ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING AND ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED MINERAL EXPLORATION ON EPL NO.8816

Outjo District, Kunene Region

APP-001750

2023

COMPILED BY



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APPENDIX I: ISSUES AND RESPONSE TRAIL

LIST OF ACRONYMS

- DEA Department of Environmental Affairs
- **EMP** Environmental Management Plan
- EA Environmental assessment
- ECC Environmental Clearance Certificate
- **EIA** Environmental Impact Assessments
- EMA Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007
- ESA Environmental Scoping Assessment
- **I&AP** interested and affected parties.
- METF Ministry of Environment, Tourism and Forestry
- MME Ministry of Mines and Energy
- M Meters
- ASL above sea level
- NDP5 National Development Plan
- **GDP** Gross Domestic Product
- HPPs Harambee Prosperity Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mr Seblon Kambwale Hangula (Pty) Ltd (hereinafter referred to as the proponent) has been granted an Exclusive prospecting Licence (EPL 8816) by the Ministry of Mines and Energy. The proponent intends to explore for base and rare metals, dimension stone, industrial minerals, and precious metals. The EPL is located about 71 kilometres northwest of Outjo and about 3 kilometres southwest of Otjikondo Village within the Kamanjab constituency, in the Kunene Region.

The project triggers listed activities in terms of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 (EMA), therefore an Environmental Clearance Certificate is required. As part of the Environmental Clearance Certificate application, an Environmental Impact Assessment is being undertaken in compliance with the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its associated regulations. This Environmental Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan shall be submitted to the competent authority as part of the application for the Environmental Clearance Certificate. The scoping study is conducted to identify the potential environmental impacts caused by the proposed exploration project. Furthermore, the proponent is guided by various legislations and policies which includes the Mineral Act, the EMA etc.

The proposed exploration program will involve both non-invasive and invasive exploration methods. Non-invasive exploration methods will include activities such as geological desktop studies, interpretation of aeromagnetic and remote sensing images, field mapping, ground geophysical surveys, and sampling of surface rock and soil. Invasive exploration methods, include drilling (reverse circulation or diamond drilling) and pitting/trenching. The exploration program will follow a systematic approach, beginning with non-invasive methods to determine if invasive techniques are necessary.

The main aim of conducting an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is to minimize any negative impact on the environment by thoroughly exploring and considering various project alternatives. The no-go option, which involves completely abandoning the project in environmentally sensitive areas, is an important aspect that is typically taken into account. However, in this project, the no-go option was not considered as it could result in economic

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losses. Nevertheless, for parts of the project that are more environmentally vulnerable, the no-go option will be applied. Additionally, the exploration of alternative project locations was not undertaken because the decision to proceed with the chosen location was based on geological assessments, past exploration data, and promising mineralization indicators. Furthermore, the author has proposed several alternatives for service infrastructure to mitigate potential environmental impacts.

In compliance with the Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007, public consultations were conducted by actively engaging Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) through newspaper advertisements in the Namibian Sun newspaper and the Confidante newspaper. Additionally, site notices were prominently displayed at key locations such as the Kamandjab Village Council and at the farm gates of the farms covering the project area. Moreover, a comprehensive background Information Document (BID) was circulated among both pre-identified I&APs via mail on the 25th of October 2023.

Geologically, the EPL is situated within the Kamanjab Terrane, bordered by Damara tectonostratigraphic zones known as the Northern Platform, Kaoko Zone, and Northern Zone. The geology of the area comprises basement rocks from the Huab Metamorphic Complex, Fransfontein Igneous Suite, Damaran rocks belonging to the Nosib Group, and alluvium sediments which cover a significant portion of the EPL. The topography within the EPL area is relatively flat with undulating hills.

The key biophysical, environmental, and social baseline factors considered in this project encompassed various aspects, such as climate, water resources (both surface and groundwater), fauna, flora, avifauna, social environment and demographics, economy and infrastructure, and land use. These baseline assessments aimed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the project's existing environmental and social conditions before any further developments or interventions take place.

The scoping assessment for EPL 8816 was carried out in adherence to the Environmental Management Act No 7 of 2007 (EMA) and its Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2021 (GG No. 4878 GN No. 30). The process followed the conditions set by EMA for obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) to conduct specific listed activities.

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During the scoping process, a comprehensive review of available data and on-site field assessments, including site visits, were conducted. Insignificant sensitive receptors were identified, while potential environmental risks requiring further investigation were related to dust, noise, health and safety, land use, waste management, impacts on soil and surface, ecological impacts, groundwater and surface water quality, and socio-economic aspects.

After thorough investigation, it was determined that the potential effects on EPL 8816 would have minor significance, provided appropriate mitigation measures are implemented. These mitigation measures are outlined in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP), encompassing specific actions and procedures to responsibly manage and minimize potential impacts throughout the project's duration.

Based on the evaluation of potential effects and the successful implementation of mitigation measures, the impacts are considered to be insignificant and localized. As a result, the environmental assessment is deemed comprehensive and satisfactory, necessitating no further assessment. Consequently, the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) recommends the issuance of an environmental clearance certificate (ECC) under the condition that the specified management and mitigation measures outlined in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) are diligently implemented and adhered to.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

Mr Seblon Kambwale Hangula (hereinafter referred to as the proponent) has been granted an Exclusive prospecting Licence (EPL 8816) by the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) to explore for base and rare metals, dimension stone, industrial minerals and precious metals. The license covers an area of 19730.343 hectares (Ha) and is demarcated by seven (7) corner coordinates as specified in Table 1-1. As part of the application process for obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the proposed exploration activities, the proponent is currently undergoing the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. This process ensures that the potential environmental impacts resulting from the project's activities are thoroughly assessed, and suitable measures are identified to mitigate them effectively.

1.2 Locality.

The Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL No. 8816) is located approximately 60 kilometres northeast of Khorixas, 71 kilometers northwest of Outjo and about 3 kilometres southwest of Otjikondo Village within the Kamanjab constituency, in the Kunene Region (Figure 1-1). The town of Outjo is known as the gate way to the worlds famous Etosha National Park. The license area is positioned at an elevation of 1260 meters. The EPL sits on commercial land and is partially underlain by 11 commercial farms Namely: Saratoga, Nadas, Oeitzaub, Otjikondo, Gewaagd, Galpan, Klein Tutara, Charon, Miltiades, Beaumontia and Leicester (Figure 1-1). Running in a northwest-southeast direction just northeast of Otjikondo Village, the C40 tarred road provides convenient access to the area (Figure 1-1). To reach the EPL, a secondary road branches off from the C40 road towards the southwest (Figure 1-1).

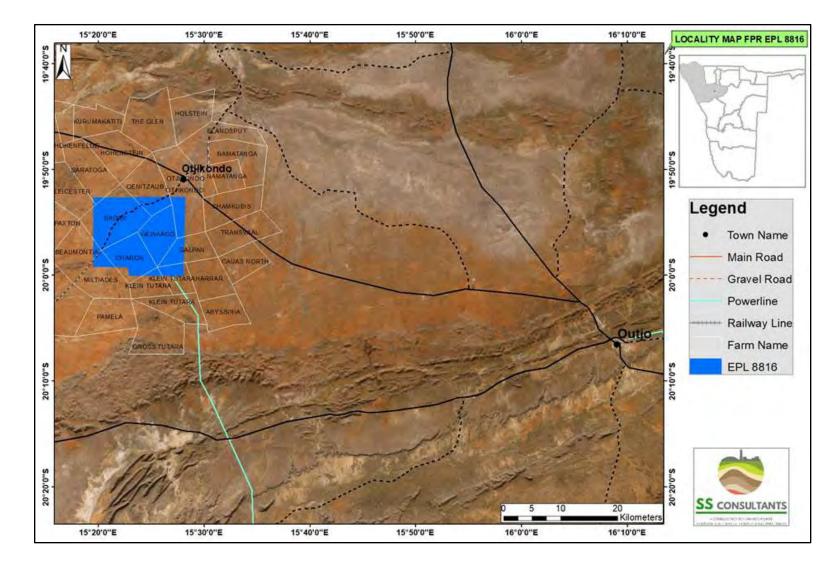


Figure 1-1: Google map showing the outline of EPL 8816 and road networks, towns/village, power line, and farms covering the EPL area.

 Table 1-1: Corner coordinates for EPL 8816

	Geographic Coordinates		
	Latitude	Longitude	
1	-20.000864S	15.466752E	
2	-20.0005735	15.382051E	
3	-19.9877285	15.378856E	
4	-19.98662S	15.325269E	
5	-19.877174S	15.324603E	
6	-19.8763435	15.470157E	
7	-20.000864	15.466752	

Table 1-2: Summary of EPL 8816 location details

Location	Approximately 60 km Northeast of
	Khorixas
Area size	19730.343 hectares.
Constituency	Kamanjab Constituencies
Regional Administration	Kunene Region
Nearest Town	Outjo, Khorixas

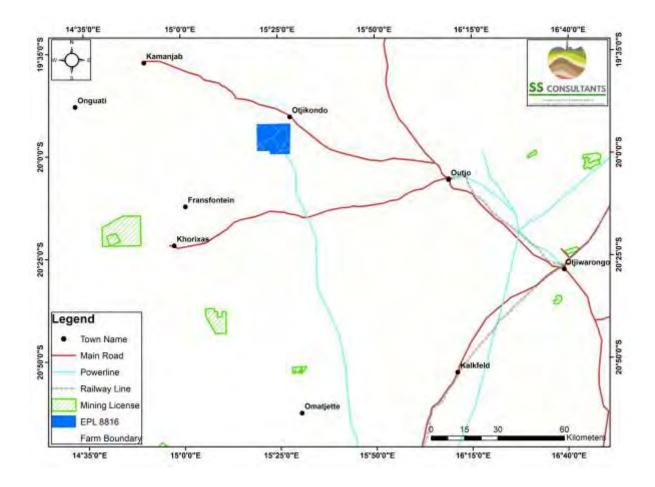


Figure 1-2: Map showing the location of EPL 8816 in relation to existing Mining Licenses in the area.

1.3 Need and Desirability of the Project

The mining sector in Namibia is a vital contributor to the country's economy, significantly impacting livelihoods and supporting various sectors. Private companies undertake mineral exploration, which has immense potential to drive development in other areas. These exploration activities not only create temporary employment but also generate tax revenue that funds social infrastructure projects. Moreover, the mining industry plays a pivotal role in earning foreign exchange and contributes significantly to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). It also fosters the growth of a skilled workforce and small businesses that cater to local communities and can stimulate related industries. Furthermore, exploration activities promote the manufacturing of mining equipment and provide engineering and environmental services. The mining sector is integral to Namibia's Vision 2030, National Development Plan 5 (NDP5), and the Harambee Prosperity Plans (HPPs) I and II, aligning with

the country's goals of meeting global mineral demand and achieving national prosperity. Exploration activities on EPL 8816 has a potential for the establishment and operation of a mineral exploration program which will create direct permanent employment and indirect job creation in supporting services. These activities further have the potential for the discovery of an ore deposit of economic potential, which through mineral extraction, benefits the country in terms of employment, wealth, and economic development. The employment opportunities provided by the new project would be attractive to the local workforce due to the relatively higher wages offered, thereby contributing to economic growth in the Kamanjab constituency, as well as the surrounding towns and the country at large.

1.4 Scope of Work

The scoping study is carried out in accordance with the Environmental Management Act (EMA) (No. 7 of 2007) and its 2012 EIA Regulations (GG No. 4878 GN No. 30) to identify potential environmental impacts caused by the proposed exploration project. By utilizing secondary data from both desk research and fieldwork, relevant environmental information is compiled. The EIA report and EMP serve as essential tools for stakeholders and relevant Ministries to make well-informed decisions regarding the exploration activities, considering the environmental perspective. These documents provide guidance on assessing and managing environmental impacts, ensuring responsible and sustainable exploration practices. This report has taken into consideration all the requirements for preparation of all the supporting documents and application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate and lodgement of such application to the Environmental Commissioner (EC), Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET). After applying for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Tourism (MEFT): Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), the first stage of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process involves submitting a scoping report. Table 3 below provides a summary of the contents included in this report.

Description	Section of the Report
Introduction	Chapter 1
Legal Framework: The relevant legislation, policies and	Chapter 2
guidelines pertaining to the proposed project	
Project Activities: Overview of the different exploration	Chapter 3
methods to be undertaken	
Alternatives considered for the proposed project in terms	Chapter 4
of no-go option, location, exploration methods and services	
infrastructure	
The public consultation process followed (as described in	Chapter 5
Regulation 7 of the EMA Act) by which the interested and	
affected parties (I&APs) and relevant authorities are	
identified, informed of the proposed activity, and provided	
with a reasonable opportunity to give their concerns and	
opinions on the project	
Biophysical and social baseline: This chapter covers the	Chapter 6
geology of the area and impacts associated with proposed	
exploration activities and their impacts to the environment	
and society	
The identification of potential impacts, impacts description,	Chapter 7
assessment, mitigation measures and recommendations	
Recommendations and Conclusions to the report	Chapter 8

Table 1-3: A summary of the contents covered by the present report
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1.5 The Environmental Assessment Process

The Environmental Management Act (EMA), often referred to as the EMA, mandates the conduction of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for specific developmental projects listed within the EIA regulations. The primary objective of the EIA is to systematically identify, evaluate, and confirm potential environmental impacts that could arise from the proposed activities. The EIA process in Namibia involves four main steps: (a) screening, (b) scoping and

preparation of the EIA report, (c) review and decision making and (d) monitoring and auditing.

A flowchart indicating the entire EIA process is presented in Figure 1-3.

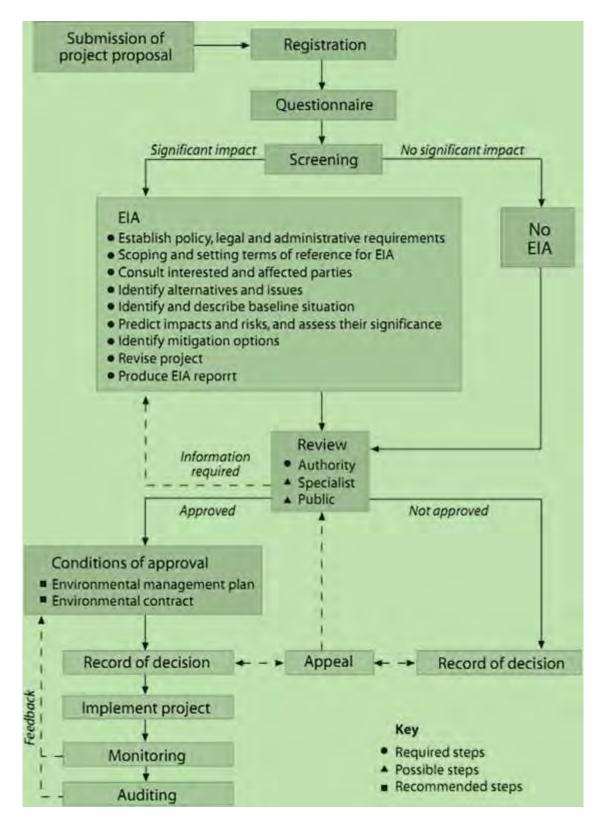


Figure 1-3: Flow chat of the EIA process in Namibia as adopted from MEFT, 2008.

2 LEGAL FRAMEWORK: LEGISLATION, POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

This chapter outlines all the relevant Namibian legislation, policies and guidelines that need to be adhered to for an effective EIA process. The review of the legal framework helps to inform the Proponent, affected, and interested communities, and the decision makers at the MEFT: DEAF about the requirements and expectations, as laid out in terms of these instruments, to be met so that the exploration activities could be conducted.

This scoping assessment was carried out based on the Environmental Management Act No 7 of 2007 (EMA) and its Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2021 (GG No. 4878 GN No. 30), and following the conditions set by EMA for obtaining an ECC for permission to conduct certain listed activities.

The proponent must equally ensure adherence to the regulations put in place by the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act No. 33 of 1992 (Minerals Act) with regards to the exploration activities. This Act caters for the reconnaissance, prospecting, and mining for, and disposal of, and the exercise of control over, minerals in Namibia; and provides for matters incidental thereto. Table 2-1 provides a summary of relevant legislations, policies and guidelines considered in this project.

Table 2-1: Presents the full list of all applicable legislations identified and conducted during the EIA process:

Legislation/Policy/ Guideline	Relevant Provisions	Implications for this project
Environmental Management	Necessitate that projects with adverse environmental impacts are subject	EMA and its regulations should
Act (EMA) No. 7 of 2007	to an environmental assessment process (Section 27).	inform and guide this EA process.
	Details principles which must guide all EAs.	
Environmental Impact	Details requirements for public consultation within a given environmental	
Assessment (EIA) Regulations	assessment process (GN 30 S21).	
GN 28-30 (GG 4878)	Details requirements for what should be part of the Scoping Report (GN	
	30 S8) and an Assessment Report (GN 30 S15).	
Minerals (Prospecting and	To provide for the reconnaissance, prospecting, exploration, and mining	The Proponent should ensure
Mining) Act No. 33 of 1992	for, and disposal of, and the exercise of control over, minerals in Namibia;	compliance with the conditions
	and to provide for matters incidental thereto.	set in the Minerals Act regarding
		exploration activities.
The Constitution of Namibia	According to Legal Assistance Centre (LAC), there is no clear right to health	The Proponent should ensure
Act No. 1 of 1990	in the Namibian Constitution. But based on Article 95 of the Namibian	compliance with the conditions
	Constitution that deals with Principles of State Policy, the Namibian	of the Act.
	Constitution states, "the state shall enact legislation to ensure consistent	

Legislation/Policy/ Guideline	Relevant Provisions	Implications for this project
	planning to raise and maintain an acceptable standard of living for the	
	country's people" and to improve public health.	
Water Act No. 54 of 1956	The Water Resources Management Act 11 of 2013 is not yet gazetted;	The safety of ground and surface
	hence, the Water Act No 54 of 1956 is still in force:	water resources must be a
	Interdict the pollution of water and implements the principle that a person	priority throughout all
	disposing of effluent or waste has a duty of care to prevent pollution (S3	exploration activities.
	(k)).	
	Provides for control and protection of groundwater (S66 (1), (d (ii)).	
	Liability of clean-up costs after closure/abandonment of an activity (S3 (I)).	
Water Resources	The act caters for the management, protection, development, use and	
Management Act No.11 of	conservation of water resources; and provides for the regulation and	
2013	monitoring of water services and to provide for incidental matters. The	
	objects of this Act are to:	
	Certify that the water resources of Namibia are managed, developed,	
	used, conserved, and protected in a manner accordant with, or conducive	
	to, the fundamental principles set out in Section 66 - protection of	
	aquifers, Subsection 1 (d) (iii) provide for preventing the contamination of	
	the aquifer and water pollution control (Section 68).	

Legislation/Policy/ Guideline	Relevant Provisions	Implications for this project
Soil Conservation Act No. 76	The Act aim to prevent and control soil erosion and to protect, revamp,	At a time of soil sampling, soil
of 1969	and conserve the soil, vegetation and water supply sources and resources,	conservation must be taken care
	through directives declared by the Minister.	of, and management measures
		must be part of the EMP.
Nature Conservation	To centralise and amend the laws relating to the conservation of nature;	The Proponent should ensure
Ordinance No.4 of 1975	the establishment of game parks and nature reserves; the control of	that any activities done in the
	problem animals; and to provide for matters incidental thereto.	project area do not in any way
		trade-off the wildlife and the
		ordinance requirements are
		adhered to.
Agricultural (Commercial)	To provide for the acquisition of agricultural land by the State for the	The Proponent should ensure
Land Reform Act No. 6 of	purposes of land reform and for the allocation of such land to Namibian	that relevant regulations set
1995 (Agricultural	citizens who do not own or otherwise have the use of any or of adequate	under this Act are always
(Commercial) Land Reform	agricultural land, and foremost to those Namibian citizens who have been	adhered to.
Amendment Act No. 1 of 2014	socially, economically or educationally disadvantaged by past	
))	discriminatory laws or practices; to vest in the state a preferred right to	
	purchase agricultural land for the purposes of the Act; to provide for the	
	compulsory acquisition of certain agricultural land by the state, for the	

Legislation/Policy/ Guideline	Relevant Provisions	Implications for this project
	purposes of the Act; to regulate the acquisition of agricultural land by	
	foreign nationals; to establish a lands tribunal and determine its	
	jurisdiction; and to provide for matters connected therewith.	
Forestry Act No. 12 of 2001	The Act cater for the management and use of forests and related	Before removing any protected
	products/resources. It provides protection to any living tree, bush or shrub	plant species within the
	growing within 100 meters of a river, stream or watercourse on land that	proposed exploration site, the
	is not surveyed or even of a local authority area. In such instances, a	proponent must secure a permit
	license would be required to cut and remove any such vegetation.	from the Forestry office in either
	These provisions are only guidelines.	Outjo or Windhoek.
Atmospheric Pollution	This ordinance sets for the prevention of air pollution.	Measures should be set to
Prevention Ordinance No. 11		ensure that dust and fumes
of 1976		emanating from exploration
		activities is kept at acceptable
		levels.
Public Health Act No. 36 of	Section 119 states that "no person shall cause a nuisance or shall suffer to	The Proponent and all its
1919	exist on any land or premises owned or occupied by him or of which he is	employees/contractors should
	in charge any nuisance or other condition liable to be injurious or	adhere to the provisions of these
	dangerous to health."	legal instruments.

Legislation/Policy/ Guideline	Relevant Provisions	Implications for this project
Health and Safety Regulations	Details various requirements regarding health and safety of labourers.	
GN 156/1997 (GG 1617)		
The Regional Councils Act No.	This Act sets out the conditions under which Regional Councils must be	The relevant Regional Councils
22 of 1992	elected and administer each delineated region. From a land use and	are considered to be I&APs and
	project planning point of view, their duties include, as described in section	must be consulted during the
	28 "to undertake the planning of the development of the region for which	Environmental Assessment (EA)
	it has been established with a view to physical, social and economic	process.
	characteristics, urbanisation patterns, natural resources, economic	The Kunene Regional Council
	development potential, infrastructure, land utilisation pattern and	(Kamandjab Constituency) is the
	sensitivity of the natural environment."	responsible Regional Authority
	The main objective of this Act is to initiate, supervise, manage, and	of the area in which the
	evaluate development.	proposed activity will be
		undertaken, therefore should be
		consulted for this EA.
Labour Act No. 6 of 1992	Ministry of Labour (MOL) aim to ensure harmonious labour relations	The Proponent should ensure
	through promoting social justice, occupational health and safety and	that the proposed activity does
	enhanced labour market services for the benefit of all Namibians. This	not compromise the safety and
	ministry insures effective implementation of the Labour Act no. 6 of 1992.	welfare of workers.

Legislation/Policy/ Guideline	Relevant Provisions	Implications for this project
Best Practice Guide:	Outlines the regulatory and legislative requirements for exploration in	The proponent should be guided
Environmental Principles for	Namibia.	by this framework for best
Mining in Namibia-	Serves as a guiding framework for the exploration phase of the mining life	practice mining and exploration
Exploration	cycle.	activities in Namibia.
National Heritage Act (27 of	Part V Section 46 of the Act prohibits removal, damage, alteration, or	The project must ensure that no
2004)	excavation of heritage sites or remains. Section 48 off sets out the	heritage resources are damaged
	procedure for application and granting of permits such as might be	and/or removed during its
	required in the event of damage to a protected site occurring as an	operations. All protected
	inevitable result of development. Section 51 (3) sets out the requirements	heritage resources (e.g., human
	for impact assessment. Part VI Section 55 Paragraphs 3 and 4 require that	remains, paintings etc.)
	any person who discovers an archaeological site should notify the National	discovered, need to be reported
	Heritage Council. Heritage sites or remains are defined in Part 1,	immediately to the National
	Definitions 1, as "any remains of human habitation or occupation that are	Heritage Council (NHC) and
	50 or more years old found on or beneath the surface".	require a permit from the NHC
		before they may be removed
		and/or relocated.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT ACTIVITIES

3.1 Planned Exploration Techniques

The proponent plans to conduct an exploration program on EPL 8816, with a focus on base and rare metals, dimension stones, industrial minerals, and precious metals. The program will involve both non-invasive and invasive exploration methods. Non-invasive exploration methods will include activities such as geological desktop studies, interpretation of aeromagnetic and remote sensing images, field mapping, ground geophysical surveys, and sampling of surface rock and soil. These techniques aim to gather information about the geological characteristics of the area without causing significant disturbance. The primary objective of the non-invasive methods is to assess the need for more invasive exploration. If the non-invasive methods yield positive results, indicating the likelihood of economically viable deposits, the program will proceed to more invasive activities. Invasive exploration methods, such as drilling (reverse circulation or diamond drilling) and pitting/trenching, will be used to gather more detailed data. This includes site-specific drilling, trenching, and sampling to provide a clearer understanding of the mineral deposits. The exploration program will follow a systematic approach, beginning with non-invasive methods to determine if invasive techniques are necessary. If non-invasive exploration yields positive results, indicating the presence of promising mineralization, detailed site-specific drilling, trenching, and sampling will be conducted. This approach ensures that invasive activities are only undertaken when there is a high likelihood of discovering valuable mineral resources. It also helps minimize environmental impact by prioritizing non-invasive techniques for initial assessment and decision-making. The proposed exploration activities will be implemented through the following sequential phases.

Phase 1: Desktop study and geological mapping

The phase entails conducting a thorough review of available geological map data for the area and conducting on-site visual assessments of exposed rocks. To achieve this, a contemporary integrated data approach will be adopted, utilizing geospatial data that incorporates various sources such as geological, geophysical, remote sensing (Sentinel; ESRI Earth), and topographic data sets. The primary focus of the geological mapping will be to identify and map lithological units, geological structures, mineralization zones, and alteration zones.

Geological maps will be produced and will be accompanied by geological reports that provide comprehensive descriptions and interpretations of the geological features observed. The reports may include additional analysis, such as mineralogical studies or interpretations of geological processes. Additionally, the dataset will enable the development of cross-sections, which provide a vertical representation of the geological features.

Phase 2: Geophysical Surveys

Geophysical surveys involve the use of various sensing technologies to collect data about the subsurface or substrate. These surveys will be conducted were necessary to detect and assess different geological features, including mineralization, within a specific area. Ground geophysical surveys can be carried out using vehicle-mounted or handheld sensors, which are designed to measure and record physical properties of the Earth's subsurface, such as magnetic fields, electrical conductivity, gravitational anomalies, and seismic waves. The captured data from these instruments provides valuable insights into the geological structures and potential mineral deposits present in the surveyed area. In contrast, airborne geophysical surveys mount sensors onto aircraft, allowing them to systematically collect data as they fly over the target area. By interpreting this data, detailed maps, and models of the subsurface can be generated, aiding in mineral exploration, resource assessment, and geological mapping.

Phase 3: Geochemical sampling

Geochemical sampling surveys involve the collection of different types of earth materials, such as rocks, soils, and sediments, for analysis. These samples are sent to analytical laboratories to determine the presence and quantities of base metals (such as copper, lead, and zinc), rare metals (like niobium and tantalum), precious metals (such as gold and silver), or industrial minerals (like lithium and beryllium) etc. Typically, small pits measuring approximately 25 cm by 25 cm by 35 cm may be dug, and about 1 kilogram of material is extracted and sieved to obtain around 50 grams for analysis. After sampling, the pits are filled back, ensuring that the disturbed area is restored as closely as possible to its original state. This practice minimizes the visual impact and environmental disturbance caused by the sampling activities.

Phase 4: Trenching and pitting.

Trenching and pitting involve excavating or digging an area to obtain a representative bulk sample of mineralization. The depth of the pit is typically around 5 meters, but it can vary depending on the target mineral and project requirements. The dimensions and methods for excavation, such as manual or using an excavator, should be discussed, and agreed upon with the landowners or community members involved. To minimize risks and ensure safety, excavations will be either opened and closed on the same day or fenced off until the project is completed. This prevents harm to livestock or wildlife.

Phase 5: Drilling and core sampling

If the results from geochemical sampling and geophysical surveys meet the desired criteria, drilling will be conducted on EPL 8816. Exploration drilling involves penetrating the ground and extracting rocks from different depths beneath the surface to verify the underlying geology or obtain samples for further chemical analysis. Experienced operators employed by contractors typically carry out this process in areas where previous geological mapping and geophysical surveys have indicated mineralization potential. Two commonly used drilling methods are reverse circulation (RC) drilling and diamond drilling. RC drilling employs a pneumatic hammer with a rotating tungsten-steel bit, producing dry rock chips. Diamond core drilling, on the other hand, uses a diamond-impregnated drill bit attached to hollow drill rods to extract cylindrical cores of solid rock. Water is often used during drilling, and all drill-water is collected in drill sumps to prevent overflow. These sumps must be constructed at least 100 feet away from bodies of water, such as rivers, streams, ponds, seeps, or springs, unless approved by a qualified hydrologist. Depending on the results of the prospecting phase and the extent of drilling requirements, an exploration team consisting of less than ten (10) individuals, including drilling teams, geologists, and technicians, may be needed to meet market demands and investor expectations.

3.2 Infrastructure and Services

In addition to the planned exploration methods, the project's Environmentalist has considered the necessary infrastructure and services, including water, electricity, road

networks, accommodation, transportation, domestic and hazardous wastes, human personnel and safety and rehabilitation. These components are vital for the project, especially during the advanced stages. To meet the increased infrastructure and service requirements, a temporary campsite will be established within the EPL 8816. The selection of campsite locations will involve consultation with local farm owners or community members and will operate under strict conditions to control litter and minimize disturbances. The campsite will adhere to the provisions outlined in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) to mitigate any potential harm to the environment. During the exploration phase, efforts will be made to minimize the campsite's footprint and its impact on the surroundings.

3.2.1 Water Supply

Water will be primarily utilized for general usage, cleaning, drilling-related activities, and dust suppression. The water supply will be obtained from either existing boreholes or new ones, depending on agreements made with landowners and community members (Figure 3-1). The utilization of water from existing boreholes will be determined through individual agreements with landowners and community members. All necessary permits and requirements for water drilling will be obtained from mandated authorities. Additionally, water used for drilling will be recycled to promote efficiency and conservation. Alternatively, water can be obtained from the Outjo Municipality if need be.

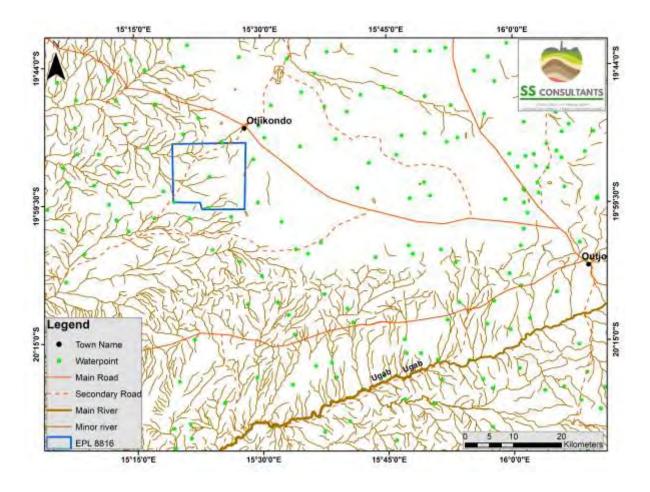


Figure 3-1: Map showing existing water points/water drillholes in the area.

3.2.2 Power Supply

The project's location a few kilometres from Outjo town presents the option to source power from the Outjo Municipality. Alternatively, diesel power generation will be utilized, and the fuel will be stored in mobile fuel bowsers of small to medium sizes. The primary electricity demand will be for operating small machinery during the exploration process and, if necessary, providing power to temporary office blocks or containers. Refuelling of the drill rigs can be accomplished using Jerry cans or directly from the fuel bowser. This approach ensures flexibility and mobility in power supply, making it suitable for situations where connection to the Outjo Municipality is not feasible or reliable. All potential environmental impacts resulting from diesel power generation will be thoroughly assessed, and efforts will be made to explore alternative power sources.

3.2.3 Road Access

The EPL is conveniently accessible via a secondary road (D2666) that branches off from the main Kamanjab-Outjo C40 tared road (Figure 1-2, 3-2 and 3-3). Within the EPL, there are several smaller track roads. To minimize environmental impact during geological mapping, sampling, and geophysical surveys, motorized access will be limited to the existing tracks. However, if new access routes are needed for drilling, they will be identified, marked, and assessed for environmental sensitivity before drilling commences. Prior to initiating exploration activities, the final alignment of any new access tracks will be discussed and mutually agreed upon with the landowner or community members to ensure their input and address any concerns.

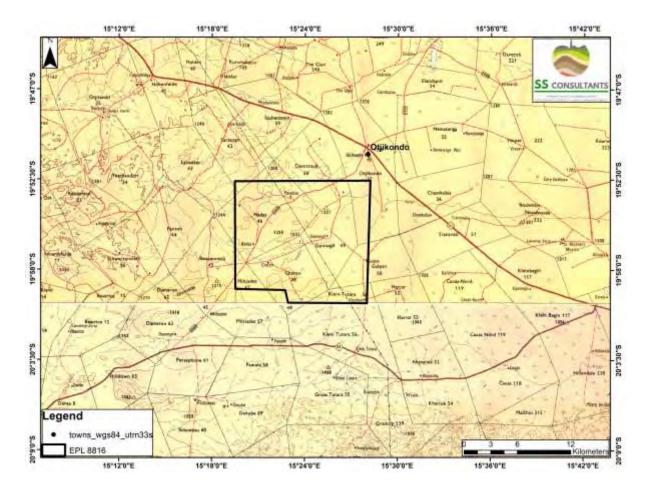


Figure 3-2: Topographic map showing existing road network within the EPL area.



Figure 3-3: Well-maintained D2666, Gravel/gradded Road within the EPL area.

3.2.4 Transportation

Transportation for everyday exploration activities will be restricted to the use of 4x4 pickups. These vehicles will be employed to carry out routine exploration tasks. However, as the project progresses, trucks and drilling machines will be utilized at an advanced stage. The 4x4 pickups will continue to be employed for everyday exploration activities, while the drilling machines will remain stationed at the specific drill site and will only be relocated when moving to the next drilling location.

3.2.5 Domestic and hazardous waste

All sites will be furnished with secure waste bins designated for each type of waste, including general waste and hazardous waste. Depending on the volume of waste generated, it will be sorted and collected as frequently as required and transported to the nearest certified landfill site. Prior to utilizing these facilities, agreements will be established with various waste

management facility operators/owners, and necessary authorizations or permits will be obtained, specifically for the disposal of hazardous waste.

3.2.6 Human personnel and Site Safety

The exploration project will employ a total of 10 individuals, all of whom will be provided with appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) that will be regularly replaced or repaired to ensure their occupational health and safety. As a safety and security precaution, areas with high risk of incidents will be temporarily fenced off. Additionally, fire extinguishers will be equipped in exploration vehicles and at all drilling sites to handle potential fire outbreaks during exploration activities. All employment during the exploration phase will be temporary. Most of the workforce for the exploration project will be recruited from Outjo and the surrounding towns.

3.2.7 Rehabilitation and decommissioning

Once the exploration program is completed, any damages or impacts resulting from the exploration activities will be addressed and rehabilitated in accordance with the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) requirements. The EMP outlines the necessary measures and procedures to mitigate and restore any environmental damage or disturbances caused by the exploration activities. The goal is to ensure that the affected areas are rehabilitated to their pre-exploration condition, following approved environmental standards and guidelines. By adhering to the EMP, the project aims to minimize any long-term negative impacts and promote environmental sustainability.

4 PROJECT ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Alternatives are defined as "different means of meeting the general purpose and requirements of the activity" (Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007) of Namibia and its regulations (2012)). This chapter discussed different ways in which the project can be undertaken, as well as identify the alternatives that, in a practical way, can be applied to ensure minimal damage to the environment.

Different alternatives for proposed exploration activities have been identified. The most common and most important alternatives considered are the no-go option, location, services infrastructure. These alternatives are discussed as follows.

4.1 No-Go Option

The "No-Go" alternative refers to the choice of not proceeding with the proposed project or activity. In this case it would mean that planned exploration activities of EPL 8816 would not take place. By selecting the "No-Go" alternative, none of the potential impacts, whether positive or negative, associated with the project would occur. This includes the potential benefits of discovering and extracting mineral ores in the EPL area, as well as any negative impacts that might arise from such activities. Essentially, the "No-Go" alternative means that the area will remain untouched and unexplored, and the presence of any mineral ores will remain unknown since no exploration or identification efforts will take place. If the "No-Go" option is chosen and the proposed project does not proceed, there are several key losses that may never be realized. These losses can include:

- Economic Loss: Mining can contribute significantly to the economy by creating jobs, generating revenue, and stimulating local businesses. Without exploration and subsequent mining activities, potential economic opportunities and growth may be missed, particularly in Outjo town and Otjikondo Village where mining could play a crucial role in the local economy.
- Resource Depletion: Mining allows for the extraction of valuable minerals and resources from the Earth, such as metals, coal, and oil. Without exploration, these resources may remain untapped, potentially leading to a shortage of key materials for various industries and hindering technological advancements and economic development that rely on these resources.
- Technological Innovation: Mining exploration often involves the development and application of advanced technologies and techniques. These innovations can have broader applications beyond mining, leading to technological advancements in areas such as geology, engineering, and environmental monitoring. Without exploration driving these innovations, progress in these fields may be slower.

