

Hernandez: Colombia's anti-graft candidate with a checkered past

BUCARAMANGA - In October 2015, volunteers flooded an impoverished neighborhood of Bucaramanga in northeast Colombia with thousands of pamphlets promising free houses if Rodolfo Hernandez, a millionaire engineer, were elected mayor.

He won the election, but the free houses never came. Now, Hernandez is running for his country's top job.

"Rodolfo came here with pure lies. And now he wants to be president?" said Paulina Figueroa, a housewife in the targeted neighborhood, El Pablon, shaking her head.

She still holds on to Hernandez's pamphlet, but told *AFP* that instead of getting a house, she had to take out a loan, which she pays off with half her meager monthly income, to build herself a shack of wood and zinc.

"Just another unfulfilled promise by a cheap politician," added 57-year-old community leader Jaime Nunez, who received the same flyer and voted for Hernandez but continues to pay

rent for squalid, crowded lodgings.

Despite failing to deliver on his ambitious promise, Hernandez remains popular among many in Bucaramanga, admired for his brashness and for building sports stadiums in poor areas during his 2016-2019 term.

He donated his mayoral salary to social causes and lived from his self-stated fortune of US\$100 million.

Hernandez was suspended as mayor for intervening in local elections, and resigned shortly before the end of his term.

In the rest of the country, he is known for another act as mayor: slapping an opposition councilman during a disagreement on camera.

Photos of a smiling Hernandez adorn many walls, cars and even restaurants in Bucaramanga.

"Rodolfo faced a corrupt political class that had practically enslaved the city, and defeated it. That's why people love him," said Felix Jaimes, a fellow engineer who was Hernandez's mayoral adviser.

When Hernandez won the mayorship, he unseated a political

class that had governed for decades with his anti-elite stance and promises of social upliftment.

He now aims to do the same with the Colombian presidency.

Hernandez, who goes by the moniker "The Engineer," made a surprise second-place finish in a first round of voting on 29 May.

He will face leftist Gustavo Petro in a runoff on 19 June.

Opinion polls show a tie between the two men, despite Petro having been by far the favorite ahead of the first round and Hernandez a distant third.

Jaimes claimed the Bucaramanga city council, where Hernandez had no political majority, blocked his plan to deliver 20 000 free homes.

But not everyone is convinced about The Engineer's good intentions.

In a folder, retired army sergeant Saul Ortiz carries evidence of what he calls a "scam" against hundreds of military families who bought into a housing construction project run by a Hernandez company, before he was mayor.

Ortiz told *AFP* that in 1995,

he began to pay off a house in Bucaramanga, but claimed that over time, the company charged him about 30% more than the initial price.

"The majority of homeowners lost their homes as they were unable to pay this overcharge," he said.

Ortiz said he was one of a few to obtain relief from the courts and get the excess payments back. He showed *AFP* documents backing his claims.

But his house flooded in 2005, the project having been constructed too close to the riverbed, he said - another allegation for which he holds documented proof.

"The neighborhood was completely flooded, there was tons of mud, cars were damaged; people lost everything... they did not compensate us," he said.

Containment walls are now being constructed at the state's expense.

Hernandez "is not who he claims to be... he is just another corrupt politician, one of those who have Colombia mired in

poverty," said Ortiz.

Hernandez has focused his campaign largely on combating poverty, which affects some 39% of Colombia's 50 million people.

He has vowed not to raise taxes, to cut VAT from 19 to 10% and to boost social spending by shrinking bureaucracy.

Hernandez blames government corruption for much of Colombia's deep-seated economic inequality, but is himself under investigation for "undue benefits" given to third parties when he was mayor.

Despite his checkered past, Hernandez appears to have a real shot at the presidency, with traditional parties throwing their weight behind him to defeat Petro in a country deeply suspicious of the political left.

Unlike Petro, Hernandez has made no campaign tours and gives no public speeches.

Instead, the self-proclaimed "King of TikTok" speaks directly to his electorate via the social media platform - where he has almost 600 000 followers - and Facebook broadcasts.

- *Nampa/AFP*

US VP Harris announces migration funds

... as Mexico snubs Americas summit

LOS ANGELES - US Vice President Kamala Harris on Tuesday announced a fresh US\$1.9 billion in private sector funding to boost jobs in hopes of reducing migration from Central America, at a Latin America summit in Los Angeles snubbed by the leaders of Mexico and other affected countries.

Harris has been given the unenviable task of tackling the root causes of rising migration into the United States, an issue seized upon by the rival Republican Party that has turned into a top priority for President Joe Biden at a week-long Summit of the Americas.

A day before Biden's arrival, Harris unveiled US\$1.9 billion in commitments by businesses - in addition to US\$1.2 billion announced last year - for the impoverished and violence-ravaged so-called Northern Triangle of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

Harris, who met business leaders, female entrepreneurs and civil society as part of the summit in her home state, said the efforts come from "our shared belief that most people don't want to leave home" but also that "government cannot do it alone."

"We know the American people will benefit from stable and prosperous neighbors. And when we provide economic opportunity for people in Central America, we address an important driver of migration," she said.

Harris also announced the creation of the "Central American Service Corps" funded through US aid to mentor young people.

But none of the Northern Triangle leaders are attending the summit, nor is President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador of Mexico, the crucial US partner on migration policy due to the



Break... Migrants rest as they take part in a caravan, heading to the US-Mexico border, in Huixtla, Chiapas state, Mexico. Photo: *Nampa/AFP*

2 000-mile (3 200-kilometer) shared border.

Lopez Obrador, a leftist populist, had insisted that Biden invite all governments including Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela - which the United States is excluding on the grounds that the summit is only for democracies.

Argentina's center-left president, Alberto Fernandez, who confirmed his attendance after a phone call and invitation to Washington from Biden, said he would try to "give a voice" to the absent countries.

"We enormously regret the non-presence of the countries that weren't invited," he told reporters before heading to Los Angeles.

"Unity is not spoken, it is exercised, and the best way to exercise it is by not segregating anyone," he said.

Mexican Foreign Secretary Marcelo Ebrard, attending instead of Lopez Obrador, said his president would visit Washington next month and insisted that ties were not at risk.

The relationship between the neighbors "is positive and will remain so and we don't expect any change in that," he said.

But Lopez Obrador's

absence set a sour tone after the Mexican leader's surprisingly close partnership with Biden's predecessor Donald Trump, who had threatened Mexico with sanctions unless it cracked down on Central American migrants.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken sought until the last minute to woo Lopez Obrador, including by seeking lower-level participation by Cuba and easing some restrictions including on US flights to the communist island.

But US officials said they saw no reciprocation from Cuban authorities, who recently went ahead with the trial of two dissident artists.

On Venezuela, the United States does not recognize President Nicolas Maduro, whose 2018 re-election was clouded by widespread reports of irregularities. Maduro instead traveled to Turkey, which maintains relations with him.

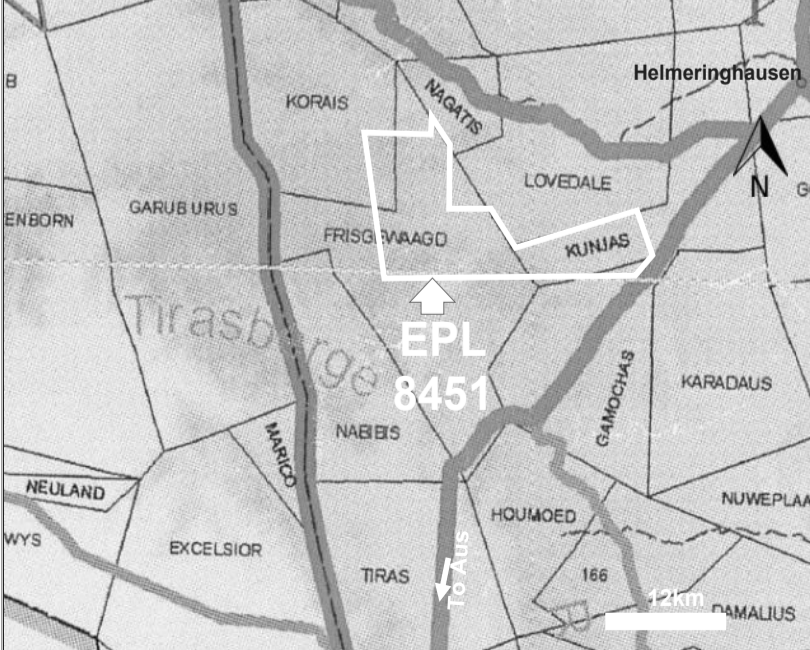
But Biden also did not invite opposition leader Juan Guaido, whom the United States still considers interim president despite what some Latin American officials privately see as his dwindling chances.

- *Nampa/AFP*

PUBLIC NOTICE APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) BY FARPOINT INVESTMENTS (Pty) Ltd FOR PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES IN THE EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE 8451, BERSEBA DISTRICT, //KARAS REGION

Farpoint Investments (Pty) Ltd (the "PROPONENT") has the preparedness to grant mineral rights under the Exclusive Prospecting Licenses (EPL) 8451 with respect Dimension Stone and Non-Nuclear Fuels. The physical license of the EPL will only be granted by the Mining Commissioner once the Proponent has obtained Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Environmental Commissioner. The EPL 8451 has a total area of 8631.1588 Ha and falls within commercial farmlands as indicated on the map. Once the ECC is granted, the Proponent intends to conduct exploration / prospecting activities starting with desktop studies including the processing and interpretation of the existing geophysical and other historical data sets, followed by regional field-based reconnaissance activities and if the results are positive, implement detailed site-specific field-based activities using techniques such as geological mapping, geophysical surveys, trenching, drilling, and sampling for laboratory tests. The proposed prospecting activities are listed in the Environmental Management Act, 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the EIA Regulations 30 of 2012 and cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). In fulfilment of these environmental requirements, the Proponent has appointed Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC as the Environmental Consultant, led by Dr Sindila Mwiya as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to prepare the Environmental Reports to support the application for ECC. Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) are hereby invited to register and submit written comments / objections / inputs with respect to the proposed prospecting activities. A Background Information Document (BID) is available on request upon registration.

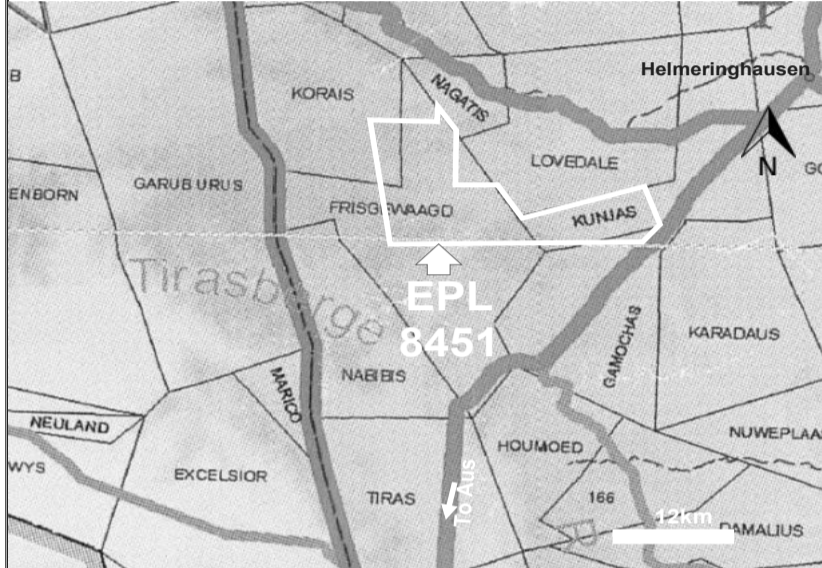
REGISTER BY EMAIL: smwiya@rbs.com.na
Dr Sindila Mwiya (EAP/Technical Permitting Advisor/Consultant)
CONSULTATION DURATION AND DEADLINE FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS IS:
FRIDAY 1st JULY 2022



PUBLIC NOTICE
APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) BY FARPOINT INVESTMENTS (Pty) Ltd FOR PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES IN THE EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE 8451, BERSEBA DISTRICT, //KARAS REGION

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REGISTER BY EMAIL: smwiya@rbs.com.na
Dr Sindila Mwiya (EAP/Technical Permitting Advisor/Consultant)
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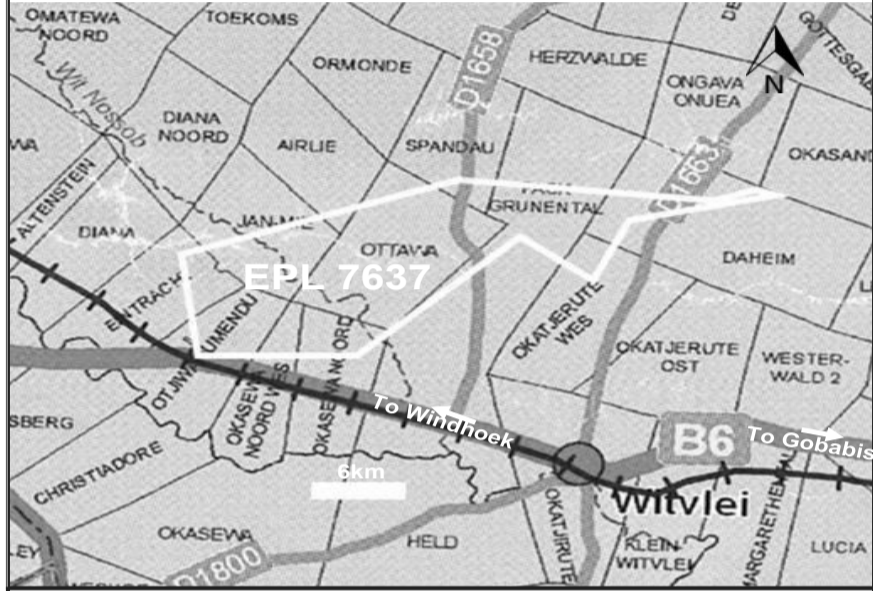


Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC (URL: www.rbs.com.na)
 Your Permitting & De-Risking Specialist Consultants (Oil, Gas, Minerals & Energy Exploration, Production & Mining) & Environmental Assessments (SEA, EIA, EMP, EMS & ESG)

PUBLIC NOTICE
APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) BY AEED CONSORTIUM (Pty) Ltd FOR PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES IN THE EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) No. 7637, GOBABIS DISTRICT, OMAHEKE REGION

AEED Consortium (Pty) Ltd (the "PROPONENT") has applied for the transfer of the EPL No. 7637 from Ayen Tjiteere. The EPL 7637 was granted on the 30/10/2019 and will expire on 29/10/2022. The EPL 7637 has a total area of 18904.7886 Ha and covers commercial farmlands as indicated on the map. The license is granted for base and rare and precious metals. Once the ECC and EPL transfer are granted by the Government, the Proponent intends to conduct exploration / prospecting activities starting with desktop studies including the processing and interpretation of the existing geophysical and other historical data sets, followed by regional field-based reconnaissance activities and if the results are positive, implement detailed site-specific field-based activities using techniques such as geological mapping, geophysical surveys, trenching, drilling, and sampling for laboratory tests. The proposed prospecting activities are listed in the Environmental Management Act, 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the EIA Regulations 30 of 2012 and cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). In fulfillment of these environmental requirements, the Proponent has appointed Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC as the Environmental Consultant, led by Dr Sindila Mwiya as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to prepare the Environmental Reports to support the application for ECC. Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) are hereby invited to register and submit written comments / objections / inputs with respect to the proposed prospecting activities. A Background Information Document (BID) is available on request upon registration.

