

ConCourt tells Parliament to go back and deal with Phala Phala

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ConCourt tells Parliament to go back and deal with Phala Phala

ConCourt orders Parliament to reconsider Phala Phala report, declaring Rule 129I(3) unconstitutional and raising stakes for Ramaphosa and the GNU

● LUCAS SHONGWE

JOHANNESBURG — The Constitutional Court of South Africa has sent the Phala Phala matter back to Parliament after ruling on Friday that lawmakers acted irrationally when they rejected the Section 89 panel report in 2022.

The judgment was delivered at 10:00 on 08 May 2026, more than 520 days after the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) and African Transformation Movement (ATM) approached the apex court.

The court found that Parliament failed in its constitutional obligations when it voted against the report, which had concluded that President Cyril Ramaphosa had a case to answer regarding the theft of \$580 000 allegedly stolen from a couch at his Limpopo game farm in 2020.

The court has now ordered Parliament to reconsider the report and properly deal with the process.

The EFF, which has led calls for accountability in the matter, welcomed the ruling.

“This restores faith that no one is above the law,” said EFF leader Julius Malema. “We have been the only consistent voice demanding accountability since the beginning. Today the court has confirmed Parliament cannot shield the President from scrutiny.”

The Democratic Alliance (DA) also described the ruling as a victory for accountability.

“This vindicates the principle that Parliament must act without fear or favour,” said DA Federal Council Chairperson Helen Zille. “The National Assembly must now treat the report with the seriousness it deserves and avoid further delays.”

ATM President Vuyo Zungula said the judgment gives the public another opportunity to get answers on the matter.

“The people deserve answers on what happened at Phala Phala. Parliament now has a chance to correct its mistake,” he said.

Responding to the ruling, the Presidency said it had noted the judgment of the court in the matter brought by the EFF regarding Section 89 proceedings against the President.

“The President respects the Constitutional Court's judgment and reaffirms his commitment to the Constitution, the independence of the judiciary and the rule of law,” spokesperson to the President Vincent Magwenya stated.

The Presidency further stated that Ramaphosa has consistently cooperated with all inquiries related to the matter.

“President Ramaphosa maintains that no person is above the law and that any allegations should be subjected to due processes without fear or favour or prejudice,” the statement added.

“The President calls on all South Africans to respect the Constitutional Court judgment and judicial institutions.”

Constitutional expert and lawyer Jonas Sibanyoni of JB Sibanyoni Attorneys said the ruling significantly changes the legal and political landscape around the matter.

“Parliament must redo the process. The National Assembly will have to reconsider the Section 89 panel report on Phala

Phala, hold a proper debate, and vote again,” Sibanyoni said. He added that Rule 129 had effectively been weakened by the judgment.

“The Court has declared that Rule 129I(3) is unconstitutional insofar as it allows a simple majority to block debate without engaging the merits. Future impeachment processes can't be shut down by numbers alone,” he said. Sibanyoni also warned that the ruling increases political pressure on Ramaphosa.

“With the ANC at 40.2% and no outright majority, a fresh vote means Ramaphosa may need support from GNU partners such as the DA, IFP and others to survive politically,” he said.

He added that the ruling could place strain on the Government of National Unity (GNU).

“The DA would have to decide whether to vote with the EFF and MK against an ANC president they are currently governing with. That could destabilise the GNU and potentially trigger early elections,” Sibanyoni said.

Parliament will now have to determine a date to bring the report back before the House.



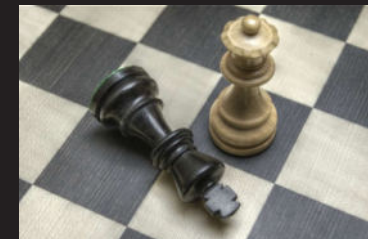
President Cyril Ramaphosa faces renewed political pressure after the Constitutional Court ordered Parliament to reconsider the Phala Phala Section 89 panel report. IMAGE By: Rodney Hlatshwayo



Constitutional expert and lawyer Jonas Sibanyoni of JB Sibanyoni Attorneys said the ruling forces Parliament to revisit the Phala Phala process and raises the stakes for the GNU. Image supplied

OPINION: Delmas is falling behind in Nkangala's chess development

By Rodney Hlatshwayo, a seasoned and highly skilled chess player with a high win rate against professional chess players from around the world on Chess.com



Chess is increasingly becoming a structured and competitive school sport across parts of the Nkangala region, with learners in towns such as eMalahleni and Middelburg actively participating in organised leagues, tournaments and junior competitions that feed into broader district development pathways.

In these areas, chess is no longer treated as a casual pastime. It follows a clear development structure, with school-based chess clubs introducing learners to the game, inter-school leagues providing competitive exposure and junior tournaments helping to develop young players into consistent competitors. This system is steadily building discipline, strategic thinking and long-term engagement among learners.

However, Delmas appears to be moving at a different pace.

Based on observation, there is little visible evidence of structured chess activity in Delmas schools. Unlike in other parts of Nkangala, learners are not commonly seen participating in organised chess clubs, leagues or tournaments that form part of a formal development pathway.

In contrast, learners in eMalahleni and Middelburg are regularly involved in school chess activities, with leagues and tournaments forming part of their sporting calendars. Chess discussions, fixtures and competitions have become part of the school environment, reflecting a growing culture of organised participation.

Even within the broader Nkangala District Municipality, structured chess development is evident through organised junior tournaments and inter-school league systems that feed into regional competitions.

In the Thembisile Hani Local Municipality, structured participation is also visible. Through involvement in a local chess club, I observed how organised training sessions, competitive league play and junior

tournaments contribute to consistent skills development and sustained interest among learners.

The gap in Delmas does not necessarily point to a lack of talent, but rather to differences in exposure, organisation and access to structured sporting systems. Chess does not require expensive infrastructure, but it does require coordination through school clubs, linked leagues and consistent competitive opportunities. While eMalahleni and Middelburg continue building competitive chess cultures through leagues, tournaments and junior structures, Delmas remains largely outside that ecosystem.

In education and sport development, the absence of structure is rarely neutral. Over time, it becomes a disadvantage, limiting learners' access to opportunities that are available elsewhere.

Delmas has the same potential as any other town in Nkangala. However, potential without structured systems for development often remains unrealised.

Chess also helps learners develop concentration, critical thinking and problem-solving skills that can improve academic performance. This is why formal structures and parental encouragement remain important in helping young people access opportunities for both educational and personal development.

In chess, every move matters. Every match builds towards something bigger.

In this sense, while other parts of Nkangala continue developing young chess players through structured engagement, Delmas remains largely absent from the competitive board. In development terms, when you are not part of the system, you are not developing within it.

“the path of the righteous winds upwards to flee from hell beneath us” Prov 15:24



Four Areas of Involvement

By Pastor Chuck Swindoll

“So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.” (John 13:34-35)

Our aimless, lonely generation has great difficulty understanding such concepts as the interrelatedness of humankind. Involvement with our roots is reduced to snapshots and phone calls at Christmas. Family reunions and seasonal rituals are nearly extinct as relatives become curious aliens to our children. All this and much, much more, plus the inevitable, irritating hassles connected with cultivating close relationships, cause us to move away from each other into our own separate houses where we isolate ourselves still further in our own separate bedrooms. We pursue self-sufficient lifestyles that make sharing unnecessary.

In the dictionary we find that being involved means “to draw in as a participant, to relate closely, to connect, to include.” When you and I involve ourselves with someone, we “connect” with them. We think of them as we make our plans. We actually operate our lives with others in clear focus. We draw them in as participants in our activities. We

include them.

To break this down into manageable terms, Christians have at least four areas of involvement to maintain:

Our involvement with God. In the past, this involvement resulted in our salvation—our new birth through faith in Jesus Christ. Currently it is our everyday walk with Christ through life. To maintain a close connection with our Lord, we think of Him as we make our plans, we pray, we explore the rich treasures of His Word. This is the single most significant involvement in all of life, but it is not automatic.

Our involvement with members of our family. Parents, children, relatives, mates . . . Christian or not—all of these people comprise our circle of close contact. We include them in our thinking—some, of course, more closely than others.

Our involvement with other Christians. Usually, these people are selected from the church we attend. The number grows as we “connect” with others through areas of mutual interest. Some of us could list literally hundreds of Christian friends with whom we have a relationship. This becomes a major factor in our ability to cope with life on this planet, an otherwise lonely and discouraging pilgrimage.

Our involvement with non-Christians. We work alongside them, do business with them, live near them, go to school next to them, and are usually entertained by them. Unfortunately, most Christians cut off all close ties with non-Christians within a few months after salvation. Small wonder we find it difficult to share our faith with others.

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Fuel increase set to raise cost of living

'We can't afford to run empty routes. If fuel keeps rising, fares will have to go up or we park the taxis'

LUCAS SHONGWE
NKANGALA — Residents and businesses across Nkangala are bracing for rising food and transport costs after a sharp fuel price increase took effect on Wednesday, 06 May 2026.

Petrol increased by R3,27 per litre, bringing the inland price of 95 Unleaded to R26.63. Diesel rose by up to R5,27 per litre, now costing between R34,17 and R34,38 inland. Illuminating

paraffin and LPGs also increased by R4,22 and R5,07 respectively. The Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources attributed the hike to higher global oil prices, a weaker rand and a R1,23 per litre slate levy introduced to recover a R14,17 billion under-recovery. Brent crude oil climbed to \$101 per barrel following the closure of the Iran-Oman sea passage.

to transporting produce. "This increase means I'll plant less this season. When farmers cut back, food becomes scarce and more expensive in the shops," she said. Households are already adjusting to the rising cost of living. In eMakhazeni Local Municipality,

domestic worker Thandi Mokoena said her monthly transport costs have risen by R200, forcing her to cut back on essentials. "I now have to choose between paraffin for cooking and getting to work. That's the reality for many of us," she said.

Nasaret taxi fares increase as fuel prices push up transport costs

LUCAS SHONGWE
MIDDELBURG — Commuters in Nasaret, Extension 24, Rockdale, Hlalamnandi and surrounding areas in Middelburg are now paying more for transport after the Nasaret and District Taxi Association (NDTA) increased fares on 01 May 2026. The increase follows rising fuel costs that continue to place pressure on transport operators across the country. The fare hike comes two weeks after the Middelburg and District Taxi Association (MDTA) adjusted its fares, with both associations citing escalating fuel prices as the main reason behind the increases. Taxi fares have now increased across several key routes. A trip to the central business district or the mall increased from R15 to R18. Fares to Dennesig, Aerorand and Kanonkop increased from R15 to R20, while short local trips within Nasaret rose from R10 to R13. NDTA chairperson Themba Mncina said the association had no choice but to implement the increase after recent fuel hikes pushed operating costs higher. "The rising fuel increases have a direct effect on our business. We've held off for as long as possible, but we

can't absorb these costs anymore," he said. Mncina added that this is the first fare increase implemented by the association since 2021, despite fuel prices rising steadily over the past four years.

The increase follows a national fuel price hike of more than R3 per litre on 06 May 2026, which has added further pressure on transport operators and commuters alike.

For many residents, taxis remain the only available mode of transport to workplaces, schools and shopping centres in Middelburg and surrounding suburbs, meaning the increases directly affect daily living costs.

Sandile Sibeko, who takes two taxis daily from Rockdale to town and from town to Mhluzi, said the increase is placing additional strain on his monthly budget.

"I now spend almost R40 more per week just to get to work. That's food and airtime money gone. We don't have a choice though, there's no other transport," he said.



Commuters queue for taxis at a taxi rank, where fares increased on 01 May 2026 as operators passed higher fuel costs onto passengers travelling to Middelburg's CBD and surrounding areas

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Temporary levy relief will remain in place until early June, while full fuel levies are expected to return on 01 July. The impact is already being felt across key sectors.

Transport operators say the diesel increase will drive up delivery costs and commuter fares.

In eMalahleni, taxi driver Siphonkosi said operators may be forced to reduce services.