- Scientific Knowledge: Mining exploration contributes to our understanding of Earth's geology, mineralogy, and natural resources. Through exploration activities, valuable scientific data is gathered, enabling researchers to gain insights into geological processes, mineral formations, and the overall dynamics of the earth. The absence of exploration may impede scientific discoveries and hinder our understanding of Earth's natural resources.
- Environmental Considerations: While mining can have adverse environmental impacts, exploration activities provide an opportunity to assess the potential environmental risks and develop strategies for mitigation and responsible resource extraction. Without exploration, there may be a lack of comprehensive environmental planning and management practices, which could lead to unregulated mining activities with potentially more severe ecological consequences.
- Social and Cultural Impacts: Mining operations often involve engaging with local communities, providing employment, infrastructure development, and community investment. Exploration activities can help identify potential social and cultural impacts early on, allowing for dialogue and collaboration with affected communities. Without exploration, opportunities for community engagement and addressing social concerns may be missed, leading to potential conflicts and negative social impacts.
- Infrastructure and community development: The proposed project includes plans for infrastructure development, such as roads, drill holes (water) etc that will have had positive effects on the local community. With the "No-Go" option, these infrastructure improvements and potential community development projects will not be realized, resulting in missed opportunities for growth and improvement in the area.

Based on a careful evaluation of the potential risk, benefits, and trade-offs associated with the project, the "No-Go" option was not considered for this project. For specific areas of the project site that are considered environmentally sensitive and/or protected, alternative strategies such as stakeholder engagement, conservation and prevention, avoidance etc, will be implemented.

4.2 Alternative Project Location

No alternative sites were considered for this project because the decision to pursue exploration activities in this area was primarily based on geological assessments, previous exploration data, and indication of mineralization in the area. It's worth noting that when selecting a site for exploration, multiple factors are typically considered, such as geological characteristics, accessibility, existing infrastructure, and potential mineral resources.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Mines and Energy through its geological surveys and assessments, conduct studies to identify areas with potential mineral deposits. These studies involve geological mapping, sampling, and analysis to understand the mineral potential of different areas within Namibia. Based on the findings of these studies, the Ministry categorizes the identified areas according to their mineral potential, considering factors such as the type of mineralization, geological characteristics, and historical mining activities. This categorization helps in prioritizing exploration efforts and guiding potential investors in identifying areas of interest. The Namibia Mining Cadastral Map serves as a centralized database and visual representation of the mineral potential and existing mining rights across Namibia.

4.3 Services Infrastructure

The EIA process has identified the services that may be required for the proposed exploration activities. Table 3 below presents the alternatives for the identified services.

Services	Proposed source	Alternative source
Water	Obtaining water from the private/communal	Hauling water from the nearest Water pump
	farm's sources within the EPL or from Outjo	station near the project or from Outjo with
	municipality. The proposed source will be used	permission from the municipality and local
	to ensure that the project will not generate	authority.
	depletion on the water level/availability of the	
	sources that the local community uses.	
Power for equipment	Diesel power generators will be used to power	Capitalizing on the regions high temperatures and
	the project.	abundant sunlight, the project will put up solar
		panels on site. This initiative aims to establish a
		supplementary energy source, mitigating
		dependence on conventional generators. By
		harnessing solar power, the project aims to
		generate clean and renewable energy, potentially
		reducing operational costs in the long term. The
		solar can be used for instance for, cell phone
		charging and lighting.
Power for cooking and lighting for the	For cooking purposes, gas stoves will be used	Firewood (purchased from permit holding
campsite	during the project activities. Using gas stove	suppliers) will be used in cases of emergencies (For
	ensure that the contractors will not use	instance, when the gas is unexpectedly
	firewood from the area which would increase	

Table 4-1: Alternatives considered in terms of services infrastructure.

Services	Proposed source	Alternative source				
	deforestation. Lighting system for the campsite	finished). Gas lamps will be an alternative lighting				
	will be via portable solar lamps that will be	source. Mitigate global warming as well as prevent				
	erected on site.	major soil and groundwater pollution that could				
	have otherwise developed from always using					
		diesel generator.				
Workers' accommodation	A temporary limited-sized campsite will be	In cases where there is an absence of a suitable				
	constructed within the boundary of the EPL.	site for a camp, accommodation in the nearest				
	The campsite will be developed in the EPL area	town i.e., Outjo/Kamanjab will be an option. The				
	that is far from the nearby farm homesteads to	workers will be accommodated at any facility with				
	minimise noise pollution.	the necessary ablution and electricity				
		infrastructure.				
Waste Management						
Sewage	Portable toilet – these are easily transportable					
	and have no direct impact on the environment					
	and ecology (if properly disposed). These are					
	chosen at the drill sites.					

Services	Proposed source	Alternative source
Domestic waste	Onsite waste bins, regularly emptied at the	Driving waste to the nearest town landfill, which is
	nearest landfill is the chosen option. This will	an alternative, but not viable as it can result in road
	prevent an everyday drive from and to the	damaging.
	nearest town for waste disposal, which can	
	damage the road and disseminate dust within	
	the area.	
Drilling waste (chemicals)	Waste generated is to be transported to and	In cases of emergencies, organic chemicals will be
	disposed of at an appropriate facility in the	used.
	nearest town equipped for the disposal of	
	hazardous waste to ensure that the area is not	
	polluted.	

5 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

5.1 Objective

Public consultations play a vital role in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, aiming to engage Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) from the project's inception to its completion. These consultations provide platforms for I&APs to express opinions and raise concerns, making public engagement a crucial element. The EMA and its 2012 EIA Regulations considers all comments and concerns raised during these consultations as essential components of the assessment process. Consequently, they must be included in the final scoping report and considered when making decisions regarding the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

Furthermore, early dissemination of project information and conducting consultations with the affected and interested community are crucial for identifying potential social risks associated with project activities. The community members possess valuable knowledge about their locality, making their input essential in comprehensively understanding potential impacts and determining the need for further investigations. Additionally, public consultations facilitate the identification of appropriate approaches for monitoring impacts and implementing effective mitigation measures. The public consultation for this scoping study has been conducted following the guidelines set forth by the EMA and its EIA Regulations.

5.2 Approach

The process for the public participation is shepherd by the public consultation definitions and guidance given by the MET as per the regulation 21 of the EIA. The public consultation for this project was conducted as follows.

a) Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs)

The project took proactive steps to identify and involve relevant national, regional, and local authorities, as well as other interested individuals. Initially, pre-identified interested and affected parties (I&APs) were directly contacted. Additionally, individuals who responded to project advertisement notices in newspapers were

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registered as I&APs upon their request. This inclusive approach ensured that all stakeholders were informed and had the opportunity to participate in the project. Engaging with authorities at various levels of governance and involving interested members of the public fostered transparency, compliance with regulations, and effective coordination. By directly reaching out to pre-identified I&APs and accommodating requests from others who expressed interest, the project demonstrated a commitment to inclusivity, active engagement, and a well-rounded decision-making process.

Additionally, as invitations for public participation were extended, the stakeholders list was expanded to include additional interested and affected parties (I&APs) who registered for the project. These I&APs, who expressed their interest, have been incorporated into the ongoing process of engaging with the public. You can find a comprehensive list of these I&APs in Appendix C. This appendix encompasses all individuals and organizations who have actively shown their interest and have been included as stakeholders, ensuring a diverse range of perspectives and concerns are considered throughout the project.

- a) A Background Information Document (BID) containing descriptive information about the proposed exploration activities was compiled (Appendix D). An email and telephonic communication was made with the Outjo state veterinary requesting contact details of farm owners of the following farms: Oenitzaub farm 38, Galpan 50, Klein Tutara, Charon 48 and Nadas 46. Additionally, farm owner's postal addresses were requested from the Ministry of Land Reform. But there was no response to date till the date of submission of the report.
- b) Advertisements were published in the Market Watch section of the Republikein Newspaper on 21 July 2023, and June 9th, 2023. Additionally, an advertisement was placed in the Confidante newspaper from 21 July to 27 July and 28 July to 03 August, 2023. The purpose of these advertisements was to notify the public about the

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proposed exploration activities on EPL 8816, providing a brief explanation of the activities and their location. Refer to Appendix E for more details.

c) Site notices

Site notices in the form of posters were placed at the office of the Kamandjab Village Council and at the gates of the main farms covering the EPL area. Pictures of the site notices and various locations are annexed at the end of this report as appendix G.

d) Registered mail

Letters were dispatched via mail to the owners of farms partially covering EPL 8816. These farms include Otjikondo 37, Oenitzaub Farm 38, Galpan 50, Klein Tutara, and Charon 48. Copies of the letters, sent by registered mail, and receipts can be found in the appendix section (Appendix E). If any interested or affected parties' express concerns during the current project phase, we will promptly notify the Ministry of Environment and Tourism.

5.3 Public consultation

A consultation meeting was held with the farm owners covering portions of EPL 8816 on the 28th December 2023. The farm owners had a lot to say about the intended mining activities that could or would take place within their area these are categorized under the following headings

Environmental Concerns:

Farm owners voiced worries about the potential environmental degradation resulting from mining activities, such as soil erosion, water pollution, and damage to ecosystems.

Land Use Conflicts:

There were concerns about how mining activities might encroach upon valuable agricultural land, leading to conflicts over land use and potential displacement of farming communities.

Water Resources:

The impact of mining on water resources, including depletion and contamination, was a significant concern among farm owners who depend on these resources for irrigation and livestock.

Health and Safety:

Worries were raised about the health and safety risks associated with mining operations, including dust, noise, and exposure to hazardous materials.

Proposed Benefits

Economic Opportunities:

Despite their reservations, some farm owners expressed interest in leveraging mining activities for economic opportunities, such as job creation and local business development.

Compensation and Royalties:

The farm owners suggested a fair and transparent compensation mechanism, including royalties, to ensure that they receive a share of the economic benefits derived from mining on their land.

Environmental Mitigation Measures:

There were calls for robust environmental mitigation measures to be implemented, including reclamation and rehabilitation plans, to minimize the long-term impact on the land and ecosystems.

Community Development:

Some farm owners proposed that a portion of the profits from mining activities should be invested in community development projects, such as infrastructure improvement, education, and healthcare.

The farmers expressed and spoke about the negative and positive impacts of the mining activities if they were to come to their lands

They saw mining as a potential source of economic growth for the region, bringing in revenue, job opportunities, and increased business activities to the farmers and community at large.

The prospect of improved infrastructure, such as roads and utilities, associated with mining operations was considered a positive outcome for both the mining industry and local communities.

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Negative Aspects:

Environmental Degradation:

The potential negative impacts on the environment, including deforestation, water pollution, and disruption of local ecosystems, were major concerns raised by farm owners.

Social Disruption:

The fear of social disruption due to displacement, changes in community dynamics, and potential conflicts over resources was highlighted as a significant drawback.

The public consultation meeting with farm owners served as a platform to voice concerns, propose potential benefits, and engage in a dialogue to find a balanced approach that addresses the interests of both the mining industry and the affected farming communities. Ongoing discussions and negotiations are crucial to developing a sustainable and mutually beneficial solution.



Figure 5-1: Consultation meeting with farm owner at Farm Nadas



Figure 5-2: Consultation meeting with fam owners at Nadas settlement farm.

6 BIOPHYSICAL AND SOCIAL BASELINE

Exploration activities are always undertaken in an environment with specific conditions, which get impacted by these activities in one way or another. For this reason, it is always critical to have a thorough understanding of the pre-project conditions before commencement. Additionally, it is equally vital to ensure that a baseline understanding of the area is formed and to make effective decisions on certain issues that may come up through or after the project's operations. The next subchapters outline the environmental and social baseline for the project area.

6.1 Geology

6.1.1 Regional geology

The EPL is entirely situated within the Kamanjab Terrane, bordered by Damara tectonostratigraphic zones known as the Northern Platform, Kaoko Zone, and Northern Zone

(as shown in Figure 6-1). The geology of the area comprises basement rocks from the Huab Metamorphic Complex, Fransfontein Igneous Suite, Damaran rocks belonging to the Nosib Group, and alluvium sediments which cover a significant portion of the EPL. The Huab Metamorphic Complex in this area mainly consists of variously deformed ortho- and paragneisses, alongside metasedimentary and metavolcanic rocks intruded by mafic and felsic magmas. These rocks are visible in the southwestern part of EPL 8816 (refer to Figure 6-2) and are further intruded by porphyritic granodiorites and granites from the Fransfontein Granite Suite. Collectively, these rocks form the Proterozoic basement, shaping the Kamandjab Inlier. The Kamanjab inlier forms a tectonic ridge separating Damaran Otavi Group metasediments to the north from those of the Swakop Group to the south. Notably, the Rehderstal fault stands out as a significant structural feature, associated with post-Damaran movement in the area.

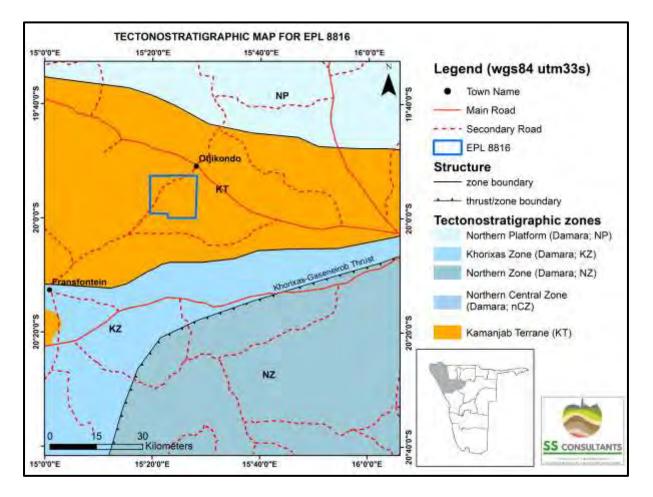


Figure 6-1: Tectonostratigraphic map of the area surrounding EPL 8816 (Modified after Miller, 2008).

6.1.2 Local geology surrounding EPL 8816

Undifferentiated surficial deposits of the Kalahari Group dominantly underlie EPL-8816 However, units of the Palaeoproterozoic Fransfontein Granite Suite occur as isolated outcrops on the southern and central northeastern part of the EPL. The Huab Metamorphic Complex rocks are observed outcropping south west of the EPL (Figure 6-2). The geology of the license area is presented in detail by Mutongolume (2014) and is summarised below.

The Huab Metamorphic Complex consists of intensely folded and partially granitised metavolcanics, metaconglomerates, quartzites, amphibolites, para- and augen-gneisses. They have very wide occurrences, extending from just north of Outjo through Otjikondo to Fransfontein and Kamandjab. The metaconglomerate zone consists of boulders and relatively few pebbles in a highly sheared light quartzo-feldspathic or dark schistose biotite-amphibolite-rich matrix. In both varieties, the pebbles consist of grey granite, quartzite, quartz and chert. Highly sheared and cleaved pink and grey quartzites and associated amphibolitic rocks are also common, especially in the southern portion of the Rehderstal and Klein Omaruru farms. Some also occur north of Rehderstal Fault but these are generally less sheared. The quartzites have been intensely granitised, locally forming para-gneisses.

The Huab Metamorphic Complex is intruded by the Palaeo-Proterozoic (~1830 – 1730 Ma) Fransfontein granite suite, characterised by a large group of alkaline and calc- alkaline intrusive rocks ranging in composition from granites to granodiorites (Burger et al., 1976; Clifford et al., 1962, Frets, 1969; Prada, 1974). According to Frets (1969), the granites and Huab gneisses show transitional contact relationships and clear intrusive contacts between the two are rare. The granites form rugged hilly outcrops which distinguishes it from smoother topography of the gneisses and foliated granites. The unit is a grey, coarse-grained to porphyritic rock that weathers to a pinkish colour and occurs as scattred outcrops on the central northern and south to southwestern parts of EPL 8816 (Figure 6-2). The Coarse- and medium-grained, epidote-, muscovite- and titanite-rich varieties, as well as biotite- and muscovite-bearing microgranite and biotite-hornblende granite occur.

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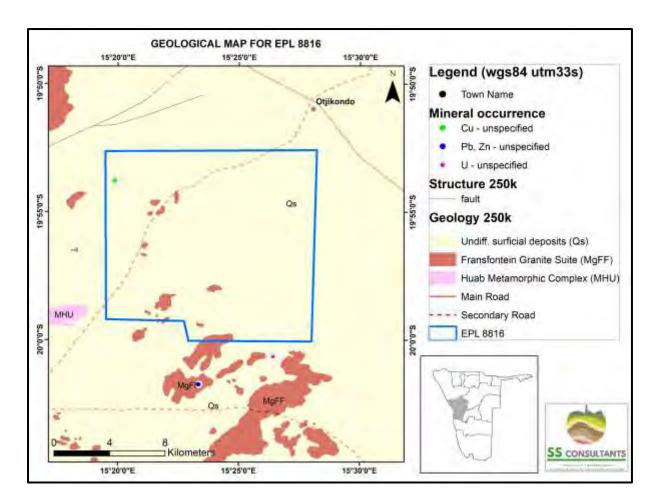


Figure 6-2: Local geology map around EPL-8816.

6.2 Landscape, Topography and Soil

The Kunene Region encompasses a variety of rock formations, with many of them prominently visible across a rugged landscape featuring valleys, escarpments, mountains, and vast open plains. The prevailing topography of the region is primarily marked by its mountainous nature. The EPL area itself is characterized by a relatively flat topography with undulating hills. The predominant soil types in the EPL, are Leptosols and Calcisoils (Mendelsohn et al., 2002). Leptosols are prevalent in actively eroding landscapes, particularly in hilly or undulating areas found in southern and north-western Namibia. On the other hand, Calcisoils dominate in arid and semi-arid regions, characterized by the accumulation and redistribution of minerals such as calcium carbonate, calcium sulfate, soluble salts, sodium, and silica. The soil types found within the project area are shown in Figure 6-3 bellow.



Figure 6-3: Red coloured sandy soils found within the EPL.

6.2.1 Climate

The Exploration activities proposed within an EPL are significantly influenced by the climatic conditions of the area. Understanding climatic conditions is crucial as it helps determine the suitable and unsuitable times for conducting exploration activities and to avoid unfavourable or hazardous times. The climatic condition within the vicinity of the proposed project is considered to be a steppe (or semi-arid) climate according to the Köppen-Geiger classification. Below are the descriptions of the rainfall and temperature conditions in the area.

6.2.1.1 Rainfall

Outjo experiences its main period of rainfall during the summer months, from November to April. The peak of precipitation occurs in January, with 60 mm of rainfall recorded during that month (Figure 6-3). On the other hand, the winter months of June, July, and August are characterized by extremely dry conditions, receiving no recorded rainfall (0 mm) (Figure 6-3). March stands out as the month with the highest number of rainy days, with an average of 16.2 days of rain (Figure 6-4). In contrast, the months of June and July have the least number of rainy days.

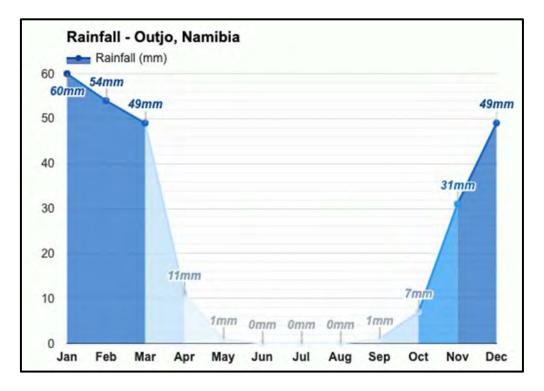


Figure 6-4: Monthly average rainfall for Outjo and surrounding area (Weather Atlas/ Outjoclimate, 2022)

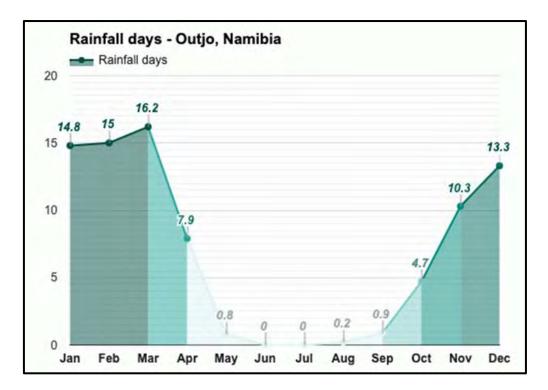


Figure 6-5: Average rainfall days in Outjo (Weather Atlas/ Outjo-climate, 2022).

6.2.1.2 Temperature

During the summer months spanning from November to April, the weather in Outjo is generally warm, with average high temperatures reaching around 33.5 °C. However, nights during this period tend to be cooler. In contrast, the winter season from May to October experiences warmer temperatures, with average highs peaking at approximately 35.2 °C. Among the winter months, October holds the distinction of being the warmest, with the highest average high temperature recorded at 35.2 °C.

Conversely, the months of June and July represent the coldest period in terms of average high temperatures, with values averaging around 25.3 °C. When considering average low temperatures, November and December emerge as the months with the highest values, hovering around 22.7 °C. July, on the other hand, stands as the coldest month in terms of average low temperatures, dipping down to 11.3 °C.

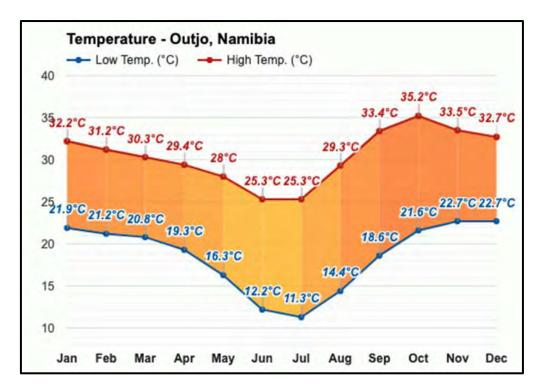


Figure 6-6: Monthly average minimum and maximum temperatures for Outjo (Weather Atlas/ Outjo-climate, 2022).

6.2.2 Water Resources: Surface and Groundwater

EPL 8816 is located in northern central Namibia and within the Ugab-Huab River Basin. The north-eastern to eastern segment of this area is characterized by the presence of fractured, fissured, or kastified rock formations, which also function as aquifers with a moderate water potential (Figure 6-6). Conversely, the remaining part of EPL encompasses rock formations with limited groundwater potential, characterized by moderate permeability.

As a result of these geological features, EPL is situated within an ecoregion where the fractured aquifer exhibits a range of productivity from low to moderately productive. Within this context, boreholes within the EPL region hold the capability to provide water for diverse

applications such as domestic use, subsistence agriculture, and even spanning to larger-scale endeavours like commercial farming and mining.

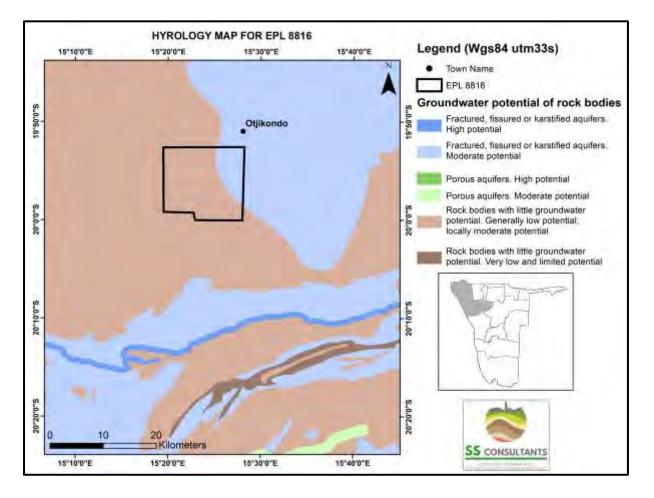


Figure 6-7: Ground water potential map for the area surrounding the EPL.

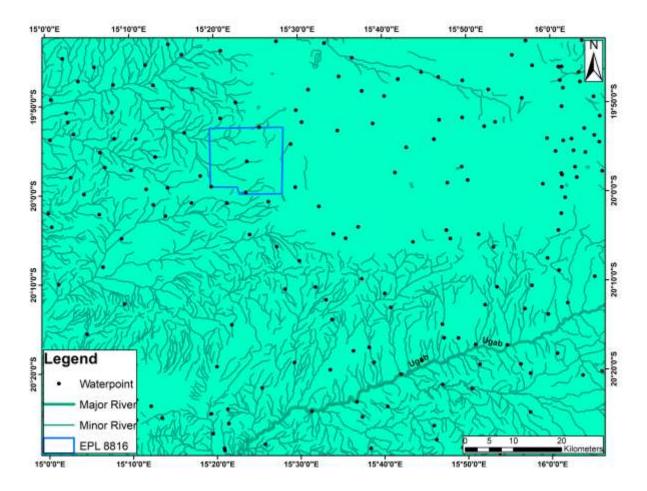


Figure 6-8: Map showing major and minor rivers and water points within and surrounding the EPL area.

6.2.3 Fauna and Flora

Flora

EPL 8816 is situated within an ecoregion characterized by limited vegetation cover and scattered open spaces, where sparsely distributed trees and shrubs are found. Across the designated project area, the vegetation displays a range, transitioning from dwarf shrub savannah to grassland ecosystems. Common tree species observed include Acacia mellifera, Acacia reficiens, Umbrella thorn acacia, Grewia flavescens, Crton gratissimus, Boscia albitrunca, Cyphostemma currorri, and Colophospermum mopane. Common grass observed include Stipagrostis ciliate. The relatively modest biodiversity in the vicinity of the proposed project site could be attributed to factors such as fluctuating climate conditions, changes in climatic patterns, inadequate nutrient levels, and unpredictable rainfall. The vegetation type

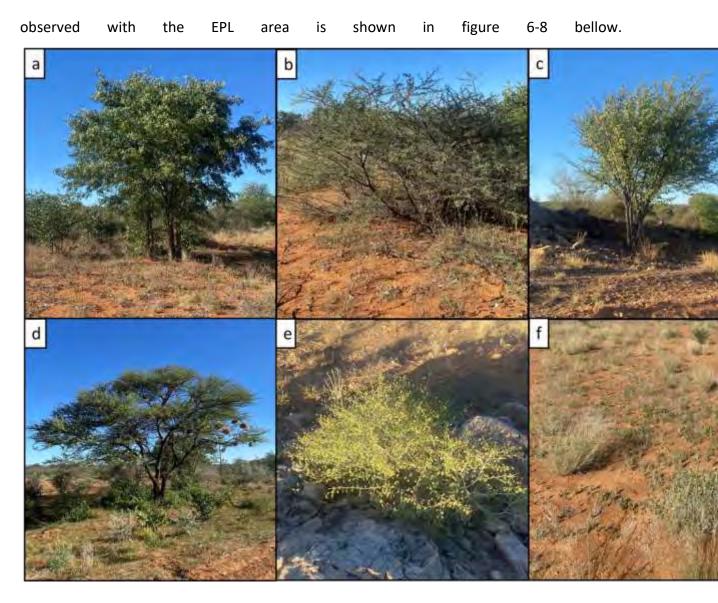


Figure 6-9: Vegetation type within the EPL area. a) Colophospermum mopane b) Acacia mellifera, c) Acacia reficiens, d) umbrella thorn arcacia e) f)Stipagrostis ciliate.

Fauna

EPL 8816 is situated within an ecological region characterized by a moderate level of biodiversity in reptiles, birds, and mammals. This ecosystem is closely linked to the rocky escarpment environment. Among the notable species anticipated to inhabit the project area are Pedioplanis undata (Sand lizard), Trachylepis sulcate (Western Rock Skink), Chondrodactylus turneri (Turner's thick-toed Gecko), Bitis arientans (Puff Adder), Stigmochelys pardalis (Leopard Tortoise), Trachylepis binotata (Ovambo Tree Skink), Geosceurus inauris (South African Ground Squirrel), Madoqua kirkii (Kirk's Dik-Dik), Caracal caracal (Caracal), Achaea catela (Banded Achaea), Amadina erythrocephala (Red-Headed Finch), Anthene amarah (Black-Striped Hairtail), Scolopendra morsitans (Red-Headed Centipede), Phacochoerus africanus (Common Warthog), Danaus chrysippus (Plain Tiger or African Monarch), Crocuta crocuta (Spotted Hyena), and Struthio camelus (Common Ostrich). The predominant and vital habitat within this region is the rocky outcrops and drainage lines.

Avifauna

Namibia is home to a diverse avian population, with a recorded count of around 687 bird species. Among these, 61 species are categorized as vagrants. Notably, a significant 71% of these species hold national recognition as threatened or near-threatened Red Data Species, as reported by Simmons, Brown, and Kemper in 2015. Within the projected project area, an estimated 200 bird species are expected to be present.

Scientific Name	Common Name
Cinnyris mariquensis	Mariqua Sunbird
Pycnonotus nigricans	African Red-Eyed Bulbul
Pytilia melba	Green-winged Pytilia
Ploceus velatus	Southern Masked Weaver
Prinia flavicans	Black-Chested Prinia
Philetairus socius	Sociable Weaver
Amadina erthyrocephala	Red-headed Finch

Table 6-1: Bird species that are likely to occur within the site area

Leptoptilos crumenifer	Marabou stork
Laniarius atrococcineus	Crimson-breasted Ganolek
Plocepasser mahall	White-browed sparrow-weaver
Turdoides gymnogenys	Bare-Cheeked Babbler
Ploceus velatus	Southern Masked Weaver
Pternistis adspersus	Red-billed-spurfowl
Tricholaema leucomelas	Acacia Pied Barbet
Polemaetus bellicosus	Martial Eagle

6.3 SOCIAL BASELINE

6.3.1 Social and demographic environment

According to the Namibia 2011 population and housing census, the Kunene Region had a population of 86,856 (43, 253 females and 43, 603 males) growing at an annual rate of 2.3%. The majority of residents, around 74% lived in rural areas, while only approximately 26% lived in urban areas. The region has a combined area of 115,293 km3 and a population density of 0.8 persons per km2. The most common spoken languages are Otjiherero languages (47% of households) and Nama/Damara (32%). Kunene Region comprises of seven (7) constituencies, namely Epupa, Kamandjab, Khorixas, Opuwo Rural, Opuwo Urban, Outjo and Sesfontein. The combined total area of the seven conservancies is 115, 260 km2. The project area falls within the Kamandjab constituency. In 2004, the Kamanjab constituency had a population of 6,012 people.

6.3.2 Economy and infrastructure

Compared to the rest of Namibia, the Kunene Region is relatively underdeveloped. This is due to the mountainous inaccessible geography and the dryness that significantly hiders agriculture. One of the most significant mining highlights is the discovery of the iron ore deposit of about 2.37 billion tons Fe, by Namibia East China Non-Ferous Investment in 2014. Additional to this is the development of the cobalt deposit by Gecko Opuwo Cobalt. In terms of education the Kunene Region has 60 schools with a total of 20, 332 pupils. The Otjikondo

Village is home to the Otjikondo School Village Foundation, a registered welfare organisation that supports a bordering school of approximately 240 children between the age of 6 and 14. Transportation infrastructure is well-established with the Outjo Railway Station serving as a crossing loop on the Trans-Namib Railway between Swakopmund and Otjiwarongo. Additionally, Outjo airport is in close proximity (60 km away), enhancing connectivity (Figure 6-9).

Unemployment is a concern in Kunene Region and according to the 2012 labour force survey, the unemployment rate stood at 27%.

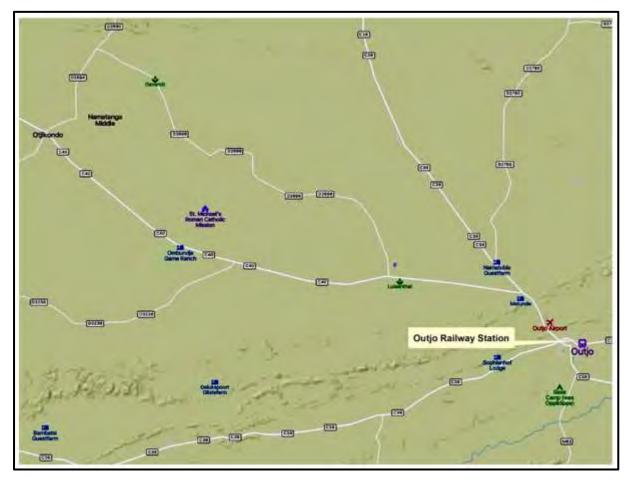


Figure 6-10: Map showing the location of the Outjo Airport and railway station.



Figure 6-11: Map showing the Otjikondo Village School along the C40 tarred road that connects Kamandjab Village and Outjo Town.

6.4 Land Use

The Kunene Region predominantly revolves around several key land uses, including livestock grazing, subsistence agriculture, tourism, and mining. However, it is important to acknowledge that the primary land affected by EPL 8816, the proposed exploration project, is largely private owned land. The specific activities associated with this exploration project will take place on the designated private farmland within the project area. Given the arid climate, extensive livestock grazing is a vital economic activity in the region, with cattle, goats, and sheep being the main focus of traditional livestock rearing. Moreover, the region's exceptional landscapes, rich indigenous cultures, and diverse wildlife make it an attractive potential hub for eco-tourism and cultural tourism.

Taking into account the existing land uses is crucial when considering potential interactions with the proposed exploration activities. Understanding the land use context is essential for assessing the potential impacts and ensuring that the exploration project aligns with existing land use patterns and adheres to regulations in Outjo and Otjikondo Village.



Figure 6-12: Cattles observed around EPL 8816.

7 IMPACTS IDENTIFICATION, DESCRIPTION AND ASSESSMENT

7.1 Impact Assessment

The purpose of this section is to assess and identify the most pertinent environmental impacts by describing certain quantifiable aspects of these impacts and to provide possible mitigation measures to minimize the magnitude of the impacts that would be expected from the various activities that constitute the proposed minerals exploration on EPL 8816.

Potential environmental impacts during exploration activities have been identified and are classified into three phases: pre-operation, operation, and decommissioning. The detailed impacts for each phase are presented in the table below

	Project Phase	Potential impacts identified
1	Pre-Operation	Biodiversity and archaeological impacts
2	Operation	Health and safety, soil, surface and groundwater contamination, wildlife disturbance, dust, noise, environmental degradation, erosion, and social impacts.
3	Decommissioning	Loss of employment, soil, surface and groundwater contamination.

Table 7-1: Potential environmental impacts identified on EPL 8816.

ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY FOR EVALUATING POTENTIAL IMPACTS

The impact screening criteria are summarized in the following table

Aspect	Description
Nature	Focuses on the type of effect that the project will have on environmental
	components. Addresses questions related to "what will be affected and how?"
Extent	Spatial extend of the project and anticipated spatial extend of impacts indicating
	whether the impact will be within a limited area (on site where construction is to
	take place); local (limited to within 15km of the area); regional (limited to ~100km
	radius); national (extending beyond Namibia's boarders).
Duration	This looks at the temporal issues pertaining to time frames e.g., whether the impact
	will be temporary (during construction only), short term (1-5 years), medium term
	(5-10 years), long term (longer than 10 years, but will cease after operation) or
	permanent.
Intensity	Establishes whether the magnitude of the impact is destructive or innocuous and
	whether it exceeds set standards, and is described as none (no impact); low (where
	natural/ social environmental functions and processes are negligibly affected);

 Table 7-2: Impact Screening Criteria

	medium (where the environment continues to function but in a noticeably modified
	manner); or high (where environmental functions and processes are altered such
	that they temporarily or permanently cease and/or exceed legal
	standards/requirements).
Probability	Considers the likelihood of the impact occurring and is described as uncertain,
	improbable (low likelihood), probable (distinct possibility), highly probable (most
	likely) or definite (impact will occur regardless of prevention measures).
Significance	Significance is given before and after mitigation. Low if the impact will not have an
	influence on the decision or require to be significantly accommodated in the project
	design, Medium if the impact could have an influence on the environment which
	will require modification of the project design or alternative mitigation (the route
	can be used, but with deviations or mitigation) High where it could have a "no-go"
	implication regardless of any possible mitigation (an alternative route should be
	used).

The application of the above criteria will be used to determine the significance of potential impacts using a combination of duration, extent, and intensity/magnitude, augmented by probability, cumulative effects, and confidence. Significance is described as follows:

Impact Rating Criteria

The impact rating criteria are summarised in the following table

Significance Rating	Criteria
Low	Where the impact will have a negligible influence on the environment and no modifications or mitigations are necessary for the given development description. This would be allocated to impacts of any severity/ magnitude, if at a local scale/ extent and of temporary duration/time.

Table 7-3: Impact Rating Criteria

Moderate	Where the impact could have an influence on the environment,
	which will require modification of the development design and/or
	alternative mitigation. This would be allocated to impacts of
	moderate severity/magnitude, locally to regionally, and in the short
	term.
	Where the impact could have a significant influence on the
High	Where the impact could have a significant influence on the
	environment and, in the event of a negative impact the activity(ies)
	causing it, should not be permitted (i.e. there could be a 'no-go'
	implication for the development, regardless of any possible
	mitigation). This would be allocated to impacts of high magnitude,
	locally for longer than a month, and/or of high magnitude regionally
	and beyond.

By subjecting each of the potential impacts to the matrix above, the EIA team established the significance of each impact prior to implementing mitigation measures and then after mitigation measures have been implemented. Some of the mitigation measures are mentioned but detailed descriptions of management actions are contained in the accompanying EMP.

Environmental impact assessment matrix for the proposed activities on EPL 8816 are summarised in table below.

 Table 7-4: Impact Assessment Matrix.

Environmental	Element	Impact	Phase	Duration	Magnitude	Extent	Туре	Probability	Significance
Impact									
	Topography and Landscape	-	Operation	Short term	Low	Local	Direct	Probable	Low
	and Landscape	Topographic changes and visual Impact from overburden material.	•	Medium term	Moderate	Local	Direct	probable	Moderate
SOILS	Soil	Loss of usable topsoil material	Operation	Long term	Low	Local	Direct	Highly probable	Moderate
	Soil	Contamination to soil from waste disposal	Operation	Long term	Moderate	Local	Direct	Improbable	Low
LAND CAPABILITY		Land utilization for the benefit of the people	Operation	Long term	High	National	Indirect	Probable	Moderate
	ecology and biodiversity	Decreased in vegetated land (biodiversity zones) within the Exploration zones		Long term	Low	Local	Direct	probable	Low

Environmental	Element	Impact	Phase	Duration	Magnitude	Extent	Туре	Probability	Significance
Impact									
GROUNDWATER AND SURFACE WATER	quality	Groundwater source and soil may be polluted by vehicular movements,		Short term	High	Local	Direct	probable	Moderate
SURFACE WATER		mineral exploration drilling, etc.							
		Increased sediment load from exposed surfaces	Operation	Short term	Low	Local	Direct	Probable	Moderate
		Storm water generation from, the large open surface area may create storm water which may result in pollution.		Long term	High	Local	Direct	Highly Probable	Moderate
	Surface water quality	Increase in surface water run- off from a large open surface area on site because of vegetation removal		Short term	Moderate	Local	Direct	Improbable	Low

Environmental	Element	Impact	Phase	Duration	Magnitude	Extent	Туре	Probability	Significance
Impact									
AIR QUALITY	Air Quality	Generation of dust during	Construction,	Short term	Low	Local	Direct	Probable	Moderate
		drilling and campsite	operation						
		construction.							
	Noise Pollution	Generation of dust during	Construction	Long term	Low	local	Direct	Probable	Low
		drilling and campsite	and operation	(operation)					
		construction.							
	Topography	Visual impacts due to use	Construction	Long term	Low	Local	Direct	Probable	Moderate
	and	of unsustainable disposal	and Operations						
	Landscape	methods							
	Terrestrial	Loss of habitat, and clear	Construction	Long term	Moderate	Local	Direct	Probable	Low
	ecology and	or damage to vegetation	and Operations						
	biodiversity								

Environmental	Element	Impact	Phase	Duration	Magnitude	Extent	Туре	Probability	Significance
mpact									
AUNA	0,	Loss of habitat and clearing or damage to vegetation	,	Short Time	Moderate	Local	Direct	Highly Probable	High
FLORA	ecology and biodiversity	Proliferation of invasive species Establishment of bush encroachers in disturbed areas.	and Operations	Long Term	Low	Local	Direct	Probable	Low
		0	Construction and Operations	Long Term	Low	Local	Direct	Probable	Low
	ecology and biodiversity	Clearing of land may lead to destruction of protected vegetation and loss of biodiversity. Loss of mature and protected tree species due to clearing of land for parking space.		Short Term	Moderate	Local	Direct	Highly Probable	Moderate
		Uncontrolled/accidental fires	Construction and Operations	Long Term	High	Local	Direct	Probable	Moderate

Environmental	Element	Impact	Phase	Duration	Magnitude	Extent	Туре	Probability	Significance
Impact									
SOCIO- ECONOMIC		Temporary employment prospects in the area	Construction	Short Term	Low	Local	Direct	Probable	Moderate Positive
	Economic Activities	Security concerns due to increased number of persons in areas	Construction and Operations	Long	High	Local	Direct	Probable	Moderate Positive
		Job creation construction workforce	Construction and operations	Long term	High	Local	Direct	Highly Probable	Moderate Positive
	Socio Economic Activities	Job creation permanent workforce	Operations and constructions	Long term	Moderate	Local	Direct	Probable	Moderate Positive
	Contributing to the National economy		Operations	Long Term	Moderate	National	Direct	Highly Probable	High Positive
	Contribution to Local Economy	1 /	Construction and Operations	Long Term	Moderate	Local	Direct	Probable	Moderate Positive

Mitigation Measures

Mitigation measures are summarised in table 7-4 below.

Table 7-5: Mitigation measures					
Impacts	Mitigation				
Soil	During any excavating and clearing the				
	contractor shall take care to remove as little				
	topsoil as possible. All soil within 100mm of the				
	cleared surface level shall be regarded as				
	topsoil.				
	Remove and separately stockpile any subsoil				
	material that can be used for site backfilling.				
	Topsoil shall be stockpiled (and seeded) in				
	areas within the site boundary and approved				
	by the Project Engineer in conjunction with the				
	Environmental Consultant, for reuse and				
	restoration.				
Water	Implementing water conservation practices to				
	reduce water wastage and increase efficiency.				
	Encourage the collection and storage of				
	rainwater for non-potable uses, such as				
	irrigation or toilet flushing.				
	Developing and implementing water recycling				
	and reuse systems, particularly for industrial				
	activities. Treating and reusing water for non-				
	potable purposes				
	Groundwater Management: Managing and				
	monitoring groundwater resources to prevent				
	over-extraction and ensure sustainable use.				

Table 7-5: Mitigation measures

	This will involve setting up monitoring wells,
	implementing pumping restrictions, and
	assessing the aquifer's recharge rates.
Air Quality	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.
Noise Pollution	Disturbance to fauna that roam the area will be
	minimized by training the employees on ways
	to minimize noise.
Flora and Fauna	Some habitat areas such as the river and tunnel
	outcrops will be avoided wherever possible.
	A fauna survey will be conducted to determine
	the effect of fragmented habitat to game
	species should the need arise.
	No animals shall be killed, captured, or harmed
	in any way.
	No food stuff shall be left lying around as this
	will attract animals which may result in human-
	animal conflict.
Socio Economic	The population change can be mitigated by
	employing people from the local
	community and encouraging the contractors to
	employ local individuals.
	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.
	site undergo a safety induction course.

8 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 Conclusion

In conclusion, this project on EPL 8816 will explore base and rare metals, industrial minerals, dimension stone, and precious metal group of minerals. Through exploring for these commodities, contributions to the Namibian economy will be made and continued employment to the existing staff is made possible. For all aspects of operations and prospecting work strict adherence to the company's environment, Health and Safety policies must be ensured. Environmental training of the work force as well as monitoring of all aspects pertaining to the Environment, Health and Safety must be carried out in accordance with the approved EMP. During the exploration activities within the EPL, the company will follow a phased approach, which will be in line with the relevant Namibian legislation and regulations. The exploration program will be conducted in line with the EMP thus implementing the necessary mitigation measures, monitoring, and stipulated rehabilitation. It is of utmost importance that good relations are upheld with the farming community, community members and any other affected parties.

8.2 Recommendation

According to the information in the report, SS Consultants are confident that the risks and impacts associated with the proposed exploration activities can be brought down to tolerable levels, ensuring only negligible harm to the environment. This can be accomplished by successfully executing and closely monitoring the recommended measures in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

SS consultants therefore recommends that an ECC be granted on the following conditions:

• That the EMP be effectively implemented and monitored

• The proponent must engage with the local and traditional authorities prior to the commencement of the exploration activities.

• That once a target area has been identified all invasive work should be conducted in accordance with the EMP.

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APPENDIX A: CV_ UAANAO KATJINJAA

CURRICULUM VITAE

UAANAO KATJINJAA

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Personal Statement

Committed individual willing to learn from more experienced personnel. Comfortable working in large scale environments and possesses comprehensive understanding of venture management principles. Capable to actively participate in business case study analysis and research projects; skills gained in team and group work at college.

Academic Background

Candidate for MSc. Integrated Environmental Management and Sustainable Development (2024)

(International University of Management)

- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Ecosystem Management and Conservation
- Research Methodology
- Environmental Legislations
- Mini Dissertation: An Assessment of the Factors Affecting Sustainable Entrepreneurship Development in the Renewable Energy Sector in Windhoek, Namibia

Bachelor of Business Administration- Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development (2018)

(University Of Botswana)

- Strategic Management
- Management Consulting
- Business Plan Development
- Research Report: An Assessment of Trends in Entrepreneurial Behavior of the Youth in Gaborone, Botswana

Competencies

- Good Verbal and Written Communication Skills
- Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Report Preparation
- Data Collection and Analysis

Experience

Administration and Accounts Clerk- Chemspec Botswana- 2018-2019

- · Receive and process invoices, expense forms
- Request for payments and handle KYC documents
- Handle daily banking reconciliation
- Attending emails and customers' enquiries

Junior Environmental Specialist SS- Consultants cc-2024

- Compilation and review of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) report
- Compilation of Environmental Clearance Certificate application
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- Article on Women Empowerment through Beauty Pageants (The Ngamitimes Newspaper, 2017).
- Documentary on Pursuit of Happiness (Media Studies, University of Botswana, 2016).

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APPENDIX B: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (EMP)

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN REPORT FOR THE EXPLORATION OF BASE AND RARE METALS, DIMENSION STONE, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, AND PRECIOUS METALS ON EPL NO. 8816, LOCATED IN OTJIKONDO VILLAGE WITHIN THE KAMANJAB CONSTITUENCY, IN THE KUNENE REGION- NAMIBIA

COMPILED BY



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1. OVERVIEW

1.1. Project Background

The Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) has granted the proponent an Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) with the primary purpose of exploring base and rare metals, dimension stone, industrial minerals and precious metals group of mineral commodities. To proceed with the exploration activities, the proponent is required to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) as mandated by the Environmental Management Act.

The extent of these impacts will inform the development of an effective Environmental Management Plan (EMP) that will facilitate the management of these impacts by implementing appropriate mitigation measures. The EMP outlines the proponent's approach to managing the exploration, potential mining, and processing operations within the EPL area, with a focus on minimizing negative effects and maximizing positive ones on the receiving environment.

The proponent's exploration focus includes base and rare metals, dimension stone, industrial minerals, and precious metals. EPL 8816 is located about 71 kilometers northwest of Outjo town and approximately 3 kilometers southwest of Otjikondo Village within the Kamanjab constituency in the Kunene Region. Encompassing a total area of around 19,730.343 hectares, this private land can be reached via the D2666 gravel road, a branch of the main Kamanjab - Outjo C40 tarred road. The locality of the EPL is shown in Figure 1-1.



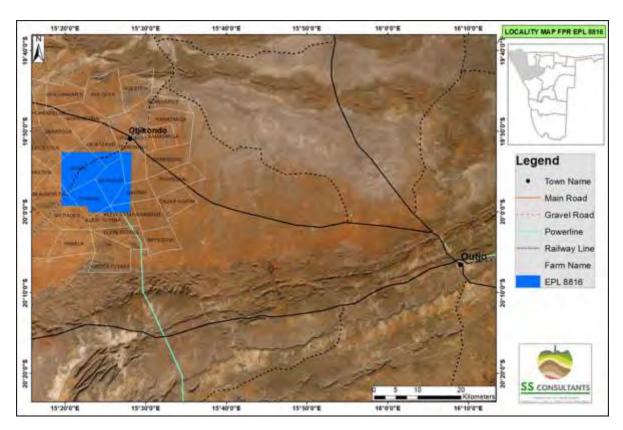


Figure 1-1: Locality Map for EPL 8816.



1.2. Purpose of the EMP

The Environmental Management Plan (EMP) serves as a comprehensive tool outlining specific actions necessary to implement mitigation measures for a proposed project. The main aim of this EMP is to ensure that the project complies with the goals of the Namibian Environmental Management Act (EMA, No. 7 of 2007); and, more specifically, to provide a framework for implementing the management actions as described in the EMP for the operational and maintenance phases of the project. There are some environmental impacts that cannot be avoided, these environmental impacts require mitigation, and in order to mitigate against these impacts an EMP is required. The EMP aims to ensure best practices are implemented and environmental degradation is avoided through appropriate environmental protection, adherence to legal requirements and maintaining good community relationships. Continuous management of the EMP should be maintained throughout the project's life to ensure effective responsiveness to any changes and positive monitoring results throughout the project's lifecycle.

The overall objectives of the EMP are as follows:

- Implement measures to avoid and minimize adverse impacts of the proposed project.
- Ensure compliance with regulatory authority stipulations and guidelines.
- Enhance the value of environmental components where feasible.
- Protect environmental resources such as biodiversity, ecosystems, natural resources, and social aspects.
- Respond to unforeseen events and provide feedback for continual improvement in environmental performance.

The Environmental objectives and targets for this project are summarized on the following table.



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 Table 1-1: Environmental objectives and targets.

Objectives	Targets (these need to be measu	ured)	Management programs (How will targets	
	Indicator	Target	be achieved)	
To ensure that pollution	o Introduction of	No spills in work area	 Identification of Hazards and Risk 	
prevention and environmental	temporary controls		 Hazard Analysis Control of 	
impact reduction procedures	following an incident		Hazardous Materials	
andequipment are in place and	o Spills in work area		 Incident Management 	
effective.				
To ensure that work is	 Close out of actions 	100% within agreed	• Roles and Responsibilities	
performed in accordance with	from	timeframes	 Audit and Inspections 	
this environmental management	• Incident			
plan	 Investigations, 			
	 Inspections, 			
	• Observations			

Potential environmental risks/	Environmental Risk Register has	Environmental Risk	• Environmental Aspects Register
impacts are identified, and	been approved by site	Register prepared for	 Strategic Risk Management
provisions are made for their	Management.	eachoperational site.	
prevention and management.			
To ensure that site personnel are	Inductions and training	Fully trained personnel	• New Employee Induction
aware of and able to achieve	completed		 Assessment of Training
their environmental targets	Environmental awareness topics		Requirements
through appropriate training	delivered to personnel		o Toolbox Talks
and awareness programs.			
To maintain and improve this	Inspections and audits	>90%	• Complaisance Inspection and
EMP and procedures to meet,	Actual Vs Scheduled		management Review
and demonstrate that, the			 Regional Management Review
environmental objectives of the			
Project are met.			

