustainability, UNISA
- Tiyani Maluleke: MSc student with the University of Pretoria (supervisor, Dr Roger Diamond): project on Radon Migration in Groundwater.

ENGAGEMENTS

- Webber Wenzel Attorneys re Dilokong Chrome Mine and the alleged illegal sinking of the TMT Shaft and the establishment of the Waste Dump on Mooihoek 2 within the Limpopo Province.
- Gold Fields’ South Deep Mine regarding environmental tours, lectures and social programmes during 2020.

- Sibanye Stillwater: Engagements with Mr Neal Froneman, Mr Niel Pretorius, Mr Grant Stuart and officials regarding *inter alia* :
 - The FSE's involvement in the platinum mining operations within the Western Limb of the Bushveld Igneous Complex in the FSE's capacity as:
 - Member of the DWS' Elands/Hex Catchment Management Forum,
 - Member of the DEA's Waterberg Bojanala Priority Area Multi Stakeholder Reference Group Meeting on the WBPA Ambient Air Quality,
 - Registered interested and affected Party in the Tharisa Mine's Closure and Rehabilitation Optimisation Project which proposes alternative backfill strategy for the pit voids
 - Interested party in the future land use options for the region in association with Prof. Michael Solomon, a co-director of the FSE,
 - Environmental consultant for the Legacy Group of Hotels with reference to its lodges in the Pilanesberg National Park (Kwa Maritane and Bakubung).
 - The proposed reclamation operations by Crown Gold Recoveries of the Soweto Cluster Mine dumps and the utilisation of Sibanye-Stillwater's Regional Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) for deposition and the transportation of slurry to the Cooke Plant and Central Processing Plant (with reference to the Gauteng Province's Mining Belt Regional Spatial Planning Policy, in which the FSE was involved).
 - The closure application of the Ezulwini Mine.
 - The acquisition by DRDGold Limited for gold assets associated with Sibanye-Stillwater's West Rand Tailings Retreatment Project (Far West Gold Recoveries).
 - The North West University's proposed multi- and transdisciplinary research project titled "*Towards Proactive Activities & Initiatives for a Sustainable Far west Rand in the 21st Century*" under the leadership of Prof. van Eeden.
 - National Water and Sanitation's Master Plan and in particular the reuse of treated effluent from AMD to supplement water supply and desalination technology alternatives as well as restoration and maintenance of ecological infrastructure such as strategic water source areas and wetlands.
 - The latest plan for the intervention of pollution of the Vaal River.
 - The DWS' Strategy Steering Committee meetings (Phases 2 & 3) on the Reconciliation Strategy for the Integrated Vaal River System (IVRS) with specific reference to the long-term treatment of AMD and dilution assessment (please see attached).
 - The national screenings of the documentary film, Jozi Gold and the proposed international premiere of the film during March 2020 at CPH DOX in Copenhagen, one of the most prestigious documentary festivals as well as additional screenings in Europe.
 - The Draft Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Regulations, 2019.
 - Proposed Regulations pertaining to Financial Provisioning for the rehabilitation and remediation of environmental damage caused by reconnaissance, prospecting and exploration, mining or production operations in particular Regulation 46 A, B & C.

- Department of Mineral Resources: Mr George Lekorotsoana – alleged non-compliances by Sweet Sensation 168 (Pty) Ltd of its EMPR and alleged failure by the DMR (Free State Region) to enforce the alleged non-compliances.
- Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS):
 - Ukufisa Colliery
 - Protea Mine
 - HVH Mine
 - The Reclamation of the Marievale Tailings Storage Facilities in Ekurhuleni, Gauteng Province: Draft Scoping Report
 - Bauba Platinum Limited (Moeijelijk Chrome Mine)

The FSE received the following comments in response to the FSE’s enquiries from Mr Divan van Niekerk and Mr Bashan Govender of the DWS’ Chief Directorate: Mine Water Quality Management:

Mine	Feedback	Recommendation/Comment
HVH Mine	Official is Betty Nakene (DWS Provincial Office: Gauteng) HVH mine is non-operational and the mine has been placed under liquidation.	DWS Provincial Office: Gauteng) to investigate and advise on progress
ERGO	The Marievale TSF reclamation project is still in consultation phase.	No action needed as the process is still in consultation phase with the relevant stakeholders.
Protea Mine	Officials are Charlotte Ramathole and Thato Mjona (DWS Provincial Office: North West) Protea Mines did lodge a WULA but was declined by the DWS due to insufficient information. DWS Compliance and Enforcement directorate to investigate and advise.	DWS Provincial Office: North West to investigate and advise on progress.
Ukufisa Colliery	Official is Betty Nakene (DWS Provincial Office: Gauteng) Ukufisa does not have a WUL and is non-operational. There has been exploration but no mining.	Assessment will commence once a Water Use License Application has been lodged with DWS.
Bauba Mine	Official is Portia Munyai (DWS Provincial Office: Limpopo) Bauba mine has been authorized for the following in terms of Section 21(g) of the NWA : •Wet tailings pad and •Dry tailing storage stockpile, DWS: Engineering Services reviewed and recommended the design of the pads as proposed by the Mine.	Queries regarding the civil design authorisation will have to be forwarded to DWS: Engineering Services (Mr Kelvin Legge)

- Request to the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) regarding the status of the Findings and Directives pursuant to the Commission’s Report on its

National Hearing on the Underlying Socio-Economic Challenges of Mining Affected Communities in South Africa. The FSE is a member of the Section 11 Advisory Committee.

- Request to the SAHRC on the status of the Commission's inquiry into the pollution of the Vaal River System. Mr Buang Jones of the SAHRC responded as follows:

From: Buang Jones <bjones@sahrc.org.za>
Sent: 24 January 2020 11:39 AM
To: Sibongiseni Tula <stula@sahrc.org.za>; Mariette Liefferink <mariette@pea.org.za>
Subject: RE: Section 11 Committee on Mining – SAHRC Mining Report on its National Hearing on the Underlying Socio-Economic Challenges of Mining Affected Communities in South Africa

Good Day,

The Vaal River Inquiry report is with counsel for final vetting. The provisional report will be shared with implicated parties for comment. The final report will be issued publicly after the report has been adopted by Commissioners.

Kind regards
Buang

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

- Charleston Hill Action Group (Herschel Arendse) re the Drakenstein municipality and Yara South Africa matter and alleged environmental contraventions
- Bongumusa Mbatha (Slovoville Community) in matter between Mbatha and Harmony Gold's Doornkop Operations
- Riverlea Community regarding Ergo Mining's Valley Silts Projects
- Thandi Mjikwa of Kgothlang Secondary School, Bekkersdal.

From: Eunice Mjikwa <eunicemjikwa@gmail.com>
Sent: 10 January 2020 06:47 AM
To: mariette@pea.org.za
Subject: Appreciation

Dear Ms M.Liefferienk

My name is Thandi Mjikwa from Kgothlang secondary school I'm the young girl whom you once invited to the university of Pretoria to see you being a guest lecturer.

I'm hereby writing to you to inform you that I've passed my matric with a bachelor's degree and a distinction with all the choice of Universities I've finally decided to go to the North west university Mafikeng Compus to study law it all became possible because of you.

Thank you very much for giving me hope inspiring me to being my best and following my dreams I believe and I know that my dream of being a the environmental lawyer will now come through all thanks to you

Yours faithfully
Thandi

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION:

- WP Bower: Request for Audit Reports
- Request for information in terms of the provisions of PAIA : Dikolong Chrome Mine (DCM)
 - A copy of the DCM's Mining Right.
 - A copy of the DCM's Environmental Management Programme Report
 - A copy of the DCM's Rehabilitation Plan and Closure Plan pertaining to Portion 2 of the farm Mooihoek, 225
 - A copy of the DCM's Environmental Authorisation in respect of the sinking of the TMT Shaft and the establishment of the Waste Dump in terms of the MPRDA and the NEMA
 - A copy of the DCM's Waste Management Licence in terms of the NEM: Waste Act, 59 of 2008
 - A copy of the DCM's Financial Provisions for rehabilitation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (107/1998): Regulations pertaining to the Financial Provision for Prospecting, Exploration, Mining or Production Operations.
- Mr Sunday Mabaso (Regional Manager of the DMR: Gauteng Region) re Mona Lemane Trading - DIRECTIVE ISSUED IN TERMS OF SECTION 28 OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 107 OF 1998 RE DUTY OF CARE AND REMEDIATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE ON PORTION 209 OF THE FARM LUIPAARDSVLEI 246 IQ SITUATED WITHIN MOGALE CITY LOCAL MUNICIPALITY