

## Demobilisation of Locomotives by Grindrod Freight Services

**Date :** May 8, 2019

**Freetown, 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019.** The general public will recall that Shansteel (SL) Limited, a subsidiary of Shandong Iron and Steel Group (SISG), acquired 100% ownership of the Tonkolili Mine in 2015.

Following this acquisition, Shansteel entered into a negotiated agreement with Grindrod Freight Services to continue using their locomotives to transport the iron-ore mined at the Tonkolili mine, to the Pepel Port in Port Loko District. This was a private commercial contract between two parties, and does not involve the Government of Sierra Leone.

Following the scaling down of operations by Shansteel Limited at the Tonkolili mine, due to the fall in the global iron-ore price, the contracting parties have agreed to cut down the number of locomotives in operation.

Consequent upon the above, Grindrod Freight Services has decided to demobilize locomotives that are surplus to current requirements.

Government hereby assures the general public that the number of locomotives in country currently are enough to continue iron-ore operations.

For further information on this matter, please contact the National Minerals Agency (NMA).

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