"We can't afford to run empty routes. If fuel keeps rising, fares will have to go up or we park the taxis," he said.

Agriculture is also under pressure. In Steve Tshwete, farmer Maria Dlamini said diesel costs affect every stage of production, from irrigation



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EXTERNAL VACANCY

Vacant Positions:	Closing Date
MECHANICAL FOREMAN	13/05/2026
Location: Middelburg	Time: 23:59

Company Overview:

LIBERTY COAL is seeking a qualified and experienced Mechanical Foreman to oversee and coordinate mechanical maintenance activities within our mining operations. The successful candidate will ensure optimal equipment performance, adherence to safety standards, and efficient team supervision.

Roles & Responsibilities

- Supervise and coordinate all mechanical maintenance and repair work on Water Management Infra Structure, pumps and mining equipment
- Ensure compliance with health and safety regulations and company policies
- Lead and manage a team of artisans and assistants
- Conduct inspections, fault finding, and preventative maintenance
- Plan and schedule maintenance activities to minimize downtime
- Ensure availability of tools, equipment, and spare parts
- Compile reports on maintenance activities and equipment performance
- Liaise with engineering and production teams to improve operational efficiency

Qualification Criteria, Knowledge & Competencies

- Grade 12 (Matric) or equivalent
- N3 Certificate in Mechanical Engineering or related field
- Trade Test Certificate (Fitter, or similar)
- Foreman Certificate (advantageous)
- Minimum 5-8 years' experience in a mining, dewatering or heavy industrial environment
- At least 2-3 years in a supervisory/foreman role
- Strong knowledge of water management, pumps, pumping activities.
- Computer literacy (MS Office)
- Valid driver's license

How to Apply

- Email your CV to jobs@liberty-coal.com with all supporting documents and list of relevant work done as well as contactable references.
- Ensure that your CV and supporting documents are all on one attachment and does not exceed **3Mb**.
- Only submissions received from this email will be considered.
- No late submission will be considered.

Sundra High SGB faces allegations of financial mismanagement and unfair labour practices

● RODNEY HLATSHWAYO

DELMAS — Workers and parents at Sundra High School near Delmas have accused the school's governing body (SGB) of alleged labour violations, failure to comply with Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) regulations and possible financial mismanagement linked to school maintenance and procurement processes.

The allegations centre on governance and financial management practices at the school in Sundra, where community members say intervention by education and labour authorities is urgently needed.

Workers claim that former kitchen staff members were dismissed without being registered for the UIF, allegedly preventing them from accessing unemployment benefits.

One former kitchen worker, who claims to have worked at the school from 2023 until 31 March 2026, alleges they were instructed by school management to continue working throughout April 2026 despite their contract having ended.

The worker claims in a formal demand letter that they are owed R2 000 for work completed in April 2026 and a further R2 000 in notice pay. They also allege that no UIF contributions were made during their employment period and that no payslips were issued. The employee is demanding payment within seven days, by 13 May 2026, and wants UIF contributions to be calculated and submitted.

Parents and workers further allege that the SGB is effectively run by chairperson Edward Bogacwi and SGB member Lebo Masisi.

Community members also allege that maintenance funds allocated for classroom repairs have not been properly utilised.

During a visit to the school, *Highveld Chronicle* observed several classrooms reportedly without windows, with learners using plastic sheets and cardboard as temporary coverings.

Parents say kitchen staff members are also working under difficult conditions, citing shortages of basic equipment such as brooms, pots, knives and cleaning materials.

"They say money is being used for maintenance, but the conditions at the school do not reflect that," one worker alleged.

Concerns have also been raised regarding the appointment of security services at the school. According to parents, it was previously agreed that employment opportunities linked to the school should prioritise individuals with children enrolled at the institution.

However, some parents allege that SGB chairperson Edward Bogacwi is linked to the security company currently operating at the

school. Community members further claim that some appointed security personnel do not have children attending the school, despite earlier agreements made during school

meetings.

There are also claims that certain procurement and maintenance decisions may be handled internally by the SGB, raising concerns about transparency in

tender processes.

When *Highveld Chronicle* visited the school, Bogacwi and other SGB members declined to comment. Previous attempts to obtain comment from the SGB before

publication were also unsuccessful. All allegations remain unproven, and the publication reached out to the Mpumalanga Department of Education, which had not responded at the time of publication.



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF LIGHT DUTY VEHICLES AT LEEUWPAN COAL MINE

Exxaro Coal (PTY) LTD, company registration no 2000/011078/07, is a private company registered in terms of the Company Laws of the Republic of South Africa and looking for suppliers to provide Light duty vehicle maintenance at Exxaro Leeuwpan Coal Mine.

You are hereby invited to express your interest by registering on the Exxaro Coupa Supplier Portal which is a self-service registration process using <https://exxaro.microsoftportals.com/Account/Login/Register?returnUrl=%2F> and follow the instructions below:

REFERENCE Nr.	LP_Engineering_RFI_229147
NAME OF BU:	EXXARO LEEUWPAN COAL MINE
DESCRIPTION OF ENQUIRY:	Light Duty Vehicle Maintenance
ACTION REQUIRED FROM RESPONDENTS:	<p>1) All interested parties should follow the following instructions:</p> <p>a) For new suppliers, register their company as a prospective supplier using the link below and the Reference Number indicated above: https://www.exxaro.com/suppliers#Prospective-Supplier</p> <p>b) Existing suppliers do not complete point (a), instead, please include your current vendor number in an email as per the point 2 below.</p> <p>2) Send an email to SCMOPENRFI@exxaro.com with the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For existing registered suppliers: please only send the requested information and provide you vendor number. Your company profile, Latest valid BBBEE Certificate, CIPC Company Registration Document <p>NB: Emails sent to SCMOPENRFI@exxaro.com must include the reference number indicated above as the Email Subject.</p>
DUE DATE & TIME:	Friday, 22 May 2026, Time: 14:00
CONTACT PERSON:	maxwell.mbatha@exxaro.com

SUMMARY OF SCOPE OF WORK

1. The Contractor shall provide the required labour and hand/special tools for the repair and maintenance of the Mine's Light Duty Vehicles (LDV's). The services will be carried out in accordance with the Mine's Trackless Mobile Machinery Code of Practice and the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) standards and recommendations. The list of vehicles may change from time to time. The Mine has a set number of LDV's and MAN trucks in its fleet and will not change unless approved by its management team where after the Contractor will get notified. All vehicle parts will be freely issued by the Mine.

1.1.1 The Contractor will do repairs on the vehicles presented by the Mine.

1.2 Tracking, reporting, notification and scheduling according to the Mine's maintenance system.

1.3 The contractor shall do monthly TMM on all Leeuwpan's mine LDV's and other equipment as instructed by the Engineer or his delegates.

1.4 The contractor shall do all auto electrical work on all Leeuwpan mine LDV's including but not limited to diagnosing and removing warning light, jump starting etc.

1.5 The contractor shall also repair, replace, install, remove tyres on all Leeuwpan mine LDV's

1.5.1 The Contractor shall be available for the servicing and maintenance of LDV's for 9 (nine) hours per day on weekdays as follows.

1.5.1.1 Monday to Thursday 06:45 to 16:30.

1.5.1.2 Friday's 06:45 to 15:00.

1.5.1.3 Holidays are excluded.

1.5.1.4 The Contractor will be called out outside these hours and shall be expected to provide minor repairs and routine maintenance on a 24(twenty four) hour basis.

1.6 Manpower.

1.6.1 The following personnel are required for the execution of this contract.

1.6.2 2 (two) x Motor/Diesel mechanic artisan (Man truck and LDV experience)

1.6.3 1 (one) x Motor / Diesel assistant.



ONCE ALL INTERESTED PARTIES HAVE REGISTERED ON THE EXXARO COUPA SUPPLIER PORTAL AS PER THE ABOVE INSTRUCTION BY FRIDAY, 22 MAY 2026, Time: 14:00, A FORMAL REQUEST FOR QUOTES WILL BE ISSUED TO THOSE THAT HAVE REGISTERED VIA THE PORTAL.

Mpumalanga eyes tourism partnerships and investment at Africa's Travel Indaba

'The province's attendance at the Indaba should be viewed as a deliberate economic intervention aimed at positioning Mpumalanga as a prime tourism destination,' - Mahlalela

● NODICAH FUNDAMA

WHITE RIVER — Mpumalanga is set to use the 2026 Africa's Travel Indaba 2026 to strengthen tourism investment, attract international buyers and position itself as one of Africa's leading tourism destinations.

This emerged during a media briefing held at the 247 Hotel in White River on Friday, 08 May 2026, where the provincial statement was delivered by Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA) Interim Board Chairperson Fish Mahlalela.

The tourism trade show, scheduled to take place from 11 to 14 May in Durban, will be held under the theme "Unlimited Africa: Growing Africa's Tourism Economy." The event is recognised as one of the continent's biggest tourism exhibitions, bringing together global buyers, investors and tourism stakeholders.

Speaking during the briefing, Mahlalela said the province's participation forms part of a broader strategy to unlock economic opportunities through tourism while showcasing Mpumalanga's attractions to international markets.

"We will continue to participate in any strategic platform that presents an opportunity for us to market Mpumalanga as a tourism destination of choice," he said.

Mahlalela emphasised that the province's attendance at the Indaba should be viewed as a deliberate economic intervention aimed at positioning Mpumalanga as a prime tourism destination in line with the priorities of the seventh administration.

The provincial delegation will include the MTPA, the Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation, as well as the province's three district municipalities.

The province intends using the platform to create market access for tourism Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), increase the visibility of local tourism products and pursue new investment partnerships.

"As part of our activities during the Indaba, we are going to host a

high-level Tourism Investment Dialogue to engage strategic partners and potential investors," Mahlalela said.

He said the initiative is expected to boost investor confidence and encourage direct investment into Mpumalanga's tourism sector. To maximise exposure during the event, the province has secured a dedicated exhibition area branded as the "Mpumalanga Village", where municipalities and tourism businesses will showcase local attractions and investment opportunities.

Thirty tourism MSMEs, including lodges, accommodation establishments, tour operators, destination management companies and crafters, are expected to exhibit under the provincial stand.

The province will also use the platform to engage strategic stakeholders through meetings with organisations such as South African Tourism, SANPARKS, the Gauteng Tourism Authority and tourism authorities from Mozambique and Eswatini.

This year's Indaba coincides with the centenary celebrations of the Kruger National Park, which turns 100 years old on 31 May 2026. Mahlalela described the milestone as significant for both the province and the country's tourism sector, noting the park's contribution to economic growth, job creation and poverty alleviation over the years.

He said the Kruger National Park remains one of South Africa's biggest tourism attractions and will continue drawing visitors to the "Province of the Rising Sun" through its world-renowned wildlife experience.

Responding to questions, Mahlalela also outlined the role played by the interim board since assuming responsibility at MTPA. He said the agency had been facing financial strain, but the board has managed to restore some level of financial stability while continuing to market Mpumalanga's tourism offerings.

He added that efforts have also been directed towards improving the condition of tourism facilities and nature reserves to ensure that sites remain clean, operational and attractive to visitors.



REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)

Topsoil Load and Hauling Services – Exxaro Leeuwpan Coal Mine Operation

RFI Number: RFI/2026/001

Issue Date: 08 May 2026

Closing Date: 15 May 2026

1. INTRODUCTION

Ritluka Resources hereby invites interested local suppliers/service providers from the Victor Khanye Local Municipality to submit information regarding their company.

