

Petroleum Agency SA

Tygerpoort Building · 7 Mispel Street · Bellville 7530 · P.O. Box 5111 Tygervalley 7536 · South Africa
Tel: +27 21 938 3500 · Fax: +27 21 938 3520
E-mail: plu@petroleumagencyssa.com



22 May 2015

Ref no: 12/3/291

Enquiries: A M Thovhakala

E- Mail: shahid.sulaiman@kapditwala.com

Mr Sulaiman Shahid
Rhino Oil & Gas Exploration South Africa (Pty) Ltd
P.O Box 225
RHONDEBOSCH
CAPE TOWN
7701

Dear Mr Shahid

APPLICATION FOR AN EXPLORATION RIGHT FOR PETROLEUM IN TERMS OF SECTION 79 OF THE MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT NO. 28 OF 2002) ("THE ACT") IN RESPECT OF VARIOUS FARMS IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF PIETERMARITZBURG IN KWAZULU NATAL PROVINCE

The above application refers.

Kindly be advised that your application for an Exploration Right, in terms of Section 79 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) ("the Act") to explore for Petroleum has been accepted.

You are therefore required to comply with Section 79 (4) of the Act, by:

- (a) Submitting an application for Environmental Authorization in terms of Regulation 16 of Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 on or before the 08th of June 2015;

Please take note of the following:

- Application form must be completed by an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner ("EAP"); and
- An application fee of R10 000.00 or proof of payment must accompany your application.

Directors: M P Fusi (Chairperson)

B Luthuli R Nkambule T Ramuedzisi T Ramuedzisi L Nengovhela L Mekwe (Acting Executive)

Company Secretary: Adv E Hendricks

Subsidiary of CEF SOC Ltd.

South African Agency for Promotion of Petroleum Exploration and Exploitation SOC Ltd No. 1999/015715/30.



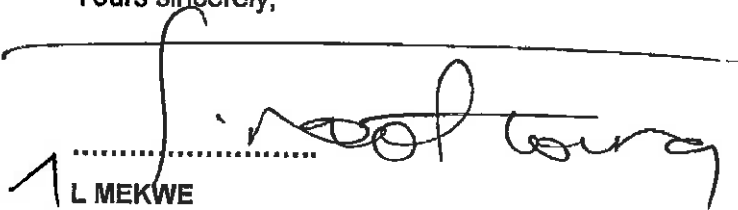
- (b) Submitting a Scoping Report as contemplated in Regulation 21(1) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 within 44 days from the date on which you will lodge the Environmental Authorisation application. Please take note that the Scoping Report must be subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days; and
- (c) Consulting with the landowner, lawful occupier and any interested and affected parties and include the results of the consultation in the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reports.

Furthermore, you are required to submit all the outstanding Title Deeds on or before the 06th of July 2015.

We have enclosed herewith a copy of an application form for Environmental Authorisation. Also note that the form can be obtained from the Department of Mineral Resources website (i.e. <http://www.dmr.gov.za>).

If you need further information or more clarity do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,



L MEKWE

ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Directors: M P Fusi (Chairperson)

B Luthuli R Nkambule T Ramuedzisi T Ramuedzisi L Nangovhela L Mekwe (Acting Executive)

Company Secretary: Adv E Hendricks

Subsidiary of CEF SOC Ltd.

South African Agency for Promotion of Petroleum Exploration and Exploitation SOC Ltd No. 1999/015715/30.





Proof of payment

Date: 12/11/2015 Time: 10:55:45 AM

Profile name:	SLR CONSULTING (AFRICA) (PTY) LTD
Batch reference number:	390393368
Payment reference number:	000000000938356891
Payment date:	12/11/2015
Payment capture date:	12/11/2015
Payment authorise date and time:	12/11/2015 10:55:25 AM
From account name:	SLR CONSULTING (SOUTH AFRICA)
From account description:	SLR Consulting SA
From account statement description:	Petroleum Agency SA
Beneficiary account number:	4051030832
Beneficiary name:	Petroleum Agency SA
Beneficiary statement description:	SLR Namibia
Branch code:	632005
Amount:	10,000.00
Real-time:	No

Additional comments by payer:

View your account to **confirm that you have received this payment.**

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Please refer to landing page for cut off times and telephone numbers.

PLEASE SIGN AND FAX OR EMAIL TO 021 461 1120 OR
Isolomons@slrconsulting.com

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT

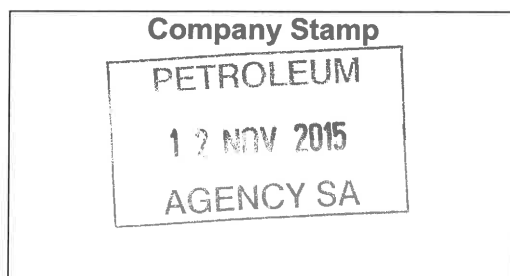
RHINO OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION SOUTH AFRICA: EXPLORATION RIGHT NUMBER
12/3/291 ER. APPLICATION FOR AN EXPLORATION RIGHT FOR PETROLEUM ON
VARIOUS FARMS IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICTS OF PIETERMARITZBURG IN THE
KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE (12/3/291 ER): SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF NEMA

1 HARD COPY

Received by (print name): Debro for Petroleum Agency
South Africa (PASA)

Signature: [Signature]

Date: 12/11/2015



Project Reference: 723.18034.00004

File Ref. 20151126_SLR letter to PASA_Time extension for
Scoping_Rhino 291 ER

26 November 2015

Acting Chief Executive Officer
Petroleum Agency of South Africa
Typerpoort Building
7 Mispel Street
Bellville, 7530

ATTENTION: MS LINDIWE MEKWE

Dear Madam

RHINO OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION SOUTH AFRICA (“RHINO”) – APPLICATION FOR EXPLORATION RIGHT FOR PETROLEUM IN KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE SOUTH AFRICA (12/3/291 ER): MOTIVATION IN TERMS OF REGULATION 3(7) TO EXTEND THE SCOPING TIMEFRAME

Our meeting with representatives of the Petroleum Agency of South Africa (“PASA”) on 19 November 2015 has reference.

