30 April 2009

Missing Employee at Great Noligwa Mine

It is with regret that AngloGold Ashanti announces today that, despite an intensive search and rescue operation at its Great Noligwa Mine, proto teams have not yet been able to locate an employee who was reported missing last weekend. Blasting at the mine has been suspended to ensure the safety of rescue operations.

While carrying out the standard shaft clearance procedure on Saturday 25 April, it was found that Adriaan Olivier, a miner at Great Noligwa, had not returned to surface after his underground shift. An immediate search was started on 68 level, where Mr Olivier had last been seen. This search proved unsuccessful and the mine’s emergency call out procedure was activated. A mine-wide search has been underway since that time.

Additional cooling has been installed in certain areas of the mine in order to facilitate the search operation. Blasting operations have been suspended since Mr Olivier was reported missing and will not be resumed until such time as the search has been called off or Mr Olivier located.

AngloGold Ashanti is in consultation with the Department of Minerals and Energy and with labour organizations on the issue, and Mr Olivier’s family is being kept informed about the search process.

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