REGISTER BY EMAIL: smwiya@rbs.com.na
Dr Sindila Mwiya (EAP/Technical Permitting Advisor/Consultant)
CONSULTATION DURATION AND DEADLINE FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS IS: FRIDAY 1st JULY 2022



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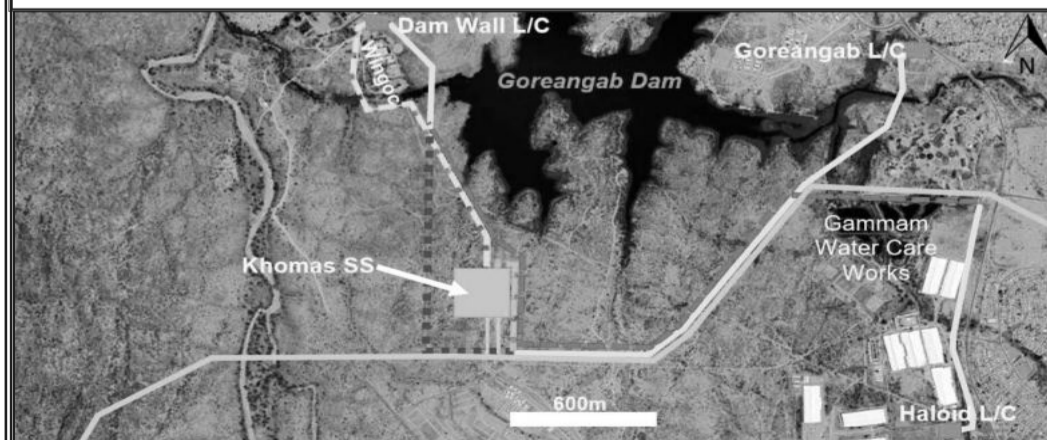
PUBLIC NOTICE
APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) FOR PROPOSED NEW AND REROUTING OF EXISTING 66kV OVERHEAD POWERLINES NETWORKS BY LINKING THE GOREANGAB LOAD CENTRE (L/C) AND DAM WALL L/C TO THE NEW KHOMAS SUBSTATION (SS) AROUND GOREANGAB DAM, WINDHOEK, KHOMAS REGION

The City of Windhoek (CoW), (the Proponent) is proposing to develop new and reroute existing 66kV overhead powerlines around the southern-eastern, southern, and western edges of the Goreangab Dam by linking the various powerline segments Goreangab Load Centre (L/C) and Dam Wall L/C to the new Khomas Substation (SS). The following is the summary of the proposed new and existing overhead powerlines to be created and dismantled, respectively:

- CoW New Overhead Powerline Networks / Routes to be Developed:**
 - Red broken line: 66kV Haloid L/C line Tie-In point to Dam Wall L/C Tie-In point: 3.88km
 - Cyan broken line: 66kV Dam Wall L/C to Khomas SS: 1.75km
 - Green broken line: 66kV Khomas to Goreangab L/C line Tie-In point: 0.62km
- Existing CoW Overhead Powerline Networks to be Dismantled Due to New Developments:**
 - Purple broken line: 66kV Goreangab L/C to Dam Wall L/C: 1.62km.
 - Blue broken line: 66kV Goreangab L/C to Haloid L/C: 0.93km

The proposed powerlines rerouting project activities are listed in the Environmental Management Act, 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 30 of 2012 and cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) In fulfillment of the environmental requirements, the developer has appointed Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC as the Environmental Consultant, led by Dr Sindila Mwiya as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to prepare the EIA and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) Reports to support the application for an ECC. Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby invited to register and submit written comments / objections with respect to the proposed overhead powerlines project.

REGISTER BY EMAIL: frontdesk@rbs.com.na
Dr Sindila Mwiya (EAP/Technical Permitting Advisor/Consultant)
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN INPUTS/OBJECTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS IS: FRIDAY 1st JULY 2022



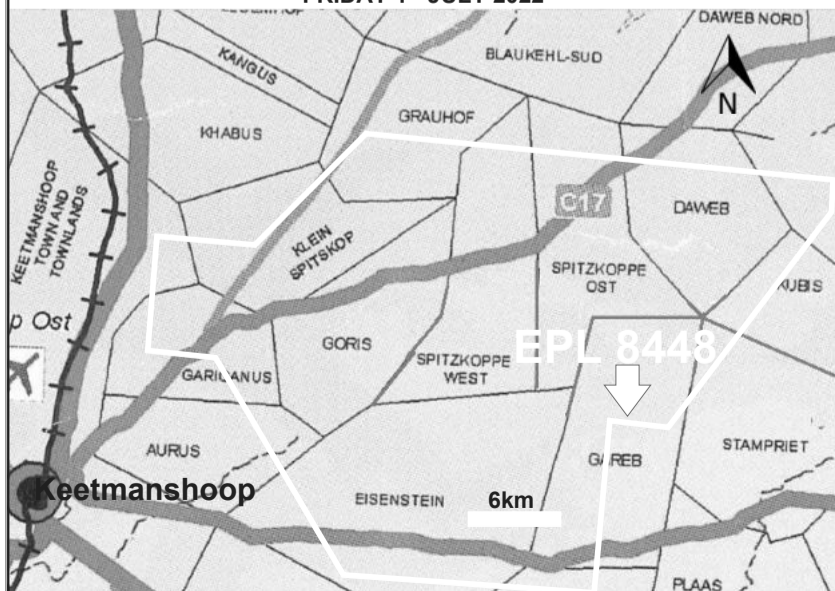
New Lines Construction	Existing Lines & Other Features
--- 66kV Dam Wall L/C to Khomas SS: 1.75km	— CoW Existing Network
--- 66kV Haloid L/C line Tie-In point to Dam Wall L/C Tie-In point: 3.88km	— Existing 220kV Nampower HV
--- 66kV Khomas to Goreangab L/C line Tie-In point: 0.62km	■ Load Centre (L/C)
Existing Lines To Be Dismantled	■ Sub Station (SS)
--- 66kV Goreangab L/C to Dam Wall L/C: 1.62km	
--- 66kV Goreangab L/C to Haloid L/C: 0.93km	

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 Your Permitting & De-Risking Specialist Consultants (Oil, Gas, Minerals & Energy Exploration, Production & Mining) and Environmental Assessments (SEA, EIA, EMP, EMS & ESG)

PUBLIC NOTICE
APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) BY BLUESTATE (Pty) Ltd FOR PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES IN THE EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) 8448, KEETMANSHOOP DISTRICT, //KARAS REGION

Bluestate Investments (Pty) Ltd (the "PROPONENT") has the preparedness to grant mineral rights under the Exclusive Prospecting Licenses (EPL) 8448 with respect to Base and Rare Metals, Dimension Stone, Industrial Minerals, Precious Metals, and Precious Metals, and Precious Stones. The physical license of the EPL will only be granted by the Mining Commissioner once the Proponent has obtained Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Environmental Commissioner. The EPL 8448 has a total area of 97345 Ha and falls within commercial farmlands as indicated on the map. Once the ECC is granted, the Proponent intends to conduct exploration / prospecting activities starting with desktop studies including the processing and interpretation of the existing geophysical and other historical data sets, followed by regional field-based reconnaissance activities and if the results are positive, implement detailed site-specific field-based activities using techniques such as geological mapping, geophysical surveys, trenching, drilling, and sampling for laboratory tests. The proposed prospecting activities are listed in the Environmental Management Act, 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the EIA Regulations 30 of 2012 and cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). In fulfillment of these environmental requirements, the Proponent has appointed Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC as the Environmental Consultant, led by Dr Sindila Mwiya as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to prepare the Environmental Reports to support the application for ECC. Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) are hereby invited to register and submit written comments / objections / inputs with respect to the proposed prospecting activities. A Background Information Document (BID) is available on request upon registration.

REGISTER BY EMAIL: smwiya@rbs.com.na
Dr Sindila Mwiya (EAP/Technical Permitting Advisor/Consultant)
CONSULTATION DURATION AND DEADLINE FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS IS: FRIDAY 1st JULY 2022



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 Your Permitting & De-Risking Specialist Consultants (Oil, Gas, Minerals & Energy Exploration, Production & Mining) & Environmental Assessments (SEA, EIA, EMP, EMS & ESG)



Risk – Based Solutions (RBS) CC

10 Schützen Street, Erf No. 7382
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P. O. Box 1839
WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA

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Email: frontdesk@rbs.com.na
Global Office / URL: www.rbs.com.na



Webber Farming CC
P.O Box 147 Rosh Pinah
Ptn 4 of Kunjas (14)

3rd August 2022

Dear Sir/ Madam,

RE: KEY STAKEHOLDER NOTICE ON THE APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) BY FARPOINT INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD FOR PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING IN THE EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) No. 8451

As the landowner and key stakeholder, we hereby inform you that Farpoint Investments (Pty) Ltd (the "Proponent") holds subsurface mineral rights under the Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 8451 for Dimension stones, and Non – Nuclear Fuel Minerals (<http://portals.flexicadastre.com/Namibia>). The physical license of the EPL 8451 will only be granted by the Mining Commissioner in the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) once the Proponent has obtained an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Environmental Commissioner in the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT). The Proponent intends to conduct prospecting activities starting with desktop studies including the processing and interpretation of the existing geophysical data sets, followed by regional field-based reconnaissance activities and if the results are positive, implement detailed site-specific field-based activities using techniques such as geological mapping, geophysical surveys, trenching, drilling, and sampling for laboratory tests.

The proposed prospecting activities are listed in the Environmental Management Act, 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the EIA Regulations 30 of 2012 and cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). In fulfillment of these environmental requirements, the Proponent has appointed Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC as the Environmental consultant to prepare the Environmental Reports to support the application for ECC.

The Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan reports are hereto attached to this cover letter for your information. As a key stakeholder, you are hereby invited to register and submit written inputs with respect to the proposed prospecting activities by Farpoint Investments (Pty) Ltd.

DEADLINE FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS IS: 31st August 2022

REGISTER BY EMAIL or MOBILE: emerita.ashipala@gmail.com or send WhatsApp or SMS to +264817016851 with all your details (Names, Farm Name, Contact Details, and Comments/ Inputs). For more information, please contact Ms. Emerita Ashipala (EAP).

The work being conducted by Farpoint Investments (Pty) Ltd in this EPL is purely only prospecting activities and it is not mining at all, and no minerals deposits have been discovered and there is no guarantee that the prospecting will result in any economic minerals discoveries. If there is a need to conduct fieldwork on your land, Farpoint Investments (Pty) Ltd representative will contact you to request permission to access your property and any future access and related Access Agreement may be negotiated as may be required or necessary.

Yours Sincerely,

03 AUG 2022

Dr. Sindila Mwiya
EAP/ International Resources Consultant
RISK-BASED SOLUTIONS (RBS) CC



Risk – Based Solutions (RBS) CC

10 Schützen Street, Erf No. 7382
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Email: frontdesk@rbs.com.na
Global Office / URL: www.rbs.com.na



Okuyta Investments CC
P.O. Box 14 Helmeringhausen
Karas (28)

3rd August 2022

Dear Sir/ Madam,

RE: KEY STAKEHOLDER NOTICE ON THE APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) BY FARPOINT INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD FOR PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING IN THE EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) No. 8451

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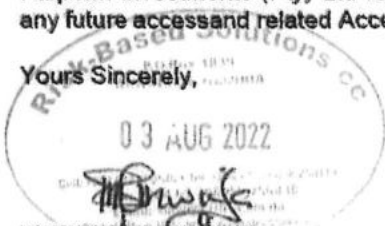
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Yours Sincerely,



Dr. Sindila Mwiya
EAP/ International Resources Consultant
RISK-BASED SOLUTIONS (RBS) CC



Risk – Based Solutions (RBS) CC

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Email: frontdesk@rbs.com.na
Global Office / URL: www.rbs.com.na



Leslie Mcneil Campbell
P.O Box 6 Helmeringhausen
Rem. of Nagatis (No. 29)

3rd August 2022

Dear Sir/ Madam,

RE: KEY STAKEHOLDER NOTICE ON THE APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) BY FARPOINT INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD FOR PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING IN THE EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) No. 8451

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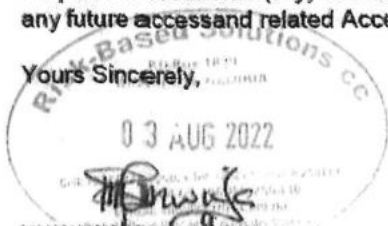
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DEADLINE FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS IS: 31st August 2022

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The work being conducted by Farpoint Investments (Pty) Ltd in this EPL is purely only prospecting activities and it is not mining at all, and no minerals deposits have been discovered and there is no guarantee that the prospecting will result in any economic minerals discoveries. If there is a need to conduct fieldwork on your land, Farpoint Investments (Pty) Ltd representative will contact you to request permission to access your property and any future access and related Access Agreement may be negotiated as may be required or necessary.

Yours Sincerely,



Dr. Sindila Mwiya
EAP/ International Resources Consultant
RISK-BASED SOLUTIONS (RBS) CC



Risk – Based Solutions (RBS) CC

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Windhoek Central Business District (CBD)
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Global Office / URL: www.rbs.com.na



Ludwig Wilhelm Schnebel
P.O. Box 11382 K/Windhoek
Gamochas (No. 31)

3rd August 2022

Dear Sir/ Madam,

RE: KEY STAKEHOLDER NOTICE ON THE APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) BY FARPOINT INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD FOR PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING IN THE EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) No. 8451

As the landowner and key stakeholder, we hereby inform you that Farpoint Investments (Pty) Ltd (the "Proponent") holds subsurface mineral rights under the Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 8451 for Dimension stones, and Non – Nuclear Fuel Minerals (<http://portals.flexicadastre.com/Namibia>). The physical license of the EPL 8451 will only be granted by the Mining Commissioner in the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) once the Proponent has obtained an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Environmental Commissioner in the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT). The Proponent intends to conduct prospecting activities starting with desktop studies including the processing and interpretation of the existing geophysical data sets, followed by regional field-based reconnaissance activities and if the results are positive, implement detailed site-specific field-based activities using techniques such as geological mapping, geophysical surveys, trenching, drilling, and sampling for laboratory tests.

The proposed prospecting activities are listed in the Environmental Management Act, 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the EIA Regulations 30 of 2012 and cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). In fulfillment of these environmental requirements, the Proponent has appointed Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC as the Environmental consultant to prepare the Environmental Reports to support the application for ECC.

The Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan reports are hereto attached to this cover letter for your information. As a key stakeholder, you are hereby invited to register and submit written inputs with respect to the proposed prospecting activities by Farpoint Investments (Pty) Ltd.

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03 AUG 2022

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EAP/ International Resources Consultant
RISK-BASED SOLUTIONS (RBS) CC



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Petri Johan Oberholzer
P.O. Box 38 Helmeringhausen
Frisgewaagd (No. 724).