Rhino has appointed SLR Consulting (“SLR”) to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment (“EIA”) process as required in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 for the Exploration Right application in KwaZulu-Natal (reference 12/3/291 ER). SLR has commenced with the Scoping and EIA process for the project and the application for environmental authorisation was submitted to PASA on 12 November 2015. Public consultation for the project had commenced in advance of this and a series of public information meetings were held across the application area in the week of 2 to 7 November 2015.

As was discussed at the meeting with representatives of PASA on 19 November 2015, the public participation process to date has elicited significant objections to the exploration right applications. In this regard, there are five (5) key issues that have been raised consistently by the majority of the interested and/or affected parties (“IAPs”). All of them provide challenges to the EIA process and need to be dealt with, however issues 4 and 5, summarised below, have the most relevance from a Scoping and EIA timeframe perspective.

Issue 4: Most IAPs have argued that the time available in the current EIA schedule is insufficient to allow for comprehensive public consultation for projects of such large extent. There is also a related argument that the method of consultation has not been adequate given the given the demographic and cultural diversity of potentially interested and/or affected parties that are resident in the large application areas.

Issue 5: Most IAPs have raised the concern that many sites within the application areas are either protected outright or incompatible with exploration and/or the production of oil and gas and that legislation prevents such work from taking place in these areas. The question has been asked “why undertake an EIA to obtain exploration rights in areas where any gas, if it were to be found, would not be able to be extracted because of the restrictions imposed by protected area legislation and Regulation 122 of the Petroleum Regulations (GN R 466 of 2015) relating to the location of wells?”. It has also been stated that these restrictions make it unlawful to apply for a right, even for exploration, in the restricted areas. The related demand is that the ER applications be stopped, all of the future non-compatible/unlawful areas removed and then new EIAs commenced for these revised areas.

SLR acknowledges that PASA previously granted a time extension to Rhino. The bulk of this time was however used solely by Rhino’s land surveyors to produce the final project area maps and list of farm owners and as such it was not available to SLR for the purpose of public consultation and environmental assessment.

To this end SLR has, within the time constraints of the current applications, made a reasonable attempt to follow the requirements of the public participation regulations contained in the 2014 EIA Regulations. A significant related challenge is the large size of the application areas and the vast number of IAPs that are located therein. These IAPs range from more easily contactable land owners and NGOs to the other extreme of rural communities that are not as easy to access. Within this range there are also other IAPs with varying demographic and cultural attributes.

Had IAPs engaged with the Rhino scoping and EIA process on the same basis as previous exploration applications run by SLR (e.g. for Badimo Gas and Afro Energy), then the current approach to public consultation would have been adequate. However, the nature of the IAP responses on this project has been exceptional and the key issues have been documented in our ‘Public Issues’ letter to you, dated 26 November 2015.

It follows that PASA, Rhino and SLR can reasonably expect continued objections to the applications and numerous appeals to any potential decision. One of the key potential areas that could be used as a basis for appeal is the public consultation process. The 2014 EIA Regulations require that all potentially IAPs are consulted. Taken literally this is challenging to achieve especially when there is insufficient time to devise and roll out an appropriate public participation strategy for a very large application area.

It is the opinion of most IAPs that there are real grounds for challenging the current public participation process. These grounds typically cover the following issues:

- Certain of the arranged scoping meetings did not take place because of meeting venue infrastructure capacity constraints, local authority intervention and/or safety concerns and these scoping meetings will have to be redone otherwise the scoping process is flawed. In the current time frame there is no opportunity to hold any more scoping meetings.
- While many of the scoping meetings were well attended by people with access to the written media and emails, there was limited attendance by previously disadvantaged people who, through socio-economic circumstance, do not have the same access to the written media or emails or whom were advised not to attend by local authorities. This was noted by IAPs as an obvious flaw which cannot be addressed in the current scoping time frames.
- In the more rural areas there was a change of approach at the last minute by the municipal officials. In this regard, after last minute lobbying by NGO activists the municipal officials opted not to support our process on the day of the meetings after previously endorsing it. It follows that the rural area meetings were all cancelled. This highlights the need to engage with the three key rural decision makers in a more focussed way. These decision makers include the Nkonyama Trust, the traditional leaders and the municipal officials. Without this intervention the scoping process will not have covered the large rural areas located within

the application area. There is insufficient time available to address this in the current scoping time frame.

In the context of the above discussion it is SLR's view that:

- To continue with the current project scope will result in significant and coordinated opposition to the scoping process and EIA from IAPs.
- Responding to and dealing with the IAP inputs & issues will be impossible in the scoping and EIA time frames.
- Proceeding with the scoping and EIA process in spite of the IAP issues would most likely only stimulate more opposition.
- Threats of social uprising, process disruption and even violence are real and cannot be ignored.
- Any decision taken on the current scoping and EIA process is likely to be appealed and there is a significant risk that such appeal would be successful in the light of the factors described above. It is re-emphasized that one of the most successful avenues of successfully appealing a decision arising from an EIA process is by attacking the public consultation process. Also of relevance is the fact that in terms of the new legal framework, although PASA makes the decision on the EIA, it would not be entitled to deal with an appeal if one were to be lodged. Such an appeal would be considered by the Department of Environmental Affairs.

