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Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Sybilla Hilzinger-Maas

For the attention of: Mr. Dirk Du Toit
Deputy Minister of Land Affairs
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Dear Madam,

RE GOODHOUSE NORTHERN CAPE

1. As stated in my e-mail of 6/4/2005; -
 - 1.1. *I am very heartened by the continuing communication from your offices Sybilla. Please keep this up as communication always forms the best platform to build solutions on.*

And

- 1.2. *As stated to the Deputy Minister, we should first focus on transferring the land as instructed by the President in order to prevent an immanent total humanitarian disaster at Goodhouse. After that we can deal with making restitution to cover the massive damages that resulted from what constitutes corruption which in my provisional estimation could exceed R 18 mil!*
2. The only communication that ensued since then has been a call to my client Mr. Hendrik Cloete from the MEC for land Affairs in the Northern Cape. In this communication she advised that due to the liquidation proceedings there is nothing the government can do to alleviate their humanitarian plight.
 - 2.1. There could of course be absolutely no reason why the Government cannot deal with such a problem just because an application for liquidation has been launched by a bank against a now defunct private company.
3. The MEC also advised that the IDC will be involved in the next project. This indicates that her department has a new project that it wants funded by the IDC.
 - 3.1. I think the position should be absolutely clearly understood here. The government has completely lost the trust of my clients at Goodhouse and any attempt for the government to try and muscle in on a project already in existence at their own

instance (and with the support of the IDC provided the land is transferred) will simply muddy the waters all over again.

- 3.2. The fact that the minister has again circumvented their advisor has of course simply served to further destroy the Nth Cape Government's credibility.
- 3.3. You are encouraged to check these impressions with Mr. Cloete as it will serve only to clarify matters even further than they are at present.
4. All that is needed here is for the Minister of Land Affairs to instruct that the farms upon which my clients have statutory rights to title on be now transferred to the Group One Trust, as indeed happened in the adjoining region of Witbank.
5. The longer this is delayed, the more impetus will be lent to the existing impression that the delays are being used to starve the legal land owners off their land in order that the government may allocate the land to persons of their own choice instead.
6. Such a scenario will without any doubt see the community break off all communication with the state and look to forms of financing their defense against the state as opposed to development finance, simply because that kind of finance is always available in such situations the world over. As stated to the deputy minister, I shall not get involved in that kind of funding as I am prohibited by my licenses from dealing with the type of Jesuit based conflict financing driven by political outcomes crises management strategies.

7. I trust that the Deputy Minister is able to fully grasp the extremely serious implications of these developments as they stare us in the face at this time and that he will see to the transfer of the land immediately.

Yours truly,

Izak Labuschagne