

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSISTANT FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION
ACTIVITIES ON EPL 8205, IN THE SKELETON COAST PARK, KUNENE REGION.**



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PREPARED FOR KMB TRADING

ENTERPRISES CC

PREPARED BY:

NAMIB – ENVIRO CONSULTANTS



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

Overview

Exploration aims to discover deposits of minerals and rocks that can be used to meet the resource needs of society, such as industrial raw materials (limestone, sulphur), ores (copper, iron and zinc), gemstones (diamonds), and solid fuels (oil, coal and uranium) (White, 2005). KMB Trading Enterprises cc (proponent), would like to explore in the Skeleton National Park area, Kunene region. The proponent appointed Namib – Enviro Consultants to undertake the environmental impact assessment in order to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for the activities from the office of Environmental Commissioner in the Ministry Of Environment, Forestry and Tourism. This project will provide employment and contribute to the Namibian economy through foreign currency exchange.

Project location

Skeleton Coast Park extends from the Ugab River in the south for 500 km to the Kunene River in the north and about 40 km inland, through the C34 road drive. The proposed site is located within the areas of Torra bay along C39 road (figure 1), northwest of Khorixas, and its geographical coordinates are - 20.285 and 13.373, latitude and longitude respectively.

Environmental Assessment Requirements

Any large scale project must undergo an Environmental Impact Assessment in accordance with the Environmental Management Act, Act 7 of 2007, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation (Government Gazette No. 30 February 2012), and Namibia's environmental assessment policy of 1995. As a result, in compliance with regulation 6 of the 2012 environmental regulations, an environmental clearance certificate must be requested for. The environmental proponent shall perform a public consultation process, create an environmental scoping study, and submit an Environmental Management Plan for the planned mineral exploration activities in accordance with regulation 21 of the 2012 environmental procedure.

Project alternatives

As an alternative to the projected mineral exploration activity, the area could be used for other revenue-generating industries such as tourism. Locals from adjacent towns and communities will be employed exclusively for the proposed project.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Project background

Exploration aims to discover deposits of minerals and rocks that can be used to meet the resource needs of society, such as industrial raw materials (limestone, sulphur), ores (copper, iron and zinc), gemstones (diamonds), and solid fuels (oil, coal and uranium) (White, 2005). KMB Trading Enterprises cc (proponent), would like to explore the Khorixas linens in the Skeleton Coast Park area, Kunene region. The proponent appointed Namib – Enviro Consultants to undertake the environmental impact assessment in order to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for the activities from the office of Environmental Commissioner in the Ministry Of Environment, Forestry and Tourism. This project will provide employment and contribute to the Namibian economy through foreign currency exchange.

1.1.2 Environmental consultant

The proponent appointed Namib – Enviro Consultants to undertake the environmental impact assessment in order to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for the activities from the office of Environmental Commissioner in the Ministry Of Environment, Forestry and Tourism.

1.1.3 Proponent of the proposed project

The proposed of exploration activities Exclusive Prospecting Licence 8496 belongs to KMB Trading cc.

1.2 Project location

Skeleton Coast Park extends from the Ugab River in the south for 500 km to the Kunene River in the north and about 40 km inland, through the C34 road drive. The proposed site is located within the areas of Torra bay along C39 road (figure 1), northwest of Khorixas, and its geographical coordinates are - 20.285 and 13.373, latitude and longitude respectively.

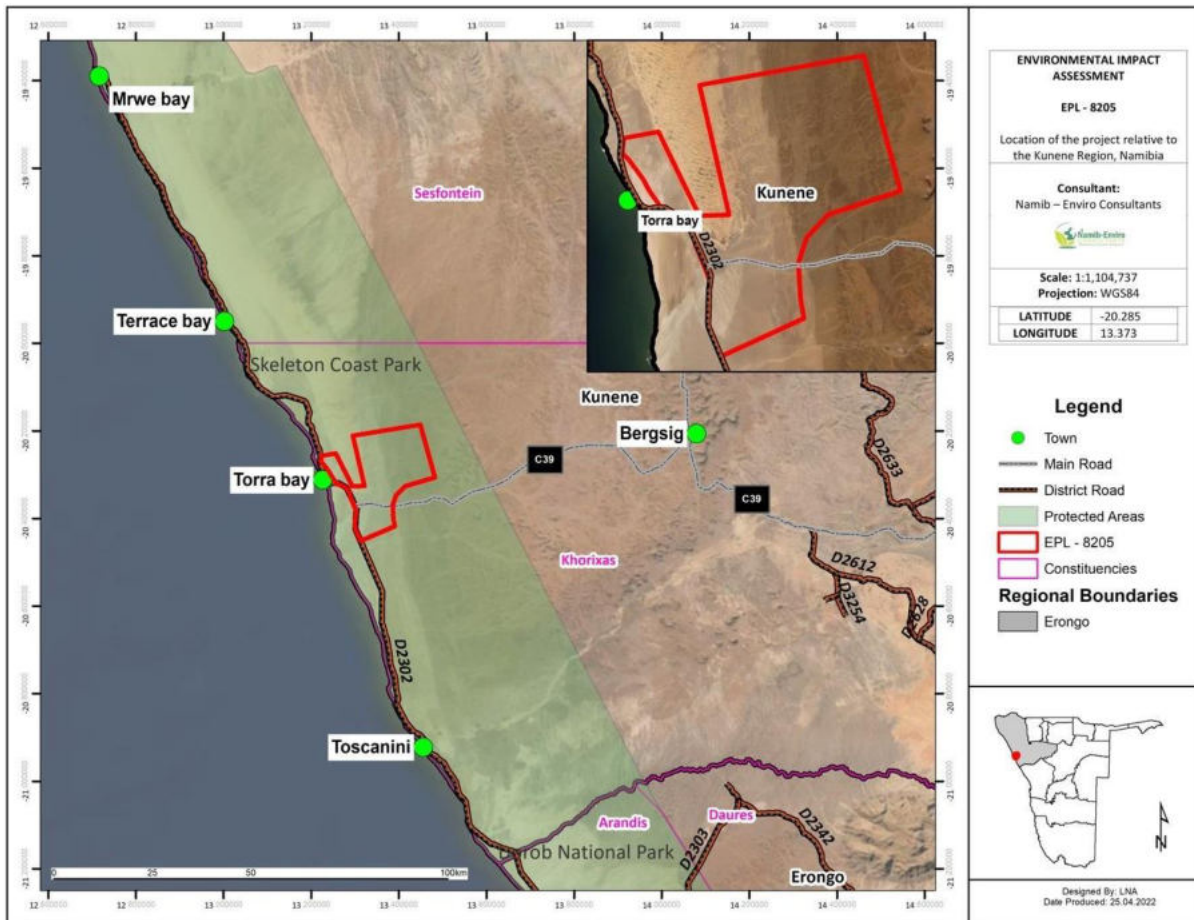


Figure 1 Location of EPL 8205

1.3 Infrastructure and services

1.3.1 Electricity

Exploration process normally require less power, therefore the power required to undertake the activities will be catered by the proponents own generator.

1.3.2 Water supply

The project's water requirements are minor. Water will be sourced from a borehole in the project's close surroundings. The water will primarily be utilized for drinking and cleaning.

1.3.3 Roads

Since there are currently no suitable roads, the conservancy administration will demarcate access to the exploration sites. The C39 main road or the D2302 district road will lead to the exploration location.

1.3.4 Storage of lubrication and consumables

All of the hydrocarbons will be stored in portable tanks/containers in a delineated section of one of the temporary waste storage areas, and they will be removed off the site on a regular basis to guarantee that the temporary tanks do not become overflowing.

1.3.5 Buildings

The proponent will erect temporary facilities and precautions will be taken to prevent the spreading of generated wastes of all kinds on and from the camping site.

1.3.6 Refuse and waste removal

Generated wastes will be stored in containers and collected on a regular basis and disposed of at a recognised disposal facility. In addition, temporary sanitary facilities will be provided by the proponent, and remove all generated wastes from the exploration site.

1.3.7 Security and fencing

No provision has been made for fencing although strict access to and from the exploration site will be facilitated by personnel.

1.3.8 IT systems and communication

Telephones or other form of electronic communications will be made available on site in case of emergencies, and for effective communication.

1.3.9 Fire fighters and emergencies

Connections to emergencies facilities like ambulance and municipality fire fighters will be provided on site in case of injuries.

1.4 Environmental impact assessment requirements

Any large scale project must undergo an Environmental Impact Assessment in accordance with the Environmental Management Act, Act 7 of 2007, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation (Government Gazette No. 30 February 2012), and Namibia's environmental assessment policy of 1995. As a result, in compliance with regulation 6 of the 2012 environmental regulations, an environmental clearance certificate must be requested for. The environmental proponent shall perform a public consultation process, create an environmental scoping study, and submit an Environmental Management Plan for the planned mineral exploration activities in accordance with regulation 21 of the 2012 environmental procedure.

1.5 Purpose of the scoping report

The project's scope is confined to conducting an Environmental Impacts Assessment and filing for an Environmental Clearance Certificate for the exploration activities to be conducted. The scoping process identifies the issues that are likely to be most important during the EIA and eliminates those that are of little concern. The scoping process shall be concluded with the establishment of terms of reference for the preparation of an EIA, as set out by the Ministry of Environment and tourism. The purpose of this scoping report is to:

- Identify any important environmental issues to be considered before commencing with mineral exploration activities on the proposed mineral exploration sites.
- To identify appropriate time and space boundaries of the EIA study.
- To identify information required for decision-making.

As such, the key objectives of this scoping study are to:

- Inform the public about the proposed mineral exploration activities.
- Identify the main stakeholders, their comments and concerns.
- Define reasonable and practical alternatives to the proposal.
- To establish the terms of reference for an EIA study.

