



Centre for Environmental Rights

Advancing Environmental Rights in South Africa

Invitation

The Centre for Environmental Rights cordially invites you to
the second seminar in our 2016 Environmental Rights Seminar Series
18 May 2016 from 9.00-16.00, including lunch

Environmental Rights Seminar Series

Since 2015, supported by the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, the Centre for Environmental Rights (CER) has been hosting seminars where experts share their knowledge and experience on environmental governance and environmental rights with Members of Parliament and other influential decision-makers. This seminar focuses on marine phosphate mining in South Africa, a practice which could have devastating environmental and socio-economic implications.

Seminar Topic: Marine Phosphate Mining in South Africa

In 2012 and 2014 the Department of Mineral Resources granted three prospecting rights for marine phosphate, covering a considerable portion (10%) of South Africa's exclusive economic zone. If mining proceeds, preliminary assessments outline potentially considerable and irreversible impacts on marine ecosystems and in turn, on the jobs and livelihoods sustained by fishing and marine tourism. In response to concerns that marine phosphate mining would soon be authorised, the CER, with its partner WWF-SA, started Safeguarding our Seabed; a three-year WWF Nedbank Green Trust funded project. Key objectives of the project are to pursue a moratorium on bulk marine sediment mining, until more is known about its impacts, and to support the development of effective marine spatial planning.

No other country has permitted bulk marine sediment mining. As it is an untested practice, there is an urgent need for information sharing, discourse and debate. The aim of this event is to do this, specifically considering environmental and socio-economic impacts, the sustainable supply of phosphate for food security, legal and governance issues and international experience. The event also provides CER with an opportunity to discuss progress and future direction of this project.

Presenters

Dr. Kerri Brick and Reviva Hasson, Environmental-Economics Policy Research Unit (EPRU), UCT
Dr. Kerry Sink, Marine Programme Manager, South African National Biodiversity Institute
Sizwe Vidima, Researcher, Environmental Process Engineering Research Group, UCT
Saul Roux, Legal Campaigner, the Centre for Environmental Rights
Jock Currie, Ph.D. Candidate, University of Cape Town, UCT (TBC)

Venue

Two Oceans Aquarium, V&A Waterfront, Cape Town

Date and Time

Wednesday, 18 May 2016, 09.00-16.00. A light lunch will be served at 13.00.

RSVP

fsamuels@cer.org.za or 021 4471647 by Friday 6 May 2016 (seats are limited)

The Centre for Environmental Rights is a non-profit organisation and an environmental rights law firm that helps communities defend their right to a healthy environment. It does this by advocating and litigating for transparency, accountability and compliance with environmental laws.



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