

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WITH PICTURE
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MCL - PROVIDING WATER FOR THE COMMUNITY IN MAAMBA

Independent Power Producer also ensures water supply to township

LUSAKA, ZAMBIA –Maamba Collieries Ltd (MCL) since the late 1960s has been pumping, treating and supplying domestic water to the township and the current management after privatization, has continued to honour this commitment to the community. In 2013, SWASCO assumed responsibility for running the water and sewerage infrastructure in Maamba township, after an MOU was signed between the utility and MCL. However, MCL continues to be responsible for the supply of around 4,000 cubic metres of raw water every day to SWASCO, for meeting the requirements of the community. To facilitate this, MCL operates and maintains the pump station and pontoon at Lake Kariba and the 28-km pipeline from the lake to the township.

MCL SHEQ Manager, Yotham Phiri said the pontoon at the original pump station had been in place since the 1960s and had never been known to dry up until the area started seeing the effects of low rainfall in recent years. The low rainfall in this part of the country has severely impacted MCL and the community, to the point where water could not be pumped from the primary, decades old location.

MCL, in order to ensure continued water supply to Maamba township proceeded to set up alternate pumping arrangements 400 meters away in deeper waters by laying additional pipelines and shifting the pumps to the new location. MCL also deployed a dredger to allow water to flow from deeper areas of the lake to the pumping position by dredging a channel. However, in spite of dredging operations even the water at the temporary site started drying up as the water levels in the lake receded last year. This necessitated an emergency response and the MCL engineering team worked tirelessly, day and night, to identify and create facilities to shift the pumps to an even deeper location in the lake where water was available. In just three weeks MCL could successfully install two 132kW pumps at an alternative pumping point further up the lake.

“MCL has always come to community’s rescue in all emergency situations and this initiative of MCL is in keeping with MCR’s CSR policy of making a difference” said Maamba Development Trust Manager Jethro Sikalunda. He further added that, “In an effort to manage demand and minimise the amount of water pumped from our suction sites, we have engaged the Area Councillor and committee to promote maximum water conservation among community members in Maamba, even as we work to find a long-lasting solution to this problem. Combating the effects of climate change is everyone’s responsibility.”

Ends



About Maamba Collieries Ltd

Maamba Collieries Limited (MCL), in Sinazongwe District in Southern Province, is Zambia's largest coal mine and the nation's biggest Independent Power Producer (IPP) with Zambia's only coal-fired Thermal Power Plant (TPP).

The company operates a 300 MW (2 X 150 MW units) modern, eco-friendly coal-fired power plant - the only one of its kind in Zambia – with the capacity to supply 10 percent of the country's current installed electricity generation capacity.

MCL is owned 65 percent by Nava Bharat Singapore Pte and 35 percent by ZCCM-IH, with some US\$919 million invested since 2010.

The plant provides diversity in the nation's energy mix and contributes to the nation's base load electricity demand with high-availability power that is independent of climate change, thereby augmenting energy security of Zambia.

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