

**30 June 2023**

## **PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING MINUTES:**

**Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) for Proposed Exploration Activities on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 7767 located North-East of Noordoewer in the //Karas Region, Namibia.**

**Date:** Friday, 09 June 2023

**Time:** 10h00

**Venue:** Noordoewer Settlement Office

The public consultation meeting was attended by 21 people, including one (1) environmental consultant and one (1) archaeologist from Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd (EDS)- **Please refer to the attached attendance register.**

### **1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING REMARKS**

The meeting was opened by the environmental consultant, Mr. Mandume Leonard, by introducing the team and stating the purpose of the consultation meeting with the parties affected by the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL 7767. The meeting attendance register was circulated for the attendees to sign and add their contact details, in order to be added to the list of interested and affected parties (I&APs) and receive further information on the ESA process.

### **2. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION**

The agenda of the meeting included the following main points:

#### **2.1 Brief Description of the Project**

Mr. Mandume Leonard explained the EIA process to the attendees, and the reason for their invitation to the meeting (with reference to the Environmental Management Act (EMA) No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations on Public Consultation). Mr. Leonard further explained the importance for the proposed project of requiring an ECC and attendee's role in the EIA process.

### **2.3 Presentation of Potential Project Impacts**

To ensure transparency towards the public and understanding of proposed works by the attendees, the Environmental Consultant also presented the pre-identified potential positive & negative environmental and social impacts.

### **2.4 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)**

Mr. Leonard provided the meeting attendees with the opportunity to raise their concerns/issues and/ or comment on the proposed project activities. The issues and comments recorded are presented in **Table 1** below.

**Table 1: Comments and issues raised during the public consultation meeting, 09 June 2023**

<b>Comment/ issue No.</b>	<b>Commenter name &amp; issue / comment / question</b>	<b>Response and name of responder:</b>
1.	<b>Commenter 1:</b> Exploration companies come here with their own workers and machineries, which means we do not get the jobs because we do not fit the requirements.	<b>Mandume Leonard (ML):</b> The proponent plans to employ skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled people from the area.
2.	<b>Commenter 2:</b> What is the purpose of this meeting? Is it to sensitize us about these documents? Do you expect input from us?	<b>(ML):</b> The main reason for the consultation meeting is to inform you and engage on the proposed project, and to receive concerns and comments from you that will be incorporated in the documents to be submitted to the relevant ministries.
3.	<b>Commenter 3:</b> The owner of the EPL needs to come and engage us so we can talk about shareholders, the community and for us to work together as a team.	<b>(ML):</b> Noted. The status of the EPL is pending ECC, meaning they have not been issued an ECC yet, they are required to conduct an EIA first. If the proponent is later granted an ECC then they will come here and engage you on the way forward.

## **FINAL REMARKS AND CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**

Mr. Leonard thanked the attendees for their input through comments and by raising their concerns. He indicated to the attendees that all their comments, concerns and inputs are captured and will be incorporated in the Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

Furthermore, Mr. Leonard informed the attendees that the draft meeting minutes, Environmental Assessment Report (EAR) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) will be shared with them for their review and further comments. These documents will be made available through emails provided on the attendance register.

Once the review of the reporting is completed, the documents will be finalized and submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry (DEAF) for evaluation and consideration for an ECC.

The meeting adjourned at 11h00