3rd August 2022

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Email: frontdesk@rbs.com.na
Global Office / URL: www.rbs.com.na



Trustees of Coleman Fam Trust
P.O. Box 11267 K/Windhoek
Ptn. 2 of Ptn. 1 of Farm Frisgewaagd (No. 124)

3rd August 2022

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Global Office / URL: www.rbs.com.na

Grassland CC
P.O. Box 17 Helmeringhausen
Lovedale (No. 191)

3rd August 2022

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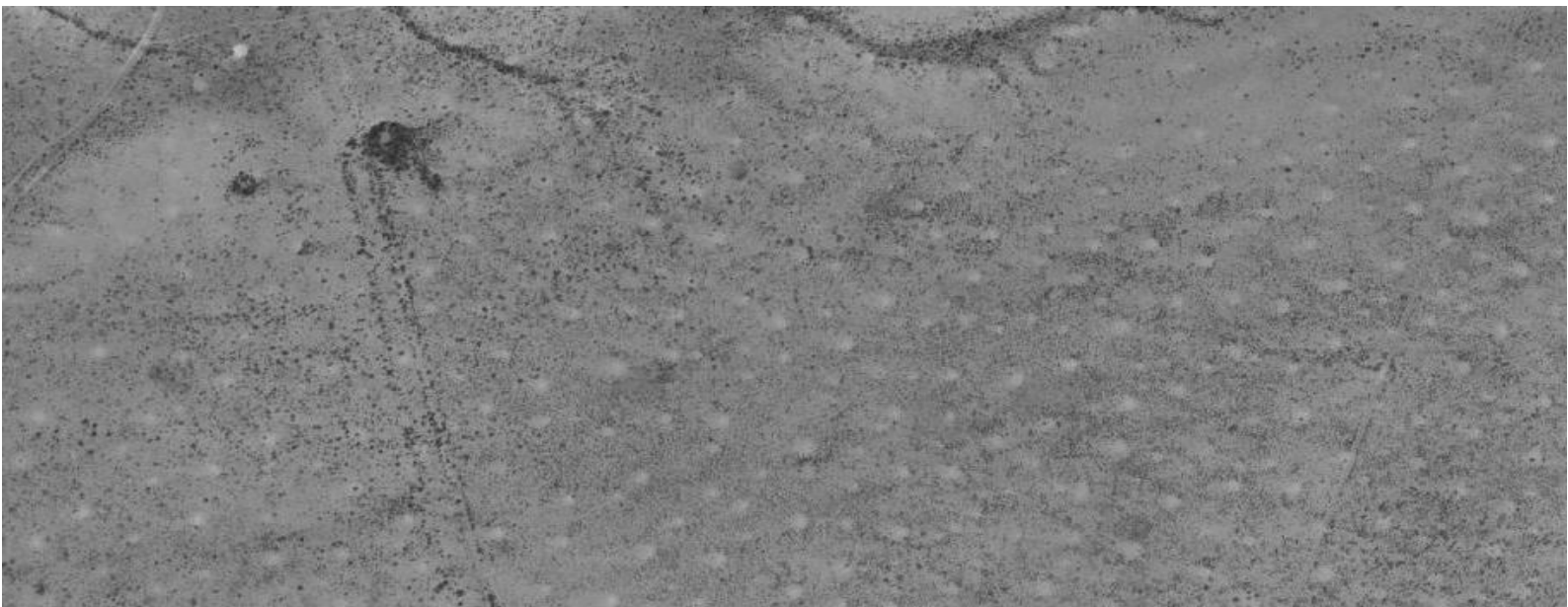
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03 AUG 2022

Dr. Sindila Mwiya
EAP/ International Resources Consultant
RISK-BASED SOLUTIONS (RBS) CC

Farpoint Investments (Pty) Ltd (The Proponent)

Background Information Document (BID) for
Proposed Minerals Exploration / Prospecting
activities in the Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL)
No. 8451, Berseba District, //Karas Region



June 2022

P. O Box 26826
6 Amasoniet Street
WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA

PROPONENT, LISTED ACTIVITIES AND RELATED INFORMATION SUMMARY

TYPE OF AUTHORISATIONS REQUIRING ECC

Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 8451

NAME OF THE PROPONENT

Farpoint Investments (Pty) Ltd

COMPETENT AUTHORITY

Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME)

PROPONENT ADDRESS AND CONTACT PERSON

P. O Box 26826
6 Amasoniet Street
WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA

Contact Person:

Dr Sindila Mwiya
Projects Director / International Resources Consultant
Mobile: + 264-811413229
Email: smwiya@rbs.com.na

PROPOSED PROJECT

Proposed Minerals Exploration / Prospecting activities
in the Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL)
No. 8451, Berseba District, //Karas Region

PROJECT LOCATION

Berseba District, //Karas Region
(-25.980278, 16.591111)

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS



Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC

(Consulting arm of Sivieda Group Namibia)
10 Schützen Street, Erf No. 7382, Sivieda House
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ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (EAP)

Ms. Emerita Ashipala
MSc Env. Mag, BSc (Hons) Envi Bio

Content List

1. BACKGROUND	- 1 -
1.1. INTRODUCTION	- 1 -
1.2. PROPOSED PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES	- 1 -
1.3. PROJECT MOTIVATION AND BENEFITS.....	- 2 -
1.4. LOCATION, LAND USE, INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES.....	- 3 -
2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES	10
2.1. INITIAL DESKTOP EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES	10
2.2. REGIONAL RECONNAISSANCE FIELD-BASED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES.....	10
2.3. INITIAL LOCAL FIELD-BASED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES	10
2.4. DETAILED LOCAL FIELD-BASED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES	11
2.5. PREFEASIBILITY AND FEASIBILITY STUDIES.....	11
3. REGULATORY AND CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS	12
3.1. MINERALS PROSPECTING AND MINING LEGISLATION.....	12
3.2. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS	12
3.3. PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS.....	15
3.4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT	15
4. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE EIA AND EMP PROCESS	16
4.1. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT APPROACH	16
4.2. EIA/ SCOPING AND EMP PROCESS	17
4.2.1. Summary of the Steps	17
4.2.2. Assumptions and Limitations	19
4.3. IMPACTS ASSESSMENT PROCESS.....	19
4.3.1. Evaluation of Impacts	19
4.3.2. Likelihood (Probability) of Occurrence	20
4.3.3. Proposed Project Activities as Sources of Impacts	20
4.3.4. Assessment of the Overall Significant Impacts	30
4.4. SPECIFIC MITIGATION MEASURES.....	33
4.5. STRUCTURE OF THE EIA/ SCOPING AND EMP REPORTS.....	33

List of Figures

Figure 1.1: Detailed regional location of the EPL 8451 and related infrastructure.	- 4 -
Figure 1.2: Commercial farms and associated land use of EPL 8451.	- 5 -
Figure 1.3: Vegetation cover found within and around the EPL No. 8451 area	- 6 -
Figure 1.4: Rock types / solid geology found within and around the EPL No. 8451 area	- 7 -
Figure 1.5: Soil types / surficial geology found within and around the EPL No. 8451 area.	- 8 -
Figure 1.6: Groundwater resources found within and around the EPL No. 8451 area.....	- 9 -
Figure 4.1: RBS Schematic presentation of Namibia’s Environmental Assessment Procedure.....	18

List of Tables

Table 3.1: Legislation relevant to the proposed prospecting activities in the EPL 8451	13
Table 4.1: Summary of the proposed activities, alternatives, and key issues to be considered during the Environmental Assessment (EA) process covering EIA/ Scoping and EMP phases and in addition to the further inputs that may be provided by the registered stakeholders during the public consultation process.	16

Table 4.2:	Scored on a scale from 0 to 5 for impact magnitude.....	20
Table 4.3:	Scored time period over which the impact is expected to last.....	20
Table 4.4:	Scored geographical extent of the induced change.	20
Table 4.5:	Summary of the qualitative scale of probability categories (in increasing order of likelihood)	20
Table 4.6:	Example results presentation framework of the sensitivity assessment of the receptors (Physical, Socioeconomic and Biological environments) with respect to the proposed exploration / prospecting activities.	22
Table 4.7:	Example results presentation framework of the scored time (duration) over which the impact is expected to last.	24
Table 4.8:	Example results presentation framework of the scored geographical extent of the induced change.....	26
Table 4.9:	Example results presentation framework of the qualitative scale of probability occurrence.....	28
Table 4.10:	Example results presentation framework of significant matrix impact assessment for the proposed exploration activities.	31

1. BACKGROUND

1.1. Introduction

Farpoint Investments (Pty) Ltd (the “Proponent”) has applied for mineral rights under the Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 8451 with respect to Dimension Stones and Non- Nuclear Fuels (<http://portals.flexicadastre.com/Namibia>). The physical license of the EPL 8451 will only be granted by the Mining Commissioner in the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) once the Proponent has obtained an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Environmental Commissioner in the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT).

Under an EPL 8451 regime, the Proponent is only authorised by the Ministry of Mines and Energy to conduct prospecting, not mining. Mining is undertaken under a separate authorisation called a Mining License (ML) which is only granted if an applicant has discovered and proved that the discovered minerals deposit is viable and can be developed into a profitable mine.

The Proponent intends to conduct prospecting activities and looking specifically at greenfield areas, historically not known to have minerals potential or no detailed exploration has taken place in some these areas.

1.2. Proposed Prospecting Activities

The following is the summary of the proposed minerals exploration activities:

- (i) Initial desktop exploration activities covering the review of existing information and all previous prospecting activities undertaken in the general area in order identify any potential target/s. This initial stage will also include the purchase and interpretation of the existing Government high resolution airborne geophysical data sets. No field-based visit or activities undertaken at this stage.
- (ii) Regional reconnaissance assessment covering field-based activities such as regional mapping and sampling to identify and verify potential targeted areas as delineated during the desktop stage (i) above. This stage is only undertaken if stage (i) has found some potential targets needing further investigation / verification. Alternatively, the licence is abandoned if no potential target is found.
- (iii) Initial local field-based activities such as widely spaced geological mapping, sampling, surveying and possible widely spaced trenching and drilling to test the viability of any delineated local target based on the regional data collected under (ii) above. The level or depth of investigation undertaken at this stage is subject to finding a viable / potential minerals deposit that need to be defined. Alternatively, the licence is abandoned if the identified target/s proves not viable, and.
- (iv) Detailed local field-based activities such as localised site-specific detailed geological mapping, trenching, bulk sampling, surveying, and detailed drilling to determine the feasibility of the delineated local targets. If the detailed exploration activities lead to positive results, the exploration data collected will then be put together into a prefeasibility report and if the prefeasibility results prove positive, a detailed feasibility study supported by detailed site-specific drilling, bulk sampling and laboratory testing / test mining will be undertaken on the identified site-specific area. A positive feasibility study will be required to support the application for a Mining License (ML) together with a new site-specific Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) with specialist site-specific studies such as flora, fauna, socioeconomic, water, traffic, dust, and noise modelling and archaeology being undertaken to support the application for the new ECC for mining and minerals process operations (opening a mine).

Currently, there no minerals deposits or target known to exist within the EPL 8451 area, and the Proponent intend to conduct prospecting activities as part of the search for economic minerals deposits based on the testing of the developed theoretical geological and minerals depositional

models. There is no guarantee whatsoever that the proposed prospecting activities will find economic minerals resources that could lead to the development of a mine. To find the targets, the company will buy airborne geophysical data (magnetics and radiometric) held by the Ministry of Mines and Energy, and the data will be processed and using this information, the Proponent will look for possible targets. The targets will then be visited to see how the surface looks like if possible collect surface samples (Geochemical sampling) followed by further field-based assessments such as geological mapping to validating the airborne-based data delineated targets.

Before any site visit, permission will be requested from the landowner/s and an access agreement could be negotiated with the landowner/s if the Proponent want to continue with further field-based activities such as detailed mapping, trenching, or drilling activities as may be required. It is the responsibility of the Proponent to negotiate access agreements with the landowners and to make sure that all security measures to protect the farmland and interests of the landowner/s are always observed and as may be agreed with the individual landowners.

Even if the mapping or drilling finds some indications of mineralisation, it takes many years (5 - 10 years or even more) to move an exploration / prospecting project to a mining stage and so many technical inputs including technology, markets, costs environmental liabilities and cost of services such water, roads and energy will need to form part of the project developmental stages, starting with the scoping, prefeasibility and then feasibility phases.

If a project is feasible, then the company will need to apply for a separate Mining License (ML) from the Government and a landowner agreement is required and mandatory before a Mining License is granted by Mining Commissioner. A Mining License application requires separate detailed site-specific studies of the local area of interest to have been conducted as part of the feasibility study. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and specialist studies such as water, fauna, flora, dust, noise for mining operations as well as linear structures such as water, roads and powerline form part of the feasibility study to be conducted before such a project can even be considered for review by the Government.

1.3. Project Motivation and Benefits

The proposed exploration activities have limited to no local socioeconomic benefits for the local communities. The only tangible benefits of the proposed exploration activities are mainly centred around the payment of the annual license rental fees to the central Government through the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME), payment of services and land access agreement.

The following is the summary of other likely proposed project benefits.

- ❖ Provisional contractual employment opportunities for specialist services companies involved in minerals explorations during the minerals prospecting process that could take many years and only if potential minerals targets are discovered within the EPL area.
- ❖ Expansion of the subsurface knowledge-base: The exploration data to be generated will be highly useful in the search for future subsurface resources such as minerals, water, geothermal and general geoscience research, and development.
- ❖ Contribution to the subsurface knowledge-base that will promote the coexistence of subsurface operations with surface activities where compatible, and.
- ❖ Contribution to the development of local infrastructures as may be applicable especially in event that potential minerals targets requiring field-based studies to be conducted are identified.

1.4. Location, Land Use, Infrastructure and Services

1.4.1 Location and Land Use

The EPL 8451 is located in Berseba district, //Karas Region approximately 10 km southwest from Helmeringshausen and approximately 50km northeast from Bethanie. The EPL has a total area of 8631.1588 Ha and covers the following commercial privately owned farmlands including: Farm Kunjas, Korais, and Rem of Nagatis, Gomachas, Fresgewaagd, and Lovedale (Figs. 1.1-1.2).

The land uses of the EPL area and surrounding general area is mainly centred on commercial agriculture and tourism freehold land including small stock, intensive agricultural operations (Figs. 1.2 - 1.2).

1.4.2 Supporting Infrastructure and Services

The EPL area is accessible along the existing district and gravel roads (Figs. 1.1 -1.2). Private minor roads may require high clearance 4 x 4 vehicles and may only be used with permission from the landowners (Fig. 1.1-1.2).

The following supporting infrastructures and services will be required if detailed field-based studies such as geological mapping, trenching, or drilling need to be conducted following the delineation of potential targets requiring field verifications and / or investigations:

- (i) External and internal roads network: The Proponent will use the already existing external and internal road networks during the exploration phase (Fig 1.2).
- (ii) Water supply: Raw water will be sourced from local groundwater resources (Fig. 1.6). The Proponent will utilise the existing boreholes with permission from the landowners. The exploration activities such as drilling operations will require limited water resources which could also be supplied by a tanker truck.
- (iii) Energy: The proposed exploration operations will use diesels and solar energy as may be required for exploration equipment and lighting, respectively, and.
- (iv) Accommodation and other supporting facilities and services: The exploration team will utilise the exiting accommodation facilities and services in the area. In absence of such facilities and services, the Proponent will provide onsite camping accommodation and supporting portable infrastructures such as chemical toilets as well as other requirements as may be applicable. The establishment of an exploration camp will only be done with the permission of the landowner.

