

MPRDA amendment bill

Zokhwe Zizwa

WONDERKOP LAND CLAIMS COMMITTEE

CASE NUMBER LCC 18/2008

P.O. BOX 116

HOUSE NUMBER 20

WONDERKOP

DIKHIBIDUNG SECTION

0317

WONDERKOP

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TO: THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LAND AND MINERALS

FROM: THE OFFICE OF THE CHAIRPERSON

DATE: 22 JUNE 2017

RE: SUBMISSION ON THE MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT BILL (MPRDA)

Firstly we would like to thank the Chairperson and his committee for inviting us to present as the directly affected mining community.

Previously we have send our submission to the parliaments high level panel lead by former President MrKgalema Motlanthe, which its duty was to review certain key legislations that affects South Africans. We will not repeat that, but would rather address the committee on issues that affect us on daily basis and would like to submit our recommendations to the Standing committee.

1. There is a committee by the name of Regional mining development and environment committee (RMDEC) which is chaired by the regional manager of the DMR. We recommend that as the directly affected mining communities, we have interest to serve in that committee and we request that we be considered when the term of office of this committee lapses.
2. It is said that it is the prerogative of the mine to appoint the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) to consult with the affected and interested parties. We recommend that before that person or that company could be appointed, an advert be circulated locally to see if there are no interested companies or individuals who are eligible for the job.
3. As much as the EMP (environment management plan) must be submitted to the minister and the director general. We recommend that such a copy must also be available to the directly affected mining community for perusal.

4. It is our understanding that before a mining company could prospect a prospecting fee ought to be paid to the DMR. We recommend that a certain fee be paid also to the community that owns the land since such prospecting might affect their land, ploughing or grazing fields etc.
5. We want to state it categorically clear that we know that the mines have sterilized most of the land that they have either leased or reserved for mining purposes. We recommend that since the mine is not using the whole surface land for mining purposes, we request that certain portion that is not utilized be availed to communities for agricultural farming for sustainability of these communities.
6. We are very much concerned about the open cast mining that damages the environment to the latter and has been deemed the quickest way of looting minerals. We recommend that RMDEC must report to the DMR on quarterly basis regarding open cast mining and also give environmental progress reports on quarterly basis.
7. We also want to recommend that these mining companies must publish what they are paying whether in RANDES, DOLLARS, EUROS OR POUNDS.
8. We recommend that artisanal mining (ZAMA ZAMAS) be legalized, regulated and incorporated into MPRDA.
9. We recommend that the minister and the SC on land and minerals should encourage, advise communities to apply for lisenecs especially low lying minerals like chrome
10. We also recommend that an oversight committee or the RMDEC be present when communities signed the notarial mineral lease agreement between communities, traditional councils and the mines to monitor whether there is fairness, transparency and that communities are not taken for a ride in signing of these mining leases.
11. Last but not least we recommend that section 59(2) (f) (g) be amended to 2
12. And that section 59 (i) be amended to 3 communities that owns the land
13. That section 59 (3) which deals with the election of the deputy chair, be elected from e-i

IN CONCLUSION WE WANT TO APPLAUD THE MINISTER FOR CONSIDERING 8% FOR EMPLOYEES, 8% FOR COMMUNITIES. BUT WE RECOMMEND THAT FROM THE 14% RESERVED FOR BBBEE, ATLEAST 4% BE GIVEN TO LOCAL BUSINESSES THAT ARE DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY MINING.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH