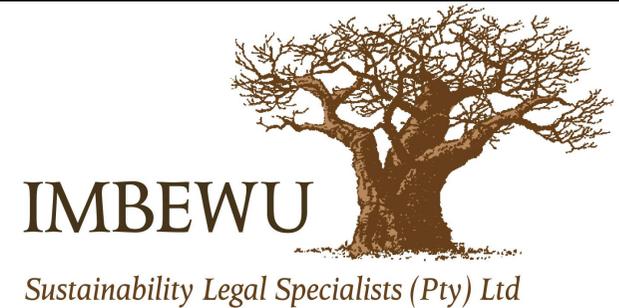




SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2022



For a copy of the Safety, Health and Environmental (SHE) Legislation Update, please go to:
<https://imbewu.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Monthly-SHE-legislation-update-June2022.pdf>

NATIONAL

GENERAL

THABA CHWEU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY FINED R10 MILLION – The Thaba Chweu Municipality in Mpumalanga was found guilty of contravening environmental laws relating to water disposal and water use, significant pollution of the environment and failure to comply with the conditions stipulated in their Water Use Licence. Director of Public Prosecution, advocate Nkebe Kanyane said “*We believe that this sentence will serve as a deterrent effect to certain organs of state, who do not uphold the rule of law.*”

Source: IOL dated 14 June 2022

<https://www.iol.co.za/news/south-africa/mpumalanga/thaba-chweu-local-municipality-fined-r10m-for-pollution-a1050852-f583-4ab9-b4b4-0abb6d08aa38>

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF AUSTRALIAN OWNED MINING OPERATION TO BE CONDUCTED IN THE WEST COAST REGION – Following lengthy negotiations between the Centre for Environmental Rights (“CER”) and Mineral Sands Resources (“MSR”), the Australian owned mining company has managed to prevent immediate legal action by agreeing to take drastic measures to improve the environmental impact of their West Coast operation. A Strategic Environmental Assessment will be conducted for the region which will place the cumulative impact of a proliferation of mining, prospecting, and oil and gas explorations, both onshore and offshore, along the West Coast under close scrutiny.

Source: GroundUp dated 21 June 2022

<https://www.groundup.org.za/article/environmental-activists-reach-agreement-with-australian-mining-company/>

18 COMPANIES SELECTED BY ESKOM TO LEASE LAND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS - The energy grid may get a much-needed 1800 MW generation capacity boost from renewable energy projects pending the outcome of environmental impact assessments clearance. Once clearance is obtained, lease agreements will be signed and Eskom will make an announcement of the successful companies.

Source: Fin24 dated 23 June 2022

https://www.news24.com/fin24/economy/eskom-land-lease-could-see-sa-get-1800-mw-boost-to-the-grid-20220623?utm_source=24.com&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=3782+33993636+72358&utm_term=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.news24.com%2Ffin24%2Feconomy%2Feskom-land-lease-could-see-sa-get-1800-mw-boost-to-the-grid-20220623

UNIONS SUPPORT THE JUST ENERGY TRANSITION PROVIDED WORKERS PLAY A CENTRAL ROLE – Several Unions have expressed their support of South Africa's Just Energy transition but have highlighted potential job losses as a concern. Krister Janse van Rensburg, head of Associated Mineworkers and Construction Union ("AMCU") said that *"the just transition must be designed in such a way that it ensures that industries remain sustainable and that it stimulates economic growth that will drive social progress."*

Source: Engineering news dated 10 June 2022

https://www.engineeringnews.co.za/article/what-about-the-workers-2022-06-10/rep_id:4136

URGENT APPLICATION FILED IN THE SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL AGAINST THE LANDMARK RIVER CLUB JUDGEMENT – The Liesbeek Leisure Properties Trust ("LLPT") and other respondents in the case have filed an urgent application in the Supreme Court of Appeal against Western Cape Deputy Judge Patricia Goliath's ruling to dismiss their application for leave to appeal the River Club Judgement which stopped construction of a R4.6 billion project in March. James Tannenberger, spokesperson for LLPT, referred to the judgement as the *"Legally flawed, job-killing River Club interdict."*

Source: IOL dated 7 June 2022

<https://www.iol.co.za/capeargus/news/river-club-developers-to-take-their-appeal-of-job-killing-ruling-to-the-supreme-court-1a25edbd-8cfd-4e2f-84bb-794f60670b12>

