

"PMLT"

309



ATHA-AFRICA VENTURES (Pty) Ltd

Registration No. 2004/020746/07

8th Floor, Sinosteel Plaza, 159 Rivonia
Road, Morningside, Sandton, 2144
Tel: +27 11 784-1885
Fax: +27 11 784-7467
Email: morgam.munsamy@athagroup.in

THE HONOURABLE MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL: MRS Y N PHOSA (MPL)
MPUMALANGA PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT:
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT and TOURISM ("MDEDET")
PRIVATE BAG X11215
NELSPRUIT
1200

PER HAND DELIVERY

21 MAY 2014

PER E-MAIL: cdias@mppg.gov.za : ATTENTION: MR J. SIKHOSANA

Dear Honourable MEC,

RE: REQUEST TO PROVIDE ATHA-AFRICA VENTURES (AAV) WITH GUIDANCE AND
INFORMATION IN RESPECT OF ANY SPECIFIC CONDITIONS TO BE INCLUDED IN AAV'S
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME, TO BE APPROVED BY THE DMR, IN
ORDER TO ENSURE THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE BIODIVERSITY
WITHIN THE DECLARED MABOLA AND EXTENDED KWAMANLANGAMPISI PROTECTED
ENVIRONMENTS; WITHIN WHICH AAV HAS APPLIED FOR A MINING RIGHT

Your letter dated the 31st of March 2014 has reference. As per our ongoing correspondence and interaction with your Office (Office of the MEC) and the Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism ("MDEDET") in respect of this matter, you are well aware that Atha-Africa Ventures ("AAV") submitted a Mining Right Application ("the application") to the relevant Regional Manager of the Department of Mineral Resources ("DMR").

The Mining Right Application was submitted on 19th March 2013 in respect of a Mining Right Area which partially falls within the Declared Mabola and expanded Kwamandlangampisi Protected Environments, as gazetted on the 22nd of January 2014 in Government Gazette number 2251, Notices 21 and 22 of 2014 ("the Declarations").

In your letters dated 24 December 2013 and 31 January 2014 you confirmed that the Farm Yzermyn 96 HT, which also falls within the relevant Mining Area, was excluded from the abovementioned Declared Protected Areas, and furthermore, that subject to the Mining Right being granted by the DMR, there will not necessarily be an absolute prohibition of mining in the relevant declared areas.

Directors: G Atha* | B Atha* | V Atha* | M Munsamy
(* Indian)



ATHA-AFRICA VENTURES (Pty) Ltd

Registration No. 2004/020746/07

310

8th Floor, Sinosteel Plaza, 159 Rivonia
Road, Morningside, Sandton, 2144
Tel: +27 11 784-1885
Fax: +27 11 784- 7467
Email: morgam.munsamy@athagroup.in

However, if AAV's Mining Right Application is successful, AAV's mining activities in the region will be subject to strict/stringent environmental conditions.

Honourable MEC, you also concluded that should AAV's Mining Right be granted, your Office and the MDEDET "will work very closely with AAV to ensure a balance towards preserving the environment, ensuring reasonable maximum profits and contributing to the socio-economy of the affected communities through AAV's encouraging Social and Labour Plan which is more than welcomed, for working together we can do more".

Cognisant of the above-mentioned obligation on AAV to ensure the protection of the environment and the biodiversity located within the proposed Mining Right Area, which are also located within the declared Mabola and extended Kwamanlangampisi Protected Environments, AAV is adamant to use its best endeavours to fulfil its obligation to protect the environment and the biodiversity as an ethical and responsible mining company.

As a proactive, cautionary approach, AAV has opted to include any specific environmental and or specific mitigation conditions or guidelines of the MDEDET in the Environmental Management Programme, as part of the Mining Right Application, to be approved by the DMR.

It is our sincere belief that the inclusion of any specific conditions which MDEDET may impose on AAV's mining activities in the region, even though such environmental conditions will be strict/stringent, must also be enshrined in the Environmental Management Programme, approved under the Mining Right Application.

AAV has been interacting with the DMR on a continuous basis regarding any clarification in respect of the Mining Right Application as well as the submission of any additional information which the DMR requested in furtherance of the Regional Manager's assessment and finalisation of a recommendation to the National Deputy Director General: Mineral Regulation and Administration (Northern Regions).

In order to amplify AAV's goodwill to assist the MDEDET in its environmental and biodiversity conservation plans in Mpumalanga, AAV is desirous to also include any specific environmental and or specific mitigation conditions or guidelines of the MDEDET in the final Environmental Management Programme, to be approved by the DMR.

Directors: G Atha* | B Atha* | V Atha* | M Munsamy
(* Indian)



ATHA-AFRICA VENTURES (Pty) Ltd

Registration No. 2004/020746/07

311
8th Floor, Sinosteel Plaza, 159 Rivonia
Road, Morningside, Sandton, 2144
Tel: +27 11 784-1885
Fax: +27 11 784- 7467
Email: morgam.munsamy@athagroup.in

In light of the above-mentioned, AAV herewith requests the honourable MEC to provide us with direction and or guidance on the most appropriate channel, in MDEDET, to follow in order to obtain clarification on any specific environmental and or specific mitigation conditions or guidelines of the MDEDET, which AAV can include in the final Environmental Management Programme, to be approved by the DMR.

We sincerely believe that the requested information will be of great assistance to the DMR, in its final review and adjudication of the Mining Right Application, since the relevant information will provide the DMR with an opportunity to make an informed decision based on all relevant facts.

We trust that you will find the above in order and eagerly await your response. Kindly acknowledge receipt of this letter.

Yours Faithfully,

M Munsamy
Director
ATHA-AFRICA VENTURES (PTY) LTD.

CC: The Regional Manager –Mpumalanga Department of Mineral Resources:-

Mr A Tshivhandekano (Aubrey.Tshivhandekano@dmr.gov.za)

CC: The Deputy Director General: Mineral Regulation: Mr Joel Raphela:-

(Joel.Raphela@dmr.gov.za)

Directors: G Atha* | B Atha* | V Atha* | M Munsamy
(* Indian)