



## mineral resources & energy

Department:  
Mineral Resources and Energy  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### **Media statement**

To: All media  
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## **DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY EXTENDS CONDELENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF THE DECEASED MINEWORKERS IN RUSTENBURG**

The Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) is saddened by the loss of life following two safety incidents which occurred at the Impala Platinum Holdings Limited (Implats) mine in Rustenburg, North West.

Reports provided by the mining company are that seven employees were working at the bottom of the 6 Shaft when the area became inundated as a result of a mud rush. While four employees were injured and are receive necessary medical care, three have regrettably lost their lives.

We would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to the families of the workers who have sadly lost their lives. One life lost is one too many. No one deserves to lose their life in the line of duty. We wish the injured workers speedy recovery.

In a separate incident that occurred on Saturday 27 November 2021, a contract employee was fatally injured during underground drilling operations at the 16 Shaft mining complex.

The DMRE has been on the ground participating in the search and rescue operations. The Department's Mine Health and Safety Inspectorate will now commence with a full investigation to determine the cause of the incidents that took place.

The health and safety of mineworkers continues to be a priority for government, as we tirelessly work towards achieving Zero Harm in South African mines, thereby ensuring that each employee returns home unharmed every day.

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