



## **TRANSNET STATEMENT ON DISRUPTIONS ON THE RICHARDS BAY COAL LINE**

**06 July 2017**

Transnet has experienced interruptions to operations on the Richards Bay Coal Line as a result of violent community protests in certain areas of KwaZulu-Natal.

The protests relate to community demands for jobs and business opportunities.

The disruption has resulted in the suspension of coal line operations, service to customers and potential losses to the South African economy.

The Richard's Bay Coal Line is the country's dedicated railway line which handles South Africa's coal exports by connecting the mines in Mpumalanga with the Richards Bay Coal Terminal (RBCT) at the port of Richards Bay. The line also moves domestic commodities such as chrome, coke, chemicals and timber.

Transnet is working closely with customers to ensure minimal disruption. We have deployed security in the affected areas and are working with relevant authorities to safeguard our employees, infrastructure and the assets of our customers.

Transnet wishes to appeal to communities to desist from destroying infrastructure as such activities pose a huge risk to the sustainability of the South African economy, including loss of lives due to train derailments and job losses.

As a state-owned company, Transnet remains committed to the socio-economic development of the communities in which it operates. The company is open to engaging with relevant parties with a view to finding a common solution to the challenges.

**Issued on behalf of Transnet Group Chief Executive, Mr Siyabonga Gama.**

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