



-22-

ATHA-AFRICA VENTURES (Pty) Ltd

Registration No. 2004/020746/07

8th Floor, Sinosteel Plaza, 159 Rivoli
Road, Morningside, Sandton, 2144
Tel: +27 11 784-1885
Fax: +27 11 784-7467

Place & Date: Johannesburg, 2014-01-15

THE HONOURABLE MEC: MRS Y N PHOSA (MPL)
MPUMALANGA PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT:
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, & TOURISM
("DEDET")
PRIVATE BAG X11215
NELSPRUIT
1200

PER HAND DELIVERY

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

Dear Honourable MEC,

RE: CONSIDERATION OF REPRESENTATIONS AND OBJECTIONS BY ATHA-AFRICA VENTURES (PTY) LTD. ("AAV") TO THE SECTION 33(1) NOTICE (IN TERMS OF ACT NUMBER 57 OF 2003) BY THE HONOURABLE MEC Y N PHOSA ON THE INTENTION TO DECLARE THE MABOLA PROTECTED ENVIRONMENT, THE EXPANSION OF KWAMANLANGAMPISI PROTECTED ENVIRONMENT AND THE TAFELKOP NATURE RESERVE IN TERMS OF SECTION 28(1) AND 23(1) OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: PROTECTED AREAS ACT, ACT 57 OF 2003 ("NEMPAA")

We want to start-off by wishing you and your family, as well as your entire staff a very prosperous and blessed new year. May 2014 be a great year for you.

Your letter dated 24 December 2014, in respect of the abovementioned matter refers. We hereby acknowledge receipt of your letter and have taken note of the contents.

First and foremost, we thank you for allowing Atha-Africa Ventures (Pty) Ltd. ("AAV") the opportunity to attend the Appeal Panel hearing on the 28th of November 2013, and to present our case in respect of the written objection to the Notice of Intention to Declare, inter alia, the Mabola PE and the extended Kwamandlagampisi Protected Environments, as Protected Environments, submitted by AAV on the 4th of July 2013. We fully agree with you that by "working together we can do more!!"

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



ATHA-AFRICA VENTURES (Pty) Ltd

Registration No. 2004/020746/07

8th Floor, Sinosteel Plaza, 159 Rivor Road, Morningside, Sandton, 20144
Tel: +27 11 784-1885
Fax: +27 11 784- 7467

In light of your letter's concluding remarks we hereby confirm the following:

1. Portion 1 of the Farm Yzermyn 96, measuring 193.83 hectares will be excluded from the intended declaration of the Mabola and extended Kwamandlagampisi Protected Environments, in its entirety, for purposes of all relevant above-ground infrastructure of the mine, subject to the Mining Right and all other required authorisations, being granted.
2. Apart from Portion 1 of the Farm Yzermyn 96, AAV is the holder of a lawful Prospecting Right over the full applicable "Mining Area" consisting of 12 Portions of 10 Farms (\pm 8,500 Ha), since 2006. The Prospecting Right was granted on 17 August 2006 and renewed on 24 November 2011. AAV lodged a Mining Right Application with the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) on 20 March 2013. The Mining Right Application was accepted by DMR on 25 April 2013.
3. The Mining Area (please see Figure 1 – A map of the proposed Mining Area), applied for, comprises 12 Portions of 10 Farms (please see Figure 2 – A list of properties of which AAV is the lawful holder of existing Prospecting Rights), with an anticipated initial life of mine of 15 years.