1.6 Terms of reference

The approach and methodology will be guided by the Environmental Regulations of 2012 and the Terms of Reference (ToR) which are provided by the proponent:

- Determine all laws and regulations that pertain to the planned project.
- Determine the area's environmental sensitivity by identifying existing environmental conditions (both biophysical and socioeconomic).
- Provide details of the proposed development to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and relevant authorities, as well as a reasonable chance for them to participate in the process.
- Evaluate the development's possible environmental and social implications, as well as the significance of those impacts.
- Submit the final scoping report to the appropriate authority as well as the Environmental Commissioner.
- A Scoping Report that outlines all detected concerns and their consequences, as well as the path forward and any specialist investigations that may be required.

1.6.1 Environmental approach and methodology

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations No. 30 of 2012, gazetted under the Environmental Management Act (EMA), 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007), and in accordance with the provisions of the Cabinet approved Environmental Assessment Policy for Sustainable Development and Environmental Conservation of 1995, govern the environmental assessment process in Namibia.

This report has taken into account all of the procedures for preparing all supporting documentation and filing an application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate with the Ministry of Environment and Tourism's Environmental Commissioner (EC), Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) (MET).

The Scoping Phase's goal was to communicate the proposed project's scope to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), consider project alternatives, identify environmental (and social) aspects and potential impacts for further investigation and assessment, and develop terms of reference for specialist studies to be conducted in the Impact Assessment Phase if needed. The following are the steps conducted during the Scoping Phase.

1.6.1.1 Project Initiation and Screening

The project registered on the online ECC portal (eia.met.gov.na) to give notice of the start of the EIA process and to get clarification on the steps to take.

1.6.1.2 Initial Scoping Public Participation Process

The aim of the public scoping process was to ensure that interested and affected parties (I&APs) were informed about the planned project, and that they were given a reasonable opportunity to register on the project database and offer initial comments. I&APs list was compiled using the contact details provided by the proponent. Over two weeks, advertisements promoting the planned project, public meetings, and I&APs registration / comment period appeared in two locally informative newspapers.

1.6.2 List of specialist studies undertaken

It is a norm to disclose all the tasks to be undertaken as part of the assessment process, including any specialist to be included if need be as stipulated in section 9(a) of the environmental regulations of 2012. At this juncture, the exploration project has not commenced yet, this implies that currently no field specific specialist studies were commissioned by the proponent, however a full environmental impact assessment will be conducted out with appropriate site-specific specialist studies on groundwater, air-quality, fauna, flora, archaeology and avifauna as exploration commences.

1.7 Need and desirability

1.7.1 Need of the exploration project

The exploration project could help Namibia achieve some of the objectives outlined in National Development Plans including the Fifth National Development Plan (NDP5) and the Harambee Prosperity Plan (HPP). The project will employ individuals from the local towns and

communities throughout the exploratory phase. If the exploratory project results in the finding of a commercially viable mineral deposit, a mine could be built in the area. A mine can make a substantial contribution to the social and economic development of the town.

2. Summary of applicable legislation

Table 1 A summary of some Legislation applicable to the proposed development

Legislation/Policies	Relevant Provisions
The Constitution of the Republic of Namibia as Amended	Article 91 (c) provides for duty to guard against “the degradation and destruction of ecosystems and failure to protect the beauty and character of Namibia.” Article 95(1) deals with the “maintenance of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and biological diversity” and sustainable use of the country’s natural resources.
Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 (EMA)	Section 2 outlines the objective of the Act and the means to achieve that. Section 3 details the principle of Environmental Management
The Minerals Prospecting and Mining Act of 1992	The Minerals Prospecting and Mining Act No.33 of 1992 approves and regulates mineral rights in relation to exploration, reconnaissance, prospecting, small scale mining, mineral exploration, large-scale mining and transfers of mineral licenses.
EIA Regulations GN 28, 29, and 30 of EMA (2012)	GN 29 Identifies and lists certain activities that cannot be undertaken without an environmental clearance certificate. GN 30 provides the regulations governing the environmental assessment (EA) process.
Nature conservation ordinance, ordinance No. 4 of 1975	The Nature Ordinance 4 of 1975 covers game parks and nature reserves, the hunting and protection of wild animals (including reptiles and wild birds), problem animals, fish, and the protection of indigenous plants.
National Heritage Act, 2004 (Act No. 27 of 2004)	Act provides for the protection and conservation of places and objects of heritage significance and the registration of such places and objects; to establish a National Heritage Council; to establish a National Heritage Register; and to provide for incidental matters.
Water Act No. 54 of 1956	Section 23(1) deals with the prohibition of pollution of underground and surface water bodies.

Labour Act no 11 of 2007

Chapter 2 details the fundamental rights and protections.
Chapter 3 deals with the basic conditions of employment.

3. Description of the proposed exploration project

3.1 Introduction

Mineral exploitation in Namibia is a substantial industry that employs a huge number of people and contributes significantly to the national economy. When it comes to minerals, Namibia is well-diversified. Because mineral rights are vested in the state, the government of Namibia is the regulating agency for all minerals being exploited (Mansfeld, 2006). In Namibia, there are various alternatives for exploration or mining, and several application channels must be followed in order to comply with the legislation (MIT, 2003).

After South Africa, Ghana, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and Zambia, Namibia's mining sector is the sixth largest in Africa. Minerals account for roughly 15% of Namibia's GDP, the sector is the largest contributor to the country's GDP, and mining products account for up to 50% of Namibia's yearly export revenues. The mining industry directly employs about 10,000 people (Bendi, 2003). The project will not only improve the community's livelihoods, but the proponent will also depend on the revenue that will be generated.

3.2 Techniques for mineral exploration

According to Hentschel, Hruschka, & Priester (2002), several approaches can be used by geoscientists during the exploration process to discover acceptable areas and assess the depth and shape of the ore deposit. Among them are:

- Creating and reviewing geological maps. Geologic maps show the locations of different types of bedrock (bedrock is the rock that is closest to the surface), give exploration geologists hints as to what geologic processes acted in a given area and suggest how rocks are distributed at depth. Maps help geologists compare an area with other sites that have yielded highly concentrated ores in the past.
- Visiting a potential mine site and completing field studies, which might entail additional geological mapping, surface rock sampling, and/or chemical analyses of rock, soil, and water samples.
- Performing “non-invasive” studies to obtain underground information. These studies are similar to someone using a metal detector to find discarded coins on a beach. The larger-scale geophysical studies used by mining companies may include seismic, gravity, magnetic, or other surveys.
- Drilling down through the surface to obtain samples at depth. Hollow drills are used that bring cores (long cylinders of rock) to the surface.

For this project exploitations techniques are yet to be identified.

4. Description of the current environment

4.1 Introduction

This subsection tries to describe the current state of the environment, the potential impact of planned modifications, and ongoing monitoring to detect environmental changes. Minerals abundant in the Skeleton Coast National Park, including diamonds and other gems. The Atlantic Ocean, with sandy and pebble beaches, sand dunes, ephemeral riverbeds and canyons to rugged canyons with walls of richly coloured volcanic rock and extensive mountain ranges (Hutton & Palfi, 2003).

From north to south, communal conservancies Marienfluss, Orupembe, Sanitatas, Okondjombo, Puros, Sesfontein, Torra, Doro!nawas, and the Palmwag tourism concession area share the park's whole eastern border. The land to the east of the park is zoned and maintained to protect animals. The Skeleton Coast National Park is a major section of this magnificent complex of protected areas, comprising ecological and geographical characteristics of the Northern Namib Desert. The park has a high level of biodiversity that is important on a national, regional, and worldwide scale. The Northern Sand Sea, other dune fields of the park, and the littoral zone have high levels of speciation and endemism in lichens and vascular plants, a highly diverse avifauna and an unusual assemblage of large mammals for such a hyper-arid park, and unique invertebrate diversity, but there are a number of other species or groups of species that are also very important (MEFT, 2021).

The Skeleton Coast National Park is bordered on the west by the Atlantic Ocean, with the cold Benguela current bringing a wealth of marine life. Most tourists are unable to access the shoreline, which is littered with shipwrecks. The desert ecosystem is sustained by natural springs, whereas the huge Kunene River is an annual river that defines the northern boundary with Angola. In the park, the Hoarusib, Ugab, and Uniab rivers are also major living systems (MET, 2007).

4.2 Climate conditions

4.2.1 Temperature

According to MEFT (2021), the Namib Desert's coastal climate is mostly affected by the cold Benguela Current and the South Atlantic Anticyclone. Temperatures are generally moderate (average minimum and maximum temperatures reflect a range of around 7 to 32 °C during the coldest and hottest months, respectively), and fog is common (about 125 days per year on the coast dropping to about 40 days per year 80 km inland). June is the coldest month of the year,

with an average night time temperature of 20°C. Khorixas, which is close to the project area, has various seasons with varying temperatures throughout the year.

4.2.2 Precipitation

The park as a whole falls below the 100 mm isohyet, and much of it falls below the 50 mm isohyet. Aside from the unusually low yearly rainfall, the rainfall is also exceedingly erratic, with annual coefficients of variation ranging from 80 percent to over 100 percent on average. The park has an average water deficit of roughly 2 m per year due to high evaporation rates and minimal rainfall. The rainy season is from January through March. In the Namib Desert, the importance of fog as a source of water is well-known, and many species rely on and have evolved to fog water usage and harvesting.

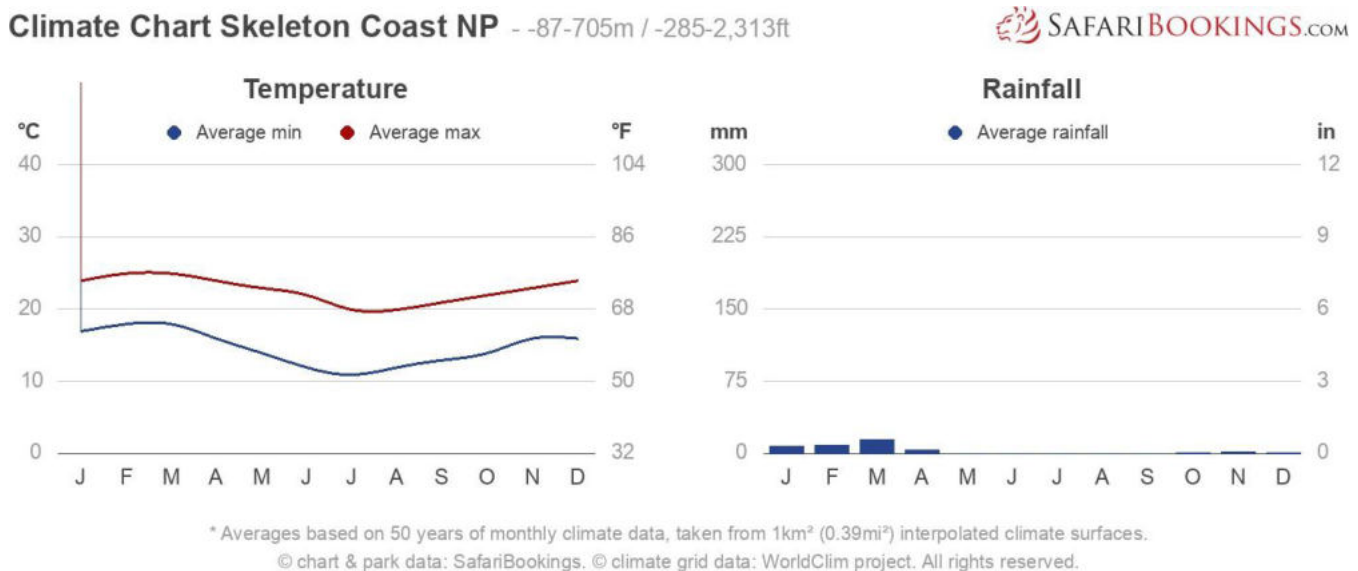


Figure 2 Weather chart for Skeleton Coast National Park

4.2.3 Wind

The wind blows almost continuously. The southwest wind blows an average of 300 days/annum at up to 60 km/h, and peaks in the early summer months from October to December. Due to the hilly terrain, the Khorixas area is vulnerable to unpredictable winds and significant variations despite short distances. These winds push the Benguela Current northward, transporting sand from the beach to nearby land and causing upwelling along the coast, bringing nutrient-rich waters to the surface.

4.2.4 Humidity

The humidity is observed to be >80% during most months, and is significantly lower at 75% during the summer months. Because the cool, dry air cannot rise high enough over the coast to

produce genuine rain clouds, precipitation frequently condenses primarily as fog and low clouds. Fog occurs 75 to 100 days per year with mornings and evenings being the most common times. The Kunene shore gets about 5 to 6 hours of sun every day on average.

4.3 Air quality

Emissions and dust from automobiles traveling on gravel roads, and wind erosion from exposed places are all possible sources of air pollution in the area. It was observed that the air quality in proposed area is good.

4.4 Geology

The geology is clearly apparent. Time and nature have fashioned a sand and rock dreamscape. Mica schists, gneiss, and granites date back over a billion years. The SCNP's Damara Super group granites and gneisses form the deep root zone of a north-south-trending Alpine-type mountain belt that formed 550 million years ago during continental collision and amalgamation, resulting in the formation of Gondwana, the southwestern part of the old supercontinent Pangaea. Terrace Bay still has the remnants of previous lava flows. Today, roaring dunes, clay castles, and beaches gleam with wind-polished stones can be found.

4.5 Hydrogeology and water resources

Several springs provide vital water to coastal areas, allowing large creatures to travel further west than they might otherwise. The majority of springs are generated by water being forced to the surface along faults in the underlying rock formations, although other springs are formed by water being driven to the surface along faults in the underlying rock formations. The Kunene River's mouth provides a critical habitat for a variety of birds, fish, turtles, and other species.

4.6 Fauna

The fauna of the Skeleton Coast Park has become specially adapted to the unique and severe physiographical characteristics of the area. Whilst some species are endangered or even on the Red Date Species list and that reason are protected, all species in the park deserve full protection as they have managed to adapt to this extremely hostile environment.

4.6.1 Invertebrates and vertebrates

It is known that the dune fields in the park hold a number of endemic *Tenebrionid* beetles, scorpions and arachnids. Regarding reptiles, the desert plated lizard *Gerrhosaurus skoogi* deserves special mention. Endemic to the Northern Namib this species is the dominant lizard species inhabiting the dune systems of the Northern Namib and dune slip faces in particular. Mammals in the fog zone of the Namib Desert include permanent residents such as the conspicuous oryx (*Oryx gazella*), springbok (*Antidorcas marsupialis*), black-backed jackal

(*Canis mesomelas*), brown hyena (*Hyaena brunnea*), and the Cape fur seal (*Arctocephalus pusillus*), in addition to the several small burrowing mammals such as gerbils (*Gerbillus* spp.) and whistling rats. The other mammal species are largely seasonal or occasional residents. The park supports a small population of African lions (*Panthera leo*) that are adapted to the harsh hyper-arid conditions.

4.6.2 Avifauna

In total, 314 bird species have been recorded in the park, accounting for 46.7 percent of Namibia's total number of indigenous bird species. The condition of the Damara Tern, which is essentially endemic to Namibia and breeds in summer on broad sandy or gravel plains, interdune valleys, and salt pans, is of special concern among the park's bird species. There are 21 red Data Species among them. As shown in Table 2, three of those species are highly endangered, while the remaining ten are vulnerable.

Table 2 Red Data Species occurring in the Skeleton Coast Park (MEFT, 2021)

Common name	Scientific name	Red Data Status
Jackass Penguin	<i>Spheniscus demersus</i>	Critically endangered
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	Critically endangered
White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	Endangered
Cape Gannet	<i>Morus capensis</i>	Endangered
Crowned Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax coronatus</i>	Endangered
Black Stock	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	Endangered
Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumeniferus</i>	Vulnerable
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Vulnerable
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>	Endangered
Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>	Endangered
Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	Critically endangered
Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>	Vulnerable
Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>	Endangered
African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>	Vulnerable
Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>	Vulnerable
African Black Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus moquini</i>	Vulnerable
Chestnut Banded Plover	<i>Charadrius pallidus</i>	Vulnerable

Hartlaub's Gull	<i>Larus hartlaubii</i>	Vulnerable
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	Vulnerable
Swift Tern	<i>Sterna bergii</i>	Vulnerable
Damara Tern	<i>Sterna balaenarum</i>	Endangered

4.7 Flora

Plants in Skeleton National Park have adapted to survive by acquiring, retaining, and storing atmospheric moisture through a variety of creative adaptations. Succulents, grasses riverine growth, and lichens are among them, as are colonies of *Welwitschia mirabilis*, whose distribution in Namibia is centered in the southern part of the park, as well as the northern Dorob NP; *Acanthosicyos horridus* (! Nara); and succulents, grasses riverine growth, and lichens.

The park thus holds 32.2% of the 174 known lichen species recorded in Namibia. *W. mirabilis* is one of the few endemic and also keystone plant species that has been extensively mapped in the park. Another important Namib Desert plant endemic is the !nara *Acanthosicyos horridus* that is never very abundant but widely distributed in Skeleton Coast NP along dry riverbeds and dune fields including the Kunene Sand Sea.

Table 3 A table showing some plant species which occur in the

Endemic to the area
<i>Hermbstaedtia spathulifolia</i>
<i>Euphorbia pergracilis</i>
<i>Euphorbia rimireptans</i>
<i>Indigofera anabibensis</i>
<i>Asystasia welwitschia</i>
<i>Blepharis ferox</i>
<i>Crassothonna agaatbergensis</i>
<i>Acanthosicyos horridus</i>
<i>Welwitschia mirabilis</i>
<i>Acanthosicyos horridus</i>
Protected species
<i>Acacia erioloba</i>

<i>Sterculia Africana</i>
<i>Boscia albitrunca</i>
<i>Albizia anthelmintica</i>
Other notable species
<i>Sarcocaulon mossamendense</i>
<i>Adenia pechuelii</i>
<i>Arthroerua leubnitziae</i>
<i>Salsola nollothensis</i>
<i>Stipagrotis ramulosa</i>
<i>Eragrotis cyperoides</i>
<i>Brachiaria psammophila</i>
<i>Tamarix usneoides</i>
<i>Colophospermum mopane</i>
<i>Combretum imberbe</i>
<i>Salvado persica</i>
<i>Faidherbia albida</i>
<i>Balantines welwitschii</i>
<i>Typha capensis</i>
<i>Phragmites australis</i>
<i>Schoenopletus littoralis</i>
<i>Teloschistes capensis</i>
<i>Santessonia hereroensis</i>
<i>Caloplca indurata</i>
<i>Xanthoparmelia spp.</i>
<i>Parmelia hueana</i>