2. REQUIRED INFORMATION

Interested companies are requested to submit the following:

- Company Name
- Company Email Address
- Contact Details
- CIPC Registration Certificate
- Valid Tax Clearance Certificate
- COIDA Letter of Good Standing (if applicable)
- Valid B-BBEE Certificate or Sworn Affidavit
- Proof of Residence (Victor Khanye Local Municipality)
- Name of Company Representative (Clarification Session)
- ID Number of Company Representative (Clarification Session)
- Contact Details of Company Representative (Clarification Session)

3. SUBMISSION METHOD

All responses must be submitted electronically via the QR code below:

SCAN QR CODE TO SUBMIT YOUR RFI RESPONSE or FOLLOW BELOW LINK
<https://bit.ly/4wn04NO>



Timeline Process

Project:

1. LP006/Exxaro Leeuwpan Coal Mine / 2026 – Topsoil Load and Hauling Services

Issuing Authority: Ritluka Resources

Date Issued: 01 April 2026

Updated Procurement Timeline

1. To ensure a seamless selection process the following schedule will be maintained. No late submissions or unscheduled site visits will be permitted.

Milestone	Revised Date	Time
Publication of Request for Information (RFI)	08 May 2026	14: 00
Submission of Expressions of Interest	08 May – 15 May 2026	N/A
Verification Process	Wednesday, 20 May 2026	10:00
Compulsory Site Clarification/Briefing Meeting	Monday, 25 May 2026	10:00
RFQ Submission Deadline	Wednesday, 03 June 2026	16:00
Internal Evaluation & Review Period	04 June – 12 June 2026	N/A
Announcement of Successful / Unsuccessful Bidder	Friday, 19 June 2026	12:00

Notes:

- Bidders should note that the mine requires your name and surname, your ID number and contact details, which would have been provided in the QR code form.
- Bidders are encouraged to submit all questions on the QR code form to allow the team enough time to go through the questions.



Immy Serakalala, Head of Department for Economic Development and Tourism, with Fish Mahlalela, Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA) Interim Board Chairperson, during the media briefing ahead of the 2026 Africa's Travel Indaba. IMAGE By: MTPA



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Our Story

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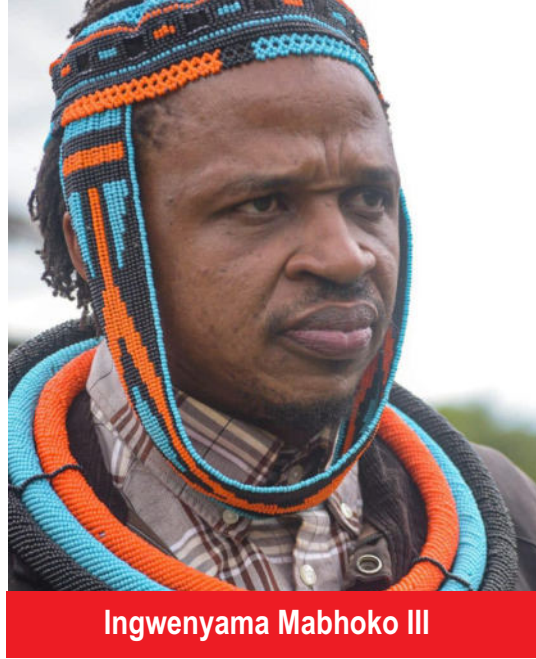
ILIZWI

INARHA NGEYEENGWENYAMA NAMA KHOSI!

Inarha esindzinde kiyo le, ungafunga bonyana kuyi narha esizibetha isifuba ngayo kodwana akusinjalo, amakhosi wekhetu kunye nesitjhaba babethwa bujamo behlalo. Ukungenelela kwePolotiki yesi modeni kwakhinyabeza isitjhaba sengwenyama uNyabela. Singase sizibethe isifuba ngombana ipilo yethu seya ndzinda khona la enarheni etjhisa bhe! Ama Khosi wekhetu aboSoMntjongweni amakhela amadala abakatjalwa enarheni le. Qobe minyaka sithi! Kgedlhu emuva silunguza lapha imirabhu yabokhokho bethu yasala khona. Iye! Khona zikhona iingwenyama nama Khosi wekhetu akhothama khotamela magegana nenarha le esindzinde kiyo, ngikhuluma nge Wonderboom ukuya Emasongololo “Cullinan” neenarha ezimagegana lapha iingwenyama zekhetu bezi qaqada khona. Akusi kumbi njalo njengombana vele ezinye zeendawo zanganeno vele iingwenyama zekhetu besele zizithumbile nanga phambi kobanyana i-Polotiki yesi modeni isonge amaKhosi wekhetu kunye nesitjhaba iimkhono ngombana lapha sasuswa khona namhlanjesi ama mayini nama pulasi akhiqiza ubusaphasapha. Inarha ngeyeNgweenyama namaKhosi, ekuligugu esaphiwa lona ukusukela kubo khokho bethu sisi t j h a b a s a m a N d e b e l e ngokwehlukahluka. E-Pumalanga ukusukela eMthambothini ugege nayo ukhuphuke ukufikela kibo Panela ziindawo zamaKhosi wekhetu ingasi ama Khansela

namtjhana uRhulumende. Inmrabhu yethu sisi tjhaba samaNdebele idzimelele khulu ebezimini bekhethu, ekukulapho lapha sizifumana khona lokhu kulathisa bonyana lapha kwalala khona bekhethu kuligugu kithi kunye neenzukulwaneni zamaNdebele. Kungakho ukufuduka namtjhana ukufudukiswa asihlobani nakho ngombana sitjale bekhethu kileyo ndawo. Iingwenyama zekhetu zalwa kwarathuka ibhetjhe. Zilwela iinarha lezi esele zilawulwa bondlebe zikhanya ilanga knye nabo somaPolotiki. Nasele sitjheja ngama bomu bonyana iye! Khona siya vuma kwenzekile ekwenzekileko. Sitjheja itjhebiswano nasiza ehlangothini lenarha ekuyilawuleni ngaphasi kwesandla seeNgwenyama namaKhosi wekhetu kunye norhulumende nalaba bePolotiki yesi modeni bonyana likhona lona na, iingwenyama zethu zikhona eziku zuzako njenba nikazi benarha na. Kuya vela bonyana iinghonghoyilo zimmango njengombana amaKhosi wekhetu aphiwa mbijana. Isikhethu satjho sathi iinkunzi eembili azihlali esibayeni esisodwa. Iingwenyama zekhetu zikghonile ukubulunga iindwao , zazivundisa zanotha kunye nabantu abandzinde kizo bahlonyiswa ngesimilo kodwana mvanje azisa kghoni ukuzuza khona esitjhabeni sabo kodwana kuzuza yena Rhulumende nehlelo lakhe lePolotiki yesi modeni. Inarha kutlhogeka kwamambala bonyana ibuyele kubanikazi bayo. Iingwenyama zethu zikghone ukuba nelawulo elipheleleko ngenarha.

