

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, July 11 (Infosplusgabon) - The Burkinabe government on Wednesday announced the withdrawal of the industrial exploitation permit of a manganese company operating in the company.

Burkina Manganese SARL had been operating the Kiééré manganese mine in the commune of Houndé, Tuy province, since 2008.

The company, however, unilaterally suspended its operations in June 2011, followed by a final shutdown in January 2012.

The government says it has identified several breaches of regulations by the company.

These include the suspension of activity without authorization for more than two years; non-renewal of the operating permit, which expired on 27 April 2018; non-payment to the State of mining taxes and royalties and related penalties amounting to CFAF 923,509,218 (about US\$1.5 million); and the failure to restore the mine to its former state.

"In view of these breaches, the National Mining Commission on 16 November 2018 decided to withdraw the company's operating permit," the government said in a statement on Wednesday after a Council of Ministers meeting.

FIN/INFOSPLUSGABON/DSE/GABON2019

© Copyright Infosplusgabon