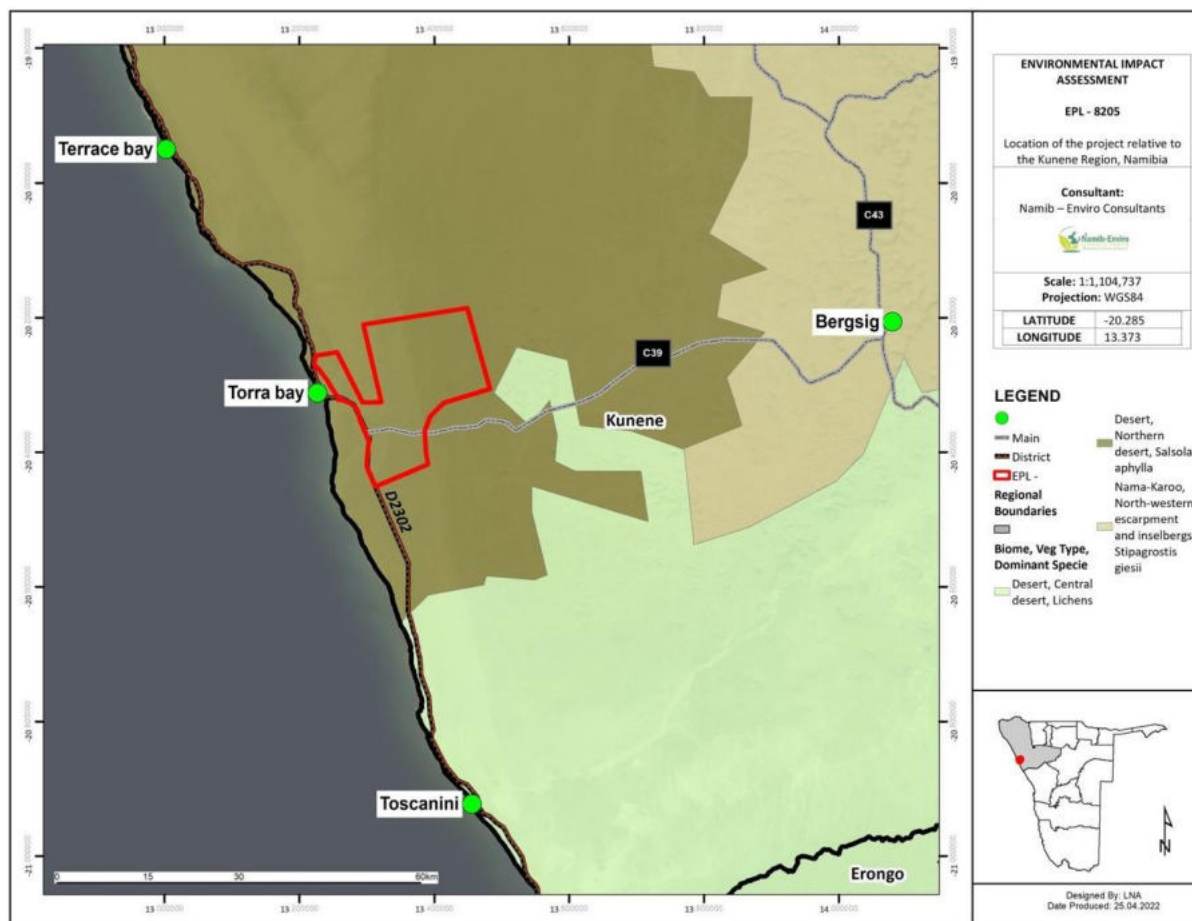


Figure 3 Vegetation type of the dominant species at the proposed site

4.8 Archaeology and heritage sites

While many archaeological sites have been discovered along the Namibian coast, some of which provide evidence of long-term coastal occupation, many of these are regarded as "lucky finds," because the chances of artefacts surviving long enough to be discovered are extremely poor (Raison, 2016). As a result, there are just a few known archaeological sites with exceedingly old artefacts. At this time, it is unknown whether the exploration will yield any significant archaeological finds; however, an incidental find strategy may be required. Work must be suspended immediately if any heritage or culturally significant artefacts are discovered during construction, and the Namibian National Heritage Council must be notified.

4.9 Socio-economic environment

Currently accounts for a significant amount of Namibia's GDP, and tourism is only second in terms of economic importance to mining. However, tourism generates a small amount of revenue along the Kunene coast. Coastal Kunene could undoubtedly earn much more with smart, bold planning, enhancing the livelihoods of people in the region while also preserving the coast's stunning and pristine ecosystem (Mendelsohn, Jarvis, Roger, & Roberstson,

2012). Agriculture is unviable due to insufficient water and soil fertility. Because of the high-energy character of the coast, aquaculture has limited potential, and considerable development of recreational line fishing would be unsustainable because these coastal waters serve as breeding sites for many species that eventually migrate as adults to other parts of Namibia's coast.

4.10 Soils

The presence of three types of very fragile soil surface layers or crusts, which cover a substantial portion of the park and are very vulnerable to disturbance, is one factor to note here that is of high value to park management.

1.10.1 Abiotic soil crusts

Abiotic soil crusts result from evaporation exceeding precipitation in arid environments. Gypsum on the plains and salt on the pans and at water seepages are the two most common soil crusts in the park (and generally saline soils with variable degrees of salt crust formation in many places in the Central Namib).

1.10.2 Biological soil crusts

Lichens, mosses, green algae, micro-fungi, and cyanobacteria form biological soil crusts, which combine soil particles into a crust. Small crustose lichens and algae are connected with coarse sand and gravels in large portions of the park, although biological soil crusts are not known to be present in the form of the more thick and defined lichen fields found in neighbouring Dorob NP. On alluvial fan deposits next to the Hoarusib, Khumib, and Sechumib Rivers and their historic tributaries, and on hillsides along the eastern edge of the Skeleton Coast Park, lichen-dominated soil crusts ranging from thick and diversified communities can be found.

1.10.3 Desert pavement

A large portion of the park is made up of gravel plains that represent an ancient Pleistocene erosion platform that hasn't been altered by anything other than in-situ wind erosion and chemical accretion and deposition, mostly from marine and fog sources, and in fact several successive erosion platforms. The third extremely sensitive feature of the Skeleton Coast NP substrates are ancient gravel and pebble¹³ deposits that represent an ancient landscape of Pleistocene age (up to 2.7 million years old) and represent an ancient landscape of Pleistocene age (up to 2.7 million years).

5. Assessment of impacts

The goal of this section on impact assessments is to identify and examine the most important environmental implications from mineral exploration activities on EPL 8496, as well as feasible mitigation actions. If mineral exploration activities are discontinued in the future, an EIA will be required to address the resulting environmental impacts. This section also includes mitigation measures for the identified impacts. A checklist was used as an assessment methodology to examine each impact identified.

Table 4 A checklist for the identified impacts

Impacts	Negative		Positive		No impact
	Short term	Long term	Short term	Long term	
Flora and fauna and avifauna	☑				
Noise pollution	☑				
Air quality	☑				
Health and safety	☑				
Roads					☑
Underground water					☑
Surface water quality	☑				
Socio-economic			☑		

☑ = Impacts

5.1 Overall socio-economic benefits and issues

Table 5 A summary of socio-economic benefits and issues

Impacts	Benefits and issues
Socio-economic benefits	The project has great potential to improve livelihoods and contribute to sustainable development within the surrounding community.
Potential Direct Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capital investment - Training programs offered by the proponent will permanently benefit staff members.

Potential Indirect Benefits

- The surrounding community will benefit from the project during the on-going phase through employment.

General enhancement of the health conditions and quality of life for a few people in the surrounding settlements.

General socio-economic concerns

- As the number of employees and contractors moving in and out of the area expands, so does the chance of COVID-19 and HIV/AIDS spreading.
- Increased migration of individuals to the area in search of job possibilities during the mineral exploration project's target generation and drilling phase; and
- Increased informal settlement and accompanying difficulties.

5.2 Mineral Exploration phases and associated issues

Table 6 Mineral exploration phases and its impacts

Exploration phases	Associated issues
Mapping and Geochemical Sampling Phase of the Project	
Dust	Fall out dust settling on vegetation is likely to cause local disruptions in herbivorous and predatory complexes and should be minimized as far as possible
Noise	Disturbs or scare animals that inhabited in the proposed exploration surrounding areas
Safety and Security	Possibility of injuries during mapping and sampling
Visual	Accidental diversion off of routes and aesthetic damage to the landscape
Drilling Phase of the Project	
Air quality	Vehicle movement may cause less dust. However, when appropriately controlled, will be likely to have little effects.
Fire and Explosion Hazard	Long term environmental impacts
Generation of Waste	Littering the surrounding areas if wastes are not appropriately disposed.
Health and Safety	Can cause serious health and safety risks to workers on site.
Fauna	Disturbances to the environment will result in the loss or change in behaviour of fauna
Vegetation	Disturbances to the environment will result in the loss or change in behaviour of flora
Avifauna	Causes immigration of endemic birds
Heritage Impacts	All archaeological remains are protected under the National Heritage Act (2004) and will not be destroyed, disturbed, or removed.

Groundwater Impacts

- Exploration activities may affect the availability of water and the quality thereof
- Surface water for animals may be affected as well

6. Environmental management plan

6.1 Overview

Conducting an environmental assessment prior to engaging in an activity such as mining or exploration is one means of anticipating future environmental repercussions and creating ways to avoid or minimize them. Prior to prospecting or mining a specific location, it is usual practice to have an environmental management plan in place. It's crucial to have a well-structured, all-encompassing plan in place, as well as an environmental management system put up by a certified environmental consultant to assist management in making responsible and realistic decisions. Each on-site employee should be given a simplified explanation of the EMP's needs at the start of exploratory activities. Employees must be informed that they are required to follow this plan when this paper is issued.

6.2 Environmental management principles

Everyone will be expected to conduct all of their activities in an environmentally and socially responsible manner. This includes all consultants, contractors, and subcontractors, as well as transport drivers, visitors, and anybody else involved in the mineral exploration project who enters the exploration regions.

Protect project staff and the general public's health and safety from the project's potential consequences. This covers road safety, on-site protection from natural risks, and radiation concerns. Environmental resource management and conservation that takes into account the needs of current and future generations Prevent contamination of the air, water, and soil, and conserve biodiversity.

6.3 Impacts on the bio-physical environment

Table 7 Possible effects on the bio-physical environment, mitigation measures, and their monitoring methods

Impacts	Mitigation measures	Monitoring methods
Impacts on Archaeological Sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Buffer zones will be created around the sites.- Adhere to practical guidelines provided by an archaeologist to reduce the archaeological impact of	An archaeologist will inspect any identified archaeological sites before commencing with the mineral exploration activities.

	<p>mineral exploration activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All archaeological sites to be identified and protected before further exploration commences. - Notices/information boards will be placed on sites. - Training employees regarding the protection of these sites. 	
<p>Impacts on Fauna</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some habitat areas such as trees of the riverbeds and tunnels outcrops will be avoided wherever possible. - A fauna survey will be conducted to determine the effect of fragmented habitat on game species should the need arise. - No animals shall be killed, captured or harmed in any way. - No foodstuff will be left lying around as these will attract animals which might result in human-animal conflict. - Care will be taken to ensure that no litter is lying around as these may end up being ingested by wild animals 	<p>Regular monitoring of any unusual signs of animal habitat.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No animals shall be fed. This allows animals to lose their natural fear of humans, which may result in dangerous encounters. 	
Impact on Vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental considerations will always be adhered to before clearing roads, trenching and excavating. - Paths and roads will be aligned to avoid root zones. Permeable materials will be used wherever possible. - The movement of vehicles in riverbeds, rocky outcrops and vegetation sensitive areas will be avoided. - The movement of vehicles will be restricted to certain tracks only. - Areas with species of concern will be avoided. - Ministry of Environment and Tourism will be informed of any protected species which will be transplanted in consultation with MET. 	Environmental education awareness, and regular monitoring of any unusual signs of animal habitat.
Impacts on Socio-Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The population change can be mitigated by employing people from the local community and encouraging 	Public meetings will be held by the proponent whenever necessary

	<p>the contractors to employ local individuals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The perception of risks will be mitigated by putting up safety signs wherever possible and ensuring that all employees and visitors to the site undergo a safety induction course. 	
Visual Impacts	Environmental considerations will be adhered to at all times before clearing roads, trenching and excavating.	Employees will be trained on the importance of minimizing visual impacts.
Generation of Solid Waste	Commit to the management of solid waste life cycle by all the employees and contractors of the site.	Transportation of solid waste to a registered site for disposal.
Noise	Disturbance to fauna that roam the area will be minimized by training the employees on ways to minimize noise.	Restriction duration of noise pollution.
Air quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All staff on should be equipped with dosimeters that measure exposure levels to radiation. - All staff must be made aware of the health risk and obliged to wear dust masks. 	
Use of Natural Resources	<p>The bulk of the power supply to the exploration site will be sourced from the proponent's own generator.</p> <p>The proponent will drill a borehole as a water source.</p>	The proponent will use water efficiently and recycle wherever possible.

6.4 Table 8 Summary of Environmental Management Plan during the phases of the project

CONSTRUCTION PHASE			
Environmental impacts	Proposed mitigation measures	Responsibility	Monitoring plan
Solid waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Any debris should be collected by a waste collection company - If trenches are dug, waste should be re-used or backfilled. - The site should have waste receptacles with bulk storage facilities at convenient points to prevent littering during exploration. 	Management	Presence of well-Maintained receptacles and central collection point.
Oil leaks and spills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vehicles and equipment should be well maintained to prevent oil leaks. - Contractor should have a designated area where maintenance is carried out and that is protected from rainwater. 	Proponent	No oil spills and leaks on the site
Visual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental considerations will be adhered to at all times before clearing roads, trenching and excavating. 	Management	Employees will be trained on the importance of minimizing visual impacts.
Archaeological Sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adhere to practical guidelines provided by an archaeologist to reduce the archaeological impact of mineral exploration activities. - All archaeological sites to be identified and protected before further exploration commences. 	Management	
Air pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintenance of vehicles and equipment. - Control speed and operation of construction vehicles. - Prohibit idling of vehicles. - Workers should be provided with dust masks if working in sensitive areas. 	Site manager	Control amount of dust produced
Noise pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Field work should only be carried out only during daytime at a specific time. - Workers should wear earmuffs if working in noisy section. 	Proponent and management	Control amount of noise

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Management to ensure that noise is kept within reasonable levels. 		
Soil pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clearly mark/demarcate vehicle routes. - No worker should ever drive off road, but to stick to the demarcated routes. 	Project coordinator Management and park warden	Proper planning and management
Flora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Care should be taken to avoid/minimize destruction of endemic and Red Data Species. - A geologist should be consulted with respect to the viability of moving the trench to avoid destruction of fragile species. 	Management and proponent	Warning signs on site and restored vegetation
Fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some habitat areas such as trees of the riverbeds and tunnels outcrops will be avoided wherever possible. - A fauna survey will be conducted to determine the effect of fragmented habitat on game species should the need arise. - No animals shall be killed, captured or harmed in any way. - No food will be left lying around as these will attract animals which might result in human-animal conflict 	Management	Regular monitoring of any unusual signs of animal habitat.
Occupational Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide Personal Protective Equipment Train workers on personal safety and how to handle equipment and machines. - A well-stocked first aid kit shall be maintained by qualified personnel. - Provide sufficient and suitable sanitary conveniences which should be kept clean. 	Proponent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workers using protective equipment. - Presence of Well stocked first aid kit. - Clean sanitary facilities.
OPERATIONAL PHASE			
Oil leaks and spills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impervious PVC sheets should be deployed as flooring and covered with sand to absorb spillages - Should spillages occur, contaminated sand needs to be removed and stored in a drum, to 	Proponent	No oil spills and leaks on the site.

	be later removed to an approved disposal site		
Solid waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Under no conditions should any waste be buried or burned at the site - Minimize solid waste generated on site. - Waste to be deposited at a demarcated waste site in the park or if it needs to be removed to designated sites outside the park 	Proponent Management	Presence of well-Maintained receptacles and central collection point.
Visual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental considerations will be adhered to at all times before clearing roads, trenching and excavating. - Siting of roads should avoid the traversing of tops of ridges and always use of existed roads rather than creating new ones. - Erected infrastructure should be sited in depressions not on hill tops or rises and should not be visible from any major tourist roads lookout points. 	Park wardens and Management	Employees will be trained on the importance of minimizing visual impacts.
Archaeological Sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adhere to practical guidelines provided by an archaeologist to reduce the archaeological impact of mineral exploration activities. - Should any item of interest be located, all activities need to cease immediately at that location, and notify the National Monuments Council. 	Management	Update Register of all archaeological sites identified.
Noise pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workers to wear earmuffs if working in noisy section - Management to ensure that noise is kept within reasonable levels. 	Proponent Management	Control amount of noise
Soil pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The top soil needs to be removed and stockpiled - Stockpiled soil must be covered to prevent it from being windblown within three months - All hydro-carbon products need to be stored in a bunded area, to avoid any accidental spillages. 	Project coordinator Management and park warden	Proper planning and management
Flora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Care should be taken to avoid/minimize destruction of endemic and Red Data Species. 	Management and contractor	Warning signs on site and restored vegetation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A geologist should be consulted with respect to the viability of moving the trench to avoid destruction of fragile species. 		
Fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strict employee's code of conduct including prohibition of hunting or trapping or interfering in any manner with any wild animals. - No feeding of wild animals should be allowed. - Litter should be prevented and adequately disposed of to prevent attracting scavenging wild animals. 	Management	Regular monitoring of any unusual signs of wild animal habitat.
Environment Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Train workers on personal safety and disaster preparedness. - A well-stocked first aid kit shall be maintained by qualified personnel. - Report any accidents / incidences and treat and compensate affected workers. - Provide sufficient and suitable sanitary conveniences which should be kept clean. - Conduct Annual Health and Safety Audits. 	Management	Provide sanitary facilities.
Fire preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Firefighting emergency response plan. - Ensure all firefighting equipment are regularly maintained, serviced and inspected. - Fire hazard signs and directions to emergency exit, route to follow and assembly point in case of any fire incidence. 	Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proof of inspection on firefighting equipment - Fire Signs put up in strategic places. - Availability of firefighting equipment.
DECOMMISSIONING PHASE			
Solid waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Solid waste should be collected by a contracted waste collection company - Excavation waste should be re-used or backfilled. 	Proponent and Management	Amount of waste on Site. Presence of well-maintained receptacles and

			central collection point
Noise & Air pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain plant equipment. - Decommissioning works to be carried out only during daytime. - Workers working in noisy section to wear earmuffs. - Workers should be provided with dust masks. 	Proponent and Management	Amount of noise
Soil pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The contaminated soil needs to be treated either by adding bacteria which break down spilled hydro-carbon, or by simply distributing the soil thinly in direct sunlight to naturally break down the hydro-carbons. 	Proponent	
Disturbed Physical environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Undertake a complete environmental restoration program and introducing appropriate vegetation 	Management	Management
Occupational Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide Personal Protective Equipment. - Train workers on personal safety and how to handle equipment and machines. - A well-stocked first aid kit shall be maintained by qualified personnel. - Demarcate area under decommissioning. 	Proponent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workers using Protective Equipment. - Presence of a First Aid Box.
Visual pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rake the track or drag tyres to smooth tracks - Removal of all construction equipment, surplus material and temporary structures, fences and works of every kind, and everything that was brought at the site. 		Rehabilitation of every foreign material at the site

6.5 Monitoring, Auditing and Reporting

6.5.1 Inspections and Audits

Performance against the EMP commitments will need to be reviewed throughout the project's life cycle, with corrective action implemented as needed, to guarantee compliance with the EMP and any Enviro-legal obligations. This will include conducting both the internal

inspections/audits and external audits, documentation, reporting, establishing an environmental management systems, adhere to the drafted environmental policy, maintain the impact aspect register, drafting procedures and method statements by the relevant responsible mineral exploration staff and contractors, determining the relevant roles and responsibilities, and others.

Internal compliance monitoring will be implemented in the following manner:

- a) All contractors will be subjected to project kick-off and close-out audits. This applies to all phases of the process, including drilling contract work:
 - Before a contractor begins work, the applicable phase site manager will perform an audit to confirm that the EMP commitments are reflected in the contractor's standard operating procedures (SOPs) and method statements.
 - After a contractor's work is completed, the applicable phase site manager will conduct a final close-out audit of the contractor's performance against the EMP commitments.
- b) During the construction/initial and decommissioning phases, monthly internal EMP performance audits will be conducted.

6.5.2 Roles and responsibilities for environmental management

6.5.2.1 Communication between Parties

Emphasis will be put towards open communication between all parties, in order to reach a proactive approach towards potential environmental issues deriving from the project. This approach should guarantee that environmental impacts are anticipated and prevented, or minimised, rather than adopting a negative “policing” approach after negative impacts have already occurred. The importance of a proactive approach cannot be overemphasised, particularly in relation to preventing unnecessary tracks, and damage to vegetation (i.e. protected and endemic species) as these impacts cannot easily be remedied.

6.5.2.2 The Operating Company

The company is ultimately responsible for all stages of the project and the impacts resulting from those activities. The responsible persons will be the company's Environmental Control Officer (ECO) and Managing Director to ensure that:

- The EMP and its environmental specifications are included in contractual documents and it is required that contractors, and subcontractors, consultants etc. do meet the EMP requirements;

- The company and all its subcontractors, consultants etc. comply with all Namibian legislation and policies and any relevant International Conventions;
- Compliance with the environmental specifications are enforced on a day-to-day basis;
- Environmental audits are conducted periodically by a suitably qualified ECO to confirm that the environmental requirements are properly understood and effectively implemented;
- Sufficient budget is provided to implement those measures that have cost implications;
- The site manager must commission tree surveys well in advance of planned road construction or drill pad preparation so that the necessary site visits by forestry personnel and forestry permits are acquired; and,
- Open an effective communication between all parties concerning environmental management on the project.

6.5.2.3 Site managers

Day-to-day responsibility for environmental management will be assigned to the ECO and Manager Field Operations site manager for the duration of all operational activities to:

- Be familiar with the contents of the EMP and applicable sections of the EIA and the measures recommended therein;
- Monitor compliance with the environmental specifications on a daily basis and enforce the environmental compliance on site by communicating the ECO's directions to all personnel involved;
- In the event of any infringements leading to environmental damage, personnel need to consult with the ECO and seek advice on any remedial measures to limit or rectify the damage;
- Maintain a record (photographic and written) of "before-and-after" conditions on site;
- Facilitate communication between all role players in the interests of effective environmental management

6.5.2.4 Environmental Control Officer (ECO)

KMZ Enterprises cc must appoint a suitably qualified ECO who is responsible to:

- Undertake environmental audits of overall compliance with the environmental specifications. This should be done at least bi-annually for the warehouse.
- Submit a site inspection report to the Managing Director and MFO;

- Advise the MFO on interpretation and implementation of the environmental specifications as required; and,
- Make recommendations for remedial action in cases of non-compliance with the environmental specifications.

6. 5.3 Environmental Management System Framework

The proponent and its contractors will create and implement an Environmental Management System (EMS) in order to apply Environmental Management Practices. The structure for compiling a project EMS is established in this section. All environmental management paperwork will be kept in a paper and/or electronic system by the applicable exploration

EMP. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Standard operating procedures for the implementation of the environmental action plan and management program.
- Procedures for dealing with incidents and emergencies.
- Procedures for auditing, monitoring, and reporting, as well as
- EMP compliance method statements for ad hoc actions not explicitly covered in the EMP action plans.

e) Register of Roles and Responsibilities

Relevant roles and duties will be identified during project planning and risk assessments. All environmental commitment duties and obligations must be documented in a register. The register must include pertinent contact information and be updated as needed.

f) Site Map

It is essential to keep an up-to-date map of the exploration site that shows all project activities.

The following detail, in addition to the project layout, must be depicted:

- Material handling and storage
- Waste management (collection, storage, and transfer, among other things);
- Areas with a high level of sensitivity;
- The location of the incident and emergency equipment; and the location of the accountable parties.

g) Environmental Management Schedule

The applicable phase site managers and/or relevant Contractors must keep a schedule of environmental control actions. The exploration manager is responsible for keeping a master schedule of all such activities up to date. Environmental risk assessments, environmental management meetings, and other scheduled environmental actions include, but are not limited to:

- Handling, managing, and rehabilitating soils
- Waste removal
- Inspection and repair of incident and emergency response equipment
- Environmental education
- Participation of stakeholders; environmental inspections; and
- Auditing, monitoring, and reporting are all part of the auditing, monitoring, and reporting process.

h) Change Management

The EMS must have a change management procedure in place. In this regard, environmental documentation, procedures and method statements, action plans, and other related documents will be updated and revised as needed to account for the following scenarios:

Changes in standard operating procedures (SOPs), scope changes, ad hoc activities, project phase changes, and duties or roles changes

6.6 Closure Plan

The proposed project's closing plan is to develop a secure, stable, and non-polluting post-prospecting landscape that may support integrated, self-sustaining, and value-generating activities, leaving a positive legacy in the process. The closure plan's goals are to:

- Prioritizing the creation of a functional post-prospecting environment that allows for self-sustaining agricultural operations whenever possible.
- To promote the restoration of terrestrial and aquatic wetland biodiversity, when appropriate.

6.6.1 Alternatives Considered

Because this is an exploration project, the proposed project is not complicated, and the hazards associated with prospecting are well understood and may be mitigated once the project is completed. There are few alternatives for closure. There are just two activity possibilities for the closure plan that have been considered:

First alternative:

Closure or backfill of boreholes with overburden removed during drilling (best option).

Second alternative:

Leaving boreholes open to allow for groundwater recharge from surface run-off.

6.6.2 Preferred Alternative: Rehabilitation/ Backfill of boreholes

The restoration of a disturbed environment that has been deteriorated as a result of operations such as mining, road construction, or waste disposal to a land use similar to that which existed before the activity began is known as rehabilitation. This involves aesthetic concerns, so that a disturbed region does not stand out from the surrounding surroundings. Backfilling boreholes with overburden removed during development and covering with growth medium to produce vegetation is the preferred technique for preserving physical, chemical, and biological ecosystem functions in degraded environments. This option provides a number of benefits, which are listed below:

Benefits:

- The site will be pleasing to the eye
- The location will blend in with the surroundings
- The site will be a suitable habitat for fauna and flora again
- The site will be safe and pollution-free

Option 1, which is to leave boreholes unbackfilled, carries the risk of these boreholes filling with water, which could attract wildlife and communities, resulting in drowning and the possibility of getting trapped in the declines. Backfilling is required to reduce these dangers.

6.6.3 Closure Assumptions

This closure plan was created using the minimal information available, including environmental data. During the operational phase, some of the already accessible data may need to be enhanced. To construct the suggested closure actions, numerous assumptions were made about general conditions, as well as the closure and rehabilitation of the site's facilities. These assumptions will be examined and amended as more information becomes available during operations.

The following are some of the assumptions that were utilized to create this plan:

- Once the last intended weight of minerals has been removed from the site for laboratory testing, the closing period will begin.

- The recommended prospecting sites will be followed to the letter in order to minimize potential consequences.
- Vegetation will be established in accordance with the native vegetation of the project area.
- Water management infrastructure constructed during the operational period will be kept for closure / end of project life if needed.
- There are few chances to build infrastructure on site, and any infrastructure that is created will be of minimal utility to the community. As a result, all structures will be demolished.
- All hazardous and household garbage will be carried offsite to licensed landfills for disposal.
- Existing roads will be utilized to the greatest extent practicable. Where access tracks have been built in the absence of roads, they will be restored and closed as part of the standard closure process.

6.6.4 Closure and Rehabilitation Activities

The remediation procedures that will be conducted when the projected prospecting activities reach the end of their life cycle are explained below:

6.6.4.1 Infrastructure

All infrastructure will be decommissioned, and the footprints will be repaired so that vegetation can grow. To minimize any surplus materials at closure, material inventories will be maintained at the end of prospecting activities. Equipment and materials of value that aren't needed for post-closure operations will be sold or removed from the site as much as possible. Scrap and salvageable equipment will be removed from the site and sold to recyclers.

Following the completion of demolition activities, a soil contamination investigation will be carried out. The goal is to identify potential contaminated locations and then create and implement appropriate remediation methods to ensure that soil contaminants are removed. The following actions will be taken to bring the situation to a close:

- Prior to undertaking any decommissioning work, all power and water services will be disconnected and certified as safe
- All remaining inert equipment and decommissioning waste will be disposed of at the nearest licensed general waste disposal facility
- Salvageable equipment will be removed and transported offsite prior to and during decommissioning
- All tanks, pipes, and sumps containing hydrocarbons will be flushed or emptied prior to removal to ensure no hydrocarbon/c is present

6.6.4.2 Boreholes

Boreholes will be backfilled with overburden stripped before prospecting activities begin. All overburden should be dumped into the vacuum, and the finished surface should be moulded to match the surrounding terrain while remaining free draining. After backfilling, a growth medium cover will be installed, and vegetation will begin to grow.