Umtloli
(Themba Emanuel Mashobane)
Umhlaziyi
(Ngemani Sbusiso Mahlangu)



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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE: APPLICATION FOR INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR SIDE MINERALS (PTY) LTD'S MINING RIGHT AMENDMENT APPLICATION ON THE FARMS WELGELEGEN 221 IR AND LEEUWVONTEIN 219 IR

DMR REF: MP 30/5/11/2/10149 MR (93) MR • ECO ELEMENTUM REF: 24-3003-AUTH
NOTICE START DATE: 08 MAY 2025 • WUL Reference: TBC

Notice is hereby given in terms of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act (Act No. 28 of 2002) (MPRDA) (as amended) and its associated regulations and the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended) and its associated Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended), that Side Minerals (Pty) Ltd has applied for a Section 102 Mining Right Amendment (in accordance with the MPRDA) and associated Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms NEMA as well as a Water Use Licence in terms of the National Water Act 1998 (NWA) on portions 24, 25 and 26 of the farm Welgelegen 221 IR and portion 1 of the farm Leeuwfontein 219 IR in the Victor Kanye Local Municipality, Nkangala District Municipality, within the Mpumalanga Province. Side Minerals intend to extend the mining at Pit C and establish additional offices and an additional Discard Dump at the plant area within the existing Mining Right. Eco Elementum (Pty) Ltd (hereinafter EcoE) has been appointed to undertake the application as independent Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAPs) and would like to engage Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with respect to the activities proposed on the abovementioned property.

PROJECT TITLE: 24-3003-AUTH (Zomhlaba Lakeside S102_IWUL Amendment)

The following applications and subsequent approvals are applicable:

- Mining Right (MPRDA): Section 102
- Environmental Authorisation (NEMA and EIA Regulations) by way of a Basic Assessment Process: GNR 983, Listing Notice 1- Activity 12,14, 21D, 27 ,34, 46 and GNR 985, Listing Notice 3- Activity 12.
- Waste Management License (NEM:WA): Category A: Activity 13
- An Integrated Water Use Licence (IWUL) in terms of the NWA Section 21 water uses including 21 (c) (i) (g) and (j).

The Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) will be available for review for 30 days from the **8th May 2026 until the 7th June 2026** and the Integrated Wastewater Management Plan (IWWMP) will be available for review for 60 days from the **8th May 2026 until the 8th July 2026**. To access the BAR and IWWMP and its associated appendices please visit the EcoE website on <http://ecoelementum.co.za/downloads/>. Documents also available electronically upon request. I&APs are invited to register and submit written comments on the DBAR. When submitting comments quote the project title and Project Reference Number, full name and contact details.

Contact: Kgothatso Skosana / Malebogo Mosepele | 012 807 0383 / 082 765 6080 | kgothatso@ecoe.co.za, cc_malebogo@ecoe.co.za
Project Ref: 24-3003-AUTH Zomhlaba Lakeside S102_IWUL Amendment

An Open House session will be held to provide I&APs with information of the proposed project and an opportunity to engage directly with the EAP. I&APs will also be afforded the opportunity to raise questions and submit comments on the project during the session. Kindly take note of the details related to the Open Day: **Date:** 26 May 2026 | **Venue:** Khaya Resort (Farm 21 Klipfontein, Blesbokfontein Rd Delmas, 2021)



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE: APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR LK TLOU (PTY) LTD'S MINING RIGHT AMENDMENT APPLICATION ON THE FARM STRAFFONTEIN IR

DMR REF: MP 30/5/11/2/10462 (10320 MR) MR • ECO ELEMENTUM REF: 25-4249-AUTH • NOTICE START DATE: 08 MAY 2025

Notice is hereby given in terms of the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act (Act No. 28 of 2002) (MPRDA) (as amended) and its associated regulations and the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended) and its associated Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended), that LK Tlou (Pty) Ltd has applied for a Section 102 Mining Right Amendment (in accordance with the MPRDA) and associated Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms NEMA to include contiguous Portions 10, 38, 39, 40, 42, 43 and the Remaining Extent of the farm Straffontein IR in the Victor Khanye Local Municipality, which falls under the greater Nkangala District Municipality, within the Mpumalanga Province. LK Tlou intends to mine coal using the opencast mining method. Eco Elementum (Pty) Ltd (hereinafter EcoE) has been appointed to undertake the application as independent Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAPs) and would like to engage Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with respect to the activities proposed on the abovementioned property.

PROJECT TITLE: 25-4249-AUTH (Tlou Straffontein S102)

The following applications and subsequent approvals are applicable:

- Mining Right (MPRDA): Section 102
- Environmental Authorisation (NEMA and EIA Regulations) namely: GNR 983, Listing Notice 1– Activity 19 ; 21D and 34; GNR 984, Listing Notice 2- Activity 6, 15 and GNR 985, Listing Notice 3- Activity 12.
- Waste Management License (NEM:WA): Category B: Activity 11
- Water Use Licence (WUL) (NWA): (Not undertaken by EcoE).

The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) will be available for review for 30 days from the **8th May 2026 until the 6th of June 2026**. To access the DSR and its associated appendices please visit the EcoE website on <http://ecoelementum.co.za/downloads/>. Documents may also be shared electronically, if requested. When submitting comments quote the project title and Project Reference Number, full name and contact details.

