

## **DRDGOLD Tailings Management**

# POLICY



**The Aim of this Policy** is to ensure that the interests of all relevant Stakeholders, from Shareholders, Board Members, Executive and Operational Management, Operating personnel, Regulators and Potentially Impacted Parties are adequately attended to in respect of the design, construction and management of the Company's tailings disposal facilities.

#### CONTEXT



## DRDGOLD recognises and acknowledges that;



The effective containment of waste in tailings is required to prevent pollution, which in turn requires the implementation and maintenance of effective standards of environmental containment and governance;



Integral to its operations of retreating tailings is the requirement of a facility onto which such tailings are stored after processing;



In order to ensure that the interests of stakeholders receive due consideration, standards and practices need to be periodically reviewed against the standards and policies that are developed, recommended and prescribed by authoritative and representative oversight organisations and movements; and



The design, construction and management of tailings storage facilities are to be done to a geotechnical standard that will ensure the safety and stability of such facilities;



Good corporate governance assumes a level of ongoing, independent oversight to provide assurance to Management and the Board, both in terms of the adequacy of management standards, the extent to which they are being adhered to, and the status and condition of the facility.



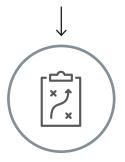
In consequence to the foregoing, DRDGOLI undertakes to;

- Create and maintain a Tailings Disposal Plan, as well as policies that are optimally integrated into the operational plans of the Company for the expected or planned duration of all its operating activities.
- Such Plan shall:
  - Aim, to create facilities for the permanent storage of tailings that do not impact on the surrounding natural environment beyond objectively acceptable standards and that do not leave an enduring negative socioeconomic impact;
  - Be cost effective to maximise the benefits to be derived from processing of the Company's resource and integrating the tailings disposal into the entire planning process and its total value proposition;

- Not create an undue or avoidable hazard to society and to the environment;
- Create systems for the ongoing measuring and capturing of essential data and apply this to monitor the level of risk at appropriate intervals to facilitate effective risk management and the avoidance of hazardous events;
- Be legally compliant and conform to norms and standards proportionate to the potential risk posed by the facility and its operations;
- Maintain appropriate and transparent reporting protocols and information storage and retrieval systems; and
- Engage appropriately qualified, experienced and skilled managerial, technical specialists and operating personnel to create and maintain the aforementioned plans.
- Every Plan for each situation or facility shall define the Objective, the Design, the Operational Implementation requirements and the Management Protocols and Systems to ensure sustained compliance and good governance in respect of the said facility.

### **MANAGEMENT PROTOCOLS**

In addition to the Plan, Tailings Disposal Management Protocols shall be established that;



Define the unique
"Objective" for every
tailing's disposal
operation and solution



Include a cost-effective
Life of Operation Design
and Implementation
Procedures that, if
complied with, render an
acceptable level of risk and
fulfil the Objective



Identify and prescribe the resources – financial, material and human, to give effect to the Plan



Train, empower and obligate the assigned human resources to manage, execute and implement the Plan



As part of its internal controls, establish formalised performance monitoring and data capturing for compliance reporting



Formalise and maintain Emergency Response Plans



Allocate the requisite resources to sustain the tailing's disposal operations in compliance with the Plan and the Objective



Through periodic review by independent experts, ensure the continued applicability and effectiveness of the Plans and Management Protocols over the Life of Operation

#### **DRDGOLD Tailings Management Policy**

• Plan and manage effective transition from the operating phase to a sustainable end use in fulfilment of the Objective.

#### **Niël Pretorius**