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Regional Operations Manager: Coal
Regional Operations Manager: Other Mines and Offshore
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Chief Director: Occupational Health Unit
Director: Support Services Unit

The Principal Inspector:	Eastern Cape	(041) 585 9097
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**INSTRUCTION: POSTPONEMENT/CANCELLATION OF GOVERNMENT
CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES
AND ENERGY**

The Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) has taken a decision to postpone/cancel all the upcoming Government Certificate of Competency examinations and to prohibit all close contacts with current and/or potential candidates. This instruction is with effect from 23 March 2020. You are requested to send the attached instruction on a standard DMRE letterhead, to all mines in your Region.

D MSIZA
CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES
DATE:

[Regional office postal address, tel:, and fax:]

[Street address]

Directorate: Mine Health and Safety

Enquiries: A N Other

Email: Any.Other@dmr.gov.za

Reference No: COVID-19

The Employer

Mine name

Address

Dear Sir / Madam

**INSTRUCTION: POSTPONEMENT/CANCELLATION OF GOVERNMENT
CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES
AND ENERGY**

In a media briefing on 15 March 2020, His Excellency, the President of South Africa, declared the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic a national disaster in terms of section 23(1)(b) of the Disaster Management Act 2002.

In his address, President Cyril Ramaphosa listed several restrictions that will focus on preventing and reducing the outbreak of the virus which includes amongst others:

- limiting contact between persons who may be infected and South African citizens;
- minimizing the risk of the spread of this virus by limiting contact amongst groups of people, one of them is prohibiting gatherings of more than 100 people;
- calling on all businesses including mining, retail, banking, farming to ensure that they take all necessary measures to intensify hygiene control; and
- calling all the institutions of the state, private sector, trade union, NGO, university, college, school, religious group and taxi association to play its part in leading the effort of preventing and reducing the outbreak of the virus.

To this effect, The Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) as part of observing the President's call, has decided with effect from 23 March 2020, to:

1. postpone/cancel all the upcoming Government Certificate of Competency examinations. This includes:
 - Blasting;
 - Lampman's;
 - Locomotive Engine Driver's;
 - Mine Engineers;
 - Mine Managers;
 - Mine Overseers;
 - Mine Surveyors;
 - Onsetters; and
 - Winding Engine Drivers.

2. prohibit all close contacts with current and/or potential candidates. This means that the DMRE will not assist any walk-in clients but will continue to assist and respond to any electronic and telephonic correspondences.

The situation will continue to be monitored and further developments, if any, will be communicated in line with Cabinet directive.

The major goal is to prevent and slow down the increase in the number of infections. The DMRE has a role to play and with your cooperation, the DMRE can play that role.

The attached instruction will be made available at the DMRE website namely www.dmr.gov.za.

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully

**AN OTHER
PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR
REGION
DATE:**