

Steady going at Boikarabelo

STEENBOKPAN — The Boikarabelo field in South Africa's Waterberg region, to the north of the country and close to the border with Botswana, is an outstanding coal asset by any standards. An extensive coal seam, between 120 and 130 metres in depth and containing zones of varying quality thermal and soft coking coal, lies only 20 metres below the surface in terrain that is flat and easy to get at. It is the ideal site for an open pit mine: the shallow overburden means that a small fleet of equipment can produce a lot of coal. Costs will be relatively low, and multiple mining benches will provide the flexibility to extract the coal quality required for a variety of markets, from thermal coal used in power stations in Asia where capacity is confidently expected to continue rising over the coming decade to South Africa itself where there is an insatiable demand.

Nevertheless, with the international coal market currently more nutty slack than briskly blazing, this is a time when only the most outstanding new projects can attract funding. When they last reported on the Australian and JSE joint listed mining company Resource Generation (ResGen) its focus was on locking down its funding arrangements, and this remains its principal challenge today despite solid progress to date. "We hope to complete our funding by June of this year," says Managing Director Paul Jury. "We are concentrating on funding

the coal handling and preparation plant (CHPP). If we can achieve that we will be able to stick to the development programme and start producing coal at the end of 2015."

At around \$200 million the CHPP is the largest capital item for the Boikarabelo project. In November the company took a major step when it agreed to terms and the design and supply of the plant. Earlier this year it put another piece of the jigsaw in place with the agreement of a \$65 million infrastructure loan facility from Noble Resources International, a subsidiary of Singapore-listed global agricultural and mining supply-chain manager Noble Group, which as part of the agreement has undertaken to purchase three million tonnes of domestic middlings coal every year, for eight years after production commences. This loan is repayable by 31 March, 2016, by which time the mine is expected to be in production and generating cash flow, and is in addition to a \$55.3 million loan from Noble, agreed in July 2013, for the construction of the rail link from Boikarabelo to the existing Transnet Freight Rail network.

The CHPP will crush, screen and grade the coal, stockpiling it into two main categories. Coal for export will be loaded onto rail trucks for transportation to the ports, while thermal coal for domestic use in the power generating stations of Eskom in Mpumalanga will be supplied direct, also by rail. Jury is hoping to resolve the remaining funding

Going International

Rosina Nku

MARAPONG — Given Kekana is only 22 years old but his dreams are as big as the world. The 22 year old lad is known by his fans as Mampimpana.

Given "Mampimpana" Kekana was born and bred in Lephalale. From the early age of 12 he realized that he was music head and would often sing to his friends imitating other famous stars. According to him mimicking other artists was just a hobby, until he was approached by a friend urging him to record at least one track. "And the rest is history" said Mampimpana.

'Ranta e wele' (the Rand is one the ground) is one of the first songs he wrote. He simply did it for the love of music not knowing how the audience would react.

Although still in the process of recording an album the hit track 'ranta e wele' has awarded him a chance to share the stage with award winning artists like Ifani, Khuli Chana, Dr Malinga, Dj Tira, Tear Gas, Catchtimefab, Dj Sbu and many more.

In all his rap songs Mampimpana has written his own lyrics inspired by the life of the township/ghetto. His hit song 'ranta e wele' was inspired by the opportunities that often surpass people because mostly sit and wait for free handouts. "The world doesn't owe us anything, it's up to us to pick ourselves up and make something of ourselves. Get up youth and do something with your life," said Mampimpana.

Mampimpana's most anticipated upcoming album will be a big pot of mixed ingredients as he will be doing rock, gospel and hopefully a song in Afrikaans to cater for the mass target audience of course.

Mampimpana is currently studying a Diploma in Safety Management to have something to fall back on if all else fails "just in case things don't work out" he

said jokingly. The rapper admits that the road to success is unforeseen and difficult but he will never give up on his talent. Coming from a small town only gives him that much more courage because he is person who loves to break the walls of "impossible". "Youngsters need to research and work hard at their talent. We can't all be engineers and have office jobs" said Given.