If, required, field-based exploration activities will only be conducted once an Access Agreement has been concluded with the affected landowner/s.

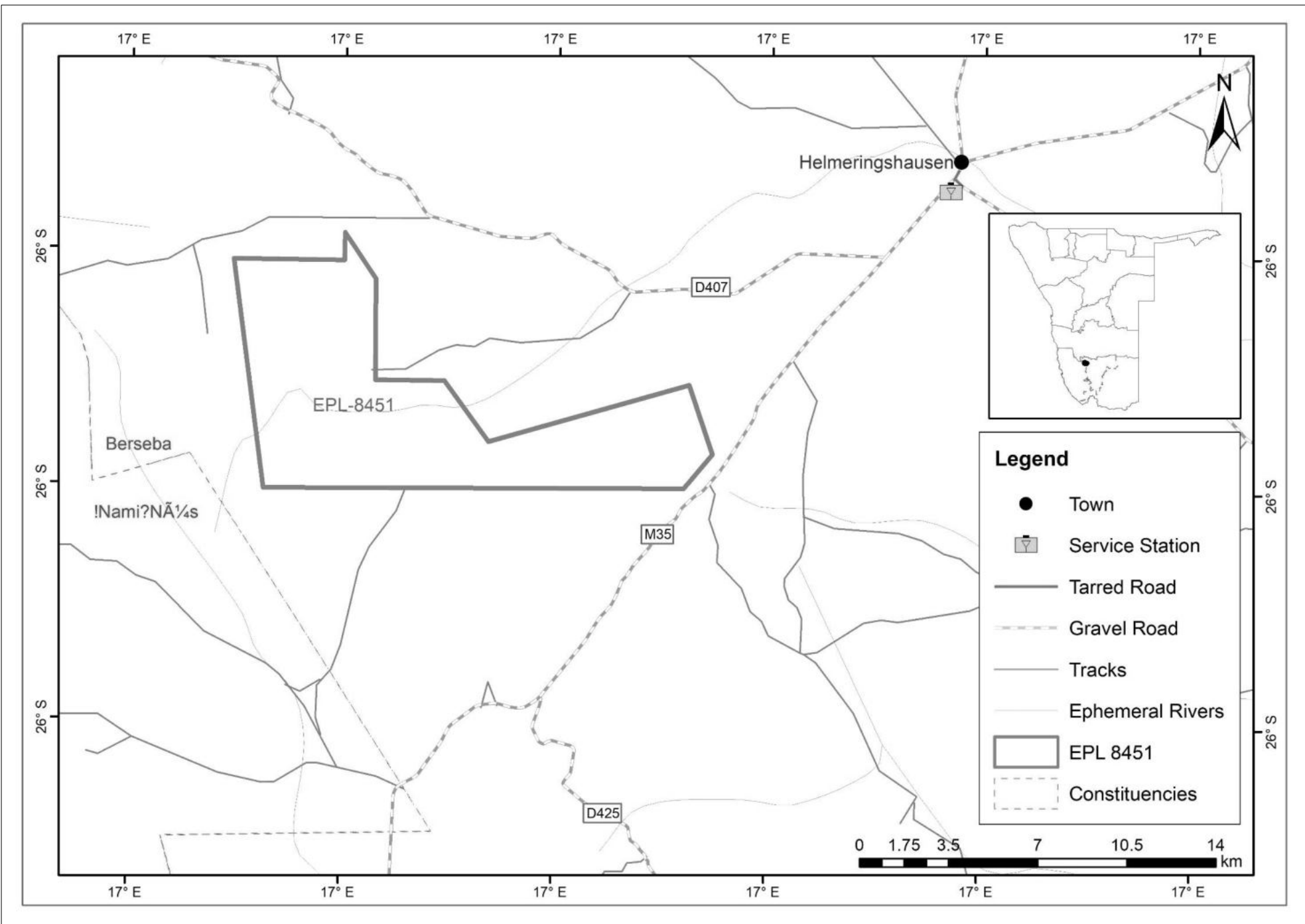


Figure 1.1: Detailed regional location of the EPL 8451 and related infrastructure.

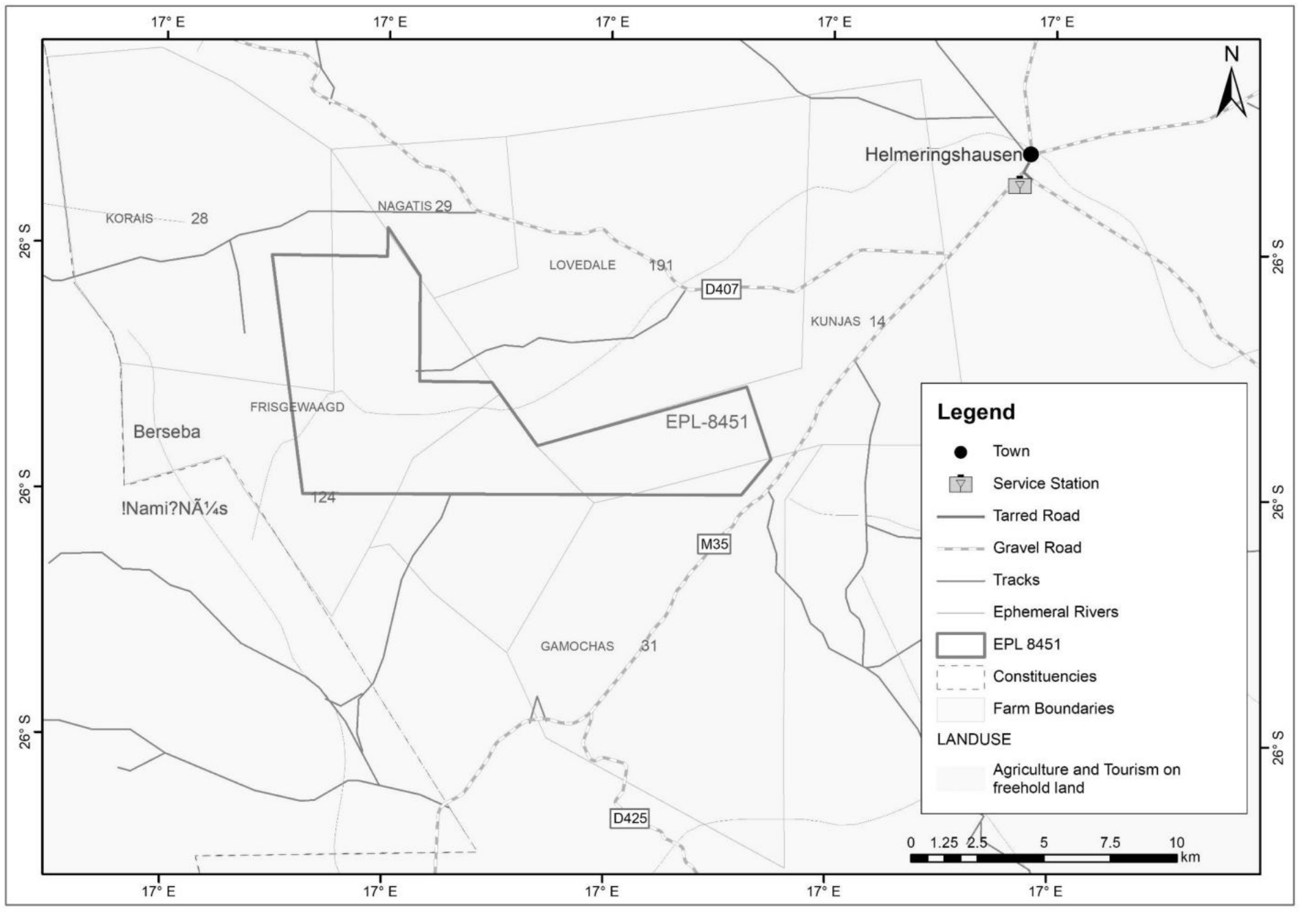


Figure 1.2: Commercial farms and associated land use within and around EPL 8451.

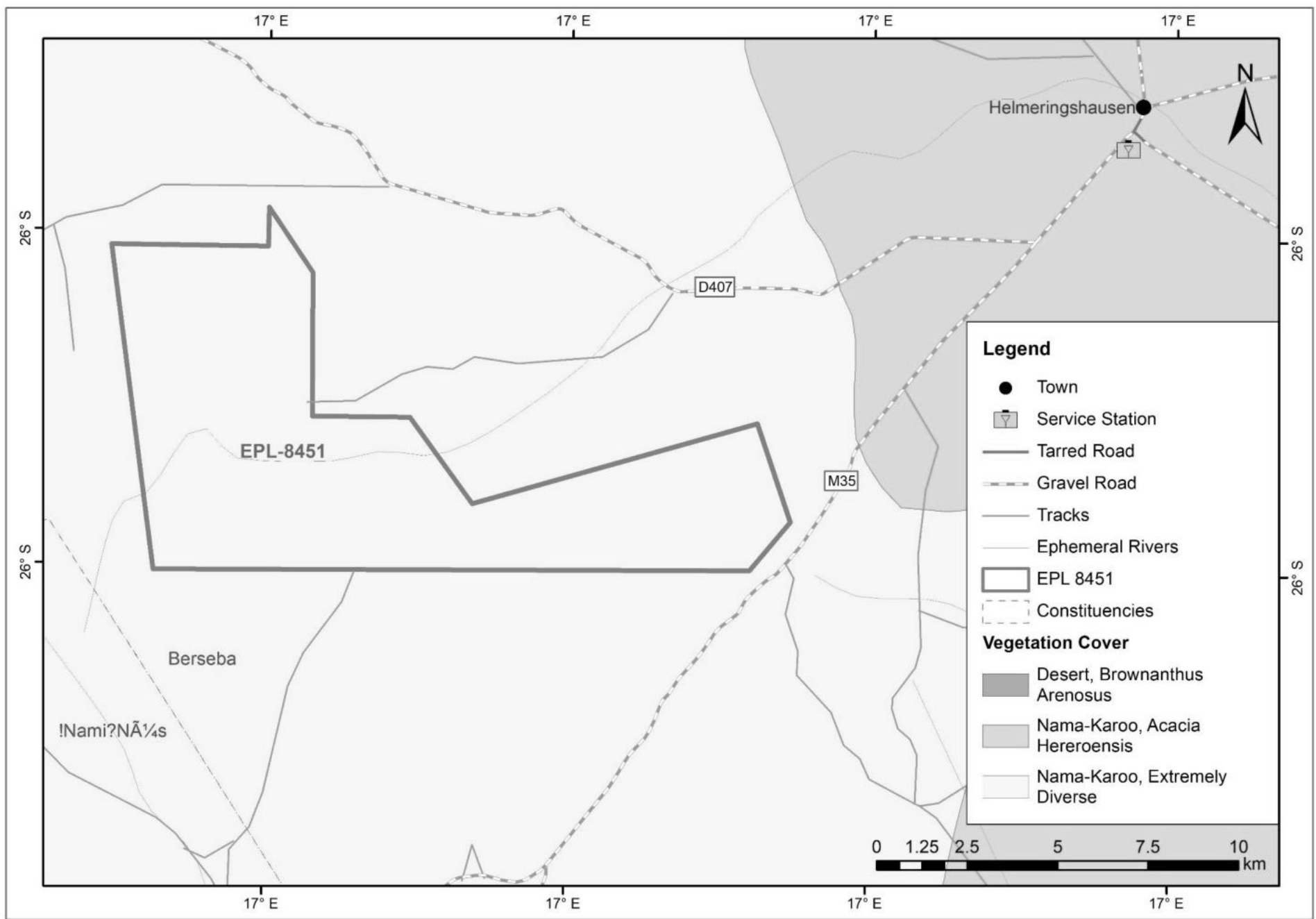


Figure 1.3: Vegetation cover found within and around the EPL No. 8451 area

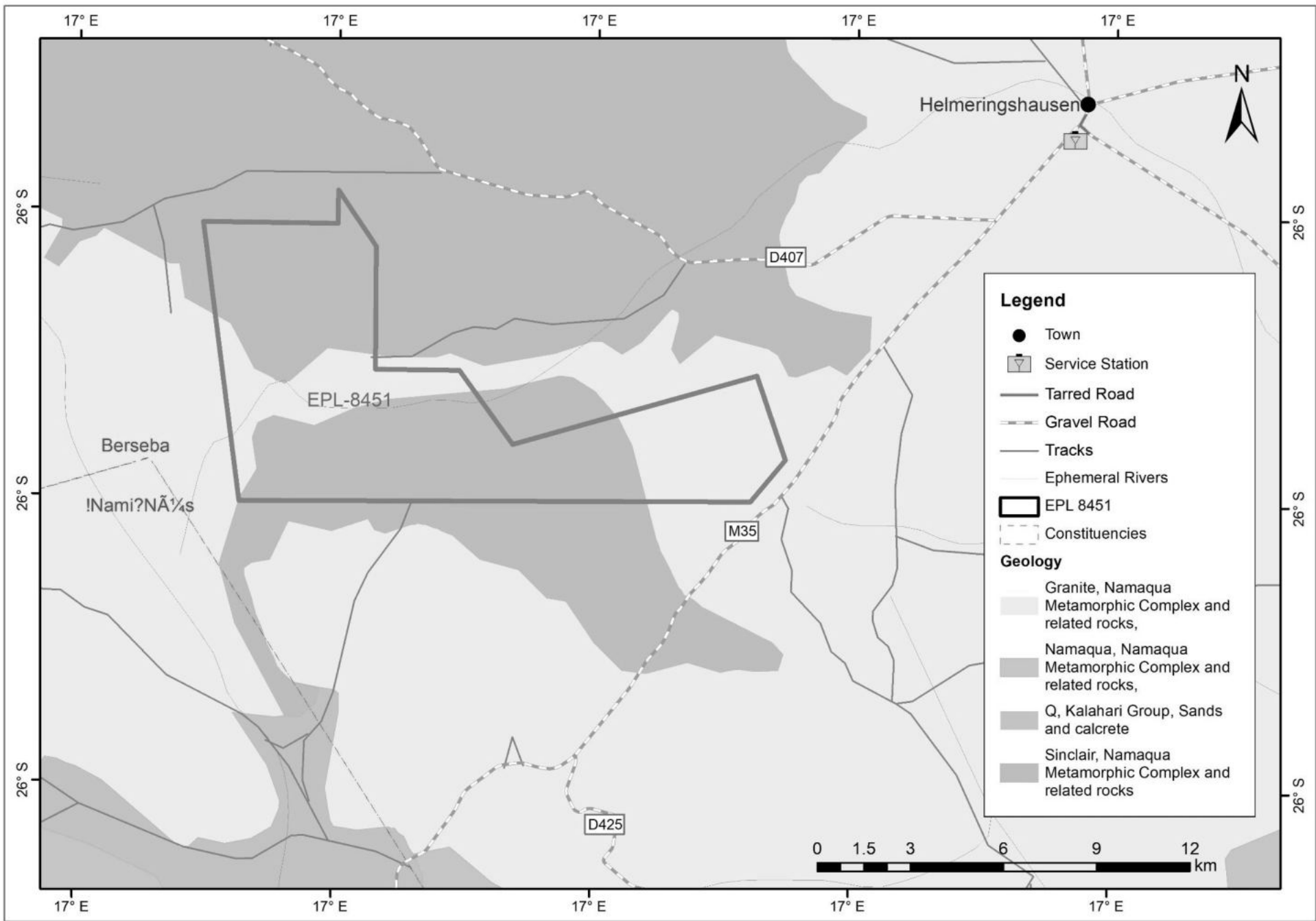


Figure 1.4: Rock types / solid geology found within and around the EPL No. 8541 area.

