



MINE DUST NETWORK

TITLE: THE TSHIAMISO TRUST: ORIGINS, MANDATE, UNCERTAINTIES, ETHICAL CONCERNS AND FOOD FOR THOUGHT

ABSTRACT

The presentation introduces and provides an overview of the work of the Tshiamiso Trust and the reasons for its establishment. The Trust aims to compensate eligible miners who contracted silicosis and tuberculosis in the course of their work at mines owned by the companies who are party to the Trust deed and settlement agreement. The presentation includes an overview of similar Trusts that have been established to date, the problems that these Trusts have encountered, and reflects on the place of Trusts in South African mining. This is an environment in which systems of compensation have long been established, and in which health risks have been specifically regulated since 1996.

About the Presenter



Prof. May Hermanus obtained her BSc. in Geology at UCT, MSc. in Physical Metallurgy and PhD from the University of the Witwatersrand. She is a Chemical Takemi Fellow of the Harvard School of Public Health and works independently as a part-time academic (involves supervision, teaching and research), board director, and a consultant (in a research and advisory capacity). She has recently been involved in the establishment of the Tshiamiso Trust (which arises out of the silicosis settlement of 2018 (<https://www.silicosissettlement.co.za/>)) and currently serves as the chairperson of the board. This aligns with her interests in mining which have been concerned with the health and safety of miners, the regulation of the sector, its structure and composition (both formal and informal); the positioning of the sector for inclusivity and sustainable development; and transformation of the sector to take account of the legitimate needs/interests the full range of actors and stakeholders. She also serves on the AVENG board (a listed company in South Africa) as the lead independent director and has held several other key leadership roles mainly in the public and not-for-profit sectors.