SLR therefore proposes that a time extension is required for the purpose of conducting the following actions:

- Reassess the size of the application areas based on the relevant legislative and environmental restriction criteria. By eliminating certain areas, the application areas can be reduced in size and the number of IAPs that have to be consulted will be reduced;
- Formulate and implement a focussed strategy for engaging with the key decision making bodies for rural areas. It is emphasized that this is a time consuming process because the traditional processes and protocols have to be followed. Once the decision makers in these bodies are on board a further strategy will be formulated and implemented for engaging with the relevant rural communities. This is critical given the fact that all the meetings planned for the rural areas were cancelled with the intervention of the municipal officials.
- Reassess the strategy for engaging with people in non-rural areas by addressing both the need to redo some meetings with the requirements for conducting a legally defensible process; and
- Receive and adequately address the exceptionally (and unexpectedly) large number of IAP comments and objections associated with the public participation process.

Regulation 3(7) of the 2014 EIA Regulations reads "In the event where the scope of work must be expanded based on the outcome of an assessment done in accordance with these Regulations, which outcome could not be anticipated prior to the undertaking of the assessment, or in the event where exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated, the competent authority may, prior to the lapsing of the relevant prescribed timeframe, in writing, extend the relevant prescribed timeframe and agree with the applicant on the length of such extension".

The public response to date has constituted 'exceptional circumstances' and is also requiring an 'expansion of the scope' of the assessment. This situation cannot be addressed within the remaining period of the 44 day timeframe provided for the scoping phase and an extension of the timeframe is thus required. We hereby request from PASA for an extension of time as detailed below.

- 6 weeks for the project team to consider the possible exclusion areas on the basis of environmental, commercial and legal parameters. This includes time for the Rhino surveyors to redraw the area in terms of Regulation 2(2)). [and will largely fall over the December/January break]

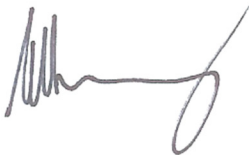
- 2 weeks to reassess and plan the revised public consultation strategy on the basis of the revised area.
- 12 weeks to physically go into the field and implement the various elements of the revised public consultation strategy. This includes up-front focussed engagement with key rural decision-making stakeholders in the rural areas, developing a plan based on the outcomes of the initial engagement, re- advertising (with sufficient notice periods), and running of additional/rescheduled meetings in both the rural and non-rural areas.
- 6 weeks to receive and address comments and objections and to compile the draft Scoping Report for public review.
- 4 weeks (30 days) for the mandatory public review of the draft Scoping Report; and
- 4 weeks to incorporate the responses and finalise the Scoping Report for submission to PASA.

We feel very strongly that adequate time is required to undertake these activities properly and to give the scoping and EIA process the best chance of being a legally defensible process. We would also like to emphasize that although elements of these different activities could be undertaken in parallel, the key items of each activity form a chain in series with the prior information being vital to the later process. The proposed timeframes thus need to run in series.

We would therefore request for a 35 week extension of time from the date of this letter to submission of the final scoping report.

SLR would be grateful for your urgent consideration and written response to this request.

Yours faithfully



Matthew Hemming

MSc (Conservation Biology)

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Project Reference: 723.18034.00003/4/5

File Ref. SLR letter to PASA on issues raised during Rhino PPP

26 November 2015

Acting Chief Executive Officer
Petroleum Agency of South Africa
Typerpoort Building
7 Mispel Street
Bellville, 7530

ATTENTION: MS LINDIWE MEKWE

Dear Madam

RHINO OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION SOUTH AFRICA - APPLICATIONS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN SUPPORT OF EXPLORATION RIGHTS FOR PETROLEUM ON VARIOUS FARMS IN THE KWAZULU-NATAL, FREE STATE, MPUMALANGA AND EASTERN CAPE PROVINCES (12/3/291 ER, 12/3/294 ER, 12/3/295 ER)

Rhino Oil and Gas has appointed SLR Consulting to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process as required in terms of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 for the Exploration Right applications 12/3/291 ER, 12/3/294 ER and 12/3/295 ER.

SLR has commenced with the Scoping and EIA process for these projects and the initial public consultation has been undertaken. Public information sharing meetings were held for the three Exploration Right application areas over the course of late October and early November 2015. This included two meetings in the Eastern Cape, eight meetings in the Free State and 11 meetings in KwaZulu-Natal.

As was discussed at the meeting with representatives of PASA on 19 November 2015, the public participation process to date has elicited significant objections to the exploration right applications. In this regard, there are five (5) key issues that have been raised consistently by the majority of the IAPs, generally across all three of the projects. The IAPs have tasked SLR, as the independent environmental assessment practitioner, to present these to PASA for a response. The issues are summarised below:

Issue 1: Most IAPs have objected to the exploration right applications in the strongest possible way (including threats of violence) because exploration may lead to a gas discovery and this may lead to an application for a production right, which may include the possibility of fracking as a production method.

The objections are made even though the current work programme in the ER application does not cover production or fracking.

Most persons attending the public meetings and/or responding to SLR have stated their opposition or lodged an objection on this basis. Many of the objections are made without further reason or with reasons relating to production/fracking but nonetheless they have objected. It is clear that the EIA will not be able to resolve many objections and these will thus end up with PASA.

Question: What mechanisms exist for these objections to be addressed?

Issue 2: In accordance with Issue 1 above, most IAPs have demanded that the current EIA process presents details on production and undertakes an assessment of potential production (including fracking) related impacts even though current ER application does not cover production or fracking.

Question: What is PASA's instruction with regards the scope of the current EIA?

Issue 3: Many IAPs have asked why the current Karoo Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is not applicable to all areas of South Africa where gas might occur, particularly where the resource could be shale gas. These IAPs have demanded that the Karoo SEA be expanded to include other areas of the country so that there is a consistent framework for oil and gas applications. Moreover, the IAPs have demanded that all ER applications and related EIA processes be stopped until the SEA is complete.

Question: What is PASA's response in this regard?

Issue 4: Most IAPs have argued that the time available in the current EIA schedule is insufficient to allow for the required public consultation for application areas of such large extent. There is also a related argument that the method of consultation has not been adequate given the demographic and cultural diversity of potentially interested and/or affected parties that are resident in the large application areas.

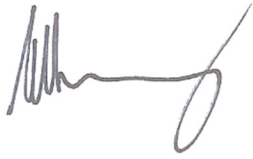
Question: Will PASA grant an extension of time within the EIA process to allow the project to respond to these issues and adjust the public participation process accordingly?

Issue 5: Most IAPs have raised the concern that many sites within the application areas are either protected outright or incompatible with exploration and/or the production of oil and gas and that legislation prevents such work from taking place in these areas. The question has been asked "why undertake an EIA to obtain exploration rights in areas where any gas, if it were to be found, would not be able to be extracted because of the restrictions imposed by protected area legislation and Regulation 122 of the Petroleum Regulations (GN R 466 of 2015) relating to the location of wells?". It has also been stated that these restrictions make it unlawful to apply for a right, even for exploration, in the restricted areas. The related demand is that the ER applications be stopped, all of the future non-compatible/unlawful areas removed and then new EIAs commenced for these revised areas.

Question: What is PASA's response in this regard?

SLR would be grateful for your urgent consideration and written response to these issues and questions.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several vertical strokes on the left and a large, sweeping loop on the right.

Matthew Hemming

MSc (Conservation Biology)

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Petroleum Agency SA

Tygerpoort Building · 7 Mispel Street · Bellville 7530 · P.O. Box 5111 Tygervalley 7536 · South Africa
Tel: +27 21 938 3500 · Fax: +27 21 938 3520
E-mail: plu@petroleumagency.com



15 December 2015

Enquiries: P Ngesi

Our Refs: 12/3/291; 12/3/294 and 12/3/295

Attention: Mr Matthew Hemming

SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd

P.O. Box 1596

Cramerview

2060

RE: RHINO OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION SOUTH AFRICA – APPLICATIONS FOR EXPLORATION RIGHTS FOR PETROLEUM IN THE EASTERN CAPE, KWAZULU-NATAL, FREE-STATE, GAUTENG & MPUMALANGA PROVINCES: MOTIVATION IN TERMS OF REGULATION 3(7) TO EXTEND THE SCOPING TIMEFRAME

Your correspondences dated 26 November 2015 requesting the extension of the timeframe to submit the final scoping reports ('FSR') in respect of exploration right applications bearing reference numbers 12/3/291, 12/3/294 and 12/3/295 refer.

We have taken note of your justification concerning the request to extend the submission timeframes for the FSRs; we are of the opinion that some of the proposed activities can be done at relatively shorter periods and others can be done concurrently. While we recognize the importance of consulting meaningfully with interested and affected parties, it is our understanding that the consultation process has commenced in all three application areas and will continue through the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) stage, therefore the proposed timelines can be reduced significantly by planning for continuous consultation at EIA stage.

Directors: M P Fusi (Chairperson)

B Luthuli R Nkambule T Ramuedzisi L Nengovhela *L Mekwe (*Executive)

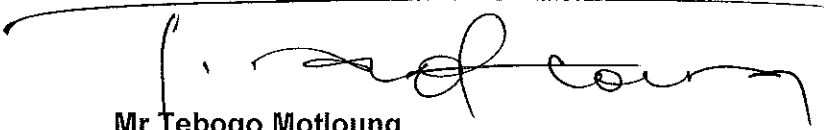
Company Secretary: Adv E Hendricks

Subsidiary of CEF SOC Ltd.

Considering the aforementioned, regrettably, we are unable to extend the timeframes for 26 weeks, 30 weeks and 35 weeks for 12/3/294, 12/3/295 and 12/3/291 respectively as per your request. However, we are amenable to extend the timeframes for 16 weeks, excluding the period of 15 December 2015 – 05 January 2016, to carry-out the proposed activities. You are therefore expected to submit the FSRs for all applications by the 20th of April 2016.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,



Mr Tebogo Motloun

General Manager: Regulation Division (Acting)

Directors: M P Fusi (Chairperson)

B Luthuli R Nkambule T Ramuedzisi L Nengovhela *L Mekwe (*Executive)

Company Secretary: Adv E Hendricks

Subsidiary of CEF SOC Ltd.

Stella Moeketse

From: Marc Hattingh <Marc.Hattingh@umngeni.gov.za>
Sent: 19 October 2015 02:13 PM
To: Matthew Hemming; Stella Moeketse
Subject: NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION:
ADVERTISEMENT IN MECURY ON 13TH OCTOBER 2015: APPLICATION FOR
EXPLORATION RIGHT FOR PETROLEUM ON VARIOUS FARMS IN REGISTRATION
DIVISION ET, FT, GS, GU AND GV, MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT, PMB, KZN

Importance: High

Dear Mr Hemming and Ms Moeketse.

I refer to the Notice of Application for Environmental Authorisation advertised in the Mercury on 13th October 2015 in support of an application for Exploration Right for petroleum on various farms in Registration Divisions ET, FT, GS, GT, GU and GV in the Magisterial District of Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal on behalf of Rhino Oil and Gas Exploration South Africa (Pty) Ltd.

As the appointed Environmental Management Officer I hereby register the uMngeni Local Municipality as an interested and affected Party and will be most grateful if you can please provide me with additional information and mapping that I will need to provide SLR Consulting (Africa) Pty Ltd with comments on behalf of the Municipality.

Can you please provide me with the property descriptions of properties within the uMngeni Municipality that have been identified.

Kind
regards,



Marc Hattingh
uMngeni Municipality
P O Box 5
HOWICK
3290
People Centered Development Intuthuko Kubantu
Office of the General Manager: Economic Development and Planning
Environmental Management Officer
Telephone: 033 239 9261
Fax: 033 330 2965
Private Mobile: 082 457 2389
Email: marc.hattingh@umngeni.gov.za

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Stella Moeketse

From: Stella Moeketse
Sent: 21 October 2015 06:21 PM
To: HESTER
Subject: RE: Registration & Response form

Thanks for the signed form!