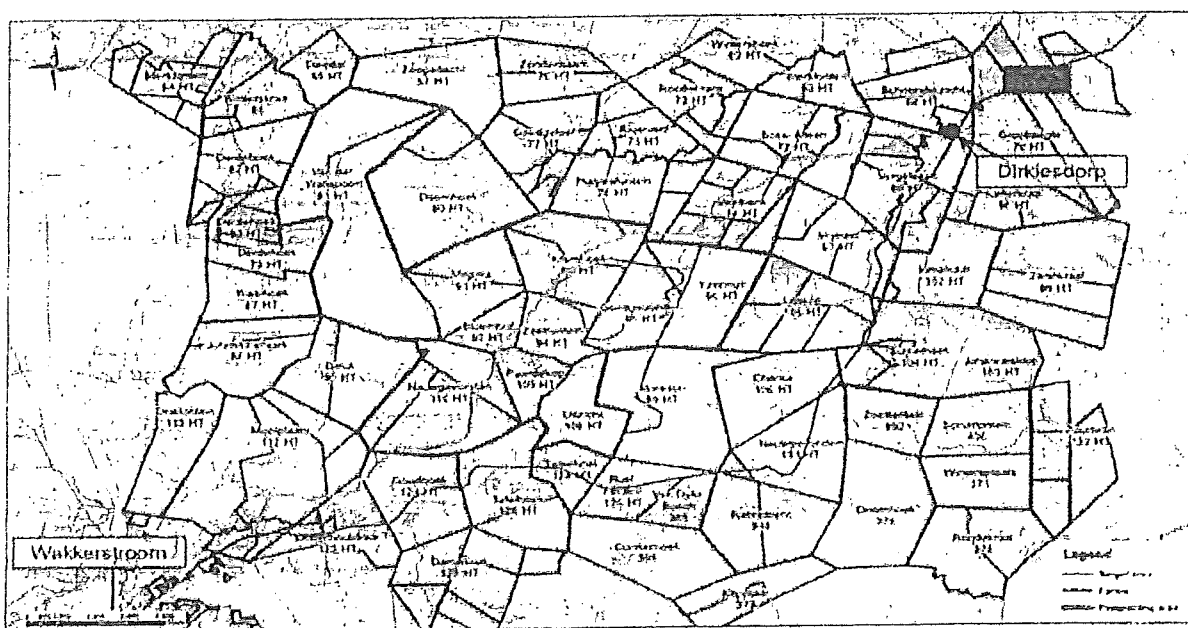


Figure 1



ATHA-AFRICA VENTURES (Pty) Ltd

Registration No. 2004/020746/07

8th Floor, Sinosteel Plaza, 159 Rivon
Road, Morningside, Sandton, 2144
Tel: +27 11 784-1885
Fax: +27 11 784- 7467

Farm	Portion	Reg Div	Province	Extent (ha)
Bloemhof 92	The Farm	HT	Mpumalanga	329.09
Goedgevonden 95	The Farm	HT	Mpumalanga	739.45
Kromhoek 98	The Farm	HT	Mpumalanga	1184.73
Nauwgevonden 110	Portion 1	HT	Mpumalanga	428.27
Paardekop 109	The Farm	HT	Mpumalanga	400.05
Uitzicht 108	The Farm	HT	Mpumalanga	691.31
Van Der Waltspoort 81	Portion 2	HT	Mpumalanga	1064.45
Van Der Waltspoort 81	Remaining Extent	HT	Mpumalanga	1022.98
Virginia 91	The Farm	HT	Mpumalanga	925.40
Yzermyn 96	Portion 1	HT	Mpumalanga	103.83
Yzermyn 96	Remaining Extent	HT	Mpumalanga	876.18
Zoetfontein 94	The Farm	HT	Mpumalanga	353.21

Figure 2.

- As is the case with Portion 1 of the Farm Yzermyn 96, the proposed Mabola PE also includes properties which are currently included in the Prospecting Area of the existing Prospecting Right or the proposed Mining Right Area(s) which are pursuant to AAV'S proposed Mining Right, and which both of the areas fall within the greater Mining Area of the Project.
- The extended Kwamandlagampisi PE may also include other properties which affect the Prospecting Area(s) and / or proposed Mining Areas of the Project.
- It is thus our understanding that subject to the Mining Right and all other required authorisations being granted, that Atha-Africa Ventures' **under-ground mining activities**, on all the properties listed in Figure 2, will not be prohibited by the Mpumulanga DEDET, from continuing after the declaration of the Mabola and extended Kwamandlagampisi Protected Environments. However, although mining activities on the above-mentioned properties will not be prohibited, such activities will be subjected to strict / stringent environmental conditions in the event that the Mining Right is granted.



