

## DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES

NO. 546

09 JUNE 2017

**MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2002  
[ACT NO 28 OF 2002]****PROHIBITION OR RESTRICTION OF PROSPECTING OR MINING IN TERMS OF  
SECTION 49[1] OF THE MINERAL AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES  
DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2002 [ACT NO 28 OF 2002]**

I, Mr **MOSEBENZI ZWANE** (MP), in my capacity as the Minister of Mineral Resources acting in terms of section 49[1] of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 [Act No 28 of 2002], having regard for the social and political climate at Xolobeni and reflecting on the significant social disintegration and highly volatile nature of the current situation in the area, hereby declare:

- I. An 18-month moratorium on the Transworld Energy and Mineral Resources SA (Pty) Ltd (TEM) application and the lodging of any further prospecting or mining applications in the area. The moratorium is relevant to the TEM application and the prohibition of any further lodging or processing of any mining or prospecting applications on the approved mine area for the next 18 months, or until the Minister is satisfied that the community conflict and unrest has been resolved and that the application can continue.
- II. Secondly, that no further applications for prospecting or mining authorizations will be accepted on the following mine area until such time as the moratorium is lifted:

*On an area of State land situated in the Xolobeni area, known as mining blocks Mpahlane, Mnyameni, Kwanyana, Sikombe and Mtentu, within the Magisterial District of Bizana in the Eastern Cape Province.*

- III. Thirdly, to commission independent social specialist/s to conduct an independent social specialist study, to interact with the community members (both pro- and anti-mining groups) and investigate the deeply rooted cause of the problems and document the causes and possible solutions.



**MR MOSEBENZI ZWANE, MP**  
**MINISTER OF MINERAL RESOURCES**