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**GOVERNMENT NOTICE**

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**DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES**

No. 160

28 February 2011

**MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2002  
(ACT No. 28 OF 2002)****MORATORIUM UNDER SECTION 49 (1) OF THE MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT ( ACT No. 28 OF 2002) ON RECEIVING OF NEW APPLICATIONS FOR PROSPECTING RIGHTS IN TERMS OF SECTION 16 OF THE ACT**

On 31 August 2010, the Minister of Mineral Resources, after having invited and considered representations from relevant stakeholders, imposed a moratorium under section 49(1) of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002), on the processing of all new applications for prospecting rights in terms of section 16 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002, for a period of six months with effect from 1 September 2010 until 28 February 2011. This moratorium did not affect the processing of existing prospecting and mining right applications received before 1 September 2010, or the renewal thereof.

In terms of section 49(3)(b), the Minister of Mineral Resources hereby amends the abovementioned period of six months as follows:

In respect of the Mpumalanga Region, the moratorium imposed under section 49(1) is hereby extended until 30 September 2011;

In respect of all other regions, the moratorium imposed under section 49(1) is hereby extended until 31 March 2011.

This extended moratorium does not affect the processing of existing prospecting and mining right applications received before 1 September 2010, or the renewal thereof.



**SUSAN SHABANGU, MP**

**MINISTER OF MINERAL RESOURCES**

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