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Ref: (NC) 30/5/1/1/2/(14030PR, 14025PR, 14026PR)
Directorate: Mine Environmental Management

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REGULATION 3(7) TIMEFRAME EXTENSION WITH RESPECT TO AN APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION LODGED IN TERMS OF SECTION 24 OF NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT 107 OF 1998) AS AMENDED, READ WITH REGULATION 19 OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) REGULATIONS, 2014 AS AMENDED, FOR A PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION AND ITS ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES

Your letter/email dated **03 September 2024** requesting for extension to submit the Final Basic Assessment Report, refers.

- 1. You requested timeframe extension due to the complexities you foresee in drafting the Basic Assessment Report before submission of the Final Basic Assessment Report to the Department.
- 2. In light of the above, you have requested the extension of timeframes for the submission of the Final Basic Assessment Report in terms of Regulation 3(7) of NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended) which states that:

In the event where the scope of work must be expanded based on the outcome of an assessment done in accordance with these Regulations, which outcome could not be anticipated prior to the undertaking of the assessment, or in the event where **exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated**, the competent authority may, prior to the lapsing of the relevant prescribed timeframe, in writing, extend the relevant prescribed timeframe and agree with the applicant on the length of such extension.

3. Based on the motivation provided, the Department hereby grants the extension as requested, therefore, the Final Basic Assessment Report which has been subjected to public participation process for the period of 30 days must be submitted on or before the requested timeframe.

NB: Regulation 45 of 2014 EIA Regulations as amended stipulates that "an application in terms of these Regulations lapses and a competent authority will deem the application as having lapsed, if the applicant fails to meet any of the time-frames prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless extension has been granted in terms of regulation 3(7)."

I hope you find the above in order, for any clarity please do not hesitate to contact the above-mentioned officer.

Kind Regards,

Regional Manager: Mineral and Petroleum Regulation

Northern Cape Region

Date: