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Ministry frustrated by ivory sale ban





Lister, Ndjebela press freedom champions

We want to thank Gwen and Tolvo for making themselves available as champions, and we look forward to their sharing of the realities faced by journalists in their pursuit of information that serves the public good.

- Frank Steffen







scation and term sheet will be provided on enquiry via a -mail.

his tender/bid is open to Namibian Citizens and Namibian resident

NANCI NATUREX part of Givaudan

Call for experts / Isram of experts, to assist with Hamibian GACP (Good Agricultural and Collection Proctices) compilation and implementation





/Gaseb, Uutoni to meet over council chair

Babi awaits bail judgement



Council to deliberate on City Police issues

Litra vertices a popular to employers.

The municipality has since 2039 failed to per salaries and benefits worth more than NS7 million owed to about 15 City Police employees in directed.





Call to track, measure women's progress



Women empowerment... Boemo Sekgoma, secretary general of the SADC Parliamentary Forum (right). Photo: Contributed

Moses Magadza

s the world marked International Women's Day last week, the secretary general of the SADC Parliamentary Forum, Boemo Sekgoma, called for an advanced framework for tracking and measuring key indicators to ensure the progress of women in political participation.

Sekgoma made the call when she delivered keynote remarks during a virtual international engagement meant to discuss ways of enhancing women's political participation.

She noted that although "women's political participation is a fundamental prerequisite for gender equality, democracy and for the $achievement of the 2030\,Agenda\,for\,Sustainable$ Development", more remains to be done to ensure their meaningful political participation.

While she acknowledged positive developments resulting from more than a century of women's struggle against oppressive patriarchal social arrangements and practices, she also highlighted several barriers that continue to limit women's political participation.

Sekgoma noted that such factors as the underrepresentation of women "across all branches of government", the "imbalances of women's presence" in senior "political decision-making positions", their lack of influential power "to change the existing patriarchal structure" despite the presence of "highly visible roles in political leadership", their nominal representation by "members of elite political families/dynasties" as well as "violence against women politicians", among other things, continue to limit women's political participation.

She also noted that "increased numerical representation" of women in leadership positions "does not automatically translate into increased influence for women", as they may not have the room to speak or be listened to.

As an antidote to these challenges, the secretary general suggested that "understanding and measuring perceptions is particularly important for measuring changes in women's participation and leadership."

For her, "understanding how women's voice translates into influence needs to begin from women's own experiences".

Sekgoma also noted that "it is important to appreciate 'women's political effectiveness' as 'the ability to use 'voice' to politicise issues of concern to women, to use electoral leverage to press demands on decision-makers to trigger better responsiveness from the public sector to their needs and better enforcement of constitutional commitments to women's equal rights".

In addition, she argued that "measuring progress requires us to capture complex qualitative and quantitative indicators that can

tell us about the changing realities of women's lives". She went on to propose a framework for tracking and measuring progress in addressing gaps in the political participation of women. The framework involves the following:

First, "putting in place model legislative frameworks to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex is key"

Second, "measuring model laws that address women's issues and the extent to which they have facilitated the review and amendment of existing national legislation (as well as the adoption of new legislation) is a key indicator of an enabling and supportive environment for women".

Third, the framework also involves recognising, documenting and overcoming barriers to women's ascension to key political positions.

She noted that barriers such as "women's access to resources, like time, money and experience - and their levels of motivation, such as drive, ambition and interest in politics" shape the availability of women for public offices.

Fouthly, it involves applying "fast-track strategies" that increase "women's political resources and ambitions, revising selectors' attitudes towards female candidates, and changing public attitudes towards women in politics".

Fifth, Sekgoma also suggested that "regional parliaments have the opportunity to sustain political momentum on topical issues that impact

NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT: EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSES NO. 4265 & 7847 & 8440 LOCATED NORTHWEST OF DORDABIS SETTLEMENT IN THE KHOMAS REGION, NAMIBIA

Under the Environmental Management Act. (No.7of2007), the proposed exploration activities on the EPLs 4265,7847and 8440 require an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) before commencement.

The public is hereby notified that an application for an ECC will be

Brief Project Description: The environmental scoping process will identify potential positive and negative impacts stemming from the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPLs No.4265,7847 and 8440 Invasive and non-invasive exploration activities are expected to take place upon issuance of an ECC

Proponent: Lodestone Namibia (Pty) Ltd

Environmental Consultant: Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd

Members of the public are invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties to comment/raise concerns or receive further information on the EIA process. Registration requests and comments should be forwarded to Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd on the contact details below before or on 15 April, 2021.

Public meeting details:

Date: 25 March 2021 Venue: Dordabis Community Hall Venue: Dordabis Community Hall

Second slot: Date: 27 March 2021

Contact: Mr. Nerson Tjelos Tel: +264 61 259 530 | Email: info@edsnamibia.com

women - and these include Universal Health Coverage, ICPD25 and Gender Equality" by establishing "monitoring and accountability frameworks that map progress and inspire action".

Lastly, she noted that "findings from thematic policy evaluations provide the opportunity for policy review and change" as well as for "issue positioning" and the "promotion of policy coherence, especially when international standards and regional frameworks are the subjects of adoption".

For her, "indicators must not only

measure if women are represented but also the extent to which they are able to be actively involved in and influence decision-making processes at all levels through their participation".

The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) - a consortium of six civil society organisations from across Africa that seeks to enhance and support the inclusion of women in African politics Women in Political Participation (WPP) and Sweden, convened the

Elephant kills man in Omusati

A 46-year-old man died after he was reportedly attacked by an angry elephant at Okatseidhi village in the Omusati region's Tsandi constituency on Sunday.

Speaking to Nampa on Monday, councillor for Tsandi Junias Amunkete said the victim was one of six villagers who tried to drive a herd of elephants from their crop fields at the village.

According to Amunkete, the villagers attempted to chase the elephants away from 18h00 until late in the evening and only realised late that night that the victim was

"They realised he was not with them when it was already dark. He was discovered dead in the field on

Sunday morning when they went looking for him," stated Amunkete.

He pointed out that the elephants were still in the area.

Approached for comment on Monday, spokesperson of the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism Romeo Muyunda told Nampa the elephants in question reside in the area after being relocated from Etosha National Park.

Muyunda confirmed that officials of the ministry were still in the area on Monday to deal with the situation, further indicating that the elephants in question were just three.

We have declared one of the elephants as dangerous. It will be put down and its meat will be given to the local community," Muyunda explained, adding that the ministry will also pay N\$100 000 for the funeral of the victim.

The Omusati police also confirmed the incident and named the victim as Abner Iyambo Petrus from Okatseidhi village.

His next of kin have been informed about his death. - Nampa

MTC hereby invites appropriately qualified companies to apply for the following tender:

MTC06/21/0:

PROVISION OF COURIER SERVICES TO VARIOUS LOCAL DESTINATIONS FOR MOBILE TELECOMMUNICATION LIMITED.

BRIEFING MEETING: 11th MARCH 2021, via **MICROSOFT TEAMS @ 10H00**

CLOSING DATE:

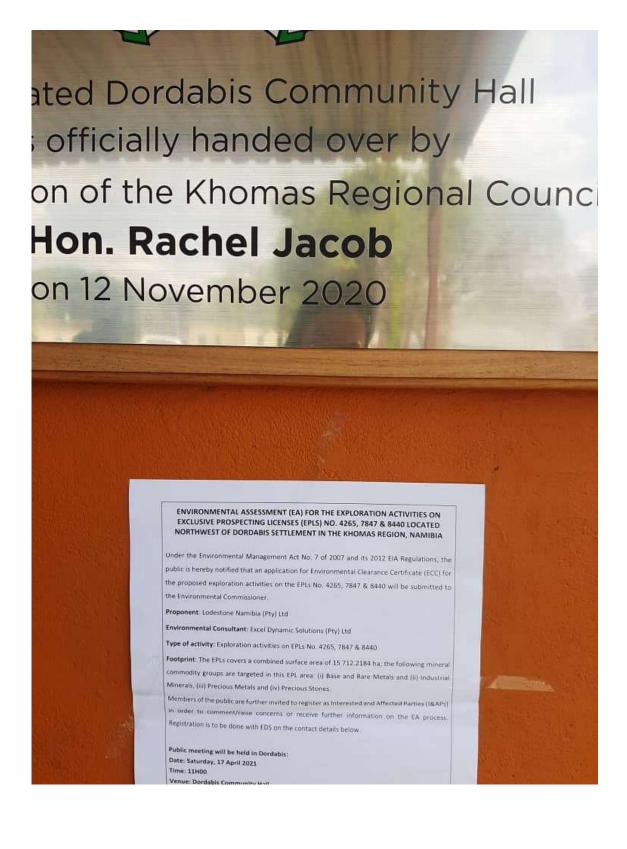
Friday, 19th March, 2021 by 14H30

- * Only successful bidders will be contacted.* Tender status updates shall be posted on the website.

Tender documents are available at: www.mtc.com.na









Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd PO Box 997154, Maerua Mall Windhoek Namibia

Email: info@edsnamibia.com

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES:

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA) FOR THE EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSES (EPLS) NO. 4265, 7847 & 8440 LOCATED NORTHWEST OF DORDABIS SETTLEMENT IN THE KHOMAS REGION, NAMIBIA

Date: 17 April 2021

Time: 11h00

Venue: Dordabis Community Hall, Khomas Region

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING REMARKS

Mr. Nerson Tjelos (Environmental Consultant) welcomed those in attendance and briefly explained the project.

The meeting was attended by the Dordabis Community, as well as affected farmers/stakeholders in the vicinity of the EPLs. An attendance register was signed by the attendees.

Mr. Tjelos gave a brief introduction. The members present were given the opportunity to have an interactive session with the Environmental Consultants during which they could submit their comments, issues and suggestions.

The following issues and comments were recorded and are presented in the **Table 1** below.

Table 1: Comments and issues raised during the public meeting on the 17 April 2021, at Dordabis Community Hall.

Comment/ by:	issue	Issue /	comment /	question		Response responder:	and	name	of
Mr.	Marc	•	Is that the	same docume	nt that was sent	Mr.	Nerson	Tje	elos
Biederlack			to us?			(Environme	ental	Consulta	nt):
						Yes, we pu	lled a fe	w points f	rom
						that docume	ent.		

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Comment/ by:	issue	Issue / comment / question	Response and name of responder:
		 There are another two licenses held by Lodestone, but you are not doing the EIA's? 	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: No, we were only employed to do EIA for EPLs 4265, 7847 & 8440. We do not know of any other EIA's that other companies are doing for Lodestone.
		I do not agree with that. There is a mining license that Lodestone also owns. How could Lodestone employ you without you knowing what other licenses they have.	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: If a company has many EPLs they may decide to start with a certain number of EPLs first before moving to the next. We are not the only environmental company that they may employ to do their EIA. That is why we do not know about the previous EIA's that were done.
		There are licenses that are very old. I do not agree with the 6months story.	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: There is a requirement that the ministry set out for the EPLs. The license is valid for 3 years but you are required to produce an environmental impact assessment within 6 months of receiving the EPL.
		So you do not have to do two EIA's for one EPL?	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: No, we only do one EIA for those three Licenses.

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Comment/ issue by:	Issue / comment / question	Response and name of responder:
	 When do you propose this document (report) will be done? Because, the last time we received two weeks' notice, which is not sufficient time to produce a proper report with various concerns. 	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: Normally we give two weeks for comments to be sent through for us to prepare the final report.
	 Is there any member of the Lodestone Company present at this meeting? 	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: I do not think so.
	 Where did you get our information from? Who provide you with my email address? 	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: We got a hold of your details from Lodestone's previous EIA meeting done in the past.
	If you approached Lodestone they should have provided you with the necessary information of the community in the surrounding areas. That tells us that they are not being honest with the community of Dordabis.	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: Yes, if we are approached by a client we do not ask for the details of the people in the area. We only asked if they have any available details of the farmers that is in the EPL area. Which they provided a list for.
Mrs Steenkamp	How did you go about collecting information such as our contact details?	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: We have received some information from Lodestone and some from the Ministry of Land.

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Comment/ i by:	issue	Issue / comment / question	Response and name of responder:
		 How did they manage to renew their license without handing in a progress report that shows you did nothing for those years? 	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: If you can present a letter that says "I have acquired an investor" which means only now I can proceed with an EIA, then you will be granted a renewal.
		There was no communication to the community for other EPL 4265, except the one that the mining activities are currently taking place. I am not sure how they were able to renew that license. There is a general feeling that Lodestone does not inform the community of any activities taking place.	•
		During the EPL phase, there is not a big possibility of job creation. In the mining field there is also not a big possibility of employment.	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: Correct, for the EPL phase but not for the Mining phase. Most contractors are unskilled or semiskilled. That is why we cannot really say how many people will be employed but there is always a possibility of employment for people when the mining phase initiates.

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Comment/ by:	issue	Issue / comment / question	Response and name of responder:
		What other form of communication is there to submit our concerns? Some people do not have access to email to submit concerns.	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: The best is to write all the concerns down and hand it in to someone who has an email address. We do the same with farmers, they all write on one letter, which they all sign just so that the letter reaches our offices for their concerns to be addressed in the report.
		Can the affected parties also appeal?	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: Yes, if you are not happy with the outcome of the EIA you can appeal. The same goes for the owner of the EPL. If he is not happy with the outcome, especially if he did not receive the clearance, he can also appeal.
		 I don't think the map is very clear on the presentation slides and believe that most of the affected parties here did not receive the BID, since not all have access to the internet or email. Are the people aware that one of these EPL's falls in the Stinkwater community/area? 	if it is not clear enough for everyone we can send the map via email or WhatsApp upon your

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Comment/ by:	issue	Issue / comment / question	Response and name of responder:
		The block where the Stinkwater area is, when on a later stage the EPL turns into mining, the houses that the people are residing in, will their houses be knocked down for the mining to take place?	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: If that is the case that will be another engagement. This will then be an agreement between the company and the residents of that area. That is if they find the commodities.
		So there was no magnetic mapping done with any airborne device?	Dr. Peter Schrek: There are rules laid out by the government that states that there can only be mining activities taking place. In some cases, you must make sure that mining activities take place some 300 meters from any structure, such as houses. It is not allowed to just bulldoze an entire village because you found something in the ground.
		There are people from various communities on the various EPLs that are not present at this meeting. Please make sure that there is communication to all parties that are in those areas. Was the councilor of this area informed about this meeting?	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: Yes, we do inform the councilor. It is not necessary for the councilor to notify the community; we do not keep the councilor accountable for not communicating to the community.

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Comment/ by:	issue	Issue / comment / question	Response and name of responder:
		The communication is really the main issue here. Not just from Lodestone but the consultant as well. There was no communication to the various areas that are affected by these EPLs.	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: Unfortunately, our form of communication stems only from emails and letters. If there are not email addresses available, we communicate via postal letters, which may not reach you before the meeting.
		What commodity are they searching for on these EPLs?	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: Generally, they do not go in with a specific commodity. That is why in the document they state a group. They always set out to find if the group that is more likely.
		Just for my clarity, must we wait for the draft report to submit concerns or can we start immediately after the meeting? And is there a timeline to give our concerns.	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: No, concerns should be sent in so that they are part of the draft report, and not only the final report, because you need to see that your concerns were taken into consideration and not ignored. There is a cut-off date to submit concerns. Normally we give two weeks after the public meeting.
Mr. Mouton		Let us not sell hope for employment, we are a community with a lot of unemployed people.	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: Yes, we are not here to sell hope, it is an assessment to get a clearance, which we can get or not get. We are here to give the impacts associated with the project. That

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Comment/ issue by:	Issue / comment / question	Response and name of responder:
		include social and economic impacts. We also just suggest our views on those impacts. That does include the employment as well. We are not selling hopes; we are just here to address impacts.
Ms. Rosewitha	It is quite important for the community to also view themselves as stakeholders.	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: Correct, the unemployed are also interested in the project for job purposes, therefore they are stakeholders.
	That is why it is important for the community to give their issues regarding unemployment. That will be included in the report under the socio-economic effects of the proposed activities.	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: That is correct. Thank you.
Mr. Harold Mouton	What we are basically saying is that you should not sell hope, since most mines use skilled workers. Therefore, telling the people of Dordabis that there will be people employed is selling hope to the community. There needs to be a way in which you address the part of employment not to sell hope to unskilled workers.	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: Noted, but we only suggest a possible solution to the social and economic impacts.
	I want to make a suggestion that you make use of the radio to inform other parts of the affected areas about the meetings. Then you should have another	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: Yes, thank you, we will consider that and arrange another meeting.

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Comment/ issue by:	Issue / comment / question	Response and name of responder:
	meeting for other communities. You need to inform all the communities.	
	So you are addressing the need for employment in the community?	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: We do address that in the report, but this is only exploration, it has not yet moved to a mining operation. If we get to the mining stage than that EIA should also address employment.
Mr. Patrick	I think this is very good especially the public participation. My concern is that we are being consulted so that the company gets their clearance and then they keep quiet. We just want to establish that whether you can recommend that our people are being considered for employment. In the report it must indicated that there will be skill transfer, because the owners just say that we do not have enough skills that is required for the job.	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: Point well noted.
Mr. Frederick	With our input, we would like to include our laws to take into consideration the people from our community.	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: Correct, that is why we suggest always to employ people from local communities in the EPL area.

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Comment/	issue	Issue / comment / question	Response and name of
by:			responder:
I&AP (8) (name not stated/clear)		Is the meeting only done here? Because, there are other areas affected by these EPLs and it is quite a distance to reach this hall by foot. Those people are not present at this meeting.	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: Normally when we are consulting with the public, we try to find a spot that people from that EPL area can reach easily. We can however always accommodate every single person. So most of the time if the affected persons cannot attend the meeting, we do provide them with a letter, or email with the details of
		We also want to see the manager of the current mine to come to the next meeting. He needs to also answer some questions that the community has rejected.	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: What has happened in the past, is that we notify the owner, and it might be that a few days to the meeting
		that the community has raised.	there is an issue and they can no longer attend the meeting. But we will communicate to them that you would like to arrange a meeting with them.
Tobias		 Was the meeting agenda just to inform us of the meeting or was it for consent from the community? If this is the case not all affected persons have raised their concerns about this project. 	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: Firstly, it is to introduce the project to the community. Then to ask the people what their concerns are if these exploration activities were to take place.
Graem		We just want clarity on what the outcome of this meeting would be? Or what is the actual purpose of this meeting, other than just raising our concerns? Can we email our concerns to your office?	Mr. Nerson Tjelos: Correct, but it is not to say if you have a concern now, you can only send it via email. You are allowed to come to us

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Email: info@edsnamibia.com

Comment/ issue by:	Issue / comment / question	Response and name of responder:
		now, or state it in this meeting to be noted down in the minutes.

FINAL REMARKS AND CONCLUSION

Final remarks from Mr. Nerson Tjelos was that all comments will be taken into account when discussing the details for the exploration works with the Client.

Once again Mr. Tjelos thanked everyone in attendance for their time and contribution. The finalized meeting minutes will be included in the Environmental Assessment report.

