

Memorandum

Subject: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR THE PROPOSED ENCROACHER BUSH BIOMASS POWER PROJECT IN NAMIBIA

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

NamPower proposes the construction and operation of the Otjikoto Biomass Power Station, which will generate electricity by the combustion of wood chips. A harvesting area of approximately 100 km radius surrounding the Project Site has been identified from where encroacher bush will be harvested, processed and transported to the Project Site as its source of fuel. As a result of a site selection process and the preceding EIA scoping phase, NamPower selected the site near Tsumeb for the construction of the proposed Otjikoto Biomass Power Station, which is in close proximity to their existing Otjikoto Substation.

Applications for two separate environmental clearance certificates (ECCs) were submitted, comprising the following:

- Construction and operation of the 40 MWe Otjikoto Biomass Power Station, near Tsumeb, which includes the transmission substation and transmission lines; and
- Related fuel supply activities, including the harvesting, processing, and logistics of supplying encroacher bush wood chips as the fuel source for the Otjikoto Biomass Power Station.

The EIA process for the above mentioned project has been completed. The Final EIA report was submitted to the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) and the Ministry of Environment Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) ('Forestry Department') on the 1st of December 2020, for their review and recommendations to the MEFT (Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)), for their final review and decision.



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Please note the following:

1. EIA Report (not Scoping Report)

- The scoping phase of the EIA was completed in 2018 and the Scoping Report accepted by the Ministry of Environment Forestry and Truism (MEFT) on 21 May 2018.
- The Executive Summary of the EIA Report is hereby attached.
- This EIA Report considers the potential impacts associated with all project components/activities, including the following:
 - Construction and operation of the Otjikoto Biomass Power Station, the transmission substation and transmission lines; and
 - Related fuel supply activities, including the harvesting, processing, and logistics of supplying encroacher bush wood chips as the fuel source for the Otjikoto Biomass Power Station.

2. Environmental Management Plans (EMPs)

- Due to the fact that two separate applications for Environmental Clearance Certificates (ECCs) were submitted to the two competent authorities and MEFT, two separate EMPs have been developed as follows:
 - EMP for the activities associated with the proposed Power Station and overhead powerline.
 - EMP for the harvesting and associated activities (including the transport of the biomass to the Power Station).

3. Consent letter

- Once the MME and MEFT ('Forestry Department') have completed their review, they will share the reports as well as their recommendations with the MEFT: Department of Environmental Affairs (i.e. office of the Environmental Commissioner) for their final review and decision regarding the application (MEFT Application numbers - APP-001500 and APP-001501).
- A "Consent Letter" can therefore not be uploaded by SLR at this stage, due to the fact that the correspondence will take place between MME and MEFT, as per the above mentioned.

4. Further Consultation

- Interested and affected parties (I&APs) were notified about the availability of the EIA Report and EMP's for their review and comment. Further consultation was also undertaken, by means of Key Stakeholder meetings. Proof of this "further consultation" and comments received are herewith attached.