Contact: Kgothatso Skosana / Malebogo Mosepele | 012 807 0383 / 082 765 6080 | kgothatso@ecoe.co.za, cc_malebogo@ecoe.co.za
Project Ref: 25-4249-AUTH (Tlou Straffontein S102)

An Open House session will be held to provide I&APs with information of the proposed project and an opportunity to engage directly with the EAP. I&APs will also be afforded the opportunity to raise questions and submit comments on the project during the session. Kindly take note of the details related to the Open Day: **Date:** 26 May 2026 | **Venue:** Khaya Resort (Farm 21 Klipfontein, Blesbokfontein Rd Delmas, 2021)

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Community marches divide Steve Tshwete residents over mine forum

● LUCAS SHONGWE

MIDDELBURG — Two community marches held on 22 April and 30 April in Steve Tshwete Local Municipality have exposed divisions among residents over the leadership and representation of Liberty Coal's Community Stakeholder Forum, with some accusing the structure of excluding the community while others question the motives behind the protests. The protests followed the launch of a new stakeholder forum in February 2026. The previous forum was dissolved in December 2025 after the mine identified concerns that some members did not fully represent community interests. The first march was led by Mandlenkosi Mkhwanazi, who accused the forum of failing to communicate with residents. However, some residents strongly disputed the claims and questioned the intentions behind the marches. "They are being pushed by other people who want access to the mine for their own gain," said one resident who asked not to be named. "We don't know who they are representing anymore. It feels like this is not about the community but about personal business opportunities." Another resident, Vusi Mahlangu, echoed similar sentiments. "It's the same story every time. Someone comes forward claiming to speak for the community, but behind them are people who just want tenders or contracts from the mine. The real community gets forgotten while a few benefit," Mahlangu said. Community stakeholder forums are required under South Africa's mining regulatory framework to provide a platform for engagement between mines and host communities on issues such as employment, procurement and social development. At the forum's February launch, Liberty Coal representative Nelisiwe Mabaso said the stakeholder forum aims to dismantle informal community structures that exploit job

seekers. "These structures promise people jobs but end up giving opportunities to their relatives," Mabaso said. She added that the company would now communicate directly with communities through elected forum members and prioritise hiring from host communities. "Going forward, job opportunities will go to mine host communities rather than outsiders brought in by these structures from beyond Steve Tshwete Local Municipality while locals remain unemployed," she said. Mkhwanazi maintained that residents have not received proper feedback since the forum was established. "Since the forum was elected, we have heard nothing from them. There has been no feedback, no community meetings, no reports. It is as if they disappeared the day they were appointed," he said. "We are left in the dark while decisions about our homes and livelihoods are made without us." A second march on 30 April was organised by Thulani Mthimunye of Ukehezolunye Community Empowerment, raising similar concerns about representation. "The people sitting in that forum are no longer speaking for us. They were elected to carry the voice of the community, but now they are protecting their own interests. The community has been locked out of the very process that is supposed to represent us," Mthimunye said after the march. Protesters allege that forum members are not representing the broader Steve Tshwete community and that decisions linked to mining operations and social obligations are being made without wider consultation. Questions were sent to Liberty Coal in response to the concerns raised by the protesters, but no response had been received by the time of going to print.

PWUD Sector launches Harm Reduction and OAT Pilot Programme in eMalahleni

● SHARON CHILOANE AND NODICAH FUNDAMA

EMALAHLENI — Community members, healthcare workers, civil society organisations and people who use drugs gathered at Ezinambeni on 06 May 2026 for the launch of a new harm reduction and Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT) pilot programme aimed at addressing substance dependence through healthcare-centred interventions rather than punishment or exclusion. The programme is led by the People Who Use Drugs (PWUD) Sector in partnership with TB HIV Care and the Madibeng Centre for Research, and will be piloted in Mpumalanga and North West provinces, with Siphosensimbi Clinic identified as the Mpumalanga implementation site. The pilot forms part of a broader public health approach focused on reducing the harmful effects associated with substance use while promoting dignity, human rights and access to healthcare services. Harm reduction refers to policies and interventions aimed at minimising the negative health, social and legal impacts of drug use. The approach focuses on supporting individuals without judgement or discrimination while improving access to services. Speaking during the workshop, Nombulelo Mkhuma said the session aimed to educate communities about substance use and available treatment options. "The purpose of us having a workshop today was to teach the community about harm reduction and the different drugs that are used in different locations and the different treatments," she said. "People who use drugs are the same as us. They have human rights and are protected by law just like any other

individual." The workshop also highlighted key principles of harm reduction, including providing options, tailoring support to individual needs, involving users in decision-making and ensuring continued access to healthcare services. Central to the discussion was Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT), a medical treatment used to assist people dependent on opioids such as heroin and nyaope. The treatment involves regulated medication such as methadone or buprenorphine administered by healthcare professionals, combined with psychosocial support. The pilot project will run for more than 20 months in the two provinces. In Mpumalanga, only 15 participants will initially be enrolled at Siphosensimbi Clinic for methadone treatment aimed at reducing opioid dependence. Participants will be monitored over a 12-month period, with continued support available depending on individual progress. Researcher Mmaila Molebatsi from the University of Pretoria said the programme could benefit both individuals and communities affected by substance use.

"Substance abuse problems do not only affect users, but also families and communities," he said. "We are hoping that when patients access services like methadone, they will also access other healthcare services available at clinics." Phumzile Ngondela welcomed the initiative, saying it addresses a long-standing gap in support services. "Today's programme has taught us that there is a gap when it comes to people using drugs, and we need to close that gap," she said. She added that civil society organisations would continue working to expand access to services and reduce stigma. Thando Masango from the Kakarambha Foundation also welcomed the pilot, saying it offers hope to people struggling with addiction and encouraged community members to support the programme. The initiative forms part of broader efforts to shift responses to substance use from punitive approaches towards healthcare-based interventions, community education and long-term support. Stakeholders say the programme could serve as a model for expanding harm reduction services in South Africa if successful.



