VOLUME 1

SECTION 2

DEVELOPMENT ON BAUXITE LANDS

The Responsibility of The Jamaica Bauxite Institute P.O. Box 355 Kingston 6

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CHAPTER I

DEVELOPMENT ON BAUXITE LANDS

I.0 BACKGROUND

Bauxitic soils account for approximately 30% of the surface of Jamaica. Access to unencumbered bauxite bearing lands for mining is absolutely necessary for the survival of the industry which accounts for at least 40% of the country's annual foreign exchange earnings. There are more than 400,000 hectares of bauxitic lands concentrated in the parishes of Manchester, St. Ann, St. Elizabeth, Clarendon, Trelawny, and to a lesser extent St. Catherine. At least 43% of these lands are currently allocated under bauxite mining leases or exploration licenses. At any point in time, a portion of this land is being actively mined while the bulk is in agricultural and other uses. While some bauxitic land is owned privately, a significant portion is owned and managed by the government of Jamaica or the bauxite companies operating in Jamaica.

I.I DEVELOPMENT OF BAUXITE LANDS

The Jamaica Bauxite Institute is responsible for monitoring the use of bauxite land and for protecting these lands from sterilization. Bauxite land management is centered around two basic principles. The first is that bauxite deposits occur in populated areas and these deposits must be protected from permanent developments in order to ensure their availability for mining when required. Secondly, efforts have to be made to ensure that these lands are optimally utilized prior to and after mining to the benefit of surrounding communities and in accordance with national development priorities. Bauxite bearing lands can however be made available for non-permanent use prior to mining.

CHAPTER 2

SUBDIVISION OF BAUXITE LANDS

2.0 SUBDIVISION OF PRIVATELY OWNED LANDS IN BAUXITE RESERVE AREAS

A large portion of bauxitic lands is privately owned. At this time, when the availability of and access to bauxite-bearing lands is a key determinant to the viability of the industry, there is a real threat to the future of the industry as a result of illegal encroachments, competing demands for lands for use by other sectors, and rapid urban development on privately owned bauxite lands. It is therefore necessary to apply development control procedures to ensure that unencumbered lands are available for mining and its related infrastructure.

2.1 SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS

Applications for the processing of subdivision of lands for residential and agricultural purposes are made through the Parish Councils within each parish. These plans are submitted to the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) for circulation to agencies that are a part of the Committee for the Subdivision of Lands. The Jamaica Bauxite Institute is a part of this committee. General mapping information regarding the sections of the parishes in which the JBI has an interest is supplied to the Parish Councils and NEPA to act as a guide. Please see attached map at Appendix I.

2.2 JAMAICA BAUXITE INSTITUTE PROCEDURES FOR PROCESSING SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS

The following are the procedures used by the Jamaica Bauxite Institute to process applications:

- i The JBI receives applications from the parishes of St. Ann, St. Catherine, Manchester, St. Elizabeth, Clarendon and Trelawny. Information is mapped and location of the property is determined in relation to detailed mapped bauxite reserves information at the JBI.
- ii Applications concerning subdivision of 9 lots and under which are being considered by the Parish Councils in the abovementioned parishes are also required to be circulated to the JBI for

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assessment. The Parish Councils should also submit to the Jamaica Bauxite Institute enquires regarding building applications in critical bauxite areas.

- iii The JBI makes favourable recommendation for permanent developments on properties to NEPA and/or the Parish Council if the development will not impede or hinder future mining of bauxite and/or if the area has been mined out.
- iv Refusal of an application to develop a property is recommended if the property is on or in too close proximity to existing reserves so that development would hinder future mining or the development of infrastructure to access mining.
- v Field checks are made of the property where necessary.
- vi The Jamaica Bauxite Institute may recommend approval with restrictions on the covenant, e.g., 'No further subdivision of property,' if further subdivision for residential use may impede future mining.
- vii A permit of licence may also be required under the Natural Resources Conservation Act
- ix All enquiries by private and government developers regarding permanent construction on critical bauxite lands in the abovementioned parishes should be submitted to the Jamaica Bauxite Institute before embarking on any such activity.

2.3 CONTACT INFORMATION

For further information please contact: The Jamaica Bauxite Institute P.O. Box 355, Kingston 6 Telephone : 927-2073-9 Fax : 927-1159 Email : info@jbi.org.jm



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