

30 July 2012

Project number: 0164903

**Environmental
Resources
Management**

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Dear Sir/Madam

Environmental and Social Impact Assessment for Proposed Construction of the Gamsberg Zinc Mine and Associated Infrastructure near Aggeneys, Northern Cape Province

DENC Reference Number: NC/EIA/NAM/KHAI/AGG/2012-NCP/EIA/0000155/2012
DEA Reference Number: 12/9/11/L955/8
DMR Reference Number: NCS 30/5/1/2/2/1/518

Postal Address:
Postnet Suite 624
Private Bag X29
Gallo Manor, 2052
Johannesburg
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Black Mountain Mining (Pty) Ltd (herein referred to as Black Mountain), who is part of Vedanta Resource plc, proposes to establish the Gamsberg Zinc Mine, Concentrator Plant and associated infrastructure in the Namakwa District of the Northern Cape Province. An Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) needs to be completed in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) before the proposed project may go ahead. The Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC) is the lead authority for the proposed project. Black Mountain has appointed Environmental Resources Management (ERM) as the independent environmental assessment practitioner to conduct the ESIA.



Milestones in the ESIA process

- **Project announcement and registration:** The attached Background Information Document (BID) provides more information about the proposed project and ESIA process. You are formally invited to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) and to participate in the ESIA process. The due date for I&AP registration and initial comments and concerns is **29 August 2012**.
- **Public review of the Draft Scoping Report:** The Draft Scoping Report will be available for public review during the fourth quarter of 2012;
- **Public review of the Draft ESIA Report:** The Draft ESIA Report, containing the findings of the impact assessment, is expected to be made available for public comment during the first quarter of 2013.

Registered Company address:
Environmental Resources
Management
Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd
Building 32, 1st Floor,
The Woodlands Office Park,
Woodlands Drive
Woodmead, 2148

To comment on the BID

You are welcome to comment on the BID by:

- Completing the enclosed registration and comment sheet and submitting it to ERM;
- Writing a letter or additional written submission;
- By email, fax or telephone to the public participation office; and
- Proposing key persons you feel should be included as interested and/or affected parties.

Company registration number
2003/001404/07

Directors
Jeremy Sobolo (Managing)
Grant Bassingthwaighte
John Alexander (UK)
John Simonson (UK)

Offices worldwide

A member of the
Environmental Resources
Management Group

Further correspondence will be sent to registered I&APs. Should you have any questions, need more information, or wish to raise issues of concern or suggestions, please contact **Paul Monare** at **Tel: (011) 798 4300, Fax: 086 292 7318** or **email: gamsberg@erm.com**.

Yours sincerely
ERM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'NB.' with a period at the end.

Nestus Bredenhann
Senior Consultant

Enclosed:

- *Background Information Document*
- *Registration and Comment Sheet*