A couple of years ago Given started an organisation (Mo'Swagg Entertainment) for aspiring artists to get a platform and develop themselves. The organisation is more of Edu'tainment mainly to keep the youth busy and reduce the abuse of drugs and alcohol and teenage pregnancy.

In the far future Mampimpana still sees himself in the music industry which is his passion, although behind the scenes.

His dream is to develop and uplift the unprivileged and help give people a head start into their dreams as artists.

Mampimpana acknowledges that being a new artist can be very challenging and most promoters don't want to pay for performances. Although giving up is not an option at the moment as he knows and loves music and is aiming for the international market.



Given Kekana (Photo Mogol Post)

Rassies groet

LEPHALALE — Dis met groot hartseer dat die personeel en leerders van Laerskool Ellisras afskeid neem van 'n geliefde "juffrou" en kollega, Katinka Heyns. Volgens die skool het Katinka gereeld by die Rassies afgelos en dan het sy haar gewig 100% ingegooi. Niks was ooit te veel vir haar nie. Sy was vroeër hoofmeisie by die skool, het later haar praktiese gedoen en was nog later ook 'n ouer van die skool.

Die skool bedank haar vir haar bereidwilligheid, positiewe ingesteldheid en passie vir die skool



en leerders.

Hulle wens vir Katinka is God se seën en beskerming met haar en haar gesin se nuwe uitdaging en avontuur wat voorlê.

issues sooner rather than later so he can concentrate on the work of building the mine, the processing plant and the associated infrastructure, including road and rail links. The project itself is one of the soundest on the planet, which is evidenced by the fact it has continued to remain buoyant at a time when others have been mothballed or abandoned.

Boikarabelo is of strategic importance to the economy of South Africa. The mine is only 40 kilometres by road from an existing rail system that provides access to domestic markets, and Transnet is making all efforts to ensure that its lines have the capacity to transport the coal to the ports of Durban, Richards Bay and Maputo, which all have potential to expand their coal capacity, for export shipments. The

proposed new trans-Kalahari railway (TKR) from Walvis Bay to Botswana will give access to the Atlantic though that is an early stage project that was only given the go-ahead by the partner governments in March.

The 40 kilometre rail link that ResGen is building to connect Boikarabelo with the main line is also a long lead item, like the CHPP, however the ground work is well under way says Jury. In fact the site is a hive of activity already, and that activity will increase right up to the start of mining at the end of next year. "We have a lot of construction going on on site," he says. "Apart from the rail link, we have already built the first stage of our construction camp."

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INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT LICENSE APPLICATION FOR THE FLUE GAS DESULPHURISATION AT MEDUPI POWER STATION, LEPHALALE MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

(DEA Ref. No.: 14/12/16/3/3/110)

Notice is hereby given in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) and Government Notice R.543 - 546 of June 2010 and the National Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act 59 of 2008) as amended 2010, of Eskom's intent to carry out an integrated environmental impact assessment for the purposes of Environmental Authorisation and Waste Management Licensing of activities associated with the retrofitting of a Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD) system to the existing Power Station operation.

The application includes, but is not limited to, the following activities and associated infrastructures:

- The byproducts from the activity FGD process will include gypsum, sludge and salts which will be co-disposed of at the existing Ash Disposal Facility (ADF) at the Power Station;
- Storage of limestone at the Power Station;
- Storage and handling of gypsum, sludge and salts at the Power Station;
- Waste water treatment within a Zero Liquid Discharge system;
- Construction of a conveyor belt for the transportation of waste to the ADF, access and maintenance roads to the ADF;
- Retrofitting of FGD technology to remove sulfur dioxide from the exhaust flue gases; and
- The addition of FGD Systems to the six (6) Generating Units.

A Water Use License Application (WULA) will also be submitted later within the process in accordance with the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998) as amended.

The purpose of this EIA and WULA process is to identify and evaluate issues of concern and potential environmental and social impacts, and to propose feasible mitigation measures against such impacts.

PUBLIC COMMENT ENCOURAGED

You are requested to register as an Interested and/or Affected Party (I&AP) and are invited to participate by providing comments and raising any issues of concern that you may have.

To register as an I&AP, and to receive a copy of the Background Information Document, please contact:

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