



**South African Colliery Managers' Association**

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18 April 2007

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHERN REGIONAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH  
AFRICAN COLLIERY MANAGERS ASSOCIATION HELD AT SPRINGBOK  
RECREATION CLUB, GOEDEHOOP COLLIERY ON 22 MARCH 2007 AT  
09:00**

**PRESENT:** Mr A Fulton, Chairman and 30 members and guests as per the attached attendance register.

**APOLOGIES** As per attendance register.

1 **WELCOME**

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting. The Chairman noted that the Northern Regional Chairman, Mr A B Mabbett was unable to chair the meeting that day and also Mr J F Janse van Vuuren the President of the Association, had apologised for not being able to attend.

The Chairman commented that the attendance for the meeting was very important for members not only because of the CPD requirements but it also gave members the opportunity to gain value through networking and sharing of good practices and knowledge transfer.

The Chairman welcomed Mr E Leeuw who was the President of SACHRA to the meeting reporting that SACHRA would make a presentation during the meeting on the Social and Labour Plan.

The Chairman gave a presentation on safety at Goedehoop Colliery which included a report back on a fatality in 2006 when a miner had been killed who had passed the last line of support.

2. **BEST PRACTICE: ACHIEVEMENTS, SUCCESSES AND INCIDENTS**

**SHE Forum.** The Chairman reported that this was the Group Managers Safety Forum which met on a quarterly basis. This Forum provided opportunity for employer safety leaders from the different Mining Houses

to network and also to share best practice. Feedback was also given on recent accidents and incidents.

Mr C Sonnekus was the Chairman of this Forum.

2.2. **Achievements**. The Chairman reported that all recent achievements had been acknowledged at Coalsafe on 15 March 2007.

2.3. **Accidents and Incidents**. The following accidents and incidents were reported on but it was accepted that details of the incidents would not be recorded in the minutes:

- \* there had been three fatalities late in 2006 at Kleinkopje Colliery;
- \* an ore truck had run over a security man, inquiry complete;
- \* following the incident Anglo Operations had established a task group to investigate all ore road safety which would include road design and hauling; and
- \* a presentation on the learning points arising from the task group might be presented to members in the future.

During the course of general discussion the issue of testing workers for alcohol or drug abuse during or before the commencement of a shift was again discussed.

A warning was issued that white wash used underground could burn bare skin when come into contact with.

The Chairman commented that developments were under way on the website to enable greater networking on issues related to accidents and incidents amongst other things.

### 3. **REPORT BACK FROM SACMA COUNCIL**

There was no feedback as there were no members of Council present.

### 4. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11 JANUARY 2007**

The minutes of the Northern Regional Meeting held on 11 January 2007 were confirmed.

5. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

No matters arose from the minutes.

6. **GENERAL**

**Coalsafe 2007.** Coalsafe 2007 was generally good. However members had concerns at the value members gained from attending the Coalsafe Launch.

**Blasting Certificates.** The certification would change shortly and there would be a need for a revised code of practice for explosives and on how a person was certificated.

**Russian Methane Explosion** The Chairman noted that 105 miners had been killed in a methane explosion at a colliery in Russia. The Chairman said that this was a timeous warning for coal mines in general.

**Rehabilitation Liability.** There were changes to the calculation on the rehabilitation liability which would come into effect in the near future.

**General Meeting.** The next General Meeting would be held on 10 May 2007 and hosted by the SACE Recreation Club. The Chairman invited members to participate in this meeting and that a notice would be sent out in April.

**Regional Meetings.** The Chairman proposed that the meeting scheduled for 12 April 2007 should be canceled because of a conflict with the SACEA technical symposium. This was agreed. The Chairman asked members to support the SACEA initiative by attending and sending their engineering colleagues.

The next Northern Regional meeting would be held on 14 June 2007. Mr J Collins undertook to ask Mr A B Mabbett, Total Coal to host the Association.

**Papers.** The Chairman called on members to submit presentations which could be made at Northern Regional Meetings. The Chairman commented that it was up to the host mine to source papers for the presentation at the meeting.

**Intermine Technical Visit.** The Chairman reported that the intermine technical visits would now only be held once a quarter. Mr M Z T Masondo was currently arranging dates and venues for these for 2007.

**ECSA – CPD.** The Secretary reported that there were three categories that members who belonged to ECSA needed to gain continuous professional development credits. The Associations membership database had been upgraded to enable the Secretariat to record members attendance at SACMA meetings for

CPD credits.

7. **PRESENTATIONS**

The following presentations were made:

- Pillar Extraction at Goedehoop Hope Shaft – Practical Innovations and a Way Forward by Mr D Mashiyi;
- The Emalahleni Water Project – Pure Water from the Heart of the Coalfields by P Gunther;
- The SW2 Stone Development – the Importance of Integrated Planning and Risk Management by L Mabuzza;
- SACMA Website – How to Access Linkages and Discussions by M Coetzer; and
- Social and Labour Plan: Mining Charter Compliance by Mrs S E Ndimande (SACHRA).

The Chairman thanked the presenters for interesting, informative and topical presentations.

8. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Chairman thanked members for attending the meeting and the presenters for their quality of presentations.

The Chairman on closing the meeting thanked the General Manager of Goedehoop Colliery for hosting the Association and for the Springbok Recreation Club for the arrangements for the meeting and the lunch.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12:30.

**CONFIRMED**

**CHAIRMAN**

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