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ANY REPLY OR SUBSEQUENT REFERENCE TO THIS COMMUNICATION MAY
BE ADDRESSED TO THE PERMANENT SECRETARY AND THE FOLLOWING
REFERENCE NUMBER QUOTED:

Ref No. 30/205/4^{1X}

January 17, 2022

Dr. Susan Koenig, DFES
Windsor Research Centre
Sherwood Content P.O.
Trelawny

Subject: Access to Information ("ATI") Request – Special Mining Lease 173

Dear Dr. Koenig;

I write regarding your ATI Request received November 29, 2021 for an electronic JPG map showing the location boundary or boundaries of the approximately 6,000 hectares of land which have been removed from the area of Special Mining Lease (SML) 173.

Finalised Boundary and Clawed-Back Area

The Honorable Robert Montague, during his Sectoral Presentation on May 26, 2021, made reference to the "Clawed-Back Area" within Special Mining Lease ("SML") 173. Minister Montague stated that "this change has resulted in approximately 6,000 hectares of land being removed from the original SML."

As published, the SML 173 contains 8,335 hectares of land. If the "Clawed-Back Area" and Forested Areas which span approximately 2,109 hectares are omitted, then 6,226 hectares will remain as the size of the SML173. Do note that, of these 6,226 hectares, only approximately 20% will actually be impacted by mining activities. At present, there is no map within the Ministry which shows the removal of approximately 6,000 hectares of lands from SML 173.

We regret that we are unable to aid you further. Please contact us if you require other information.

Respectfully,

Timar Powell

Director of Corporate Services (Acting)

For Permanent Secretary

Copy: Dr. Alwin Hales, C.D., J.P., Permanent Secretary, MTM
Dr. Janine Dawkins, LLB., Chief Technical Director, MTM
Suresh Bhalai, J.P., Principal Director (Acting), Mining/Mineral Policy