

10 February 2020

EPA update: Successful conclusion of the public hearing held in Kwahu Praso

Soon Mining Limited (“SMG”) is pleased to announce that the public hearing held in Kwahu Praso on 5 February 2020 has successfully concluded. This is a crucial step in the process of obtaining the EPA Permit.

The public hearing was held in Kwahu Praso at 10 a.m. on 5 February 2020. It was hosted by both the EPA head office in Accra and the EPA office in the Eastern Region. The Minerals Commission, the Chief Executive of Asanti Akim South Municipal Assembly, the Chief Executive of Kwahu South District Assembly and other distinguished guests were invited to attend the public hearing.

The public hearing was attended by dozens of chiefs from Kwaku and Asanti, whom were headed by Kwahu Obohene, along with community representatives from 13 major villages in the mining concession and over 1,000 local residents. The EPA promoted the government's policies and position, and SMG also explained its mining policies and future social responsibility plans for the villages and communities in the mining concession area. Other than a few residents of Osubeng who were skeptical, most of participants expressed their support for SMG and spoke enthusiastically during the meeting.

The public hearing established a bridge of good communication between SMG and the local communities. SMG will continue to maintain close communication and relationship with the chiefs and communities.

In the coming days, SMG and the EPA consultant will continue to cooperate with the EPA to complete the follow-up ESIA report, which will bring SMG closer to obtaining the EPA permit, allowing SMG to legally and formally carry out its planned mining activities as soon as possible.

END

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