



**the dme**

Department:  
Minerals and Energy  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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Director, Mineral Economics

Sir,

### **SUPPORT TO SMALL-SCALE MINING FROM MINERAL ECONOMICS**

I herewith affirm the prominent role coal mining has played as a goal for small-scale entrepreneurs in South Africa. As a consequence, there has been an increasingly high-level of communication between my Directorate and the coal Chief Mineral Economist, at the Mineral Economics Directorate.

Numerous projects and proposals from small-scale BEE companies have been managed by my Directorate, with the assistance of Mr. Prevost, the DME coal specialist.

Coal is the source of most of the country's energy and the most popular commodity for the small-scale sector of the industry. It is therefore my personal view that the above-mentioned working relationship should be promoted and developed for the benefit of the DME as well as for all potential new miners looking at coal as an entry point to the industry.

As Director of Small-scale Mining, I have received co-operation of only the highest level in response to requests made to the Mineral Economics Directorate. I wish to use this opportunity to thank your Directorate for its input and assistance in this regard.

Yours truly,

PG Kwata   
Director, Small Scale Mining  
Date: 29-03-2007