

## **KUMBA IRON ORE**

# **Court dismisses Sishen mine appeal**

A South African court dismissed an appeal by the government and Imperial Crown Trading 289 (ICT) to have rights to the Sishen complex reinstated, Kumba Iron Ore, which owns Africa's biggest mine of the material, said.

Thursday's ruling by the Supreme Court of Appeal means Kumba's Sishen Iron Ore unit has the exclusive right to mine the steel-making material at the Sishen mine in the Northern Cape province, Centurion-based Kumba said in a statement.

"The Supreme Court of Appeal upheld the High Court ruling setting aside the prospecting right granted by the Department of Mineral Resources to ICT," Kumba said.

ICT's owners include a business partner of President Jacob Zuma's son, Duduzane. ArcelorMittal South Africa previously held part of the mining right to the property.

In March 2010, Kumba cancelled a 2001 accord to supply 6.25 million tons of ore a year from Sishen to ArcelorMittal SA at cost plus 3 percent. Kumba said it had lapsed because ArcelorMittal failed to renew its mining licence for a portion of the deposit, an argument rejected by the steel maker.

Shares erased earlier declines, to close unchanged at R491.97 on Thursday. – Bloomberg