Stakeholders, community members and civil society organisations gathered at Ezinambeni to discuss harm reduction approaches and the introduction of the OAT Pilot Programme in Mpumalanga.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS Eggbert Eggs (Pty) Ltd – Hy-Lay Water Use Licence Application

Notice is hereby given of a public participation process in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) and Regulations Regarding the Procedural Requirements for Water Use License Applications and Appeals, GNR267 of 2017; with the intention to carry out the following:

Description of activity:

Hy-Lay, owned by Eggbert Eggs (Pty) Ltd, operates poultry production activities on the Remaining Extent of Portion 6 and Portion 12 of the Farm Van Dykspuit 214 IR, Remaining Extent of portion 1, Portion 14 and Portion 16 of the Farm Boschpoort 211 IR, accessed from the 491 offramp from the N12. The activity is located within the Victor Khanye Local and Nkangala District Municipalities in Mpumalanga Province. The site is situated in quaternary catchment B20F of the Olifants Water Management Area. A Water Use Licence (WUL) for triggered water uses was lodged with the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS). Hy-Lay intends to apply for authorisation of water uses triggering:

1. Section 21(a): Taking water from a water resource - abstracting water from boreholes for poultry production and domestic uses.
2. Section 21(c): Impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse - Infrastructure constructed within 500m radius of a wetland/stream.
3. Section 21(g) water uses: Disposing water in a manner that may detrimentally impact on a water resource – disposal and management of domestic sanitation wastewater through conservancy tanks.
4. Section 21(i) water uses: Altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse – Infrastructure constructed within 500m radius of a wetland/stream.

In terms of the requirements of the regulations Regarding the procedural Requirements for Water Use Licence Applications and Appeals, GNR267 of 2017, a WUL application will be submitted to Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) for consideration under reference number **WU 48983**.

Location: Approximately 21 km northeast of Delmas, Mpumalanga Province

GPS coordinates: 26° 1'38.93"S; 28° 50'54.71"E

Farm portion extent: Approximately 599 ha
Name of Proponent: Eggbert Eggs (Pty) Ltd
Ref. No.: ZC_1662

Contact person for representation on the application:

Zyntha Consulting Contact Person: Gerhard Jansen van Vuuren
Suite 445 MW, P/Bag X1838 Tel: 082 338 4915
Middelburg Fax: 086 410 8267
1050 E-mail: admin@zyntha.co.za

In order to register as an interested and/or affected party please submit your name, contact information and interest in the matter to the contact persons given above. The Draft Technical Report will be made available at the Victor Khanye local municipal library, at Zyntha website and to registered I&APs to comment for a period of 30 days. Written comments must be forwarded to the contact details above.

Date of Publication: 08 May 2026

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Kota Festival turns eMalahleni into a hub of culture, flavour and enterprise

SHARON CHILOANE AND NODICAH FUNDAMA

EMALAHLENI — Thousands of people gathered at Puma Stadium on 02 May 2026 for the Kota Festival, a touring national event celebrating township food, music and entrepreneurship, with organisers and sponsors highlighting its growing role in youth empowerment and small business development.

At the centre of the festival is the kota — a popular township meal made from a quarter loaf filled with chips, egg, polony, cheese and other variations reflecting the creativity of local food entrepreneurs. What was once regarded as a simple street-side meal has now evolved into a structured platform that elevates vendors into recognised business owners while showcasing township cuisine on a larger scale.

The event was supported by sponsors including Albany Bakeries, Capitec, Daily Sun, Base Pulse and Nyama Choma, whose involvement continues to strengthen the festival's focus on youth empowerment, small business development and community-driven growth.

Speaking on the vision behind the initiative, co-founder and chief executive officer Xolani Mashele said the festival has grown into a national touring platform steadily expanding across the country.

Mashele said the current edition forms part of a 13-stop national tour across six provinces, including Limpopo, Gauteng, Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal.

"This is our third stop on a 13-city journey," Mashele said. "We started in Johannesburg and the East Rand, and those shows were a bang. Every stop is about building something bigger than the last."

He added that the long-term goal is consistency and growth for township-

led creative economies.

"We are building a standard," he said. "Each stop must grow. Each stop must improve. That's how we scale township culture into something sustainable."

From a financial empowerment perspective, Dumisile Mpofo said the festival plays an important role in linking informal traders to formal financial systems.

"This is about real impact," Mpofo said. "When vendors use digital payment systems, they are not just selling — they are building financial footprints that can open doors to funding and expansion."

Khanyisile Thokoa and Khumo Seboge said the brand's involvement is rooted in community upliftment and opportunity creation.

"This space allows young entrepreneurs to be seen and supported," Seboge said. "That is where real impact begins."

The festival atmosphere was further amplified by MCs Napo Modise and Somizi, who ensured a seamless flow between performances, vendor showcases and audience activations, maintaining the energy throughout the day.

The stage featured a dynamic line-up of artists including Naledi Aphiwe, Mlindo The Vocalist, Kabza De Small, Danya Devs, MaWhoo, Elaine, Mörda, Emtee, K.O, Makhadzi, EeQue, Supta, Bixkie, Ezra and Aymos, delivering performances that kept festivalgoers entertained throughout the day.

Beyond the music, the heart of the festival remained with its 30 competing vendors, who



IMAGES BY: Kota Festival

showcased innovation through flavour and presentation, transforming a simple township meal into a competitive culinary showcase. Leles Fast Foods was crowned the overall winner and walked away with R5 000.

Keke's Kitchen, founded by Keketso Mosiya from Katlehong, also made its mark after finishing second in the competition and receiving R3 000.

"I've always loved cooking. Being part of a platform like this gives me a chance to grow what I started from home and share it with different

communities along the tour," Mosiya said.

Artist Supta said the platform continues to play an important role in changing mindsets among young creatives.

"These events show people that where you start doesn't limit where you can go," he said. "It's about exposure and opportunity."

He also reflected on his latest single, Amagama, describing it as a song about persistence and holding onto purpose even during uncertain moments.

For attendee Lethu Simelani, the festival represented something deeper than entertainment.

"It feels like home," Simelani said. "The food, the music, the people — it all connects in a way that stays with you."

As the day came to a close, the Kota Festival once again proved its growing influence as more than just an entertainment event. It continues to travel across the country as a cultural and economic platform that elevates township food, music and entrepreneurship into a national conversation.



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