PUBLIC MEETING ATTENDANCE REGISTER ON THE NEXT PAGE

Public Meeting Attendance Register

PROJECT: Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Exploration Activities on Exclusive Prospecting Licenses (EPLs) No. 4265, 7847 & 8440 located Northwest of Dordabis Settlement in the Khomas Region, Namibia

Venue: Dordabis Community Hall

Date: Saturday, 17 April 2021

Time: 11H00

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Public Meeting Attendance Register

PROJECT: Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Exploration Activities on Exclusive Prospecting Licenses (EPLs) No. 4265, 7847 & 8440 located Northwest of Dordabis Settlement in the Khomas Region, Namibia

Venue: Dordabis Community Hall

Date: Saturday, 17 April 2021

Time: 11H00

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will be sent via email.
Other individuals, stakeholders, organizations or entities that should be registered are: Name:

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Organization:	·
Postal address: P.O.Box 365 WINDHOEK Email: marce w-biederlack.com	Other individuals, stakeholders, organizations or entities that should be registered are: Name:
Phone #: 081-127-1279	

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For #:	

abrandt@edsnamibia.com

From: abrandt@edsnamibia.com
Sent: Friday, 2 July 2021 2:33 PM

To: 'Anton Dresselhaus'; 'Harold Mouton'

Cc: 'Anton Dresselhaus'; 'info@edsnamibia.com'; 'Nerson - Excel Dynamic Solutions'

Subject: RE: Written concerns: Environmental Assessment (EA) Report for Exclusive Prospecting

License (EPLs) No. 4265, 7847 & 8440 located northwest of Dordabis in the Khomas

Region, Namibia - Public input

Attachments: Lodestone EPLs - Locality map.png

Good day Mr. Dresselhaus, Mr. Mouton

Thank you for your email in this regard.

We take note of your concern. However, the areas referred to (Bloukrans and Stinkwater) are both out of the EPLs' vicinity prioritised for exploration (EPLs 4265 and 7847) and EPL 8440 was just an application, which the Ministry of Mines & Energy (MME) did not approve. Therefore, EPL 8440, which included Stinkwater and the near vicinity of Bloukrans, will not be part of the application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for now. Please see attached a map indicating the location of the EPLs with respect to Bloukrans and Stinkwater. You are also more than welcome to confirm the boundaries and ownership of EPLs 4265 and 7847 at MME.

Kindly, note that when we as the consultants conduct stakeholders consultation, the focus is not only on areas covered by the EPLs but on all parties who find interest in the project, from various parts of the region and the country. For this reason, we chose Dordabis for the last meeting because of the facilities to enable us to share the project information to as many stakeholders as possible.

We do, however, agree in retrospect, that a location like Stinkwater would have been more accessible to the residents, and had planned to have a second meeting on the 06th July, 2021. However, the updated COVID-19 regulations have made it difficult for our team to have another meeting in due time as planned. We are, at the moment, working on finding ways to make sure we are as accommodative as possible to interested and affected parties (IAPs) from Stinkwater and Bloukrans. Perhaps we could send some copies of the draft report to a public/space or office there and allow our I&APs to give us their input, comments and concerns that we will include in the final report. If there are any different suggestions from your side on how we could perhaps reach out better amidst the regulations of the pandemic, or further general comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to relay them to us.

Best regards,

Ms. A. Brandt

From: Anton Dresselhaus [mailto:info@ankawini.com]

Sent: Thursday, 1 July 2021 4:14 PM **To:** abrandt@edsnamibia.com

Cc: Anton Dresselhaus <antondresselhaus@me.com>; info@edsnamibia.com

Subject: Written concerns: Environmental Assessment (EA) Report for Exclusive Prospecting License (EPLs) No. 4265,

7847 & 8440 located northwest of Dordabis in the Khomas Region, Namibia - Public input

Dear Ms A C Brandt,

With reference to above EA, I wish to put the following points on record:

- 1. Although it was brought to your attention during the meeting of 17 April 2021, that your list of Interested and Affected Parties were outdated and incomplete and you were informed that Lodestone Namibia (Pty) LTD received updated information, the list in Appendix D of the document in question, is still not updated.
- 2. It was furthermore brought to your attention that the communities of Stinkwater and Bloukrans were not informed of the Public Meeting of 17 April 2021. You undertake to hold another public meeting after informing the said communities but I cannot find any proof that such meeting took place. Your document place mainly focus on the Dordabis community that is not even in the geographical area of the EPL but Stinkwater and Bloukrans residents and farmers, who reside directly in the geographical area of the EPLs, are excluded.

Anton Dresselhaus

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