



Centre for Environmental Rights

Advancing Environmental Rights in South Africa



Honourable MP Mapulane
Chairperson
Portfolio Committee on Environmental Affairs
c/o Ms T Madubela
By email: tmadubela@parliament.gov.za

19 April 2018

Dear Honourable Mapulane

SUBMISSIONS TO THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE BY THE CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS ON THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT LAWS AMENDMENT BILL [B14-2017]

1. The Centre for Environmental Rights (CER) is a non-profit organisation and firm of environmental rights lawyers that helps communities defend their right to a healthy environment. We do this by advocating and litigating for transparency, accountability and compliance with environmental laws.
2. Thank you for the invitation to make submissions on the National Environmental Management Laws Amendment Bill B14-2017, (the Bill).
3. The CER makes its submissions on the Bill based on its experience in applying the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003, the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004, the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004, the National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act, 2008, and the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008, both in our own name and on behalf of civil society and community clients.
4. We enclose our submission on the Bill in the form of a table containing our comments and our proposed amendments / insertions.
5. We respectfully request an opportunity to make an oral presentation on the Bill to the Portfolio Committee on Environmental Affairs at the public hearings. We would be grateful for your advices as to the dates of these hearings once these have been scheduled.

Yours sincerely

CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

per:
Catherine Horsfield
Attorney

Programme Head: Mining

Direct email: chorsfield@cer.org.za

Cape Town: 2nd Floor, Springtime Studios, 1 Scott Road, Observatory, 7925, South Africa
Johannesburg: 9th Floor, Southpoint CNR, 87 De Korte Street, Braamfontein, 2001, South Africa
Tel 021 447 1647 (Cape Town) | Tel 010 442 6830 (Johannesburg)
Fax 086 730 9098
Email info@cer.org.za, www.cer.org.za