Stella Moeketse

Environmental Assessment Practitioner
SLR Consulting (Africa) (Pty) Ltd

Email: smoeketse@slrconsulting.com
Mobile: +27 72 380 5609
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South Africa



Industry



Infrastructure



Mining & Minerals



Oil & Gas



Planning & Development



Renewable & Low Carbon

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From: HESTER [<mailto:phoarchaeology@amafapmb.co.za>]
Sent: 21 October 2015 02:11 PM
To: mhenning@slrconsulting.com; Stella Moeketse
Subject: Registration & Response form

Please find attached the registration form indicating our interest.

Kind regards

Hester Roodt
Principal Heritage Officer: Archaeology Compliance/Permits

For Deputy Director: Research, Compliance & Professional Services



Amafa / Heritage KwaZulu-Natali

P.O Box 2685, Pietermaritzburg 3201

195 Langalibalele Street

Tel: 033 394 6543 x219

Fax: 033 394 6552

E-mail: phoarchaeology@amafapmb.co.za



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

F 033 342 8783

DAFF

Ms. N. Sontangane

T 033 392 7733

Forestry Regulations & Support

30 November 2015

NandiphaS@nda.agric.za

P/Bag X9029

Pietermaritzburg

3200

SLR Consulting (Africa) (Pty) Ltd

P.O.BOX 1596

Cramerview

2060

Attention: Matthew Hemming and Stella Moeketse

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID): COMMENTS FOR THE PROPOSED PETROLEUM EXPLORATION ON VARIOUS FARMS IN KWAZULU-NATAL (291)

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) appreciates the opportunity given to review and comment on the BID for the above mentioned project. DAFF through the sub-directorate Forestry Regulations and Support is the authority mandated to implement the National Forest Act, (Act No. 84 of 1998) by regulating the use of natural forests and protected tree species in terms of the said Act.

With regards to the document received on the 19th of November 2015, the potential environmental impacts identified include the possibility to disturb and/or destroy vegetation, habitat units and related ecosystem functionality, as well as the disturbance of protected species. Therefore, the Department requests that a Vegetation Assessment is conducted for the proposed sites by a qualified personnel and the report should be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report. This study will assist in determining the impact that the project may have on the indigenous trees in a natural forest and/or protected tree species in terms of

the NFA.

Further comments will be provided upon receipt and review of the Scoping Report.

Should any further information be required, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours faithfully

N. Sontangane

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'N. Sontangane', written over a dotted line.

Forestry Regulations & Support - KZN

Petroleum Agency SA

Tygerpoort Building · 7 Mispel Street · Bellville 7530 · P.O. Box 5111 Tygervalley 7536 · South Africa
Tel: +27 21 938 3500 · Fax: +27 21 938 3520
E-mail: plu@petroleumagencyrsa.com



Ref No: 12/3/291

Enquiries: A Thovhakale

13 November 2015

E- Mail: mhemming@slrconsulting.com

Mr. Matthew Hemming
SLR Consulting South Africa (Pty) Ltd
P.O Box 1596
Cramerview
2060

OBJECTIONS AGAINST AN APPLICATION FOR AN EXPLORATION RIGHT FOR PETROLEUM IN TERMS OF SECTION 79 OF THE MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT NO. 28 OF 2002) ("THE ACT"): IN RESPECT OF VARIOUS FARMS IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF PIETERMARITZBURG IN KWAZULU NATAL PROVINCE

Kindly be advised that objections were lodged against your application by Loxley House-Luxury Guest House & Conference Venue and Cathy Rayner.

The basis for the objections are set out on the attached document.

You are therefore, required to consult with the said objectors in order to address its concerns and to submit the results of the consultation to the Agency on or before the 08th January 2016.

Yours sincerely

T MOTLOUNG
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER: REGULATION

Directors: MP Fusi (Chairperson)

B Luthuli R Nkambule T Ramuedzisi L Nengovhela L Mekwe (Acting Executive)

Company Secretary: Adv. E Hendricks

Subsidiary of CEF SOC Ltd.

South African Agency for Promotion of Petroleum Exploration and Exploitation SOC Ltd. Registration No. 1999/015715/30



From: Jan L Korrubel [mailto:jlkorrubel@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, 12 November 2015 04:33 PM
To: mhemming@slrconsulting.com; Mekwe, Lindiwe
Cc: welcome@loxleyhouse.com
Subject: Fracking - Rhino Gas application : interested and affected party

To Whom It May Concern,

We, the undersigned, object in the strongest possible terms, to the application for fracking in the Natal Midlands.

We would like to be registered as an interested and affected party in the Rhino Gas Application:

Jan and Angie Korrubel

Loxley House - Luxury Guest House & Conference Venue

Tel : +27 (33) 2666 362

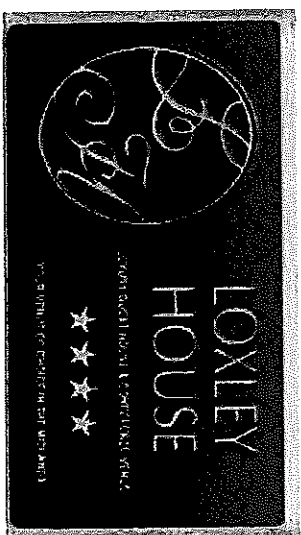
Fax : +27 (86) 551 2472

Cell : +27 (73) 228 2099

Email : welcome@loxleyhouse.com

Web: www.loxleyhouse.com

Please "like" us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/LoxleyHouse



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From: Catherine Rayner [mailto:rayner_cathy@hotmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, 12 November 2015 03:53 PM

To: Mekwe, Lindiwe

Subject: Objection to Rhino application

To whom it may concern

I hereby formally object to the exploration of the Rhino Oil and Gas company and their proposal to frack KZN.

My business is on the tourist route Midlands meander that bring thousands of people to the area and feel this would cause mass unemployment ...not only on farms but to the tourist industry of South Africa...let alone all the other side affects of fracking.

