

MEDIA STATEMENT 1

5 February 2016

Vantage Goldfields can confirm that at about 8am this morning approximately 90 employees were trapped underground at the company's Lily gold mine near Barberton following what appears to be a collapse of the crown pillar. The collapse occurred at the main entrance to the mine.

A search and rescue operation is currently underway involving the mine rescue services, and most of miners have already been safely brought to the surface via the mine's second outlet.

The initial indications are that the overwhelming majority of employees are safe and were not injured as they were nowhere near the collapse, but there are serious concerns for three employees who were working on surface at the time of the tragic incident and who are not yet accounted for.

An accurate update on the wellbeing of all employees will be provided as soon as this information becomes available.

The Department of Mineral Resources and AMCU are being kept fully informed of the incident. All operations at Lily have been suspended in the aftermath of the tragedy.

"The thoughts and prayers of everyone at Lily and Vantage Goldfields are with the missing workers, their families and the rescue teams. Our only concern and focus as management right now is to find our colleagues and bring them safely back to surface," said Mike McChesney, CEO of Vantage Goldfields.

Further updates to follow.