



**DE BEERS**  
A DIAMOND IS FOREVER

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Nama Khoi Municipality and De Beers announce the proclamation of Kleinzee**

**23 March 2012, Springbok:** Today the Nama Khoi Local Municipality and De Beers Consolidated Mines announced the proclamation of the Kleinzee town, which is in the Nama Khoi Local Municipality in Namaqualand.

Kleinzee and Koingnaas are the two towns that were established and managed by De Beers to cater for the company's employees working at Namaqualand Mines. The proclamation of Koingnaas was announced last year on 6 August, and the town is in the process of being integrated as part of the Kamiesberg municipality. Kleinzee will be integrated as part of the Nama Khoi Local Municipality going forward.

In anticipation of the proclamation of the two towns, De Beers has invested significantly in the refurbishment of the infrastructure and the bulk services. The company has invested about R90 million to ensure that the towns are in a good state when handed over to the respective municipalities, and do not become a financial burden going forward.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Aubrey Baartman, the Municipal Manager of the Nama Khoi Local Municipality said: "Throughout the engagement with De Beers, as the Nama Khoi Local Municipality, our objective was to ensure that what has been agreed is in the best interest of the local community. Proclamation will also ensure that our people get the necessary jobs and there can be more businesses being established in our area.

"I must also commend De Beers for their willingness to listen and accommodate our many requests, this being an indication of them having the best interest of our people at heart"

Namaqualand Mines General Manager, Christie Pisane said: "The proclamation of Kleinzee will enable for the first time, current and former De Beers' employees, and the general public, to purchase and own houses in the two towns.

"Following the proclamation of the two towns, De Beers will now focus all its efforts in ensuring that the mining rights are transferred to the Transhex led consortium, Emerald Panther Investments (EPI), and that sustainability projects are implemented successfully. We are in the process of implementing initiatives such as the Abalone project, the Wind Farm and the De Beers Zimele Enterprise development HUB to benefit local communities through ownership, jobs creation and skills transfer, for many years to come."

Following constructive engagement between the Nama Khoi Local Municipality and De Beers for the proclamation of Kleinzee, the company will also donate land for agriculture and the expansion of the town, houses and sports and recreational facilities in Kleinzee to the Nama Khoi Municipality, to the value of R20 million.

De Beers will continue to manage and maintain the two towns until the end of this year. Upon handover of the towns to the municipalities, contingency funds will be made available to the municipalities to ensure that, for the coming years, they are not financially burdened if there are any maintenance work that may need to be done on the towns' infrastructure.

Nama Khoi Local Municipality and De Beers have had a good relationship and will continue to have a good and effective relationship in the best interest of the people of Kleinzee and the local communities.

"I would like to thank the Nama Khoi Local Municipality for the effective and fruitful engagement during the proclamation process, which were conducted in the best interest of the current and potential future Kleinzee residents. Amongst others, I would like to thank the Mayor of the Nama Khoi Local Municipality, Tommy Cloete, the Speaker, Mr Joshua Losper and especially the Municipal Manager, Aubrey Baartman, for their leadership and wisdom during these engagement sessions, concluded Christie Pisane."

**Enquiries:**

**De Beers Consolidated Mines**

Innocent Mabusela

Regional Communications Manager

De Beers Northern Cape

053 839 4363

083 399 7119

**Nama Khoi Local Municipality**

Aubrey Baartman

Municipal Manager

Nama Khoi Local Municipality

082 302 2574

027 718 8100

**END**