Environmental Matters

Shareholders were notified on 3 June 2019 that summons was served on the Company instituting criminal proceedings related to three alleged transgressions of its Atmospheric Emissions Licence at its Vanderbijlpark operations. This matter was also reported on in the 2019 Annual Integrated Report.

Shareholders are hereby notified that the matter was concluded on 10 June 2020, and that a plea agreement between the prosecution and ArcelorMittal South Africa relating to the charge of exceeding Hydrogen Sulfide (H₂S) minimum emissions standards at the Coke making plant for the period 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016, was accepted by the court.

The Company was accordingly sentenced to a fine and ordered to make a payment to the Department of Environmental Affairs in the total amount of R3,64 million.

“We have fully cooperated with the investigation and are pleased that the matter has been finalised, avoiding a lengthy and expensive trial which would not be in anyone’s interests” says Kobus Verster, Chief Executive Officer of ArcelorMittal South Africa.

“We while we acknowledge that emissions at our Vanderbijlpark plant exceeded permissible H₂S levels for a period of time in the past, steps were taken to address the problem but unfortunately the initiatives implemented did not adequately resolve the problem. Significant investment in a sustainable solution has subsequently been made, which was also acknowledged by the authorities” adds Verster.

In striving to be, and to be seen as a responsible corporate citizen, ArcelorMittal South Africa continues to be mindful that the business of the Company should be conducted in a responsible and ethical manner.

The Company therefore remains committed to focusing on and continuously improving its social, economic, financial and environmental performance.

10 June 2020

Vanderbijlpark Works
For further information please contact:
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Company Secretary: FluidRock Cosec (Pty) Limited

Sponsor to ArcelorMittal South Africa Limited
Absa Bank Limited (acting through its Corporate and Investment Banking division)