Your sincerely

Cathy Rayner

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For more information please visit <http://www.is.co.za>

Stella Moeketse

From: Stella Moeketse
Sent: 17 December 2015 03:33 PM
To: KarenM
Subject: RE: Towards a response to the application for gas exploration in KZN/Eastern Cape

Thanks, Karen.

We'll do so.

Kind regards

Stella Moeketse

Environmental Assessment Practitioner
SLR Consulting (Africa) (Pty) Ltd

Email: smoeketse@slrconsulting.com
Mobile: +27 72 380 5609
Tel: +27 11 467 0945
Ext: 2010
Fax: +27 11 467 0978

SLR Africa (Block 7)
Fourways Manor Office Park
Cnr Roos and Macbeth Streets
Fourways, Johannesburg, 2060
South Africa



Industry



Infrastructure



Mining & Minerals



Oil & Gas



Planning & Development



Renewable & Low Carbon

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Registered Office: Unit 7 Fourways Manor Office Park, Cnr Roos and Macbeth Street, Fourways, 2191, Gauteng, South Africa

From: KarenM [mailto:KarenM@daff.gov.za]
Sent: 05 November 2015 11:08 AM
To: pandoral@mweb.co.za; Matthew Hemming
Cc: AyandaMny; NandiphaS; MinentleB; Patience Matamba
Subject: RE: Towards a response to the application for gas exploration in KZN/Eastern Cape

Good morning

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (KZN Forestry Management) would like to register an as Interested and Affected Party for the above-mentioned project.

All documents and correspondence with regards to the proposed activity should be forwarded to our Department for review and comment.

Kind regards

Ms. Karen Moodley

Karen Moodley
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Directorate :Forestry Regulations and Support
Tel: 033 392 7739
Web: www.daff.gov.za
E-mail: KarenM@daff.gov.za



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From: pandoral@mweb.co.za [<mailto:pandoral@mweb.co.za>]

Sent: Sunday, November 01, 2015 6:07 PM

To: AyandaMny; 'Banu Kajee'; Brenda Willows; Bruce; 'Charles Ndlela'; Dean Ricketts; 'Dinky Oliver'; herbz@gmail.com; John Roff; Kerry McLean; Lemson Betha; Liz Taylor; stanley@metroweb.co.za; Marilyn Mills; Mark Dent; Mark Graham; michelle@timesgroup.co.za; 'Moiru Grueneberg'; paolo candotti; Ryan Nortier; 'Saville'; Siyabulela Barnard Mtonjeni; stipcich@mweb.co.za; Tembeka.Dambuzza@wessa.co.za; Terry Sandy; tsoanelo@enviros.co.za

Cc: Judy Bell; Nikki Brighton

Subject: Towards a response to the application for gas exploration in KZN/Eastern Cape

Importance: High

Update 1.11.2015: The items hereunder have been collated over the past week by a group of concerned citizens against gas exploration and fracking in KZN. The purpose of this update is to help raise awareness and encourage a response. Please share widely information about the public meetings this week, encourage landowners/citizens to register as interested and affected parties, and to make comment.

1. **KZN Rhino Gas exploration application: Landowners & Citizens can register as an interested and affected party.**
Email this sentence "Please may I register as an Interested and Affected Party for the Rhino Oil & Gas Exploration Right in KZN" to Matthew SLR Consulting Matthew Hemming mhemming@slrconsulting.com and Stella Moeketse smoeketse@slrconsulting.com (011) 467 0945 (Tel) or (011) 467 0978

2. **Dates of public meetings: Please encourage people to attend and make comment.**

2 November 09h30 Ashburton Hall;	2 November 14h30 Richmond Agricultural Hall;
3 November 09h30 Imvunolu School;	3 November 14h30 Lion's River Club;
4 November 09h30 Colenso Hall;	4 November 14h30 Mooi River Country Club;
5 November 09h30 New Hanover Hall;	5 November 11h30 Greytown Lodge Hall,
6 November 09h30 Mthembu Hall;	6 November 14h30 VA Makhoba Hall,
7 November 09h30 Nkandla Hall.	

3. **Guideline Documents for landowners affected by mining operations are now available on TKAG website:**
<http://www.treasurethekaroo.co.za/advice-to-landowners> These guidelines (in Afrikaans and English) have been developed to provide landowners affected by mining or oil and gas exploration applications with a guideline to ensure that they follow the correct process and engage with companies in a controlled manner. A guideline document written by Derek Light Attorneys for landowners in the Karoo formed the basis of these documents. (Source Jeanie le Roux – Director of Operations [+27 72 959 1818 research@treasurethekaroo.co.za](mailto:+27_72_959_1818_research@treasurethekaroo.co.za) www.tkag.co.za)

4. **Invitation from SLR to public in Matatiele/Mount Fletcher to meeting 9th November regarding Eastern Cape gas exploration proposal. See notice attached, extract hereunder.**

"You are also notified of and invited to a public scoping meeting which will be held as follows: Date: Monday 9 November 2015 Time: 12:30 pm Venue: Nokhwezi Community Hall All stakeholders are invited to register as Interested & Affected Parties (IAP). You must register as an IAP if you would like more information or wish to participate in the environmental assessment of the project. To do so, or to raise any environmental issues or concerns regarding the project, please contact: Matthew Hemming (Project Manager) and/or Stella Moeketse (Public Participation) by Email: mhemming@slrconsulting.com and/or smoeketse@slrconsulting.com Tel: 011 467 0945 Fax: 011 467 0975 Post: PO Box 1596, Cramerview, 2060"

5. **Please sign the petition and send it out** <http://tinyurl.com/frackingecapekzn> (1500 signatures and rising) References on hydraulic fracturing www.umzimvubu.org/mining. Forward any info you would like to share/post on the UCPP (Umzimvubu catchment region) website to tsoanelo@enviros.co.za.

