

BRIEF TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH DEEP

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LET'S TALK

Confirmed COVID-19 case – returning employee



Colleagues

We have received confirmation that a South Deep team member who we tested as part of our return to work protocol has been confirmed as having COVID-19. The employee, who lives in on-mine family accommodation, does not have any symptoms. He and his family are isolating in line with protocols and will receive our full support during this period of recovery. Importantly, neither he nor any members of his household have been at work since the beginning of the lockdown, and have not entered mine premises.

The process of contact tracing beyond his household has begun and further contacts will be screened, tested and isolated as needed.

This, our first case of a South Deep employee, was detected through our intensive off-site screening and testing process that has been set up in the past week for employees preparing to return to work. COVID-19 cases have risen in South Africa as a whole and in mining communities, and it is only natural to expect that our people will be affected at some time. What is important is that we identify cases as early as possible, that we ensure that individuals who are infected do not have contact with other people, and that they and their loved ones get the treatment and support that they need.

South Deep's testing process for returning employees goes well beyond what is required by regulation, in that all returning employees are being tested off-site and will where appropriate be isolated before allowing them access to the mining area. This applies to both local and non-local employees. We think this intensive process is worth following, to protect ourselves and the people we care about.

But, we must all remember that we all need to continue to follow the processes and procedures that we have in place at South Deep at all times. And, we need to adopt the same care when we are at home, in our communities or when we are travelling. By working together we can slow down the spread of the virus so that our healthcare systems can cope, and that we protect people who are most vulnerable. Remember, that many people who get infected will not feel ill; some people will have only very mild symptoms. And a much smaller group of people will get very sick – usually people who already have other illnesses.

So, while it might be worrying to some people that a South Deep employee has tested positive, we should also be very pleased that the system and controls that we have put in place to detect infection worked. And we ask that every one of our team members continues to co-operate with and support all the people on and around our mine that are working so hard to keep us all safe and healthy.

We also ask all our team members to remember that this could be any one of us. Let us be kind and considerate in the way in which we treat employees and their families if and when they need to isolate. We will not be naming the affected employee because we respect his and his family's right to privacy, and we ask our colleagues to respect this too. We can assure him though that he has our full support, and best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Finally, we appeal to our people – let's be very careful about listening to or spreading rumours. We are being very open about all the facts and what we are doing, and if you have any questions or concerns then contact our hotline on 072 515 9753 or 072 649 8255 or (toll-free) 0800 991 362.

Let's continue to work together to beat Coronavirus.

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