

**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
DEPARTMENT OF MINERALS AND ENERGY
EXAMINATION FOR THE MINE SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY**

Date: 14 October 2004 (Thursday)
TIME: 12:30 – 14:30 (2 hours)

TOTAL MARKS: 100

MINING LEGISLATION

PART A – THE MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT, 1996 (ACT 29 OF 1996) AS AMENDED

QUESTION 1

a) Define the following in terms of the above-mentioned Act

- (i) Minister
- (ii) Chief Inspector
- (iii) Inspector

(6)

b) After consulting the Mine Health and Safety Council, the Minister may make regulations, by notice in the Government Gazette, regarding certain issues. State six (6) of these issues.

(6)

c) State six (6) functions of the Chief Inspector.

(6)

d) An inspector has, for the purposes of monitoring or enforcing compliance with the above-mentioned Act, certain powers to accomplish this. State six (6) of the powers.

(6)

(24 marks)

PART B – REGULATIONS IN FORCE IN TERMS OF SCHEDULE 4 OF THE MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT, 1996

QUESTION 2

- a) Define "competent person" in terms of the regulations. (4)
- b) As an uncertificated mine surveyor you are appointed as the responsible mine surveyor at an underground mine where less than 200 persons are employed in the workings. Management decide to expand operations and consequently more than 200 persons are now employed in the workings. In view of your competency level, management decides to keep you as the responsible mine surveyor. What is the legal procedure(s) to accomplish this? (3)
- c) Who may take charge of mine surveying at a mine where 200 persons or less are employed in the workings? (4)
- d) For what period may a mine, where a certificated mine surveyor is required be permitted to work without such surveyor and who may act in his place? (3)
- e) The acting surveyor, in par c above, must be appointed by the manager, who must, within 3 days of such appointment, report the matter. To whom and how must the manager report and what information must accompany such report? (5)
- (19 marks)

QUESTION 3

In terms of the regulations the Principal Inspector of Mines may prohibit mining in any portion of a mine if, in his opinion, it is necessary to protect the surface:-

- a) What are the provisions made in the regulations to enable mining operations to be conducted in an area where mining has been prohibited? (4)
- b) How may the surface of such ground where mining operations have already taken place be protected in terms of the regulations? (6)

(10 marks)

QUESTION 7

State the requirements of the regulations with reference to surface protection and the making safe of undermined ground under the following headings:

- a) When it is planned to mine under or near a building: (7)
 - b) The erection of a building on or near undermined ground; (6)
 - c) The removal of safety pillars in a mine; (5)
- (18 marks)

TOTAL 100 MARKS