HIGH COURT APPLICATION LODGED TO FREE THREE ELEPHANTS FROM THE JOHANNESBURG ZOO – Animal Law Reform South Africa and the EMS Foundation have lodged a High Court application to have three elephants released from the Johannesburg Zoo as they claim they are being held in conditions unsuited to their basic needs. Several expert affidavits have been provided in support of the application and these experts have demonstrated, based on their knowledge that it is *"unconscionable for these Elephants to remain in the Johannesburg Zoo."*

Source: SA People News dated 21 June 2022

<https://www.sapeople.com/2022/06/21/groundbreaking-court-case-to-release-elephants-from-joburg-zoo/>

INTERNATIONAL

GENERAL

RULING REGARDING THE COMMISSIONING OF A DEEP COAL MINE IN THE UK PLACED ON HOLD DUE TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS – Environmental watchdogs have labelled the plans to build the UK's first deep coal mine in three decades as *"absolutely indefensible"*. The UK is looking for new sources of fossil fuels to help wean itself off of Russian oil and gas, but the decision on the coal mine was postponed after concerns were raised that the mine is at odds with the country's legally binding goal to reach net-zero emissions by 2050.

Source: Mining Weekly dated 29 June 2022

https://www.miningweekly.com/article/uk-coal-mines-climate-impact-is-indefensible-watchdog-says-2022-06-29/rep_id:3650

GIANT GALAPAGOS TORTOISE THOUGHT TO BE EXTINCT FOR OVER 100 YEARS FOUND ALIVE – A single female of the Fernandina Island tortoise species has been found alive. This is the first tortoise of this species identified since 1906. The island of Fernandina is uninhabited and difficult to reach but there is hope that there may be more of this species living on the island. If scientists can locate a male of her species, the Fernandina Island tortoises might be able to breed their way back from the brink of extinction.

Source: New Scientist dated 9 June 2022

https://www.newscientist.com/article/2323593-galapagos-tortoise-thought-extinct-for-100-years-has-been-found-alive/?utm_source=Nature+Briefing&utm_campaign=c41807aec2-briefing-dy-20220610&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c9dfd39373-c41807aec2-

PUBLICATIONS

GUIDANCE FROM THE JSE – After noting the challenges that many companies face as they pursue more sustainable ways of conducting business, the JSE has published guidance documents to assist companies to navigate the areas of sustainability and disclosure. The guidance aims to clarify current global best practices.

Source: JSE

Climate Change Disclosure Guidance June 2022: <https://www.jse.co.za/our-business/sustainability/jses-sustainability-and-climate-disclosure-guidance>

Sustainability Disclosure Guidance: [https://www.jse.co.za/form/sustainability-page-](https://www.jse.co.za/form/sustainability-page-webform?url=https://www.jse.co.za/sites/default/files/media/documents//JSE%20Climate%20Disclosure%20Guidance_June%202022.pdf)

[webform?url=https://www.jse.co.za/sites/default/files/media/documents//JSE%20Climate%20Disclosure%20Guidance_June%202022.pdf](https://www.jse.co.za/sites/default/files/media/documents//JSE%20Climate%20Disclosure%20Guidance_June%202022.pdf)

INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY AGENCY - Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress Report (2022) - The Energy Progress Report assesses achievements in the global quest for universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy by 2030.

Source: CISP

Report: https://cisp.cachefly.net/assets/articles/attachments/88214_sdg7_tracking_progress_2022.pdf

CONFERENCES AND OTHER EVENTS

- 18-23 July – **Africa Protected Area Congress (APAC)** – Kigali, Rwanda
- 16-17 August – **16th International Conference on Environment and Climate Change (ICECC)** – Venice, Italy
- 26-28 September – **IAIA International Climate Change Symposium** – Cape Town, South Africa

IMBEWU'S ONLINE Safety, Health & Environmental (SHE) Legal Registers serve to link environmental and health & safety legal requirements, not only to clients' specific activities, aspects and risks, but also to legislative provisions and legal commentaries. Our state-of-the-art online electronic SHE Legal Registers are cost effective, contemporary and streamlined for easy access with secure passwords, easy navigation, explanations of SHE legislation relevant to specific operations, access to a comprehensive searchable SHE legislation database (which is updated monthly) and include site-specific documentation.

For more information contact sam@imbewu.co.za or visit <https://imbewu.co.za/she-electronic-legal-registers/>

"The environment is where we all meet; where we all have a mutual interest; it is the only thing all of us share." – **Lady Bird Johnson**

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in IMBEWU's Sustainability Newsletter and Legislation Update has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable. IMBEWU does not warrant the accuracy, completeness or adequacy of such information.

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