ATHA-AFRICA VENTURES (Pty) Ltd

Registration No. 2004/020746/07

8th Floor, Sinosteel Plaza, 159 River
Road, Morningside, Sandton, 2144
Tel: +27 11 784-1885
Fax: +27 11 784-7467

7. In light of the above-mentioned, we would sincerely appreciate it if you could reconsider the exclusion of the remaining FOUR FARMS, namely, Goedgevonden 95 (739.45 Ha), Kromhoek 93 (1184.73 Ha), Yzermyn 96 Remaining Extent (826.16 Ha) and Zoetfontein 94 (553.81 Ha), from the Mabola Protected Environment and extended Kwamandlagampisi Protected Environment, as this would go a long way to provide clarity for AAV's proposed underground mining activities.
8. In this regard, it is important to note that when applying for a Mining Right, the Applicant of such Mining Right submits, as part of the application, a Mine Works Programme, Environmental Management Plan and supporting maps and diagrams relating to the entire area that is to be mined over the life-of-mine period. This area then represents the entire Mining Area.
9. It is in this context that AAV requests that the honourable MEC considers the exclusion of the remaining FOUR FARMS, namely, Goedgevonden 95 (739.45 Ha), Kromhoek 93 (1184.73 Ha), Yzermyn 96 Remaining Extent (826.16 Ha) and Zoetfontein 94 (553.81 Ha), from the Mabola Protected Environment, in addition to the exclusion of Portion 1 of the Farm Yzermyn 96, as these FOUR FARMS, forms an integral part of AAV's Mining Right Application.
10. Should AAV be granted the Mining Right, the Mining Right will not only relate to Portion 1 of the Farm Yzermyn 96, but all the properties (i.e. the four Farms mentioned above) that was included in the proposed Mining Area. As reiterated earlier during discussions, we would still work closely together with the Department on all environmental and mitigation issues should the honourable MEC decide to exclude the remaining four farms, as listed above.

We reiterate our submission that Atha-Africa Ventures is committed to be a potentially valuable partner of the Mpumalanga Provincial Government, in assisting your Department to fulfil the mandate and objectives of the Wakkerstroom Biodiversity Site ("WBS"), within the context of the Millennium Development goals, National Biodiversity Strategy, National Development Plan, Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative for South Africa ("ASGISA"), Comprehensive Rural Development Programme, Anti-Poverty Strategy and local LED programmes, which provides a platform for "rural" provinces such as Mpumalanga, the opportunities to participate fully in the economic, social and political life of the country.

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



ATHA-AFRICA VENTURES (Pty) Ltd

Registration No. 2004/020746/07

8th Floor, Sinosteel Plaza, 159 Rivon
Road, Morningside, Sandton, 2144
Tel: +27 11 784-1885
Fax: +27 11 784- 7467

Atha-Africa Ventures proposed approach is to work together with your Department to develop a sustainable co-existence model between mining and conservation, undertaking a combined radical revision of past strategies, take the success stories from these past strategies and introduce a strengthened, long term mutually benefitting sustainability strategy and action plan which, through innovative linkages, will be aligned with national, provincial and local government biodiversity and sustainable development planning priorities.

Atha-Africa Ventures believes that its own Mining and Integrated Development Planning Process is clearly aligned with the Provincial Development Plans, in that the AAV's Planning Process seeks to invest in the mining, manufacturing/ beneficiation and energy sectors, which AAV believes place the Mpumalanga Province and National economy on a positive growth path.

We also believe that our approach is aligned with government's advocacy to promote Public, Private Partnerships (PPP) as a strategy to kick start and support development in social and economic service delivery programmes in line with the ideal of delivering a better life for all South Africans.

In light of the above mentioned we would sincerely appreciate it if you could confirm, in writing, that our interpretation of your letter dated 24 December, is correct.

Atha-Africa Ventures, extend a hand to the Mpumalanga Province in putting our Provinces' people first, whilst committing to be a partner of the Province in developing sound and pro-active biodiversity and conservation management initiatives. We are committed to a Provincial development process that is inclusive and pro-active so that we can all take collective responsibility of our successes and imperfections.

We trust that you will find the above in order and look forward to your earliest reply.

Yours sincerely,

Praveer Tripathi
Sr. Vice President
ATHA-AFRICA VENTURES (PTY) LTD.
Cell No. : 0728048250
Email : praveer.tripathi@athagroup.in