

ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

13 February 2023

Zambian Court Order Includes Penal Notice

Argonaut Resources NL (*Argonaut* or *the Company*) (ASX:ARE) announces that the Zambian High Court order against the Minister of Mines includes a penal notice. The penal notice adds significant weight to the order.

PENAL NOTICE: If You the within named Minister of Mines and Mineral Development by your servants or agents, or whatsoever otherwise acting, disobey the whole or any part of this Order you may be held to be in contempt of court and liable to committal to prison or sequestration of your assets.

The order, which is further to a ruling announced by Argonaut on 7 February 2023¹, is for the Hon. Paul Kabuswe MP, Minister for Mines and Mineral Development, to decide an appeal against the cancellation of the Lumwana West exploration licence and the grant of a new licence over the same area within 30 days.

This order comes two months after the same court suspended both the cancellation of the Lumwana West licence, and the grant of a new licence over the same area, as announced on 15 December 2022.

Legal action by Argonaut is aimed at the prompt reinstatement of the Lumwana West licence in North-western Zambia to the Company's 90% held subsidiary, Mwombezi.

Highlights

- In January 2022, Mwombezi filed an appeal to the Zambian Minister for Mines against the illegal grant of a new licence over the Lumwana West area.
- On 12 October 2022, Argonaut filed an application to the Zambian High Court for judicial review of the Minister's inordinate delay in deciding this appeal.
- The judicial review application sought orders to have the appeal decided promptly.
- On 6 February 2023, the High Court made a ruling which compels the Minister to decide the appeal within 30 days.
- The subsequent Order of Mandamus² (attached) includes a Penal Notice which adds significantly weight the order.
- Argonaut believes that maladministration and illegal actions on the part of the Ministry of Mines and Mineral Development have been demonstrated in its appeal submissions.

Authorised for release by the Board of Argonaut Resources NL.

Lindsay Oowler

Director and CEO

ARGONAUT RESOURCES NL

¹ Zambian High Court Orders Minister to Decide Appeal: <https://www.argonautresources.com/site/pdf/39f1f0af-76a8-4546-8bba-c2a72d934f94/Zambian-High-Court-Orders-Minister-to-Decide-Appeal.pdf>

² Mandamus is a judicial remedy in the form of an order from a court to any government, subordinate court, corporation, or public authority, to do some specific act which that body is obliged under law to do.

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IN THE HIGH COURT FOR ZAMBIA
AT THE PRINCIPAL REGISTRY
HOLDEN AT LUSAKA

2022/HP/1613

(CIVIL JURISDICTION)

IN THE MATTER OF: AN APPLICATION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW

AND

IN THE MATTER OF: AN APPLICATION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO APPLY FOR
LEAVE FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW

AND

IN THE MATTER OF: AN APPLICATION FOR LEAVE TO APPLY FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW
AND

IN THE MATTER OF: THE MINISTER'S INORDINATE DELAY IN DETERMINING THE
APPLICANT'S APPEAL AGAINST THE DECISION OF THE
DIRECTOR CADSTRE DEPARTMENT MINISTRY OF MINES AND
MINERALS DEVELOPMENT TO CANCEL LARGE SCALE
EXPLORATION LICENSE NO. 22399-HQ-LEL AND GRANT
LICENSE

IN THE MATTER OF: THE MINES AND MINERALS DEVELOPMENT ACT NO. 11 of
2015

BETWEEN

MWOMBEZHI RESOURCES LIMITED

AND

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

APPLICANT

RESPONDENT

ORDER OF MANDAMUS

UPON HEARING Counsel for the both parties herein;

AND UPON READING the Affidavit of **LINDSAY JAMES OWLER** filed herein;

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AND UPON READING the Notice of motion for judicial review for an order of mandamus;

AND UPON GRANTING the Applicant's application for and order of mandamus as sought by the Applicant herein in the ruling of this court dated 6th February, 2023

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND DIRECTED that the Minister of Mines and Minerals Development should determine the Applicant's Appeal lodged before the Minister's office on 3rd January, 2022 within 30 days from 6th February, 2023.

Dated the

day of

2023

HONOURABLE HIGH COURT JUDGE

Taken out by Counsel of:

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The Minister of Mines and Minerals Development
Ministry Headquarters
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