6.6.4.3 Roads

Existing roads will be utilized to the greatest extent practicable. • All signage, fences, and shade structures, as well as traffic barriers, will be removed as part of the road and parking area closure.

- All 'hard top' surfaces, as well as any concrete structures, must be ripped.
- All potentially contaminated soils must be identified and delineated for further treatment
- All haul routes treated with saline dust suppression water must be treated, with the upper surface pulled off and disposed of in authorized contaminated disposal places.

6.6.4.4 Remediation of Contaminated Areas

- All hydrocarbon-containing tanks, pipes, and sumps will be flushed or emptied, and removed soils will be treated according to the nature and amount of the pollution.
- The liquid storage tanks will be drained, the structure will be removed/demolished, and the sub-surface holes will be plugged; and
- All equipment used to store or transport chemicals will be cleaned and disposed of at a proper disposal facility.

6.6.4.5 Vegetation

Using non-invasive plants that meet the habitat's criteria, successful revegetation will help control erosion of soil resources, maintain soil productivity, and reduce sediment loading in streams (e.g. soils, water availability, slope and other appropriate environmental factors). Invasive species will be avoided, and the area will be managed to keep them from spreading. On slopes, naturally occurring grassland species will be planted to combat the effects of erosion. These plants will increase soil holding capacity while also lowering runoff velocity. The flat areas will be re-vegetated with the goal of establishing a long-term ecology. Before vegetation is removed, the presence of protected plant species must be identified, and the necessary licenses for destruction or relocation must be secured.

6.6.4.6 Waste Management

Hazardous waste will be controlled, sorted, and disposed of, while non-hazardous garbage will be disposed of in a nearby permitted landfill site. Scrap and waste steel will be sold to recyclers. Wastes to be contained in animal-proof drums with a solid lid, and drums be in an enclosed

fence, to prevent windblown debris from escaping, and scavenging animals from rummaging through the waste.

7. Public participation

Notification of the proposed activities were advertised in the two widely common newspaper to consult the public as presented in Appendix, to identify and contact as many potential I&APs as possible. The description of the project was presented and opportunity was given for the I&APs to give their comments and issues. However, currently no stakeholders registered for comment. The registered interested and affected are indicated in the table below:

Table 9 Registered interested and affected parties

Name	Position
Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism	Park Department
Mr Joshua	Chief Warden – Conservation Skeleton Coast National Park

8. Conclusions

The scoping report is prepared for the Environmental Impact Assessment for mineral exploration in the Skeleton Coast Park. The proposed site is located within the areas of Torra bay along C39 road, northwest of Khorixas, and its geographical coordinates are - 20.285 and 13.373.

The approach and methodology will be guided by the Environmental Regulations of 2012 and as per proponent's provisions. The project will employ individuals from the local towns and communities throughout the exploratory phase. If the exploratory project results in the finding of a commercially viable mineral deposit, a mine could be built in the area. A mine can make a substantial contribution to the social and economic development of the town.

On condition that that the relevant mitigation measures are effectively implemented by the proponent, there are no environmental reasons why the proposed project should not be approved. The project will have significant positive economic impacts that would benefit the local, regional and national economy of Namibia.

References

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APPENDIX

Annexure A Newspaper advertisement in the Confidante newspaper

Classifieds

Contact: Mandy

• T: 061 24 6136 • C: 081 895 8296 • E: mandy@confidentenamibia.com

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PUBLIC NOTICE

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES (EPL No. 6813)

Notice is hereby placed to inform all potentially interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate will be made to the Environmental Commissioner, in line with provisions of Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007 and its Regulations of 2012, in respect of proposed exploration activities for base metals mineral deposits:

Project Location: Khomas / Hardap Regions – Windhoek/Rehoboth Area
 Proponent: A E Ishile Infrastructures CC

All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are invited to register and submit their comments (including request for Background Information Document) before 16th of May 2022, to:

Ms. Anna Neputa
 Environmental Specialist (EAP)
 SS Consultants CC
 Cell: 081 430 4609
 Email: admin@ssconsultants.co

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LAMB COMBO

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3. Mince - 1 kg
4. Soup Bones - 700 g

N\$ 300 only!

Promotion ends 7 May 2022

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 Sunday & Public Holidays: 09:00 - 14:00

Specialty

- Beef
- Lamb & Mutton
- Boerewors
- Mince
- Goat
- Game and more

oro Dr Kusima Ruako & A/a Street - Dorado Valley Shopping Complex

NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND REZONING OF ERF 3156, RUNDU EXTENSION 7 FROM SINGLE RESIDENTIAL WITH A DENSITY OF 1/300 TO BUSINESS WITH A BULK OF 1

Notice is hereby given to all Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) that an application for the Environmental Clearance Certificate will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) for the following activities:

Title: Rezoning of Erf 3156, Rundu Extension 7 from single residential with a density of 1/300 to business with a bulk of 1.

Proponent: Mrs. Elizabeth Shivute

EAP: Green Gain Environmental Consultants cc

All I&APs are hereby invited to request background information Documents (BID) and send their comments to esia@greengain.com.na on or before 3 June 2022.

REZONING NOTICE:

Notice is hereby given in terms of Regulation 10(1) of the Urban and Regional Planning Act, (Act No. 5 of 2018) that Hilaria Kevanhu under the supervision of Geraldine van Rooi, intends to apply on behalf of the registered owner of Erf 3156, Rundu Extension 7 for the:

- Rezoning of Erf 3156, Extension 7, Rundu from single residential with a density of 1/300 to business with a bulk of 1
- Consent to construct residential units
- Consent to commence with the Proposed Development whilst rezoning is ongoing.

The rezoning of Erf 3156, Extension 7, Rundu would increase the development potential of the erf and ensure that the mono-functionality of the surrounding neighbourhood is countered.

Take note that any person objecting to the proposed rezoning as set out above may lodge such objection together with the grounds thereof with the Chief Executive Officer, Rundu Town Council, Private Bag 2128, Rundu and/or the applicant in writing within 14 working days of the publication of this notice. The last date for comments/ objections is thus 31 May 2022.

Applicant:
 Hilaria Kevanhu
 P O Box 793
 Swakopmund
 Mobile: +264 81 3236024
 E-mail: hkskevanhu@gmail.com

Namib-Enviro CONSULTANTS
 Maintaining sustainable development!

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR EXPLORATIONS ACTIVITIES BY KMZ INTERPRICES CC ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTIVE LICENCE (EPL 8496)

Advanced environmental agency consultant herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act, 7 of 2007 and Regulation 21 of the Environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the process mining activities on the above mentioned EPL NO 8496.

PROponent: KMZ INTERPRICES CC

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY: EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON DENIMENSION STONES, PRECIOUS METAL, 16,4604 Ha area APPROXIMATELY.

LOCATION OF THE ML AREA: KHORIXA, KUNENE REGION SKELETON COAST.

Interested and Affected parties (I & AP) are invited to register with advanced environmental agency consultants for the proposed mining activities within 14 days of the advertisement. Registration can be done by requesting of the Background information document provided in the email below by: 26 APRIL 2022-10 MAY 2022
 Email: info.advancenviroment@gmail.com
 Cell: 081-4801644

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR EXPLORATIONS ACTIVITIES, GRAVITY MINING CC ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTIVE LICENCE (EPL 8379)

Advanced environmental agency consultant herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act, 7 of 2007 and Regulation 21 of the Environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the process mining activities on the above mentioned EPL NO 8375

PROponent: GRAVITY MINING CC

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY: EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON DENIMENSION STONES, PRECIOUS METAL, 16,4604 Ha area APPROXIMATELY

LOCATION OF THE ML AREA: KHORIXA, KUNENE REGION SKELETON COAST.

Interested and Affected parties (I & AP) are invited to register with advanced environmental agency consultants for the proposed mining activities within 14 days of the advertisement. Registration can be done by requesting of the Background information document provided in the email below by: 26 APRIL 2022-10 MAY 2022
 Email: info.advancenvironment@gmail.com
 Cell: 081-4801644

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR EXPLORATIONS ACTIVITIES BY KMB TRADING CC ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTIVE LICENCE (EPL 8205)

Advanced environmental agency cc consultant herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act, 7 of 2007 and Regulation 21 of the Environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the process mining activities on the above mentioned EPL NO 8205

PROponent: KMB TRADING CC

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY: EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON DENIMENSION STONES, PRECIOUS METAL, 16,4604 Ha area APPROXIMATELY

LOCATION OF THE ML AREA: KHORIXA, KUNENE REGION SKELETON COAST.

Interested and Affected parties (I & AP) are invited to register with advanced environmental agency consultants for the proposed mining activities within 14 days of the advertisement. Registration can be done by requesting of the Background information document provided in the email below by: 26 APRIL 2022-10 MAY 2022
 Email: info.advancenvironment@gmail.com
 Cell: 081-4801644

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR FILLING STATIONS AT OMINGONDO IN ROAD NO D 3089 FROM OTJINENE GAM

Advanced environmental agency cc consultant herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act, 7 of 2007 and Regulation 21 of the Environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the filling stations.

PROponent: KMB TRADING CC

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY: FILLING STATIONS AT OMINGONDO IN ROAD NO D 3089 FROM OTJINENE GAM

LOCATION OF THE ML AREA: OMINGONDO, OTJINENE OMAHEKE REGION.

