

# DULLSTROOM TROUT FARM (PTY) LTD

Registration No. 76/01541/07

Box 1076,  
Bassonia 2061.

29/08/2011

The Regional Director,  
Department of Mining Resources  
Witbank

**RE: Mining Right: MP 30/5/1/2/2/505 MR Farms Groenvlei 353 JT & Lakenvlei 355 JT**

Dear Sir,

We wish to add our objection to the above application which was discussed at a public meeting in Belfast on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2011.

We own 820 hectares of land within 5 km of the applicant's proposed open cast coal mine. This property is Remaining portion, portion 9 and portion 16 of Middelpunt JT..

Our business is based on eco-tourism, mainly fly-fishing, and also bird watching and related eco-tourist activities. Included in our property is much of the upper Lakenvlei which is a summer nesting site for the critically endangered white-winged flufftail and therefore apart from trout fishing we have visitors coming from many parts of South Africa and also from abroad to view this bird. All three crane species including the critically endangered wattled crane may also be seen on the property at times.

Any development such as an open cast coal mine is viewed as a major threat to our business and in fact is hostile to the whole tourist industry which is the main economic driver of the municipal area.

Lastly we would like to point out that the Elandsfontein road is the main access road to our property. It is poorly maintained by the Roads Department and like a number of other land owners in the area we already contribute to a diesel fund to enable grading of the road to be undertaken. Despite this the road is in a very poor condition after rains and any increase in heavy traffic such as envisaged in this project will make the road impassable for our clients.

Yours faithfully,

Graham Crossley  
Director