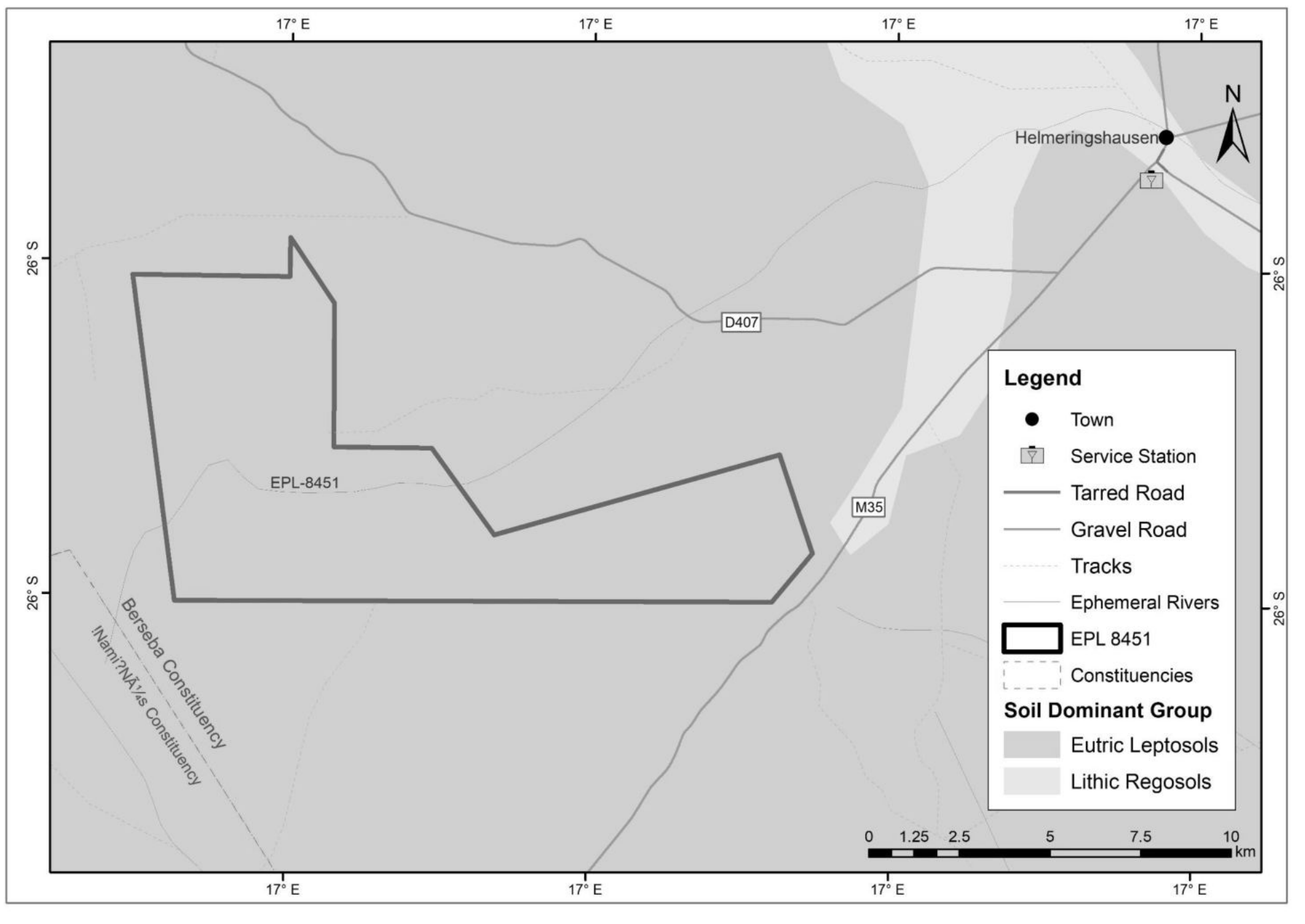


Figure 1.5: Soil types / surficial geology found within and around the EPL No. 8451 area.

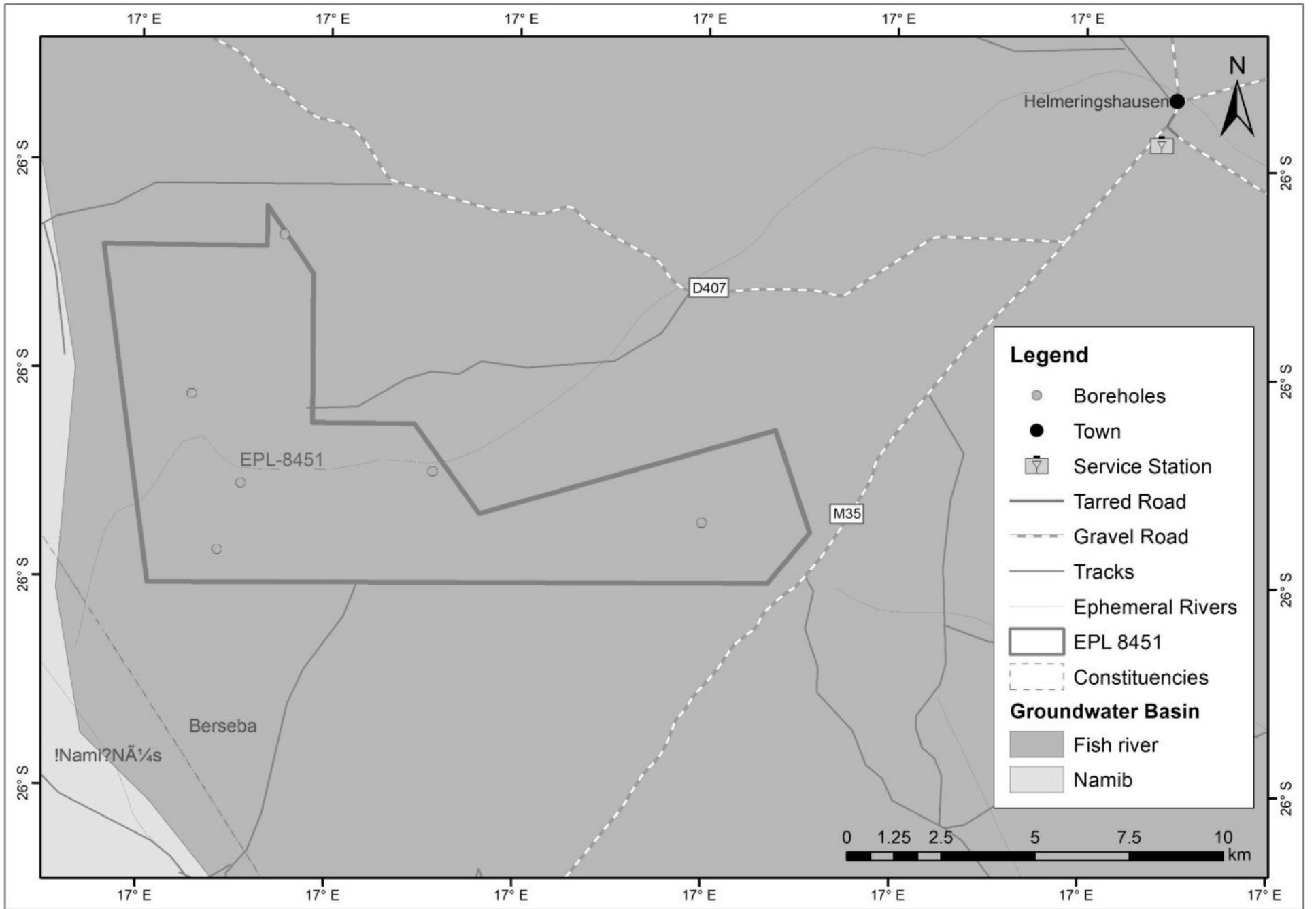


Figure 1.6: Groundwater resources found within and around the EPL No. 8451 area.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES

2.1. Initial Desktop Exploration Activities

Initial desktop exploration activities (without fieldwork being conducted) lasting for up to six (6) months or more will include the following:

- i. General evaluation of satellite, topographic, land tenure, accessibility, supporting infrastructures and socioeconomic environment data.
- ii. Purchase and analysis of existing Government high resolution magnetics and radiometric geophysical data.
- iii. Purchase and analysis of existing Government aerial hyperspectral, and.
- iv. Data interpretation and delineating of potential targets for future reconnaissance regional field-based activities for delineated targets.

2.2. Regional Reconnaissance Field-Based Exploration Activities

Regional reconnaissance field-based exploration activities lasting between six (6) months to year will involve the following:

- i. Regional geological, geochemical, topographical, and remote sensing mapping and data analysis.
- ii. Regional geochemical sampling aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical, and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken.
- iii. Regional geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical, and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken.
- iv. Limited field-based support and logistical activities lasting between one (1) to two (2) days, and.
- v. Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets for future detailed site-specific exploration if the results are positive and supports further exploration of the delineated targets.

2.3. Initial Local Field-Based Exploration Activities

Initial local field-based exploration activities lasting between 1 – 2 years will include the following:

- i. Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during regional reconnaissance field activities.
- ii. Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken.
- iii. Ground geophysical survey (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above).
- iv. Possible Trenching (Subject to the outcomes of i - iii above).
- v. Field-based support and logistical activities will be very limited focus on a site-specific area for a very short time (maximum five (5) days), and.

- vi. Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets.

2.4. Detailed Local Field-Based Exploration Activities

Detailed local field-based exploration activities that can take many years will include the following:

- i. Access preparation and related logistics to support activities.
- ii. Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/sdelineated during the initial field-based activities.
- iii. Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken.
- iv. Ground geophysical survey, trenching, drilling, and sampling (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above).

2.5. Prefeasibility and Feasibility Studies

The preparation of the prefeasibility and feasibility studies forms the final stages of the minerals exploration process and can take many years to complete and prove that a specific mineral deposit is viable for developing a mine. A positive feasibility study outcome is required to support an application for a Mining License (ML). The following is summary of the activities that will form part of a prefeasibility and or feasibility study:

- i. Detailed site-specific field-based support and logistical activities, surveys, detailed geological mapping.
- ii. Detailed drilling and bulk sampling and testing for ore reserve calculations.
- iii. Geotechnical studies for mine design.
- iv. Mine planning and designs including all supporting infrastructures (water, energy, and access) and test mining activities.
- v. EIA and EMP to support the ECC for mining operations, and.
- vi. Preparation of feasibility report and application for Mining License if the feasibility study proves positive and supportive to develop a mining project.

3. REGULATORY AND CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

3.1. Minerals Prospecting and Mining Legislation

The National Legislation governing minerals prospecting and mining activities in Namibia fall under the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) as the Competent Authority (CA) responsible for granting authorisations for subsurface rights. The Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act (No. 33 of 1992) is the most important legal instrument governing minerals prospecting and mining activities in Namibia. A new Bill, to replace the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act (No 33 of 1992) is being prepared and puts more emphasis on good environmental management practices, local participation in the mining industry and promotes value addition as prescribed in the Minerals Policy of 2003.

The Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act (No 33 of 1992) regulates reconnaissance, prospecting (exploration) and mining activities. The Mining Commissioner, appointed by the Minister, is responsible for implementing the provisions of this Act including reporting requirements, environmental obligations as well as the associated regulations such as the Health and Safety Regulations.

3.2. Environmental Assessment Requirements

The proposed prospecting activities are listed in the Environmental Management Act, 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2012 and cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

As part of the conditions for granting the EPL 8451 to the Proponent by the Mining Commissioner in the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME), the Proponent is required to have undertaken environmental assessment comprising Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) or Scoping and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) studies for the proposed minerals prospecting activities to support the application for an ECC.

This Background Information Document (BID) has been prepared to be used as a source of background information for stakeholder and public consultation process required to be undertaken as part of the environmental assessment process. The BID will also be used to register the project with the Environmental Commissioner in the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT).

Following the registration of the project with the Environmental Commissioner, the project will be officially screened by the Environmental Commissioner and feedback will be provided to the Proponent on the types of reports (Scoping or Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP)) and supporting documents to be prepared and submitted in support of the application for ECC with respect to the proposed minerals prospecting in the EPL 8451.

This BID will be followed by the preparation of the Scoping or Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) Reports that will support the application for ECC. All the environmental regulatory authorities responsible for environmental protection and management in relation to the proposed project including their role in regulating environmental protection are listed in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1: Legislation relevant to the proposed prospecting activities in the EPL 8451

LAW	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION
<p>Constitution of the Republic of Namibia, 1990</p>	<p>The Constitution is the supreme law in Namibia, providing for the establishment of the main organs of state (the Executive, the Legislature, and the Judiciary) as well as guaranteeing various fundamental rights and freedoms. Provisions relating to the environment are contained in Chapter 11, article 95, which is entitled “promotion of the Welfare of the People”. This article states that the Republic of Namibia shall – “actively promote and maintain the welfare of the people by adopting, inter alia, policies aimed at ... maintenance of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and biological diversity of Namibia and utilisation of living natural resources on a sustainable basis for all Namibians, both present and future. The Government shall provide measures against the dumping or recycling of foreign nuclear waste on Namibian territory.”</p>
<p>Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act, 1992 Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME)</p>	<p>The Minerals Act governs minerals prospecting and mining. The Act <i>provides for the reconnaissance, prospecting, and mining for, and disposal of, and the exercise of control over minerals in Namibia. and to provide for matters incidental thereto. A new Minerals Bills is currently under preparation.</i></p>
<p>Environmental Management Act (2007) - Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT)</p>	<p>The purpose of the Act is <i>to give effect to Article 95(l) and 91(c) of the Namibian Constitution by establishing general principles for the management of the environment and natural resources. to promote the co-ordinated and integrated management of the environment. to give statutory effect to Namibia’s Environmental Assessment Policy. to enable the Minister of Environment and Tourism to give effect to Namibia’s obligations under international conventions.</i> In terms of the legislation it will be possible to exercise control over certain listed development activities and activities within defined sensitive areas. The listed activities in sensitive areas require an Environmental Assessment to be completed before a decision to permit development can be taken. The legislation describes the circumstances requiring Environmental Assessments. Activities listed as per the provisions of the Act will require Environmental Assessment unless the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, in consultation with the relevant Competent Authority, determines otherwise and approves the exception.</p>
<p>Water Act 54 of 1956 Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land reform (MAWLR)</p>	<p>This Act provides for the control, conservation and use of water for domestic, agricultural, urban, and industrial purposes. In terms of Section 6, there is no right of ownership in public water and its control and use is regulated and provided for in the Act. In accordance with the Act, the proposed project must ensure that mechanisms are implemented to prevent water pollution. Certain permits will also be required to abstract groundwater (already obtained) as well as for “water works”. The broad definition of water works will include the reservoir on Site (as this is greater than 20,000m³), water treatment facilities and pipelines. Due to the water scarcity of the area, all water will be recycled (including domestic wastewater) and the Mine will be operated on a zero-discharge philosophy. It will, therefore, not be necessary to obtain permits for discharge of effluent.</p> <p>Section 23 of the Act requires environment rehabilitation after closure of the Mine, particularly, in this instance to obviate groundwater pollution and potential pollution resulting from run-off. This Act is due to be replaced by the Water Resources Management Act 24 of 2004.</p>
<p><i>Forest Act 12 of 2001</i> Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT)</p>	<p>The Act provide for the establishment of a Forestry Council and the appointment of certain officials. to consolidate the laws relating to the management and use of forests and forest produce. to provide for the protection of the environment and the control and management of forest fires.</p> <p>Under Part IV Protection of the environment, Section 22(1) of the Act, it is unlawful for any person to: cut, destroy, or remove:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) any vegetation which is on a sand dune or drifting sand or in a gully unless the cutting, destruction or removal is done for the purpose of stabilising the sand or gully or (b) any living tree, bush or shrub growing within 100m of a river, stream, or watercourse. <p>Should either of the above be unavoidable, it will be necessary to obtain a permit from the Ministry. Protected tree species as listed in the Regulations shall not be cut, destroyed, or removed.</p>
<p>Hazardous Substance Ordinance 14 of 1974 Ministry of Health and Social Services</p>	<p>Provisions for hazardous waste are amended in this act as it provides “<i>for the control of substances which may cause injury or ill-health to or death of human beings by reason of their toxic, corrosive, irritant, strongly sensitizing or flammable nature or the generation of pressure thereby in certain circumstances. to provide for the prohibition and control of the importation, sale, use, operation, application, modification, disposal or dumping of such substance. and to provide for matters connected therewith</i>”</p>

LAW	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION
<p>Agricultural (Commercial) Land Reform Act, 1995, Act No.6 of 1995 Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR)</p>	<p>This Act provide for the acquisition of agricultural land by the State for the purposes of land reform and for the allocation of such land to Namibian citizens who do not own or otherwise have the use of any or of adequate agricultural land, and foremost to those Namibian citizens who have been socially, economically or educationally disadvantaged by past discriminatory laws or practices. to vest in the State a preferent right to purchase agricultural land for the purposes of the Act. to provide for the compulsory acquisition of certain agricultural land by the State for the purposes of the Act. to regulate the acquisition of agricultural land by foreign nationals. to establish a Lands Tribunal and determine its jurisdiction. and to provide for matters connected therewith.</p>
<p>Explosives Act 26 of 1956 (as amended in SA to April 1978) - Ministry Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security (MHAISS)</p>	<p>All explosive magazines are to be registered with the Ministry of Mines and Energy as accessory works. In addition, the magazines must be licensed as required by Section 22. The quantity of explosives and the way it is stored must be approved by an inspector. The inspector has powers to enter the premises at any time to conduct inspections regarding the nature of explosive, quantity and the way it is stored. At closure, all explosives are to be disposed of accordingly.</p>
<p>Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Ordinance 11 of 1976. Ministry of Health and Social Services (MHSS)</p>	<p>This regulation sets out principles for <i>the prevention of the pollution of the atmosphere and for matters incidental thereto</i>. Part III of the Act sets out regulations pertaining to atmospheric pollution by smoke. While preventative measures for dust atmospheric pollution are outlined in Part IV and Part V outlines provisions for Atmospheric pollution by gases emitted by vehicles.</p>
<p>The Nature Conservation Ordinance, Ordinance 4 of 1975, Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT)</p>	<p>During the Mine's activities, care must be taken to ensure that protected plant species and the eggs of protected and game bird species are not disturbed or destroyed. If such destruction or disturbance is inevitable, a permit must be obtained in this regard from the Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism. Should the Proponent operate a nursery to propagate indigenous plant species for rehabilitation purposes, a permit will be required. At this stage, however, it is envisaged that this type of activity will be contracted out to encourage small business development.</p>
<p>Labour Act, 1992, Act No. 6 of 1992 as amended in the Labour Act, 2007 (Act No. 11 of 2007 Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation (MLIREC)</p>	<p>The labour Act gives effect to the constitutional commitment of Article 95 (11), to promote and maintain the welfare of the people. This Act is aimed at establishing a <i>comprehensive labour law for all employees. to entrench fundamental labour rights and protections. to regulate basic terms and conditions of employment. to ensure the health, safety and welfare of employees</i> under which provisions are made in chapter 4. <i>Chapter 5 of the act improvises on the protection of employees from unfair labour practice.</i></p>
<p>Petroleum Products and Energy Act 13 of 1990 Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME)</p>	<p>Any consumer installation as envisaged in this Act must be licensed. Appropriate consumer installation certificate will need to be obtained from the Ministry for each fuel installation. The construction of the installation must be designed in such a manner as to prevent environmental contamination.</p> <p>Any certificate holder or other person in control of activities related to any petroleum product is obliged to report any major petroleum product spill (defined as a spill of more than 200l per spill) to the Minister. Such person is also obliged to take all steps as may be necessary in accordance with good petroleum industry practices to clean up the spill. Should this obligation not be met, the Minister is empowered to take steps to clean up the spill and to recover the costs thereof from the person.</p> <p>General conditions apply to all certificates issued. These include conditions relating to petroleum spills and the abandonment of the Site. The regulation further provides that the Minister may impose special conditions relating to the preparation and assessment of environmental assessments and the safe disposal of petroleum products.</p>
<p>National Heritage Act 27 of 2004 Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture (MEAC)</p>	<p>This Act provides provisions for the protection and conservation of places and objects of heritage significance and the registration of such places and objects. The proposed activities will ensure that if any archaeological or paleontological objects, as described in the Act, are found during the implementation of the activities, such a find shall be reported to the Ministry immediately. If necessary, the relevant permits must be obtained before disturbing or destroying any heritage</p>

3.3. Public Consultations

Public consultation and engagement process are part of the environmental assessment process for this project. According to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations No. 30 of 2012 and the Environmental Management Act, (EMA), 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007), a person conducting a public consultation process must give notice to all Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) of the application which is subjected to public consultation.

The EIA Regulations clearly state that potential interested and affected parties must be provided with a reasonable opportunity (21 days) to comment on the application under Section 21(6) of the EIA Regulations.

In line with the provisions of the regulations, the public notices will be published in the local newspapers during the months of **June - July 2022**. Public Notice will be published for two (2) consecutive weeks. The inputs / comments period shall run for twenty-one (21) days or more

The closing date for registration and submission of written objections, comments, inputs to the environmental assessment process is **21st August 2022**. The absence or email and mobile numbers of the landowners, additional efforts will be made to contact the landowners via NamPost Letter boxes provided by the Deed Office.

The application for ECC supported by the Final EIA / Scoping and EMP Reports is expected to be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner in the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism through the Competent Authority, the Mining Commissioner in the Ministry of Mines and Energy during month of **30th August 2022**.

3.4. Aims and Objectives of the Environmental Assessment

The aims and objectives of the Environmental Assessment (EA) covering this BID and the EIA / Scoping and EMP Reports to be recommended by the Environmental Commissioner with respect to the proposed minerals exploration activities in the EPL 8451 area are:

- ❖ To assess the likely positive and negative short and long-term (throughout the proposed exploration programme) impacts on the receiving environment (physical, biological, and socioeconomic environments) at local area (EPL area), regional (Karas Region), national (Namibia) and Global levels using appropriate assessment guidelines, methods and techniques covering the complete project lifecycle.
- ❖ The development of appropriate general mitigation measures that will enhance the positive impacts and reduce the likely negative impacts to be identified or anticipated. Such mitigation measures shall be contained in the EMP Report covering the entire project lifecycle and to be implemented and monitored by the Proponent, and.
- ❖ To support the application for Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the proposed minerals exploration activities.

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE EIA AND EMP PROCESS

4.1. Environmental Assessment Approach

The environmental assessment process adopted for this project took into considerations the provisions the Environmental Management Act, 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and all other applicable national laws and Regulations as summarised in Table 3.1. The summary of the proposed activities, alternatives and key issues to be considered in the Environmental Assessment (EA) process are summarised in Table 4.1.

The EIA / Scoping and EMP process to be undertaken for the proposed minerals explorations activities in the EPL 8451 shall be performed with reasonable skill, care and diligence in accordance with professional standards and practices existing at the date of performance of the assessment and that the guidelines, methods and techniques used and applied in this study shall conform to the national regulatory requirements, process and specifications in Namibia and in particular as required by Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME), Ministry of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism (MEFT) and the client (Proponent). The preparation of the EIA / Scoping and EMP reports shall be undertaken in line with the January 2015 MEFT Environmental Assessment Reporting Guideline.

Table 4.1: Summary of the proposed activities, alternatives, and key issues to be considered during the Environmental Assessment (EA) process covering EIA/ Scoping and EMP phases and in addition to the further inputs that may be provided by the registered stakeholders during the public consultation process.

PROPOSED PROJECT ACTIVITIES	ALTERNATIVES TO BE CONSIDERED	KEY ISSUES TO BE EVALUATED AND ASSESSED WITH ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (EMP) / MITIGATION MEASURES DEVELOPED		
(i) Initial desktop exploration activities (review of existing information and all previous activities in order identify any potential target/s in each EPL). (ii) Regional reconnaissance field-based activities such as regional mapping and sampling to identify and verify potential targeted areas based on the recommendations of the desktop work undertaken under (i) above. (iii) Initial local field-based activities such as widely spaced mapping, sampling, surveying and possible trenching and drilling to determine the viability of any delineated local target, and. (iv) Detailed local field-based activities such very detailed mapping, trenching, bulk sampling, surveying and detailed drilling to determine the feasibility of any delineated local target and conduct test mining activities.	(i) Location for Minerals Occurrence: Several economic deposits are known to exist in different parts of Namibia and some have been explored by different companies over the years. The proponent intends to explore / prospect for possible economic minerals occurrence in the EPL area as licensed. (ii) Other Alternative Land Uses: Game farming, tourism and agriculture (iii) Ecosystem Function (What the ecosystem does). (iv) Ecosystem Services. (v) Use Values. (vi) Non-Use, or Passive Use. (vii) The No-Action Alternative (viii) Others to be identified during the public consultation process and preparation of the EIA and EMP Reports	Potential land use conflicts / opportunities for coexistence between proposed exploration and other existing land uses such as conservation, tourism and agriculture		
			Impacts on the Physical Environment	Natural Environment such as air, noise, water, dust etc.
				Built Environment such as existing houses, roads, transport systems, Buildings, energy and water and other supporting infrastructure
		Socioeconomic, archaeological, and cultural impacts on the local societies and communities		
		Impacts on the Biological Environment	Flora	
			Fauna	
			Habitat Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use	
		Others to be identified during the public consultation process and preparation of the EIA and EMP Reports		

4.2. EIA/ Scoping and EMP Process

4.2.1. Summary of the Steps

The EIA/ Scoping and EMP process used for this project took into considerations the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2012 and the Environmental Management Act (EMA), 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) as outlined in Fig. 4.1.

The environmental assessment steps undertaken or still to be taken are summarised as follows (Fig. 4.1):

- i. Project screening process was undertaken in **June 2022**.
- ii. Draft Background Information Document (BID) and Public Notice were prepared in **June 2022**).
- iii. Opened the Stakeholder register (**Undertaken on the August 2022**).
- iv. Public and stakeholder consultations process including publishing of notices once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks in at least two (2) newspapers circulated widely in Namibia. The inputs / comments period shall run for twenty-one (21) days or more- To be Undertaken in April and May 2022.
- v. Closing date for submission of comments/ inputs to the environmental assessment process - **July 2022**.
- vi. Preparation of the Draft EIA/ Scoping and EMP Reports for client review, public and stakeholder inputs (**To be Undertaken in July 2022 – August 2022**).
- vii. Comments and inputs from the client and I&APs consultations used to finalise the EIA / Scoping and EMP Reports (**To be Undertaken in July 2022 – August 2022**), and
- viii. The final EIA/ Scoping and EMP reports to be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner in MEFT through the MME (Competent Authority) in fulfilment of all the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations No. 30 of 2012 and the Environmental Management Act, (EMA), 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) for application of the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the proposed project (**30th August 2022**).
- ix. Following the submission of the application for ECC to the Environmental Commissioner, the public and stakeholders who are interested or affected by the proposed project will have additional **fourteen (14) days** to submit comments / inputs about the proposed project activities direct to the Environmental Commissioner when the application will be made available for additional comments / inputs by the Environmental Commissioner on the MEFT digital Portal www.eia.met.gov.na, and.
- x. Wait for the Records or Decisions (RDs) from the Environmental Commissioner (From **30th August 2022**).

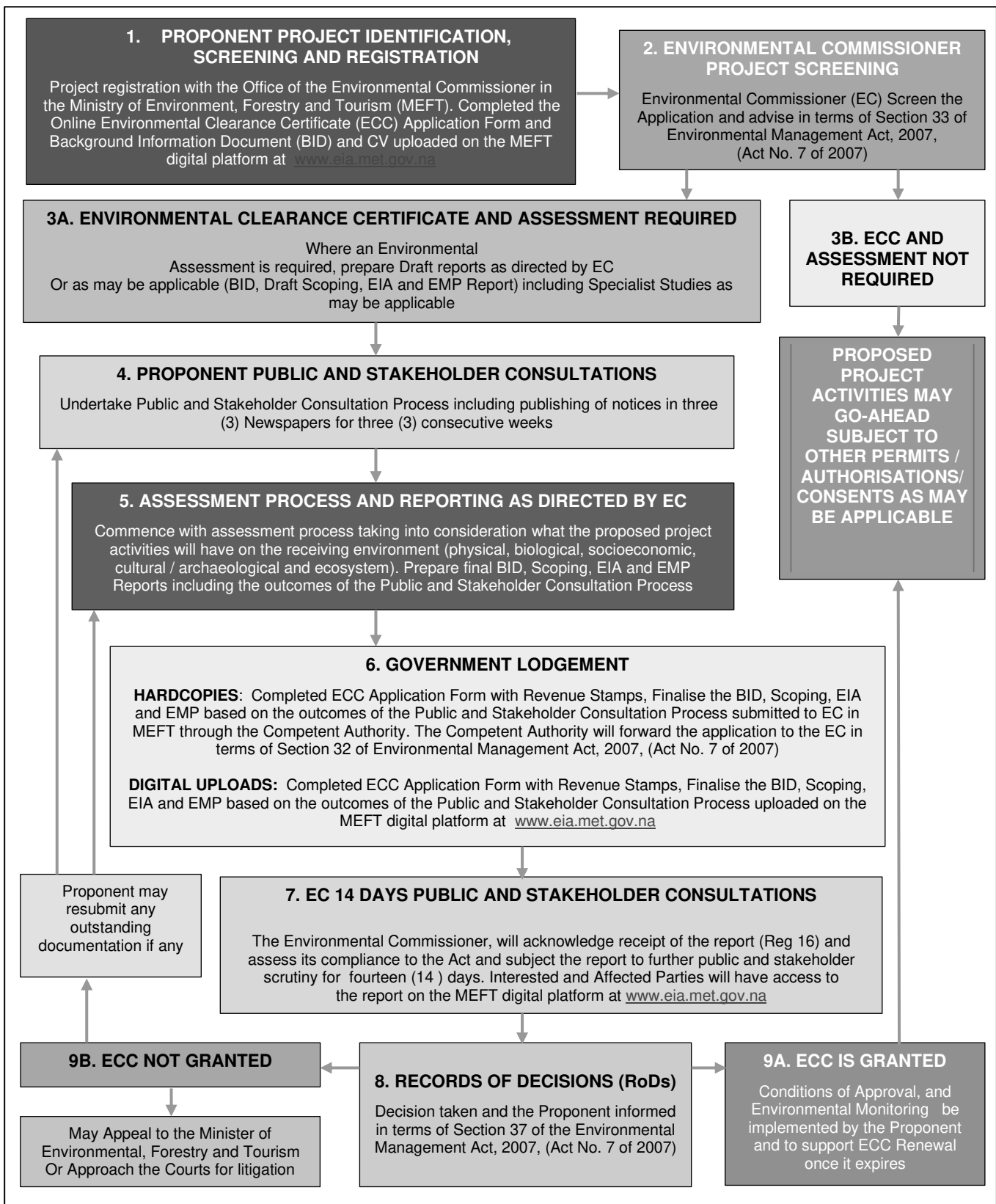


Figure 4.1: RBS Schematic presentation of Namibia's Environmental Assessment Procedure.

