



MINISTER  
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Tel: (012) 399 8743  
Private Bag X9052, Cape Town, 8000, Tel: (021) 464 1500, Fax: (021) 465 3362

Ref: EDMS MCE149059

Ms Melissa Fourie  
Executive Director  
Centre for Environmental Rights  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Springtime Studios  
1 Scott Road  
**OBSERVATORY**  
7925

**Fax: 086 730 9098**  
**Email: [mfourie@cer.org.za](mailto:mfourie@cer.org.za)**

Dear Ms Fourie

**REQUEST FOR REVIEW AND STRENGHENING OF THE NATIONAL DUST CONTROL REGULATIONS**

I wish to apologise for the delay in responding to your letter of 16 October 2015.

Firstly, I am extremely gratified to note that your clients are actively engaging in this important component of the air quality management regime beyond the promulgation stage. The effectiveness of various air quality management tools depend on continual appraisal, thus the representation made by you are welcome.

As you are aware, there are currently discussions in the air quality fraternity regarding the use of the ASTM D1739: 1970 version as the main scientific standard for measurement of the dust fall, and the envisaged process of revising the regulations to allow for the use of the 1998/2004 version of this standard. The Department of Environmental Affairs will in the 2016/17 financial year be revising these regulations for this purpose.

However, concerns raised by your clients calls for a broader consultation which should go beyond the normal regulation preparation and must include awareness raising on what dust pollution is, how it is controlled and monitored. The Department is of the view that, some of the representation made in your letter indicated the lack of understanding of the object of the regulations, and the regulations' link with other tools such as the national ambient air quality standards.

**REQUEST FOR REVIEW AND STRENGTHENING OF THE NATIONAL DUST CONTROL REGULATIONS**

The Department has, however, clarified some of these concerns as per annexure to this letter, and will appreciate your client's participation in the revision process. Information on the revision process will be communicated in the course of the first quarter of 2016/17.

Yours sincerely



**MRS B E E MOLEWA, MP**  
**MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

DATE: 20160226