

Phosphates mining in Tororo set to start

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KAMPALA. Guangzhou Dong-song Energy Group Limited, a Chinese company licensed to mine phosphates in Sukulu hills in Tororo District, is set to start full-scale activities, *Daily Monitor* has learnt.

The company signed mining licences with the government in 2013 with a plan to invest about \$620 million (about Shs2 trillion) in mining that will see them produce fertilisers, steel and glasses, among other products.

Mr Denis Kusaasira, the managing partner at ABMAK Associates, the law firm representing the Chinese com-

pany, told *Daily Monitor* at the weekend that the project had delayed to take off because of technological issues.

"The delay to start the mining works is that the project is not simple. It is not only mining but it is integrated with processing and manufacturing products. This required new technology which has taken time to research in China," Mr Kusaasira explained.

"After mining phosphates and iron ore which are intertwined underground, the company is supposed to transport them to the processing plant for separation, which required advanced technology," he added.

Mr Kusaasira further said

the technology is in place and the company is now doing earth works to establish the processing plant, the fertiliser manufacturing plant and the glass making plants.

Progress

This newspaper understands that the processing plant and the fertiliser manufacturing plant should be completed by March 2018 and the glass-making plant is expected to be established by the end of 2018.

"The company is now doing earthwork and design of where the plants will hold. When these plants are up and running, then we shall embark on mining because we shall have got where to process the minerals from," Mr Kusaasira added.



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