



FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
**Ministry of Solid Minerals Development
and
The Bureau of Public Enterprises**

**INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST AS INVESTOR IN
MINING PROPERTIES**

As part of the ongoing reform programme in the Solid Minerals sector, the Ministry of Solid Minerals Development will be divesting from all its ownership interests in the sector. It is the intention of the Ministry to focus solely on its role as administrator-regulator, while the private sector will act as owner-operator.

The Nigerian Mining Corporation (NMC) is a Federal Government Public Statutory Corporation established by Decree number 39, as contained in Gazette No 54, Vol. 59 of 1972, and amended by Decree 34 of 1976 (now NMC Act, Cap. 317, 1990). The NMC as provided by the Decree was to play a dominant role and to act as a catalyst in the development of the mining industry in Nigeria. NMC currently oversees the development of several mineral assets in the country excluding Petroleum, Coal, Bitumen and Iron Ore.

Several of the Mining Properties owned by NMC will be offered for sale to pre-qualified investors through a competitive bidding process on **Wednesday, May 24, 2006**. The properties to be offered for sale include mineral titles in Gold, Lead, Zinc, Silver, Cassiterite, Tantalite, Rutile, Tin, Mica, Kaolin, Talc, Phosphate, Columbite, Phosphate, Gypsum, Magnesite, Barite, Bentonite, Molybdenite, Wolframite, Limestone, Gemstones, Diatomite, Soda Ash, Molybdenite, Feldspar, Quartz, etc.

Preliminary information packages for the properties will be available by **Monday, March 6, 2006** at the offices of the Ministry of Solid Minerals Development or the BPE, and online on the Ministry's website (<http://www.msmd.gov.ng>) and the BPE website (<http://www.bpeng.org>).

Applicants are expected to be local / international investors or groups with a proven track record in ownership, financial capability and technical competence in exploration and / or mining.

In order to be pre-qualified, the prospective Investor must possess verifiable evidence of Technical, Managerial and Financial capability to own and manage the mining properties. These include, but are not limited to the following:

- Record of successful investment and technical management in the minerals exploration and mining industry;
- Record of running mining operations that successfully balance relevant externalities like community relations and the environment; and
- The requisite financial resources.

In addition, the Federal Government has the following objectives for the sale:

- To secure credible investors with the capability and commitment to develop mineral beneficiation programmes over the medium to long term;
- To secure investors with demonstrated commitment to increased exploration to significantly increase the level of mineral resource that can be classified as proven;
- To obtain fair value for the investments made by NMC in the mineral properties to date;
- To promote the development of a local skills base in mineral exploration and mining;
- To recognize and formalize small scale and artisanal mining; and

- To encourage participation of indigenous investors in the sector, in line with the spirit of the Nigeria Local Content Legislation.

METHOD OF APPLICATION

Interested investors should indicate their interest by providing the following documentation and information:

- Full name of company and contact person, postal address, telephone / fax numbers and e-mail address.
- Ownership structure of the company;
 - Name(s) of major shareholders, and
 - Percentage shareholdings.
- Audited financial statements for up to the past five (5) years and most recent management accounts.
- Technical and operational capabilities
 - Number of years in mineral exploration and / or mining;
 - Local and international experience in the industry; and
 - List of mineral properties owned or managed by the firm.
- Composition and profile of management team showing qualification and years of experience in mineral exploration and / or mining.
- Evidence of adequate financial resources.
- A listing of the mineral properties for which the Investor is seeking pre-qualification

Upon receipt of the Expression of Interest from interested investors, the Ministry shall evaluate and pre-qualify applicants for the mining properties of their choice. Results of the pre-qualification exercise will be published on **Wednesday, April 26, 2006**. Thereafter, pre-qualified applicants will be issued bidding packages for the mineral properties of their choice upon payment of **Ten thousand naira (N10,000) only** in bank draft drawn in favour of the **Ministry of Solid Minerals Development**. Details of the bidding procedure shall be contained in the bidding package.

An original copy and five (5) other copies of Expression of Interest in a sealed envelope clearly marked "EOI MINERAL PROPERTIES" at the top right hand corner shall be delivered to one of the addresses below not later than **Friday, March 31, 2006 by 5.00pm**:

<p><i>The Minister</i> Ministry of Solid Minerals Development Annex 3, 5th floor Federal Secretariat Complex Shehu Shagari Way P.M.B. 107 Abuja - Nigeria</p> <p>Attn: Ademola O. Gbadegesin Special Assistant, Privatisation & Deregulation Tel: 234-802-0321948, 234-804-3031974, 234-805-3984939, 234-806-5901937 Fax: 234 - 9 - 5236518 E-mail: d.gbadegesin@msmd.gov.ng Web site: http://www.msmd.gov.ng</p>	<p><i>Director General</i> The Presidency, Bureau of Public Enterprises</p> <p>Attn: Ibrahim Njiddab Director, Extractive Industries BPE, Zayyad House 1, Osun Crescent Maitama Abuja - Nigeria Tel: 234 - 9 - 4130789, 6703296, 4130783 Fax: 234 - 9 - 4130789 E-mail: isnjiddab@bpeng.org Web site: http://www.bpeng.org</p>
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