



REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2018

<p>November 1</p>	<p>Meeting and research assistance: Prof Michael Solomon, Mineral Economics, Beneficiation and Sustainability, University of Cape Town, Minerals to Metals Signature Theme – Mining and Diversification of Land use</p> <p>Consultation meeting re illegal chrome and platinum mining within the Eastern Limb of the Bushveld Complex (Steelpoort): Mr Lee McCann and Ms Robyn Mellet of the SAIL Group</p> <p>Member of the Bojanala District Municipality: Air Quality Implementation Task Team</p>
<p>November 2</p>	<p>Meeting with Councillor Njani of Westonaria (cancelled – telephonic engagement)</p> <p>Meeting with Mr Paul O’Sullivan re Mintails’ liquidation, Mintails’ directors and environmental liabilities</p>
<p>November 4</p>	<p>Publication of Dr Tany Zack’s book titled: “Undercity” (Book 10/10 – “Wake Up, this is Joburg”). University of the Witwatersrand.</p> <p>An extract of the book reads: <i>“Pressing for rehabilitation of mining land is a cause with few champions, but foremost amongst them is activist Mariette Liefferink. A tour of the tailings, pits, ravaged landscape of the West Rand with her is a jaw-dropping lesson in the geoscience, biology and impunity that have contaminated vast swathes of soil and water, and endangered livestock, bird- and plant-life. The rehabilitation efforts of one mining house pale against the numbers that Mariette can clearly recite in her sleep: forty-two tons of mine dust enter the environment every day, the radioactivity in some of the soil here is fifty-two times higher than the recommended levels, the Witwatersrand produced more than 43 thousand tons of gold from one hundred and twenty mines in one century; the country generated an estimated two hundred and twenty-one million tons of gold mining waste per annum.</i></p> <p><i>“Mariette shows us luminescent orange pools of acid effluent...”</i></p>

November 4	In loco visitation of illegal chrome and platinum mining operations in Steelpoort, Limpopo with the SAIL Group
November 5	Meeting and research assistance with Messrs Hethen Hira and Duncan Clements, and Ms Shoki Motlathe re proposal for the rehabilitation of mined land
November 6	Assistance with proposed Prospecting Rights Application for mining rights close to or inside the Pilanesberg reserve.
November 8	<p>Meeting in Cape Town with Perspective Investment Management re environmental performance of mining companies</p> <p>Blesbokspruit Catchment Management Forum - Written contributions re:</p> <p>Cowles Dam</p>  <p>Blesbokspruit</p>  <p>Request for an investigation by DWS (Messrs Bashan Govender and Keet) to confirm whether the Eastern Basin AMD is not discharging into the system.</p> <p>Court victory for the FSE and its coalition partners in the Mabola case. See subjoined report.</p>

## Court victory for South Africa's protected areas in Mabola case

8 NOVEMBER 2018 AT 2:06 PM



Montane grassland in the Mabola Protected Environment

Today, the North Gauteng High Court set aside the 2016 decisions of former Mineral Resources Minister Zwane and the late Environmental Affairs Minister Molewa to permit a new coal mine to be developed in the Mabola Protected Environment near Wakkerstroom, Mpumalanga.

The case was brought by the coalition of eight civil society organisations challenging a range of authorisations that have permitted an underground coal mine in a strategic water source area and a protected area.

The Mabola Protected Environment was declared under the Protected Areas Act in 2014 by the Mpumalanga provincial government as part of the declaration of more than 70 000 hectares of protected area in the Mpumalanga grasslands. This followed years of extensive research and planning by a number of government agencies, including the Department of Environmental Affairs, the South African National Biodiversity Institute and the Mpumalanga Tourism & Parks Agency...

For full report, please visit:

<https://cer.org.za/news/court-victory-for-south-africas-protected-areas-in-mabola-case>

November 9	<p>Meeting with Danie Otto of Digby Wells Environmental re the National Mine Strategy – research assistance</p> <p>SWPN: Ministerial Interactive Session with Water Sector Minister – Engagement</p>
November 10	<p>Public Participation Meeting – Draft Scoping Report: Pure Source Mine</p> <p>Laerskool Vaalriver, Lochvaal</p> <p>Written and oral submissions</p> <p>Assistance to IAPs of Vaaloewer, Vaal Eden and Lindiquesdrift</p>
November 12	<p>Meeting with Mr Nerson Govender, Chief Director of the Legal Resource Centre re the LRC’s legal assistance to the FSE</p> <p>Meeting with Mr James Taylor re assessment of Benchmarks’ Foundation’s , evaluation of itself - influence it has and how it influences companies and other civil society organisations.</p> <p>Meeting with Adv Sam Martin and Mr Lucien Limacher re Mintails’ liquidation and possible legal intervention</p>
November 13	<p>Rietspruit Catchment Management Forum: Participation and presentation of the FSE’s presentation at the SAHRC’s inquiry into the pollution of the Vaal River and written comments on delay on the signing off of Water Use Licenses</p>
November 15	<p>Participation and presentation on FSE’s experience of establishing relationships with South Deep host Communities, and supporting engagement with communities for the KPMG assessment, and the Synergy / ICMC Pilot assessment (in Bekkersdal, Simunye and Thusanang)</p>
November 16	<p>Participation and presentation, titled “Inter/Multidisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Approaches to Address the Dereliction of Duty within the West Rand Gold Fields” at North West University’s 9<sup>th</sup> Eco-Health and Wellbeing Symposium</p> <p>FSE’s Replying Affidavit in the matter between the FSE and the Minister of Mineral</p>

	<p>Resources, the Minister of Water and Sanitation, William Patrick Bower (Pty) Ltd and others re mining on land zoned “agriculture”</p> <p>(Case: 28740/2017)</p>
November 17	PAIA Applications to DEA, DWS and DMR re Bauba A Hlabirwa Mine
November 19	Continuation of SAHRC Hearings on Pollution of the Vaal – written comments Request by the FSE to present to the PC on Water and Sanitation on Mintails’ liquidation and unfunded environmental liabilities (R460 million)
November 20	Meeting with Mr Sunday Mabaso, Regional Manager, Department of Mineral Resources (Gauteng) re Mintails’ liquidation, MR132, which was not issued and unfunded environmental liabilities.
November 22	<p>Meeting with Mr William Yang, CEO of the SAIL Group re illegal chrome and platinum mining within the Eastern Limb of the Bushveld Complex, Limpopo</p> <p>Assistance with and written submissions re the Draft Basic Assessment Reports for the Highlands Wind Energy Facilities for Public Comment and possible impacts on Kuzuko Lodge in the Addo National Park</p>
November 27	In loco inspection of Mintails operations with Adv Sam Martin and police
November 24	Research assistance University of the Free State – Reanetsie Pohlo (Masters) – “A comparative analysis of the treatment of biodiversity impacts in Mining and EIAs before and after 2013 – Experiences from Mpumalanga Province, South Africa
November 27	<p>Comments on Barrage Bulk Sand Mine application for Environmental Authorisation</p> <p>Comments on Rooikraal (Ergo) reclamation application</p>
November 28	<p>Research Assistance: Willy Fuduzani</p> <p>Submission of thought leadership piece on activism work around AMD for the UCT Future Water publication: "Regenerative water futures - tensions around water scarcity and the mining industry". Sue Harrison of University of Cape Town.</p>

November 29	Appointment as member of the Section 11 Advisory Committee of the SAHRC and first sitting: Implementation of the findings and directives pertaining to the SAHRC's Report on the National Hearing on the Underlying Socio-Economic Challenges of Mining Affected Communities in SA
November 30	<p>Withdrawal of De Beer's Application:</p> <p>The FSE appealed the granting of an Environmental Authorisation on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2017 in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 Of 1998) to De Beers Consolidated Mines (Pty) Ltd for Prospecting (Without Bulk Sampling) in respect of various Farm Portions in the Bojanala Platinum and Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipalities, North-West Province (Authorisation register number as on environmental authorisation: NW30/5/1/1/3/2/1/11780EM)</p> <p>Research Assistance and Contributions to Karen King's (Senior Associate, Hydrology of WSP) article for the BizTrends 2019 series titled "<i>AMD: Poisoned wells still present a prolific threat</i>"</p>