4.2.2. Assumptions and Limitations

The following assumptions and limitations underpin the approach adopted, overall outcomes and recommendations of the environmental assessment process:

- i. The proposed activities as well as all the plans, maps, EPL area, line boundary /coordinates, and appropriate data sets received from the Proponent, project partners, regulators, Competent Authorities, and specialist consultants are assumed to be current and valid at the time of conducting the studies and preparation of this report.
- ii. In absence of any site-specific local minerals target/s within the EPL area, no field-based assessments will be undertaken and the desktop impact assessment outcomes, mitigation measures and recommendations provided in the EIA/ Scoping and EMP Reports shall be valid for the lifecycle of the proposed prospecting activities only. If a potential minerals target/s is / are identified, site-specific field-based environmental studies shall be conducted as part of the site-specific exploration process leading to prefeasibility and feasibility studies to support the application for a Mining License (ML) and ECC for mining operations.
- iii. A precautionary approach has been adopted in instances where baseline information and impact assessment guidelines were insufficient or unavailable or site-specific project activities were not yet available, and.
- iv. Mandatory timeframes as provided for in the EIA Regulations No. 30 of 2012 and the EMA, 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) have been observed.

4.3. Impacts Assessment Process

4.3.1. Evaluation of Impacts

In assessing the likely impacts that the proposed project activities (proposed minerals exploration) will have on the physical, biological, socioeconomic, cultural / archaeological environments and ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-use or passive use, the proposed exploration activities have been considered as the key sources of both negative and positive impacts. In evaluating the degree of potential impacts, the following factors will be taken into consideration:

- (i) Impact Severity: The severity of an impact is a function of a range of considerations.
- (ii) Likelihood of Occurrence (Probability): How likely is the impact to occur?

In evaluating the severity of potential environmental impacts, the following factors must be taken into consideration:

- ❖ Receptor/ Resource characteristics: The nature, importance, and sensitivity to change of thereceptors / target or resources that could be affected.
- ❖ Impact Magnitude: The magnitude of the change that is induced.
- ❖ Impact Duration: The time period over which the impact is expected to last.
- ❖ Impact Extent: The geographical extent of the induced change, and.
- ❖ Regulations, Standards and Guidelines: The status of the impact in relation to regulations (e.g., discharge limits), standards (e.g., environmental quality criteria) and guidelines.

The overall impact severity has been categorised using a subjective scale as shown in Table 4.2 for magnitude, Table 4.3 for duration and Table 4.4 for extent.

Table 4.2: Scored on a scale from 0 to 5 for impact magnitude.

SCALE (-) or (+)	DESCRIPTION
0	No observable effect
1	Low effect
2	Tolerable effect
3	Medium high effect
4	High effect
5	Very high effect (devastation)

Table 4.3: Scored time period over which the impact is expected to last.

SCALE (-) or (+)	DESCRIPTION
T	Temporary
P	Permanent

Table 4.4: Scored geographical extent of the induced change.

SCALE (-) or (+)	DESCRIPTION
L	Limited impact on location
O	Impact of importance for municipality.
R	Impact of regional character
N	Impact of national character
M	Impact of cross-border character

4.3.2. Likelihood (Probability) of Occurrence

The likelihood (probability) of the pre-identified events occurring has been ascribed using a qualitative scale of probability categories (in increasing order of likelihood) as shown in Table 4.5. Likelihood is estimated on the basis of experience and/ or evidence that such an outcome has previously occurred. Impacts resulting from routine/planned events (normal operations) are classified under category (E).

Table 4.5: Summary of the qualitative scale of probability categories (in increasing order of likelihood)

SCALE (-) or (+)	DESCRIPTION
A	Extremely unlikely (e.g. never heard of in the industry)
B	Unlikely (e.g. heard of in the industry but considered unlikely)
C	Low likelihood (egg such incidents/impacts have occurred but are uncommon)
D	Medium likelihood (e.g. such incidents/impacts occur several times per year within the industry)
E	High likelihood (e.g. such incidents/impacts occurs several times per year at each location where such works are undertaken)

4.3.3. Proposed Project Activities as Sources of Impacts

The results of the impacts assessment and evaluation will adopt a matrix framework like the Leopold matrix. Assessment results of the magnitude, duration, extent, and probability of the potential impacts due to the proposed project activities interacting with the receiving environment will be presented in form of a matrix table as shown in Tables 4.6 – 4.9.

The overall severity of potential environmental impacts of the proposed project activities on the receiving environment will assess the impact magnitude (Table 4.6), duration (Table 4.7), extent (Table 4.8) and probability of occurrence (Table 4.9) with respect to the proposed activities and the use of step progression

approach in advancing exploration.

The step progressional approach will allow the Proponent to assess the results of exploration success and the implementation of the next stage of exploration will be subject to the positive outcomes of previous activities as graded (Tables 4.6 – 4.9).

It is important to note that the assessment of the likely impacts as shown in Tables 4.5 – 4.8, will be considered without the implementation of mitigation measures.

The need for implementation of the appropriate mitigation measures as presented in EMP report will be based on the results of the significant impact assessment as detailed in Table 4.10.

Table 4.6: Example results presentation framework of the sensitivity assessment of the receptors (Physical, Socioeconomic and Biological environments) with respect to the proposed exploration / prospecting activities.

RECEPTOR SENSITIVITY			PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT					BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT				SOCIOECONOMIC, CULTURAL, AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT						
SENSITIVITY RATING		CRITERIA	Water Quality	Physical Infrastructure and Resources	Air Quality, Noise and Dust	Landscape Topography	Soil Quality	Climate Change Influences	Habitat	Protected Areas	Flora	Fauna	Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use	Local, regional, and national socioeconomic settings	Commercial Agriculture	Community Protected Areas	Tourism and Recreation	Cultural, Biological and Archaeological Resources
1	Negligible	The receptor or resource is resistant to change or is of little environmental value.																
2	Low	The receptor or resource is tolerant of change without detriment to its character, is of low environmental or social value, or is of local importance.																
3	Medium	The receptor or resource has low capacity to absorb change without fundamentally altering its present character, is of high environmental or social value, or is of national importance																
4	High	The receptor or resource has moderate capacity to absorb change without significantly altering its present character, has some environmental or social value, or is of district/regional importance.																
5	Very High	The receptor or resource has little or no capacity to absorb change without fundamentally altering its present character, is of very high environmental or social value, or is of international importance.																
1. Initial Desktop Exploration Activities	(i)	General evaluation of satellite, topographic, land tenure, accessibility, supporting infrastructures and socioeconomic environment data																
	(ii)	Purchase and analysis of existing Government high resolution magnetics and radiometric geophysical data																
	(iii)	Purchase and analysis of existing Government aerial hyperspectral																
	(iv)	Data interpretation and delineating of potential targets for future reconnaissance regional field-based activities for delineated targets																
2. Regional Reconnaissance Field- Based Activities	(i)	Regional geological, geochemical, topographical and remote sensing mapping and data analysis																
	(ii)	Regional geochemical sampling aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken																
	(iii)	Regional geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken																
	(iv)	Limited field-based support and logistical activities including exploration camp site lasting between one (1) to two (2) days																
	(v)	Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets for future detailed site- specific exploration if the results are positive and supports further exploration of the delineated targets																

Table 4.6

Cont.

RECEPTOR SENSITIVITY			PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT						BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT				SOCIOECONOMIC, CULTURAL, AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT					
SENSITIVITY RATING		CRITERIA	Water Quality	Physical infrastructure and Resources	Air Quality, Noise and Dust	Landscape Topography	Soil Quality	Climate Change Influences	Habitat	Protected Areas	Flora	Fauna	Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use	Local, regional and national socioeconomic settings	Commercial Agriculture	Community Protected Areas	Tourism and Recreation	Cultural, Biological and Archaeological Resources
1	Negligible	The receptor or resource is resistant to change or is of little environmental value.																
2	Low	The receptor or resource is tolerant of change without detriment to its character, is of low environmental or social value, or is of local importance.																
3	Medium	The receptor or resource has low capacity to absorb change without fundamentally altering its present character, is of high environmental or social value, or is of national importance																
4	High	The receptor or resource has moderate capacity to absorb change without significantly altering its present character, has some environmental or social value, or is of district/regional importance.																
5	Very High	The receptor or resource has little or no capacity to absorb change without fundamentally altering its present character, is of very high environmental or social value, or is of international importance.																
3. Initial Local Field-Based Activities	(i) Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during regional reconnaissance field activities																	
	(ii) Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken																	
	(iii) Ground geophysical survey (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above)																	
	(iv) Possible Trenching (Subject to the outcomes of i - iii above)																	
	(v) Field-based support and logistical activities will be very limited focus on a site-specific area for a very short time (maximum five (5) days)																	
	(vi) Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets																	
4. Detailed Local Field-Based Activities	(i) Access preparation and related logistics to support activities																	
	(ii) Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during the initial field-based activities																	
	(iii) Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken																	
	(iv) Ground geophysical survey, trenching, drilling and sampling (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above).																	
5. Prefeasibility and Feasibility Studies	(i) Detailed site-specific field-based support and logistical activities, surveys, detailed geological mapping																	
	(ii) Detailed drilling and bulk sampling and testing for ore reserve calculations																	
	(iii) Geotechnical studies for mine design																	
	(iv) Mine planning and designs including all supporting infrastructures (water, energy and access) and test mining activities																	
	(v) EIA and EMP to support the ECC for mining operations																	
	(vi) Preparation of feasibility report and application for Mining License																	

Table 4.7: Example results presentation framework of the scored time (duration) over which the impact is expected to last.

RECEPTOR SENSITIVITY		PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT					BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT					SOCIOECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT							
SCALE		DESCRIPTION		Water Quality	Physical Infrastructure and Resources	Air Quality, Noise and Dust	Landscape Topography	Soil Quality	Climate Change Influences	Habitat	Protected Areas	Flora	Fauna	Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use	Local, regional and national socioeconomic settings	Commercial Agriculture	Community Protected Areas	Tourism and Recreation	Cultural, Biological and Archaeological Resources
T		Temporary																	
P		Permanent																	
1. Initial Desktop Exploration Activities	(i) General evaluation of satellite, topographic, land tenure, accessibility, supporting infrastructures and socioeconomic environment data																		
	(ii) Purchase and analysis of existing Government high resolution magnetics and radiometric geophysical data																		
	(iii) Purchase and analysis of existing Government aerial hyperspectral																		
	(iv) Data interpretation and delineating of potential targets for future reconnaissance regional field-based activities for delineated targets																		
2. Regional Reconnaissance Field- Based Activities	(i) Regional geological, geochemical, topographical and remote sensing mapping and data analysis																		
	(ii) Regional geochemical sampling aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken																		
	(iii) Regional geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken																		
	(iv) Limited field-based support and logistical activities including exploration camp site lasting between one (1) to two (2) days																		
	(v) Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets for future detailed site-specific exploration if the results are positive and supports further exploration of the delineated targets																		

Table 4.7:

Cont.

DURATION OF IMPACT		PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT					BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT				SOCIOECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT						
SCALE	DESCRIPTION	Water Quality	Physical infrastructure and Resources	Air Quality, Noise and Dust	Landscape Topography	Soil Quality	Climate Change Influences	Habitat	Protected Areas	Flora	Fauna	Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use	Local, regional and national socioeconomic settings	Commercial Agriculture	Community Protected Areas	Tourism and Recreation	Cultural, Biological and Archaeological Resources
T	Temporary																
P	Permanent																
3. Initial Local Field-Based Activities	(i) Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during regional reconnaissance field activities																
	(ii) Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken																
	(iii) Ground geophysical survey (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above)																
	(iv) Possible Trenching (Subject to the outcomes of i - iii above)																
	(v) Field-based support and logistical activities will be very limited focus on a site-specific area for a very short time (maximum five (5) days)																
	(vi) Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets																
4. Detailed Local Field-Based Activities	(i) Access preparation and related logistics to support activities																
	(ii) Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during the initial field-based activities																
	(iii) Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken																
	(iv) Ground geophysical survey, trenching, drilling and sampling (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above).																
5. Prefeasibility and Feasibility Studies	(i) Detailed site-specific field-based support and logistical activities, surveys, detailed geological mapping																
	(ii) Detailed drilling and bulk sampling and testing for ore reserve calculations																
	(iii) Geotechnical studies for mine design																
	(iv) Mine planning and designs including all supporting infrastructures (water, energy and access) and test mining activities																
	(v) EIA and EMP to support the ECC for mining operations																
	(vi) Preparation of feasibility report and application for Mining License																

Table 4.8: Example results presentation framework of the scored geographical extent of the induced change.

GEOGRAPHICAL EXTENT OF IMPACT			PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT					BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT					SOCIOECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT					
SCALE		DESCRIPTION	Water Quality	Physical Infrastructure and Resources	Air Quality, Noise and Dust	Landscape Topography	Soil Quality	Climate Change Influences	Habitat	Protected Areas	Flora	Fauna	Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use	Local, regional and national socioeconomic settings	Commercial Agriculture	Community Protected Areas	Tourism and Recreation	Cultural, Biological and Archaeological Resources
L		limited impact on location																
O		impact of importance for municipality																
R		impact of regional character																
N		impact of national character																
M		impact of cross-border character																
1. Initial Desktop Exploration Activities	(i) General evaluation of satellite, topographic, land tenure, accessibility, supporting infrastructures and socioeconomic environment data																	
	(ii) Purchase and analysis of existing Government high resolution magnetics and radiometric geophysical data																	
	(iii) Purchase and analysis of existing Government aerial hyperspectral																	
	(iv) Data interpretation and delineating of potential targets for future reconnaissance regional field-based activities for delineated targets																	
2. Regional Reconnaissance Field- Based Activities	(i) Regional geological, geochemical, topographical and remote sensing mapping and data analysis																	
	(ii) Regional geochemical sampling aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken																	
	(iii) Regional geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken																	
	(iv) Limited field-based support and logistical activities including exploration camp site lasting between one (1) to two (2) days																	
	(v) Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets for future detailed site- specific exploration if the results are positive and supports further exploration of the delineated targets																	

Table 4.8:

Conti.