6. **For further information:**
 - Nationally: Treasure the Karoo Action Group: <http://treasurethekaroo.co.za/fracking-facts>
 - Midlands KZN: Midlands Conservancies Forum: : <http://www.midlandsconservancies.org.za/prpagefracking.php>
 - Matatiele: Umzimvubu Catchment Partnership Programme: Umzimvubu.org/mining
 - Please sign the Avaaz Petition: <http://tinyurl.com/frackingecapekzn> and send it out.

7. **Article from Environmental Monitoring Group, Cape Town** - On 18 June 2015, EMG co-hosted a public seminar on fracking. The event took place at Alternative Information and Development Centre, a Cape Town based NGO active on social and economic justice. An award-winning new documentary produced by Alliance Earth, *The High Cost of Cheap Gas*, was screened as a catalyst for discussion. Guiding the discussion were a panel of representatives from EMG, Alliance Earth, Treasure the Karoo Action Group (TKAG) and Centre for Environmental Rights (CER).
<http://www.emg.org.za/news/185-civil-society-comes-together-to-discuss-fracking>

8. **Concerns raised about water scarcity in SA/KZN**

<http://mg.co.za/article/2015-01-22-south-africas-great-thirst-has-begun>

(Source Nicky McLeod <mailto:nicky@enviros.co.za>)

9. **Support from Coastwatch** (Source: Rod Bulman rod@phelamanga.co.za)
10. **Bikers against Fracking campaign and article in Witness** (to support contact Bruce Houghting houghting@xsinet.co.za)
11. **Report analysing water availability across all potentially commercial shale resources worldwide.** Global Shale Gas Development: Water Availability & Business Risks, by Paul Reig, Tianyi Luo and Jonathan N. Proctor - September 2014 <http://www.wri.org/publication/global-shale-gas-development-water-availability-business-risks>

Article: Thanks to better technology and improved efficiency, energy is becoming cleaner and more plentiful—whatever the price of oil, says Edward Lucas <http://www.economist.com/news/special-report/21639014-thanks-better-technology-and-improved-efficiency-energy-becoming-cleaner-and-more?frsc=dg%7Ca>

Article: Energy and Water: The Vital Link for a Sustainable Future Along with greater use of shale gas come risks of possible climate effects, as well as possible environmental and health impacts caused by the process of fracking. Copyright © 2014, Stockholm International Water Institute, SIWI http://www.worldwaterweek.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/2014_WWW_Report_web-2.pdf

(Source Morag Peden PedenM@ukzn.ac.za)

12. **Attached: a. Task Force on Shale Gas first interim, second and third report (UK)** The Task Force on Shale Gas was launched in September 2014 to provide an impartial, transparent and evidence-based assessment of the potential benefits and risks of shale gas extraction to the United Kingdom. **b. Science for Environment Commission: Unconventional shale gas and oil: overview of ecological impacts** European Commission 18 December 2014 Issue 398
(Source Judy Bell judybell@mweb.co.za)
13. **KZN Crane Foundation is forming an anti-fracking group** see attached call for experts to assist. (Source Terry terry.sandy67@gmail.com)
14. **Schools response:** St Johns has put a petition together to be delivered to Ashburton Meeting: (Brenda Willows bwillows@stjohnsdsg.com) Julia Colvin (WESSA Water Explorers) and Wendy Ncgobo (DUCT) have raised school awareness, to assist contact Julia julia.colvin@gmail.com)
15. **Calls for the establishment of financial guarantees for rehabilitation:** *We think that, because of the financial model and uncertainties, fracking is a vulnerable financial proposition, and any additional cost to be borne in terms of regulatory compliance (including, in particular, financial provision for rehabilitation) will impact on the feasibility of fracking at all.* (Nicole Loser CER nloser@cer.org.za)

16. **Links to four articles which explain why it is not clever for a cash strapped country to invest in fracking**

<http://oilprice.com/newsletters/free/opintel27102015>
<http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/5974a3ce-52e0-11e5-b029-b9d50a74fd14.html>
<http://www.wsj.com/articles/fracking-firms-that-drove-oil-boom-struggle-to-survive-1443053791>
<http://www.wsj.com/articles/deep-debt-keeps-oil-firms-pumping-1420594436>
http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2015/04/report_half_of_us_fracking_companies_will_go_out_of_business_this_year.html

('Rob Crankshaw' rob.crankshaw@amamarketing.co.za KZNCA and Mike Mac Carthy m.mike@mweb.co.za)

17. **Local blog** (Sherina Swart SherinaS@L2B.co.za) <http://blog.l2b.co.za/too-close-to-home-what-the-frack/>

18. **Attached please find campaign updates from 23.10.2015 as a word document.**

If you can assist in driving any of these actions forward or add your own campaign, please contact Judy Bell: judybell@mweb.co.za Nikki Brighton: nikki@cowfriend.co.za or Pandora Long pandoral@mweb.co.za

Petroleum Agency SA

Tygerpoort Building · 7 Mispel Street · Bellville 7530 · P.O. Box 5111 Tygervalley 7536 · South Africa
Tel: +27 21 938 3500 · Fax: +27 21 938 3520
E-mail: plu@petroleumagencyrsa.com



Ref No: 12/3/291

Enquiries: A Thovhakale

13 November 2015

E- Mail: mhemming@slrconsulting.com

Mr. Matthew Hemming
SLR Consulting South Africa (Pty) Ltd
P.O Box 1596
Cramerview
2060

OBJECTIONS AGAINST AN APPLICATION FOR AN EXPLORATION RIGHT FOR PETROLEUM IN TERMS OF SECTION 79 OF THE MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT NO. 28 OF 2002) ("THE ACT"): IN RESPECT OF VARIOUS FARMS IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF PIETERMARITZBURG IN KWAZULU NATAL PROVINCE

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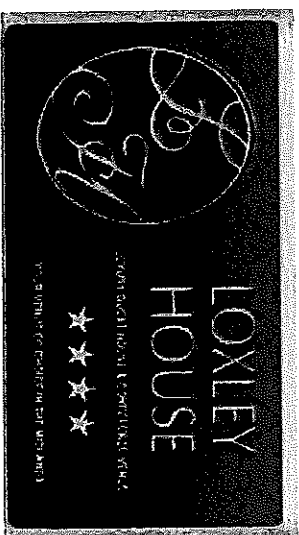
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Sent: Thursday, 12 November 2015 03:53 PM

To: Mekwe, Lindiwe

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Your sincerely

Cathy Rayner

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Tel: 031 - 785 9300 / 9313 • Fax: 031 – 785 2121 • Fax to E-mail: 086 293 7734 •
Sms line: 083 445 3207 • E-mail: sonja.britz@mkhambathini.gov.za

TECHNICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Your ref:
My ref: 19/7/2/130
Enquiries: Ms E Donaldson

10 December 2015

SLR Consulting (Africa) (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 1596
Cramerview
2060

mhemming@slrconsulting.com and smoeketse@slrconsulting.com

Attention: Matthew Hemming/Stella Moeketse

Dear Sir/Madam

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR AN EXPLORATION RIGHT IN TERMS OF SECTION 79 OF THE MINERALS AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT, 28 OF 2002 (MPRDA)

Please find attached a copy of the resolution of the full Council taken at its meeting held on 26 November 2015, which is self-explanatory.

Yours faithfully

**Ms TC NDLELA
MUNICIPAL MANAGER**



RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 26 NOVEMBER 2015, AT THE MKHAMBATHINI MUNICIPAL OFFICES –COUNCIL CHAMBER.

REPORT BASED ON THE APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR AN EXPLORATION RIGHT IN TERMS OF SECTION 79 OF THE MINERALS AND PETROLEUM RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT ACT, 28 OF 2002

RESOLVED

LC9.12/26.11.2015

That:

1. Exclude those areas of riparian rights, wetlands and other water resource from the application area as exploration within these areas would be prohibited, and to re-apply with a more focused area;
2. Follow a more comprehensive public participation process where these proposals, calling for submissions, are advertised in papers circulating in the affected areas, in both English and Zulu, and where there is consultation with the Ingonyama Trust Board, Traditional Authorities, farmers association, ratepayers associations and the local municipality
3. Submit specialist report detailing cumulative impacts of both the exploration process as well as those which would be associated with a viable find.
4. Address the issues around benefits to the local community, ownership of the project, compensation payable, remedial guarantees, etc
5. Address the issue around benefit to the local community, ownership of the project, compensation payable, remedial guarantees, ect.
6. Council cannot consider this application until the requested information is forthcoming and a comprehensive public participation process in undertaking

SIGNED: _____

Clr E. Ngcongo

Speaker

_____ TC Ndlela

Municipal Manager

DATE: _____

04/12/15

Msunduzi Municipality

Economic Development Services
Environmental Management Unit



Private Bag X321
Pietermaritzburg
3200
(033) 392 3000

333 Church Street
Pietermaritzburg
3200
www.msunduzi.gov.za

Enq: Cherise Harris

Tel: 033 392 3241

E-mail: cherise.harris@msunduzi.gov.za

Date: 29 February 2016

SLR Africa
Fourways Manor Office Park
Cnr. Roos and Macbeth Streets
Johannesburg
2060

Att: Stella Moeketse

Dear Madam

The meeting regarding Rhino Oil & Gas Exploration Right Application held at uMgungundlovu District Office on Monday, 22nd February 2015 refers.

The following issues are submitted for your noting and action:

1. A Water Use License Authorisation (WULA) will be required for this application and it is the responsibility of the applicant to liaise with the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) in determining their requirements.
 - a) A written response from the DWS must be sent to this unit which stipulates all of their requirements for the WULA.
2. This unit must be notified regarding **each** site that is proposed for exploration, whether privately or municipally owned.
 - a) This unit will provide information using the approved Msunduzi Environmental Management Framework (EMF) and Conservation Plan (C-Plan) which will determine a way forward regarding **specific** sites.

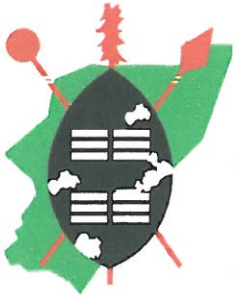
Please do not hesitate to contact this department should you have any further queries.

FOR: MANAGER: CONSERVATION & ENVIRONMENT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Telephone/uCingo: 033 392 2490
Facsimile/iFekisi: 086 770 2951

Private Bag/Isikhwama: X321
Pietermaritzburg/ePietermaritzburg 3201



INGONYAMA TRUST BOARD

• 65 Trelawney Road, Southgate, Pietermaritzburg, 3201 • P.O. Box 601, Pietermaritzburg, 3200
• Tel: 033 846 9900 • Fax: 033 386 2528 • www.ingonyamatrust.org.za

26th January 2016

INVITATION FOR PRESENTATIONS TO MANCO

Rhino, Oil & Gas Exploration

As discussed telephonically on 27 January 2016 you are hereby invited to do a presentation at a special MANCO meeting which will take place at:

Venue : Ingonyama Trust Board
Date : 8th February 2016
Time : 09:15am

Please be advised that you will be given a maximum of 30 minutes for presentations and 15 minutes for questions. You are also kindly requested to bring along a duly completed ITB 1 and ITB2 form to the presentation. Kindly submit your presentations to Ms Rabia Walljee at walljeeR@ingonyamatrust.org.za (033 8469900 ext 9962) or pitoutt@ingonyamatrust.org.za (Ext 9924) by no later than 3rd February 2016.

Yours sincerely

Mr K.D.L. Pakkies
Acting Real Estate Manager

“Unlocking Rural Land for Development, for the benefit of the people”