Interested and Affected parties (I & AP) are invited to register with advanced environmental agency consultants for the proposed mining activities within 14 days of the advertisement. Registration can be done by requesting of the Background information document provided in the email below by: 26 APRIL 2022-10 MAY 2022
 Email: info.advancenvironment@gmail.com
 Cell: 081-4801644

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Notice is hereby given to all Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) that an application for the Environmental Clearance Certificate will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) for the following activities.

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Proponent: Mrs. Elizabeth Shivuta

EAP: Green Gain Environmental Consultants cc

All I&APs are hereby invited to request background information Documents (BID) and send their comments to efai@greengain.com.na on or before 3 June 2022.

REZONING NOTICE:

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- Rezoning of Erf 3156, Extension 7, Rundu from single residential with a density of 1/300 to business with a bulk of 1
- Consent to construct residential units
- Consent to commence with the Proposed Development whilst rezoning is ongoing.

The rezoning of Erf 3156, Extension 7, Rundu would increase the development potential of the erf and ensure that the mono-functionality of the surrounding neighbourhood is countered.

Take note that any person objecting to the proposed rezoning as set out above may lodge such objection together with the grounds thereof with the Chief Executive Officer, Rundu Town Council, Private Bag 2128, Rundu and/or the applicant in writing within 14 working days of the publication of this notice. The last date for comments/objections is thus 31 May 2022.

Applicant:
Hilaria Kevanhu
P O Box 793
Swakopmund
Mobile: +264 81 3236024
E-mail: htakevanhu@gmail.com

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR EXPLORATIONS ACTIVITIES BY KMZ INTERPRICES CC ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTIVE LICENCE (EPL 8496).

Advanced environmental agency consultant herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act, 7 of 2007 and Regulation 21 of the Environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the process mining activities on the above mentioned EPL NO: 8496

PROPOSANT: KMZ INTERPRICES CC

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY: EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON DENIMENSION STONES, PRECIOUS METAL, 16,4604 Ha area APPROXIMATELY.

LOCATION OF THE ML AREA: KHORIXA, KUNENE REGION SKELETON COAST.

Interested and Affected parties (I & AP) are invited to register with advanced environmental agency consultants for the proposed mining activities within 14 days of the advertisement.
Registration can be done by requesting of the Background information document provided in the email below by: **26 APRIL 2022-10 MAY 2022**
Email: info.advanceenviroment@gmail.com
Cell: 081-4801644

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR EXPLORATIONS ACTIVITIES GRAVITY MINING CC ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTIVE LICENCE (EPL 8375).

Advanced environmental agency consultant herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act, 7 of 2007 and Regulation 21 of the Environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the process mining activities on the above mentioned EPL NO: 8375

PROPOSANT: GRAVITY MINING CC

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY: EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON DENIMENSION STONES, PRECIOUS METAL, 16,4604 Ha area APPROXIMATELY.

LOCATION OF THE ML AREA: KHORIXA, KUNENE REGION SKELETON COAST.

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Cell: 081-4801644

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR EXPLORATIONS ACTIVITIES BY KMB TRADING CC ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTIVE LICENCE (EPL 8205).

Advanced environmental agency cc consultant herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act, 7 of 2007 and Regulation 21 of the Environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the process mining activities on the above mentioned EPL NO: 8205

PROPOSANT: KMB TRADING CC

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY: EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON DENIMENSION STONES, PRECIOUS METAL, 16,4604 Ha area APPROXIMATELY.

LOCATION OF THE ML AREA: KHORIXA, KUNENE REGION SKELETON COAST.

Interested and Affected parties (I & AP) are invited to register with advanced environmental agency consultants for the proposed mining activities within 14 days of the advertisement.
Registration can be done by requesting of the Background information document provided in the email below by: **26 APRIL 2022-10 MAY 2022**
Email: info.advanceenviroment@gmail.com
Cell: 081-4801644

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR FILLING STATIONS AT OMINGONDO IN ROAD NO D 3089 FROM OTJINENE GAM

Advanced environmental agency cc consultant herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act, 7 of 2007 and Regulation 21 of the Environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the filling stations.

PROPOSANT: KMB TRADING CC

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY: FILLING STATIONS AT OMINGONDO IN ROAD NO D 3089 FROM OTJINENE GAM

LOCATION OF THE ML AREA: OMINGONDO, OTJINENE OMAHEKE REGION.

Interested and Affected parties (I & AP) are invited to register with advanced environmental agency consultants for the proposed mining activities within 14 days of the advertisement.
Registration can be done by requesting of the Background information document provided in the email below by: **26 APRIL 2022-10 MAY 2022**
Email: info.advanceenviroment@gmail.com
Cell: 081-4801644

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FOR SALE New listing - N\$ 580 000 CASH Okuryangava (close to woerman Brock) 1 bedroom 2 bathrooms Kitchen Big lounge Suitable for butchery/Bar business Please call 0816534437 If buying with bank Quotation is needed house for sale quick sales by twahafa reale state



New listing - KHOMASDAL N\$ 1 380 000 Prime location Erf size 450 sqm sole mandate specialist twahafa Lots of space to build 3 bedrooms 1 bathroom Kitchen Dining area Lounge Big garden Boundary wall Electrical fence and alarm system Please call: 0816534437



FOR SALE - N\$ 1 100 000 Shandumbala - Katutura - 4 bedrooms 2 bathrooms 1 storeroom (Main bedroom with full ensuite bathroom) Spacious Lounge Kitchen 2 aircons BIC in all the rooms Bargain - Truck shop Fully interlocked Boundary wall Shaded car port. N\$ 1 230 000 cost included Please call 0816534437 for viewing. Email: twahafasins@gmail.com



FOR SALE - WANAHEDA N\$1 690 000 all cost included Erf size: 652 sqm Well located & Income Generating home. Main house: 5 bedrooms 3 bathrooms Dining area Lounge Kitchen Garage for 2 cars Stand alone Flat 2 bedrooms Lounge Kitchen Bedroom Stand alone Flat 2 separate rooms Sharing toilet. House is fully interlocked. Has electrical fence Braai area Lots of extra car parking Please have your pre approval ready for viewing Call 0816534437 info@twahafagroup.com



Wow Wow Massive Price Drop. PLOT FOR SALE: ONDANGWA - Business & Residential (zoned) Serviced Erf Size 5442, Price 2 300 000 (Cash/Bank financing) Location: adjacent to B1 highway main road Ideal for: Business Park Medical Centre Office Complex Car Dealership Hotel/conference centre Private School Apartments Flat 0816534437 ondangwa Plots for sale

WANAHEDA N\$ 720 000 cost included sole mandate specialist Corner Flat 2 bedrooms with BIC bathroom with Shower Lovely kitchen with BIC stove Lounge Nest home Viewing weekly from 17:30-18:30 Please call: 0816534437 inewlistingkatutura@quicksalesbytwahafarealestate.com

FLAT FOR SALE: N\$ 690 000 COST INCLUDED SOWETO -Moaib View court 2 Bedrooms 1 bathroom Kitchen Lounge Spacious court yard Own front yard entrance Currently occupied by a tenant paying N\$ 8k incl water: 0816534437 katutura homes soweto property for sale



FOR SALE: Khomasdal N\$ 1 650 000 Sole mandate Offers welcome Erf 450 sqm Lots of space to extend Well located home in Khomasdal, 3 bedrooms BIC Kitchen Pantry Lounge Dining area Bathroom with Shower 2 backyard rooms with Shared bathroom Garage/ Office Please call: 0816534437 info@twahafagroup.com

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- Lamb & Mutton
- Boerewors
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Saturday: 09:00 - 16:00
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Regskennisgewings
Legal Notices

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR EXPLORATIONS ACTIVITIES BY KMZ INTERPRICES CC ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTIVE LICENCE (EPL 8496).

Advanced environmental agency consultant herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act, 7 of 2007 and Regulation 21 of the Environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the process mining activities on the above mentioned

EPL NO: 8496

PROPONENT: KMZ INTERPRICES CC

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY: EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON DENMENSION STONES, PRECIOUS METAL 16, 4604 Ha area APPROXIMATELY.

LOCATION OF THE ML AREA: KHORIXAS, KUNENE REGION SKELETON COAST.

Interested and Affected parties (I & AP) are invited to register with advanced environmental agency consultants for the proposed mining activities within 14 days of the advertisement. Registration can be done by requesting of the Background information document provided in the email below.

Any persons having any objection to the email below by: 26 APRIL 2022-10 MAY 2022

Email: info.advanceenvironment@gmail.com Cell: 081-4801644.

DM0202200402290

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR EXPLORATIONS ACTIVITIES GRAVITY MINING CC ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTIVE LICENCE (EPL 8375).

Advanced environmental agency consultant herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act, 7 of 2007 and Regulation 21 of the Environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the process mining activities on the above mentioned EPL NO: 8375

PROPONENT: GRAVITY MINING CC

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY: EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON DENMENSION STONES, PRECIOUS METAL 16,4604 Ha area APPROXIMATELY

LOCATION OF THE ML AREA: KHORIXAS, KUNENE REGION SKELETON COAST.

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Email: info.advanceenvironment@gmail.com Cell: 081-4801644

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Any persons having any objection to the email below by: 26 APRIL 2022-10 MAY 2022

Email: info.advanceenvironment@gmail.com Cell: 081-4801644.

DM0202200402296

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES GRAVITY MINING CC ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTIVE LICENCE (EPL 8375).

Advanced environmental agency consultant herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act, 7 of 2007 and Regulation 21 of the Environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the process mining activities on the above mentioned EPL NO: 8375

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Email: info.advanceenvironment@gmail.com Cell: 081-4801644

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Annexure C Curriculum Vitae for the proponent