GEOGRAPHICAL EXTENT OF IMPACT			PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT					BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT				SOCIOECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT							
SCALE	DESCRIPTION		Water Quality	Physical infrastructure and Resources	Air Quality, Noise and Dust	Landscape Topography	Soil Quality	Climate Change Influences	Habitat	Protected Areas	Flora	Fauna	Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use	Local, regional and national socioeconomic settings	Commercial Agriculture	Community Protected Areas	Tourism and Recreation	Cultural, Biological and Archaeological Resources	
L	limited impact on location																		
O	impact of importance for municipality																		
R	impact of regional character																		
N	impact of national character																		
M	impact of cross-border character																		
3. Initial Local Field-Based Activities	(i) Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during regional reconnaissance field activities																		
	(ii) Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken																		
	(iii) Ground geophysical survey (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above)																		
	(iv) Possible Trenching (Subject to the outcomes of i - iii above)																		
	(v) Field-based support and logistical activities will be very limited focus on a site-specific area for a very short time (maximum five (5) days)																		
	(vi) Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets																		
4. Detailed Local Field-Based Activities	(i) Access preparation and related logistics to support activities																		
	(ii) Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during the initial field-based activities																		
	(iii) Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken																		
	(iv) Ground geophysical survey, trenching, drilling and sampling (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above).																		
5. Prefeasibility and Feasibility Studies	(i) Detailed site-specific field-based support and logistical activities, surveys, detailed geological mapping																		
	(ii) Detailed drilling and bulk sampling and testing for ore reserve calculations																		
	(iii) Geotechnical studies for mine design																		
	(iv) Mine planning and designs including all supporting infrastructures (water, energy and access) and test mining activities																		
	(v) EIA and EMP to support the ECC for mining operations																		
	(vi) Preparation of feasibility report and application for Mining License																		

Table 4.9: Example results presentation framework of the qualitative scale of probability occurrence.

IMPACT PROBABILITY OCCURRENCE		PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT					BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT					SOCIOECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT							
SCALE		DESCRIPTION		Water Quality	Physical Infrastructure and Resources	Air Quality, Noise and Dust	Landscape Topography	Soil Quality	Climate Change Influences	Habitat	Protected Areas	Flora	Fauna	Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use	Local, regional and national socioeconomic settings	Commercial Agriculture	Community Protected Areas	Tourism and Recreation	Cultural, Biological and Archaeological Resources
A		Extremely unlikely (e.g. never heard of in the industry)																	
B		Unlikely (e.g. heard of in the industry but considered unlikely)																	
C		Low likelihood (egg such incidents/impacts have occurred but are uncommon)																	
D		Medium likelihood (e.g. such incidents/impacts occur several times per year within the industry)																	
E		High likelihood (e.g. such incidents/impacts occurs several times per year at each location where such works are undertaken)																	
1. Initial Desktop Exploration Activities	(i)	General evaluation of satellite, topographic, land tenure, accessibility, supporting infrastructures and socioeconomic environment data																	
	(ii)	Purchase and analysis of existing Government high resolution magnetics and radiometric geophysical data																	
	(iii)	Purchase and analysis of existing Government aerial hyperspectral																	
	(iv)	Data interpretation and delineating of potential targets for future reconnaissance regional field-based activities for delineated targets																	
2. Regional Reconnaissance Field- Based Activities	(i)	Regional geological, geochemical, topographical and remote sensing mapping and data analysis																	
	(ii)	Regional geochemical sampling aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken																	
	(iii)	Regional geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken																	
	(iv)	Limited field-based support and logistical activities including exploration camp site lasting between one (1) to two (2) days																	
	(v)	Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets for future detailed site- specific exploration if the results are positive and supports further exploration of the delineated targets																	

Table 4.9: Cont.

IMPACT PROBABILITY OCCURRENCE		PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT					BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT					SOCIOECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT					
SCALE	DESCRIPTION	Water Quality	Physical infrastructure and Resources	Air Quality, Noise and Dust	Landscape Topography	Soil Quality	Climate Change Influences	Habitat	Protected Areas	Flora	Fauna	Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use	Local, regional and national socioeconomic settings	Commercial Agriculture	Community Protected Areas	Tourism and Recreation	Cultural, Biological and Archaeological Resources
A	Extremely unlikely (e.g. never heard of in the industry)																
B	Unlikely (e.g. heard of in the industry but considered unlikely)																
C	Low likelihood (egg such incidents/impacts have occurred but are uncommon)																
D	Medium likelihood (e.g. such incidents/impacts occur several times per year within the industry)																
E	High likelihood (e.g. such incidents/impacts occurs several times per year at each location where such works are undertaken)																
3. Initial Local Field-Based Activities	(i) Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during regional reconnaissance field activities																
	(ii) Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted basedon the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken																
	(iii) Ground geophysical survey (Subject to the positive outcomes of i andii above)																
	(iv) Possible Trenching (Subject to the outcomes of i - iii above)																
	(v) Field-based support and logistical activities will be very limited focus ona site-specific area for a very short time (maximum five (5) days)																
	(vi) Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets																
4. Detailed Local Field-Based Activities	(i) Access preparation and related logistics to support activities																
	(ii) Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during the initial field-based activities																
	(iii) Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted basedon the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken																
	(iv) Ground geophysical survey, trenching, drilling and sampling (Subject tothe positive outcomes of i and ii above).																
5. Prefeasibility and Feasibility Studies	(i) Detailed site-specific field-based support and logistical activities, surveys, detailed geological mapping																
	(ii) Detailed drilling and bulk sampling and testing for ore reserve calculations																
	(iii) Geotechnical studies for mine design																
	(iv) Mine planning and designs including all supporting infrastructures(water, energy and access) and test mining activities																
	(v) EIA and EMP to support the ECC for mining operations																
	(vi) Preparation of feasibility report and application for Mining License																

4.3.4. Assessment of the Overall Significant Impacts

4.2.4.1 Overview

The determination of the significance of the negative impacts of the sources shall be undertaken based on the environmental baseline results and the intensity of the likely negative impact posed by the proposed activities. The assessment will be dependent upon the degree to which the proposed activities are likely to result in unwanted consequences on the receptor covering the natural environment such as the physical, biological, socioeconomic, cultural, and archaeological environments. Overall, the assessment of significant impacts will focus on the ecosystem-based approach that considers potential impacts to the ecosystem as part of the receiving environment.

4.3.4.2 Summary of the Sources of Impacts

The main key sources of impacts that will be used to determine significant impact posed by the proposed exploration activities comprises all the activities associated with field-based activities such as trenching and drilling as well as the supporting campsite in the absence of any suitable accommodation or existing camping facility nearby. Each of the main sources of impacts will be evaluated against the receiving environment (receptor / pathways) (Table 4.10).

4.3.4.3 Determination of the Overall Likely Significant Impacts

To determine the overall significant impact of individual sources associated with the proposed exploration activities, an impact identification and assessment process will be undertaken as part of the EIA Process. The results of the overall likely significant impacts and key issues associated with the proposed activities / sources, exploration and supporting activities will be presented in form of matrix table as shown in Table 4.10.

The impact identification and assessment processes will focus on the receiving environment (Physical, Biological and Socioeconomic) interaction approach with respect to the proposed project activities (exploration activities), the pathways and the likely targets or receptor that may be negatively impacted. In this process, components of the project activities that are likely to impact the receiving environment will be broken down into individual exploration activities (Table 4.10).

Table 4.10: Example results presentation framework of significant matrix impact assessment for the proposed exploration activities.

SIGNIFICANT IMPACT						PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT					BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT				SOCIOECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT																					
IMPACT SEVERITY <small>Magnitude, Duration, Extent, Probability</small>	RECEPTOR CHARACTERISTICS (SENSITIVITY)					Water Quality	Physical infrastructure and Resources	Air Quality, Noise and Dust	Landscape Topography	Soil Quality	Climate Change Influences	Habitat	Protected Areas	Flora	Fauna	Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use	Local, regional, and national socioeconomic settings	Commercial Agriculture	Community Protected Areas	Tourism and Recreation	Cultural, Biological and Archaeological Resources															
	Very High (5)	High(4)	Medium (3)	Low (2)	Negligible (1)																															
Very High (5)	Major [5/5]	Major [4/5]	Moderate [3/5]	Moderate [2 /5]	Minor 1/5																															
High (4)	Major [5/4]	Major [4/4]	Moderate [3/4]	Moderate [2/4]	Minor[1/4]																															
Medium (3)	Major [5/3]	Moderate[4/3]	Moderate[3/3]	Minor[2/3]	None[1/3]																															
Low (2)	Moderate [5/2]	Moderate[4/2]	Minor[3/2]	None[2/2]	None[1/2]																															
Negligible (1)	Minor [5/1]	Minor [4/1]	None [3/1]	None [2/1]	None [1/1]																															
1. Initial Desktop Exploration Activities	(i) General evaluation of satellite, topographic, land tenure, accessibility, supporting infrastructures and socioeconomic environment data																																			
	(ii) Purchase and analysis of existing Government high resolution magnetics and radiometric geophysical data																																			
	(iii) Purchase and analysis of existing Government aerial hyperspectral																																			
	(iv) Data interpretation and delineating of potential targets for future reconnaissance regional field-based activities for delineated targets																																			
2. Regional Reconnaissance Field- Based Activities	(i) Regional geological, geochemical, topographical and remote sensing mapping and data analysis																																			
	(ii) Regional geochemical sampling aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken																																			
	(iii) Regional geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken																																			
	(iv) Limited field-based support and logistical activities including exploration camp site lasting between one (1) to two (2) days																																			
	(v) Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets for future detailed site-specific exploration if the results are positive and supports further exploration of the delineated targets																																			

Table 4.10: Cont.

SENSITIVITY						PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT					BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT				SOCIOECONOMIC, CULTURAL, AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT						
IMPACT SEVERITY [Magnitude, Duration, Extent, Probability]	RECEPTOR CHARACTERISTICS (SENSITIVITY)					Water Quality	Physical infrastructure and Resources	Air Quality, Noise and Dust	Landscape Topography	Soil Quality	Climate Change Influences	Habitat	Protected Areas	Flora	Fauna	Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use	Local, regional and national socioeconomic settings	Commercial Agriculture	Community Protected Areas	Tourism and Recreation	Cultural, Biological and Archaeological Resources
	Very High (5)	High(4)	Medium (3)	Low (2)	Negligible (1)																
Very High (5)	Major [5/5]	Major [4/5]	Moderate [3/5]	Moderate [2 /5]	Minor 1/5																
High (4)	Major [5/4]	Major [4/4]	Moderate [3/4]	Moderate [2/4]	Minor[1/4]																
Medium (3)	Major [5/3]	Moderate[4/3]	Moderate[3/3]	Minor[2/3]	None[1/3]																
Low (2)	Moderate [5/2]	Moderate[4/2]	Minor[3/2]	None[2/2]	None[1/2]																
Negligible (1)	Minor [5/1]	Minor [4/1]	None [3/1]	None [2/1]	None [1/1]																
3. Initial Local Field-Based Activities	(i) Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during regional reconnaissance field activities																				
	(ii) Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken																				
	(iii) Ground geophysical survey (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above)																				
	(iv) Possible Trenching (Subject to the outcomes of i - iii above)																				
	(v) Field-based support and logistical activities will be very limited focus on a site-specific area for a very short time (maximum five (5) days)																				
	(vi) Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets																				
4. Detailed Local Field-Based Activities	(i) Access preparation and related logistics to support activities																				
	(ii) Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during the initial field-based activities																				
	(iii) Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken																				
	(iv) Ground geophysical survey, trenching, drilling and sampling (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above).																				
5. Prefeasibility and Feasibility Studies	(i) Detailed site-specific field-based support and logistical activities, surveys, detailed geological mapping																				
	(ii) Detailed drilling and bulk sampling and testing for ore reserve calculations																				
	(iii) Geotechnical studies for mine design																				
	(iv) Mine planning and designs including all supporting infrastructures (water, energy and access) and test mining activities																				
	(v) EIA and EMP to support the ECC for mining operations																				
	(vi) Preparation of feasibility report and application for Mining License																				

4.4. Specific Mitigation Measures

Based on the key issues identified in Table 4.1, the following is the outlined of the indicative specific mitigations that must be prepared for the proposed exploration programme activities and for the **field-based exploration activities**:

1. Protect the pans habitats through effective project planning and implementation.
2. Implementation of the EMP.
3. Public and stakeholders relations.
4. Measures to enhance positive socioeconomic impacts.
5. Environmental awareness briefing and training.
6. Erection of supporting exploration infrastructure.
7. Use of existing access roads, tracks, and general vehicle movements.
8. Mitigation measures for preventing flora destruction.
9. Mitigation measures for preventing faunal destruction.
10. Mitigation measures to be implemented with respect to the exploration camps and exploration sites.
11. Mitigation measures for surface and groundwater protection as well as general water usage.
12. Mitigation measures to minimise negative socioeconomic impacts.
13. Mitigation measures to minimise health and safety impacts.
14. Mitigation measures to minimise visual impacts.
15. Mitigation measures to minimise vibration, noise, and air quality.
16. Mitigation measures for waste (solid and liquid) management.
17. Rehabilitation plan, and.
18. Environmental data collection.

4.5. Structure of the EIA/ Scoping and EMP Reports

The following is the indicative summary structure outlines of the EIA and EMP reports to be prepared by the EAP in support of the application for ECC with respect to the proposed minerals exploration activities in the EPL 8451:

(i) ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT:

- ❖ **Section 1: Background** covering the proposed project location with available infrastructure and services;
- ❖ **Section 2: Project Description** covering the summary of the proposed project minerals exploration and possible mining activities;

- ❖ **Section 3: Regulatory Framework** covering the proposed minerals exploration and possible mining activities with respect to relevant legislation, regulations and permitting requirements;
- ❖ **Section 4: Receiving Environment** covering physical, biological and socioeconomic environments of the proposed project area;
- ❖ **Section 5: Impact Assessment** covering the likely positive and negative impacts the proposed project activities are likely to have on the receiving environment;
- ❖ **Section 6: Conclusions and Recommendations**- Summary of the findings and way forward.

(ii) ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (EMP) REPORT:

- ❖ **Section 1: Background** covering the proposed project location with available infrastructure, regulations, project motivation, summary of the environmental assessment and assessment assumptions and limitations;
- ❖ **Section 2: Implementation of the EMP** covering roles and responsibilities of the proponent, HSE team and Contractors;
- ❖ **Section 3: Specific Mitigation Measures** describing the detailed mitigation measures with respect to the identified likely impacts, and;
- ❖ **Section 4: Rehabilitation and Monitoring** covering rehabilitation options and performance monitoring and reporting.

**REGISTER AND SUBMIT WRITTEN OBJECTIONS / COMMENTS / INPUTS
BY EMAIL TO:**

emeritaashipala@gmail.com

**Deadline for Submission of Written Comments / Objections/ Inputs:
21st August 2022**

**Submission of the Application for Environmental Clearance Certificate
(ECC) and the Final Assessment and EMP Reports:
30th August 2022**

For more information, Please Contact

Ms. Emerita Ashipala

Email: emeritaashipala@gmail.com

Or

Dr Sindila Mwiya

Email: frontdesk@rbs.com.na