

Statement from ArcelorMittal South Africa

Response to the statement issued by groundWorks (Friends of the Earth South Africa) in conjunction with the Vaal Environmental Justice Alliance (VEJA) and the Centre for Environmental Rights (CER).

On 17 December 2014, ArcelorMittal South Africa handed over, and made public, its 2003 Environmental Master Plan for its Vanderbijlpark steel plant following the decision made by the Supreme Court of Appeal. Nothing new has come up from the press conference held on Monday 22 June 2015 by VEJA, CER and Groundworks. VEJA and CER are merely making available the documents we handed over to them. These have been available on our website to the public since December 2014.

ArcelorMittal South Africa is not aware of any civil claims being prepared or lodged against the company at this stage. AMSA has committed to open and transparent engagement with VEJA and other stakeholders on environmental and community issues and hopes to work closely with these NGOs to address any concerns that they may have.

In particular, in the past two years, the company has made a concerted effort to hold regular meetings with these groups and have made progress in collaborating on issues that affect community members, such as employee compensation and capacity building for local NGOs. This initiative will continue.