



Orion Minerals

For immediate release

Orion Minerals condemns violence, intimidation and damage to property and reinforces its commitment to development with sustainable community benefits.

The right to protest is enshrined in the Constitution. Intimidating behaviour including carrying assault weapons at a public protest to force management and local government to accede to demands is not.

Johannesburg (30 April 2021) – Orion Minerals unequivocally condemns the faction of the Siyathemba community who used the protest on 29 April in Prieska in the Northern Cape as an opportunity to make threats and to intimidate site security staff and others at gunpoint. Orion remains committed to the Prieska Mine project and our internationally recognised Environmental, Social and Governance standards.

Orion is an exploration company that has yet to build the Prieska mine. Our shareholders have invested and continue to invest substantial shareholder funding on community engagement and upliftment as well as progressing the project to development. We are proud that we exceed the South African Mining Charter requirements and have made clear commitments to substantial employee training and continued enterprise development for the benefit of our host community, who are also shareholders in the company.

From the outset of work at Prieska, Orion has been quite clear that it will expect all core contractors to employ locals and to bring on board local sub-contractors whenever these can be sourced locally on fair and commercial terms. This will foster high local employment, contracting and subcontracting opportunities. As training and enterprise development programs progress, we expect to source increasing supplies and services locally.

We have received enormous support from the greater part of the community who do not support or condone yesterday's actions in any way, and who understand the negative impact that this action may have on the Siyathemba community.

We remain committed to constructively engage on all issues that require mutual cooperation with all our stakeholders.

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