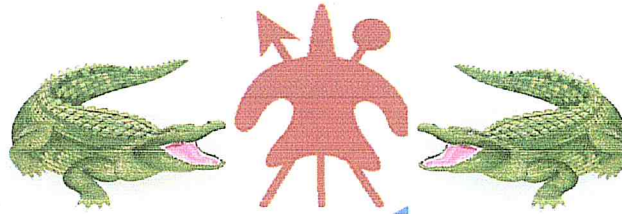


# BAKOENA TRADITIONAL COUNCIL



ENQUIRIES: MORENA G.K LEBENYA

082 8294 413 / 071 461 0307

“THAMAHA E DIHWEHLA”

P.O BOX 752

MATATIELE

4730

2 September 2016

**SLR Consulting**  
**Cc: Rhino Oil & Gas**

**RE: PROPOSED EXPLORATION IN BAKOENA TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY LAND NEAR MATATIELE**

As the Leader of the Bakoena Traditional Council, and in consultation with my council, people and members of the Umzimvubu Catchment, we strongly oppose any activities which may in the future lead to the extraction of oil and gas from our landscape.

We understand that should exploration reveal feasible underground sources of oil or gas, that a process called hydraulic fracturing may be used to extract these sources. We understand this process to be risky for the residents of this landscape and our water security, as we are not convinced that the regulatory mechanisms for ensuring compliance are sufficiently in place.

Our landscape currently sustains thousands of people deriving a living from grazing, agriculture and ecotourism, which will be compromised if the land use is changed to any form of invasive mining.

We object in the strongest terms to this application by a foreign company to explore for minerals on our land, and support the development by the State of renewable energy sources such as solar and biogas which many people in our community are already using.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G.K. Lebenya'.

Chief G.K. Lebenya

Seqobong