



MEDIA RELEASE

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Thungela partners with Black Power Africa on Schoongezicht reining project in eMalahleni

Thungela has partnered with Black Power Africa, a black-owned community-based company in eMalahleni, to mine the Schoongezicht mineral residue deposit (MRD). This agreement will see the remaining coal reserves mined safely, formally and in compliance with the applicable legislation. The site will create jobs, support local businesses, and bring economic benefits to the surrounding community, while also making use of resources that would otherwise go to waste.

Mpumi Sithole, executive head of corporate affairs at Thungela said: "For us, this partnership advances the objectives of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA) by promoting equitable access to mineral resources and expanding opportunities for historically disadvantaged persons (HDPs). In addition, this partnership also ensure that mining contributes to social and economic development in surrounding communities, while also encouraging participation of junior and emerging miners. In a context where illegal mining remains a serious challenge in South Africa, for both mining operations and law enforcement, projects such as this one provide a proactive and structured response."

Under the agreement, Black Power Africa operates independently and is responsible for all reining activities, ensuring that compliance with safety, environmental, regulatory and operational requirements are executed in a responsible manner. The scope of work includes the extraction of material from the MRD, crushing and screening of material, stockpiling, deployment and use of mining equipment, and the removal of material from the site.

The reining of the coal reserves began in February 2026 and is already contributing to economic activity in eMalahleni. Black Power Africa has employed 15 local individuals and a further eight through a security service provider. The company has also partnered with five community-based businesses. Ongoing operations are expected to further enhance economic growth in the area.

Jabulani Nkonyana, general manager at Black Power Africa said: "This is a significant milestone for us because it has unlocked meaningful local business participation in a formal and structured way. This agreement has presented us with an opportunity to contribute to responsible mining activity, grow capability, and demonstrate what is possible when communities are included more meaningfully in the mining value chain."

Black Power Africa has also supported community initiatives in Schoongezicht, Ward 17. These include sponsoring the Easter soccer tournament, helping with a police-led debate competition for local secondary schools, renovating two classrooms at Witbank Primary School, and clearing out of rubble and waste in Overline.

"This partnership reflects Thungela's commitment to enabling communities to actively participate in the mining value chain in a responsible way. By empowering Black Power Africa, we are supporting local enterprise development, creating jobs and contributing to long-term socio-economic development for future generations of eMalahleni. This underscores our purpose to responsibly create value together for a shared future," said Sithole.

ENDS

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Editor's note:

Thungela, which means 'to ignite' in isiZulu, is one of the largest pure-play producers and exporters of high-quality thermal coal, with operations in South Africa and Australia. Our quality coal reserves and marketable production position us as a key player in the global energy market as we deliver coal through world-class ports, powering nations.

The Group owns interests in and produces its thermal coal from five mining operations located in Mpumalanga, South Africa, which consist of both underground and opencast mines, namely Greenside, Khwezela, Zibulo, Mafube and Annea. Thungela owns 100% of the Ensham Mine in Queensland, Australia, reinforcing its geographic diversification strategic pillar.

The establishment of Thungela Marketing International in Dubai underscores the company's commitment to capturing the full margin on our products and engaging with the international commodities market as a global coal producer.

In other parts of the value chain, Thungela holds a 50% interest in Phola Coal Processing Plant, and a 23.56% direct interest in Richard's Bay Coal Terminal. The terminal is one of the world's leading coal export terminals, with an advanced 24-hour operation and a design capacity of 91Mtpa.

Thungela is committed to operating in a responsible way to ignite value for a shared future. We want to ensure that our mining activities positively impact our employees, shareholders and the communities where we operate.