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â\200\230NDZUNDZAâ\200\230 MABHOKO TRIBAL AUTHORITY

MBAQ FOMU: P.O. BOX 1059  
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ISOQONDISO:  
NDZ/C/1/1

25/08/1993

COMMISSION ON REGIONS

REF: 1/11/ 30/46

TO:

THE LAND COMMISSION

DELIMITATION AND DEMARCATION OF REGIONS COMMISSION  
WORLD TRADE CENTRE

KEMPTON PARK

FROM:

HIS MAJESTY INGWENYAMA MAYISHA 11  
NDZUNDZA MABHOKO TRIBAL AUTHORITY  
P.O. BOX 1059

SIYABUSWA

0472

COMMISSION

re: SPECIAL APPEAL FOR THE INCLUSION IN THE PRETORIA EASTERN TRANSVAAL

REGION OF THE KING MAYISHA 11'S SUBJECTS:

Attached hereto is a memorandum and petition from the sub-traditional  
leaders of Nebo District who are my subjects requesting me to  
strongly negotiate with your Commission to include them in the  
Pretoria Eastern Transvaal Region.

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KING MAYISHA II OF NDZUNDZA MABHOKO TRIBE

After a thorough scrutiny and evaluations my Private Council,  
Executive, Tribal Authority and I hereby request you to consider  
this application in favour of these subjects of mine and include  
them in the same proposed region.

Hoping for positiveness.

SGD:....  
HM. INGWENYAMA MAYT

NDZUNDZA MABHOKO  
P.O. P"Y 1059

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THE Civie CHPRIRÂ» 2  
SPITSKOP (MAKGOPHENG)

19993/08/21

KING KAMABHOKO MAYISHA II

We the undersigned headman of Nebo district together with our communities proposed a region as per memorandum here attached.

We request the King Mayisha II to foward our request to the commission at the World Trade Centre.

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' SUBMISSION OF THE PEOPLE LIVING IN THE NEBO DISTRICT TO THE

COMMISSION ON THE DELIMITATION / DEMARCATION OF REGIONS:

When King Nyabela of the Ndebeles was defeated by the white government at Roosenekal during the 19 century, white farmers in Groblersdal and its surrounds took- their share of the Ndebele people, whom they used as cheap labour and/or unpaid labour on their farms. The Ndebele people were as a result scattered around Pretoria, Bronkhorstpruit, Groblersdal, Standerton, Witbank, Belfast, Delmas, Bethal and Middleburg.

When the Ndebele people started moving from the white farms where they were virtually enslaved during the early 20th century, a considerable number of those who were working around Groblersdal settled in the north of Groblersdal and around the Nebo district. As a result of these movements and settlement patterns by our forebears, we, the descendants of the said Ndebele people, through no choice of our own; find ourselves resident at these places.

Although there are a number of Northern Sotho speaking to be found at these places, it is our submission that 80% of people living in areas starting with Magatle to the south of Nebo to Groblersdal are Ndebeles.

Even though the Ndebele Kingdom received a major blow with the defeat death of King Nyabela at Pretoria, the kingdom was never permanently destroyed. Bound by a mutual love for their king and strong culturalties the king's subjects who were scattered all over Pretoria, Delmas, Bronkhorstpruit, Standerton, Witbank, Middleburg and Belfast continued to pay tribute, homage and levies to their king.

Our forefathers were never an exception in this matter. They always regarded themselves as a people under the rulership of the Ndebele Kings and paid homage to such kings. We also, as their descendants, continued to pay homage to King Mabhoko I and to this day still regard ourselves as subjects of King Mabhoko Mayisha II. We have no other traditional authorities except those established for the Ndebeles under kings Mabhoko I and presently King Mayisha II. as subjects of King

Mayisha II, we regard our selves as bound by all the laws promulgated by His Royal Highness, attend all the gatherings called by His Royal Highness, 5 200\230 1 200\230 6

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a;d also undertake the yearly pilgrimage to Roosenekal which is undertaken by all Ndebeles in honour of King Nyabela and the unsung heroes who fell in the war with the white South African government. We are part and parcel of the Ndebele Kingdom, we speak the same language and practise the same traditions, customs and culture as the Ndebeles of KwaNdebele and the eastern parts of the Transvaal.

Groblersdal is our local town where we do our day to day shopping and where most of us work. There are a number of commuters who travel daily from our places of residence to Witbank and Middleburg where they earn their living. It is a matter of great concern to us that a boundary has been drawn between our places of residence and our places of employment. This has the unfortunate result that hundreds of our people will have to cross the border on a daily basis in order to reach their places of employment. We also have a number of people who work in Pretoria who likewise will have to cross two borders in order to reach their places of employment.

In conclusion, we would like to express our exasperation and frustration on the recommendations of the commission on the delimitation of boundaries. Although we are Ndebeles who are subject to King Mayisha II, the 9 regions have been demarcated in such a way that we are placed in the Nothern Transvaal region and our King and all the tribal authorities in the PWV region. This is much frustrating to us because in order to reach our King, to attend the king's gatherings and courts at the Eastern Transvaal, and then into the PWV region. We fail to understand why we have been cut off from all our people, and why our king and all other traditional authorities have been placed so out of reach.

Furthermore, although there is so much economic dependency between ourselves and Pretoria on the one hand, and a number of towns in the Eastern Transvaal on the other hand, this factor seems to have been disregarded by the commission. We also fail to understand why places with so much economic dependency, strong cultural and language ties and with the same historical background have been subdivided so as to fall into three different regions. It is in this vein that we humbly request the commission to reconsider

its recommendations as far as these places are concerned, and to recommend  
Lb|S

that places such as 'lthesouthern parts of Nebo, Groblersdal, Belfast

Witbank, Middleburg, Delmas, Standerton, Bronkhorstspuit, KwaNdebele  
and Pretoria fall into one region, preferably the Eastern Transvaal.