

COPY



+264 81 669 7608

info@eccenvironmental.com

www.eccenvironmental.com



Ministry of Mines and Energy
Private Bag 13297
Windhoek
Namibia



REFERENCE: ECC/88-270-LET-10-A
09 June 2020

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

COPY TO: Mr. Timoteus Mufeti (Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism – Environmental Commissioner)
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 VOTORANTIM METALS NAMIBIA EPL 7172 FOR BASE AND RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, PRECIOUS METALS IN THE OSHIKOTO AND OTJOZONDJUPA REGION, NAMIBIA.

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (ECC) has been engaged by Votorantim Metals Namibia (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, Precious Metals in Oshikoto and Otjozondjupa Region, Namibia.

Votorantim Metals provides metal and mineral mining services worldwide, a company such as Nexa Resources is an investor within Votorantims' portfolio. Votorantim undertakes mineral exploration in Namibia and proposes to undertake low impact exploration activities on EPL 7172 for Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals, Precious Metals in Oshikoto and Otjozondjupa Region, Namibia.

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), 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 (soil and sand), and rock samples will be sampled extracted from within the EPL 7172
- Resource extraction, manipulation, conservation, and related activities

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE CONSULTANCY CC
PO BOX 91193 WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA
MEMBERS: J L MOONEY & JS BEZUIDENHOUT
REGISTRATION NUMBER: CC/2013/11404



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- o The proposed project will search for the above-listed mineral groups

WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

- The abstraction of ground or surface water for industrial or commercial purposes
 - o Groundwater will be required for exploration 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 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 g of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act, No. 33 of 1992.

ECC aspire 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 MEFT 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
Contact: +264 81 669 7608
Email: stephan@eccenvironmental.com

Jessica Bezuidenhout Mooney
Environmental Compliance Consultancy
Contact: +264 81 669 7608
Email: jessica@eccenvironmental.com

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