



Ministry of Mines and Energy  
Private Bag 13297  
Windhoek  
Namibia



**FOR ATTENTION:** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (MR. SIMEON NIILENGE NEGUMBO)

**COPY TO:** Mr. Teofilus Nghitila (Ministry of Environment and Tourism – Executive Director)  
Mr. Erasmus Shivolo (Ministry of Mines and Energy – Mining Commissioner)

Dear Mr. Simeon Niilenge Negumbo,

**RE: APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE FOR EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EPL 7744 OF OTAVI EXPLORATION (PTY) LTD FOR BASE AND RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS AND PRECIOUS METALS IN THE OTJOZONDJUPA REGION, NAMIBIA.**

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (ECC) has been engaged by Otavi Exploration (Pty) Ltd, the Proponent, to act on their behalf for the Environmental Clearance Certificate application for the proposed exploration activities for rare metals, industrial minerals and precious metals in the Otjozondjupa Region, Namibia. Otavi Exploration (Pty) Ltd is part of B2Gold.

In terms of Section 32 (1) of the Environmental Management Act, No.7 of 2007, ECC has determined that the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) is the Competent Authority for the proposed exploration project as it triggers the following listed activity that falls within the jurisdiction and mandate of MME:

**MINING AND QUARRYING ACTIVITIES**

- The construction of facilities for any process or activities which requires a licence, right or other forms of authorisation, and the renewal of a licence, right or other forms of authorisation, in terms of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act, No. 33 of 1992.
  - o The proposed project requires a licence for the construction of exploration camps, drill sites and access roads
- Other forms of mining or extraction of any natural resources whether regulated by law or not;
  - o Minerals (will be explored and sampled within EPL 7744
- Resource extraction, manipulation, conservation, and related activities
  - o The proposed project by its nature, involves resource exploration activities

**WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

- The abstraction of ground or surface water for industrial or commercial purposes

- o Due to the drilling of exploration boreholes, the abstraction of groundwater is possible, although it is intended that water will be obtained from existing boreholes.

Due to the nature of the proposed project, the potential limited effects on the environment and society and the implementation of industry best practice mitigation measures, ECC has undertaken a high-level environmental assessment in order to produce an Environmental Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan as per attached.

Therefore, ECC hereby submits the attached application for your consideration and review:

- **COMPLETED FORM 1 (ATTACHED)** – Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007, section 32 Application Environmental Clearance Certificate
- **ENVIRONMENT SCOPING PLUS ASSESSMENT REPORT**– The assessment report
- **PROJECT SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN (EMP)** – Project specific EMP has been developed for the proposed project

Both the environmental assessment and environmental management plan hereto attached and submitted to the Office of the Executive Director of MME is provided for your review, input, and feedback. ECC kindly requests confirmation that the above application is acceptable by your office and in order to fulfill the requirements as per Section 17(b) and Section 33(1) of the Environmental Management Act, 2007 and by the Mining Commissioner in terms of section 50 f (i) and of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act, No. 33 of 1992.

ECC aspires to build an open and transparent relationship with your office and ECC understands that the MME are the Competent Authority for mining related projects, therefore we understand that once MME completes the review of the attached application MME will forward the application to the MET for their attention and action.

Should you or your office require our assistance with the details contained within this letter or any project specific details, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will gladly assist.

We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,



Stephan Bezuidenhout

**Environmental Compliance Consultancy**

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