



Energy  
Mineral Resources

Media statement

To all media

24 March 2020

**MINISTER MANTASHE MEETS WITH MINING AND ENERGY INDUSTRIES TO CONSOLIDATE PLANS TO DEAL WITH COVID-19**

The Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy Mr Gwede Mantashe (MP) today met with the South African Petroleum Industry Association (SAPIA) and the Minerals Council SA to consolidate plans to deal with COVID-19, following the announcement of the lockdown by the President of the Republic, HE Cyril Ramaphosa.

The department, working with both the petroleum and mining industries, is developing a framework of practical steps to execute the national call for a lockdown. This will be presented to the meeting of the National Command Council.

Included in the framework will be plans to ensure - among others - security of energy supply in order to support critical and essential services.

The primary objective remains that of protecting the lives of people working in these industries, while ensuring that critical sectors of the economy are able to continue with essential services, and to put in place plans to ensure that beyond the lockdown, they are able to quickly restart production to support the economy.

The department will soon meet with labour unions in these industries.

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**Issued by the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy**