



Australian Securities Exchange

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## **TORMIN PERMITTING APPLICATIONS UPDATE**

Mineral Commodities Ltd (ASX:MRC) ("MRC" or "the Company") advises that its South African subsidiary Mineral Sands Resources (Pty) Ltd ("MSR") has received notification from the Department of Mineral Resources in South Africa ("DMR") that the National Environmental Management Act ("NEMA") Authorisation which forms part of the Section 102 Extension of Mining Rights Application ("Section 102 Application") for the Tormin Mineral Sands Mine has been refused.

In an attempt to accelerate early access to identified resources to extend its mining operations at Tormin, in April 2017 the Company submitted to the DMR, Western Cape Region a Section 102 Application for the Extension of Mining Rights Application. The Company mandated reputable global independent environmental consultants, SRK Consulting (SA), to manage the process. The areas covered by the Section 102 Application include both the beaches to the north of the Tormin Mine and the inland strand located on the Company owned Geelwal Karoo Farm.

The NEMA Authorisation forms part of the Section 102 Application and deals with identifying listed activities which impact the environment and require authorisation.

The final Scoping Report which forms part of the application process for the Section 102 Application was submitted to the DMR in June 2017. The processing of the Scoping Report was significantly delayed within the DMR. The recent refusal of the integrated Environmental Authorisation application was issued without the submission of a full Environmental Impact Assessment.

The Company is assessing the reasons for the refusal and will consider lodging an Appeal to the Appealing Authority, the Department of Environmental Affairs ("DEA"), or potentially making a new application for an integrated Environmental Authorisation.

The Company also has four current Prospecting Rights under application, which are still being processed by the DMR.

In a further development and in an attempt to assist in the permitting process and demonstrate the additional socio-economic benefits that the Tormin Mine would continue to provide through the extension of mining and prospecting rights, the Company recently met with the Minerals and Petroleum Board Sub-Committee and requested assistance. The Sub-Committee is an independent committee which advises the Minister of Mineral Resources on matters relating to sustaining mining in South Africa.

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