

Project Reference: 710.20006.000018

29 January 2018

TAUNG GOLD (SECUNDA) (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED

DMR REFERENCE NUMBER: MP) 30/5/1/3/3/2/1 (10020) EA

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION TO INCLUDE THE GENERATORS AS PART OF THE DEWATERING INFRASTRUCTURE AT THE DISUSED EVANDER NO. 6 SHAFT, ON PORTION 86 OF THE FARM DRIEFONTEIN 136IR SITUATED WITHIN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF GOVEN MBEKI MPUMALANGA REGION

Dear Interested and Affected Party

Taung Gold (Secunda) (Proprietary) Limited (Taung Gold) has mining-related interests in Secunda, in the Mpumalanga Province. Taung Gold is proposing to dewater the disused Evander No. 6 Shaft (previously owned by Evander Gold Mines) as part of refurbishing the shaft and to pump the excess underground water via the establishment of a new decant water pipeline from the Evander No.6 Shaft to the Header dam/sump located near the Brendan Village. From the Header dam/sump, the decanted water will be gravitated by the neighbouring Evander Gold Mine to the Leeuwpan Dam for evaporation via an existing pipeline and according to existing practices. It is anticipated that power to dewater the shaft will be sourced from a combination of Eskom and generators.

SLR Consulting (Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SLR), an independent firm of environmental consultants was appointed to manage the environmental authorisation process.

The Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental (DARDLEA) granted Taung Gold a positive environmental authorisation (DARDLEA Reference No: 17/2/3 GS-241) on 17 February 2015. The environmental authorisation authorises listed activities 11, 18, 22 and 23 of Regulation 544 in terms of Listing Notice 1 of June 2010 and listed activities 1, 4, 10, 13 and 16 of Regulation 546 in terms of Listing Notice 3 of June 2010.

It is important to note, that listed activity 1 (*The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where: i. the electricity output is more than 10 megawatts but less than 20 megawatts or ii. the output is 10 megawatts or less but the total extent of the facility covers an area in excess of 1 hectare*) of Regulation 544 in terms of Listing Notice 1 of June 2010, for the use of a generator, was omitted from the environmental authorisation (DARDLEA Reference No: 17/2/3 GS-241) granted by the DARDLEA. This was



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due to an internal departmental administrative error. The omission of this listed activity was discussed with the DARDLEA and they indicated that they were not able to amend the environmental authorisation (DARDLEA Reference No: 17/2/3 GS-241) to rectify the error, given that their department was no longer the competent authority for mining related projects due to legislative changes. The DARDLEA advised that the matter needed to be taken up with the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) as the competent authority.

This letter therefore serves to inform you that the DMR has granted Taung Gold a positive environmental authorisation for the use of a generator in terms of the National Environmental Management Act No. 107 of 1998 (as amended) on 15 January 2018 (DMR reference number: (MP) 30/5/1/3/3/2/1 (10020) EA). The environmental authorisation granted by the DMR authorises Activity 2 of Listing Notice 1 of Regulation 983 of 2014 (Equivalent activities in terms of the amended Regulations).

Should you want to appeal against any aspect of the DMR decision; Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) need to lodge an appeal in terms of the NEMA, National Appeal Regulation R.993 of 2014 with the appeal minister within 20 calendar days from the date of notification by means of the following method:

Appeal to the Department of Environmental Affairs

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|-------------------|--|
| Attention: | Directorate Appeals and Legal Review |
| Email: | appealsdirector@environment.gov.za |
| By post: | Private Bay X 477, Pretoria, 0001 |
| By hand: | Environmental House, Corner Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Street, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083 |

Copy of the lodged appeal to the DMR

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Attention: | Regional Manager: Mpumalanga Region |
| By Facsimile: | 013 656 1474 |
| Email: | Aubrey.Tshivhandekano@dmr.gov.za |
| By post: | Private Bag X 7279, Witbank, 1035 |
| By hand: | Saveways Centre, Nelson Mandela Drive, Emalahleni, 1035 |

The procedure pertaining to the administration and processing of appeals in terms of Chapter 2 of the NEMA, National Appeal Regulation R.993 of 2014 is outlined in Appendix A. A copy of the official appeal form can be obtained from the Department of Environmental Affairs.

A copy of the environmental authorisation and reasons for the decision will be made available on request.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned

Kind regards



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**APPENDIX A: THE APPEAL PROCEDURE IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 107 OF 1998): NATIONAL APPEAL REGULATIONS 993 OF 2014**

**CHAPTER 2
ADMINISTRATION AND PROCESSING OF APPEALS**

4. Appeal Submission

- (1) An appellant must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from:
- (a) the date that the notification of the decision for an application for an environmental authorisation or a waste management licence was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or
 - (b) the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the competent authority, issuing authority or licensing authority, in the case of decisions other than those referred to in paragraph (a).
- (2) An appeal submission must be -
- (a) submitted in writing in the form obtainable from the appeal administrator; and
 - (b) accompanied by -
 - (i) a statement setting out the grounds of appeal;
 - (ii) supporting documentation which is referred to in the appeal submission; and a statement, including supporting documentation, by the appellant to confirm compliance with regulation 4(1) of these Regulations.

5. Responding Statement

The applicant, the decision-maker, interested and affected parties and organ of state must submit their responding statement, if any, to the appeal authority and the appellant within 20 days from the date of receipt of the appeal submission.

6. Appeal Panel

- (1) If the appeal authority reasonably believes that expert advice must be sought or that an appeal panel must be appointed, the appeal administrator must source an independent expert or constitute an independent appeal panel, or both, within 10 days from the date of receipt of an instruction from the appeal authority.
- (2) The appeal panel contemplated in subregulation (1) may consist of such number of independent experts and with such expertise as the Appeal Authority may deem necessary under the circumstances;

- (3) The expert or appeal panel must provide advice to the appeal administrator within 10 days from the receipt of an instruction from the appeal administrator.

7. Recommendations and Decisions on Appeals

- (1) The appeal administrator must make a recommendation on the appeal to the appeal authority within 30 days of receipt of the responding statement referred to in regulation 5 of these Regulations, in the event that an independent expert has not been sourced or an independent appeal panel has not been constituted.
- (2) The appeal administrator must make a recommendation on the appeal to the appeal authority within 10 days of receipt of the advice referred to in regulation 6(2) of these Regulations, in the event that an independent expert has been sourced or an independent appeal panel has been constituted.
- (3) The appeal authority must reach a decision on an appeal, and notify the appellant , applicant , and any registered interested and affected party, within 20 days of the recommendation on the appeal by the appeal administrator
- (4) The decision contemplated in subregulation (3) must contain written reasons for the decision.

8. Communication

- (1) A person may deliver documents in terms of these regulations by using one of the delivery methods referred to in section 47D of the Act.
- (2) In order to meet the time periods determined in these regulations, the person referred to in subregulation (1), must also email, fax or hand deliver the document to the recipient, if the document is delivered by ordinary mail or registered mail.