1.3. Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)

SS Consultants, an independent environmental consultant, was tasked by the proponent to conduct the required Environmental Assessment (EA) and prepare an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the proposed development. According to the Environmental Act of 2007, the EMP must be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) of the Ministry of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism (MEFT), along with the scoping EA report, as a supporting document to apply for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

The EMP will serve as guidance for both Contractors and the Proponent during the proposed exploration operations, ensuring that environmental impacts are minimized or avoided wherever possible. Additionally, the EMP will be used in the process of reviewing the EIA scoping report for decision-making purposes.

1.4. Legal Requirements

In order to be considered, the EMP must meet the requirements specified in Section 8 (j) of the EIA Regulations. The review of the legal framework serves to inform the Proponent, affected and interested communities, as well as the decision-makers at the Ministry of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism: Department of Environmental Affairs (MEFT: DEAF) about the expectations and necessary elements of the EMP. The EMP not only adheres to the Environmental Management Act but also incorporates other relevant regulations, such as the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act No. 33 of 1992 (Minerals Act), which pertains to exploration activities. This Act governs the exploration, prospecting, mining, disposal, and control of minerals in Namibia and addresses related matters.

The proponent bears the responsibility of ensuring that both the proposed activity and the EIA process comply with the principles of the Environmental Management Action Plan (EMAP). Moreover, they must ensure that any contractors appointed by them also adhere to the relevant Acts and regulations.



1.5. Assumptions and Limitations

This EMP has been formulated while considering the following assumptions and constraints:

- The EMP is based on the scoping-level Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) conducted for the proposed exploration on EPL 8816.
- The mitigation measures outlined in this EMP are directly related to the risks and impacts identified in the scoping report. These risks and impacts were determined based on the provided project description and site investigation.
- It is essential to understand that the EMP is not a fixed document and can be modified as the project progresses or if there are changes to the project's scope. Any alterations to the project's scope will necessitate a reassessment of the impacts, and appropriate mitigation measures will be formulated accordingly.

2. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The successful implementation and monitoring of the mitigation measures are crucial to fulfilling all the commitments outlined in the EMP concerning the avoidance and reduction of identified impacts. The EMP and its monitoring program are ongoing processes, commencing from the project's design phase and continuing throughout development, operation, and, if applicable, decommissioning. Given this, it is of utmost importance that the proponent bears the entire responsibility for ensuring the efficient implementation of the EMP, as required, and ensuring robust monitoring practices are in place. The key individuals responsible for the effective implementation of the EMP may be assigned to the same person to streamline the process.:

- Employers Representative
- Environmental Control Officer
- Contractors.



2.1. Employers' Representative (ER)

The Proponent has identified a suitably qualified individual to assign the role of project manager for all phases of exploration i.e. planning and design, operation, and decommissioning phase.

The developer appoints the ER to manage all contracts for work/services that are outsourced during the construction phase. Any competent employee or third-party organization which possesses the appropriate experience may fill this position. Any official communication regarding work agreements is delivered through this person/organization. The ER shall assist the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) where necessary and will have the following responsibilities regarding the implementation of this EMP:

The following are the responsibilities for the ER:

- Act as the on-site project manager and implementing agent.
- Ensuring that the contractor has obtained the necessary legal authorizations and permits,
- Assisting the contractor in finding environmentally responsible solutions to problems with input from the ECO where appropriate,
- Warning and ordering the removal of individuals and/or equipment not complying with the EMP,
- Providing input into the ECO's ongoing internal review of the EMP. This review report should be submitted on a monthly basis to the developer
- Appoint the Environmental Control Officer (ECO);
- Make sure that the Employer's tasks and responsibilities are properly implemented and are in compliance with the relevant legislation and the EMP for the project.
- Ensure that all the necessary environmental authorizations and permits have been obtained before any project's work related to such permits.
- Assist the Contractor in finding environmentally responsible solutions to challenges that





may arise (in cases where serious threats occur, or high impacts to or on the environment caused by the project, the workers may stop work.)

- The Employer must be informed of the reasons for the stoppage as soon as possible.
- The Project manager has the authority to issue fines for transgressions of basic conduct rules and/or contravention of the EMP;
- Should the Contractor or his/her employees fail to show appropriate consideration for the environmental aspect related to the EMP, the Project manager can have person (s) and/or equipment removed from the site or work suspended until the matter is resolved.
- Report to the Employer on the implementation of this EMP on site (with input from the ECO and/or independent environmental auditor);
- Maintain open and direct communication between the Employer, ECO, Contractor and I&Aps with regards to environmental matters, and;
- Attend regular site meetings and inspections.

2.2. Environmental Control Officer (ECO)

To effectively manage the implementation of the EMP, the proponent must designate a responsible person, referred to as the Environmental Control Officer (ECO), to oversee and monitor the on-site implementation of the EMP. This responsibility encompasses all phases, starting from planning and design through to operation and decommissioning. The proponent or the Project manager (PM) may opt to assign this role to a single individual for all phases or appoint separate ECOs for each phase to supervise the implementation of the EMP. The ECOs will have the following responsibilities:

The ECO's duties include the following:

- Assisting the ER in ensuring that the necessary legal authorizations have been obtained;
- Maintaining open and direct lines of communication between the ER, Developer,



Contractor, and Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with regard to this EMP and matters incidental thereto;

- Monthly site inspection of all construction areas with regard to compliance with this EMP;
- Monitor and verify adherence to the EMP (audit the implementation of the EMP) and verify that environmental impacts are kept to a minimum;
- Taking appropriate action if the specifications for the EMP are not adhered to;
- Assisting the contractor in finding environmentally responsible solutions to problems;
- Training of all construction personnel with regard to the construction and operation mitigation measures of this EMP and continually promoting awareness of these;
- Ensure that all contractors shall provide adequate environmental awareness training for senior site personnel by the ECO and that all construction workers and newcomers receive an induction presentation on the importance and implications of this EMP. The presentation shall be conducted, as far as is possible, in the employees' language of choice;
- Monthly inspection to verify if new personnel have received appropriate environmental, health and safety training and training for those who have not;
- Advising on the removal of person(s) and/or equipment not complying with the specifications of the EMP in consultation with the ER;
- Recommending the issuing of fines for transgressions of site rules and penalties for contraventions of the EMP; and
- Undertaking a monthly-month review of the EMP and recommending additions and/or changes to the document.
- Overseeing the implementation of the EMP: Ensuring that all measures and actions outlined in the EMP are carried out as planned and within the specified timeframes.
- Conducting regular inspections: Performing on-site inspections to monitor compliance with the EMP's requirements and identifying any potential environmental issues or deviations.



2.3. Contractors

The contractor is responsible for the implementation, onsite monitoring, and evaluation of the EMP. The contractor must keep records of all environmental training sessions, including names, dates and the information presented for inspection and reporting by the ER and ECO at all times. The responsibilities of the contractor include:

- Implementation of Mitigation Measures: The contractors are responsible for effectively implementing the mitigation measures outlined in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) to minimize environmental impacts.
- Monitoring and Reporting: The contractors will participate in monitoring activities as required and report any environmental incidents or non-compliance promptly to the relevant authorities and project management.
- Training and Awareness: The contractors will ensure that their staff are trained and aware of the environmental requirements and responsibilities relevant to their roles.
- Waste Management: The contractors will ensure the proper handling, disposal, and recycling of construction waste and hazardous materials will be carried out in line with approved procedures and regulations.
- Biodiversity Conservation: The contractors will take measures to protect local biodiversity and habitats, especially in ecologically sensitive areas.
- Water and Air Quality: The contractors and subcontractors will implement practices to protect water bodies and air quality, including proper management of storm water and dust control measures.
- Cultural Heritage: The contractors will take precautions to avoid disturbance to cultural heritage sites or artifacts and report any findings as required.
- Community Engagement: The contractors will engage with local communities, listen to their concerns, and address them appropriately during project activities.



- Emergency Response: The contractors will always be prepared to respond to environmental emergencies and cooperate with the project team in the event of incidents.
- Environmental Performance Improvement: Continuously seek ways to improve environmental performance throughout the project's lifecycle.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN ACTIONS

The Environmental Management Plan (EMP) outlined in this Report is a dynamic document developed based on the findings of the scoping report. It is subject to continuous updates throughout the implementation of the proposed project. The EMP incorporates relevant Namibian environmental regulations, policies, as well as other local and international best practices concerning exploration projects. To address potential impacts, the EMP includes detailed action plans outlining management measures aimed at mitigating adverse effects. These measures are designed to ensure environmental compliance and sustainability during the project's execution.

3.1. Key Potential environmental impacts to be managed

From the EIA, potential impacts per project phase have been identified and are summarised in the tables under subchapters 3.1, 3.2 to 3.4 as well as in the Scoping Report.

 Table 3-1:
 Summary of key potential environmental impacts per project phase

	Project Phase	Potential impacts identified in the EA
1	Pre-Operation	Biodiversity and archaeological impacts
2	Operation	Health and safety, soil, surface and groundwater contamination, wildlife disturbance, dust, noise, environmental degradation, erosion, and social impacts.
3	Decommissioning	Loss of employment, soil, surface and groundwater contamination.



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Management actions need to be employed to manage the potential impacts. The potential impacts rated in the EA and carried out for the proposed exploration development are presented in the following tables. The management actions are formulated as follows:

- Planning and design (pre-exploration) (The management requirements detailed in Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference. must be executed before any exploration activities commence on site. Also, necessary preliminary legislative and administrative arrangements must be set up in preparation for the proposed exploration activities.
).
- Operation and maintenance phase management actions (during exploration activities)
 The Operational Phase Section relates to the management and mitigation measures required to ensure that the continuation of the project and the maintenance of the infrastructure is operated in a manner that demonstrates responsible, precautionary environmental management. The EMP will address specific areas of concern in terms of the long-term environmental management of the affected environment.

The management actions for the operational phase during which the exploration activities are listed in Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference..

-).
- Decommissioning (The table below presents the management action for the decommissioning phase.)

The delegated personnel will assess the mitigation measures in detail and align their commitment to the specific management actions detailed in the table of the next subchapters.



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3.2. Phase 1: Planning and Design Management Actions

The management requirements detailed in Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference. must be executed before any exploration activities commence on site. Also, necessary preliminary legislative and administrative arrangements must be set up in preparation for the proposed exploration activities.



 Table 3-2: Planning and design management actions.

Aspect	Management Requirement	TARGET DATE
Labor Recruitment	Provisions mapped out to reduce the use of local labour should be inclusive within tenders	Ongoing
	concerning the:	
	 Facilitation to allow equal treatment, non-discrimination, and equal opportunity of workers, and to establish, maintain, and improve the worker-management relationship, and promote compliance with national employment and labour laws. Provision stating that all unskilled and skilled labour primarily considered people from local communities and should be included within tenders concerning the exploration operations. Specific employment procedures ensuring local firms enjoy preference during tender adjudication should be included within tenders that have to do with the exploration operations. Provisions promoting gender equality pertaining to recruitment should be included 	

	within tenders concerning the exploration operations.	
Occupational Health and Safety	 Development and submitting of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan. Commit to all the Namibian Health and Safety Regulations under the Labour Act and Exploration and Mining Safety Regulations. Training on Occupational health and Safety Training for all the employees. There should be always a qualified first aid. Active and correctly usage of all Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). 	• Ongoing
EMP Implementation and Monitoring	 Ensure that the EMP is executed during all exploration project phases. Adhering effectively to all relevant legislation and this EMP. Providing regular meetings as a reminder of all the EMP details and doing site inspections. 	Ongoing
Consultation with affected communities	 Conduct ongoing informed consultation and participation with the affected communities (community, local and traditional authorities) prior to any exploration activities commencement and throughout the activities to provide them with the following information. 	Ongoing

0	Detailed work plan with regards to the exploration activities.	
0	Discussion of access agreements.	
0	Discussion of compensation (as necessary).	
0	Any other concerns or information requirements that the farmers may have.	
0	Implementing the grievance mechanism with the affected communities to	
	ensure that all the concerns and grievances related to the project are	
	received, noted, and resolved.	
0	Resolve the affected communities' issues and concern promptly and	
	transparently and in a culturally fitting way.	
0	An allegiance by the exploration company for the rehabilitation of the site	
	when exploration activities are decommissioned.	

3.3. Phase 2: Operational Phase Management Actions

The Operational Phase Section relates to the management and mitigation measures required to ensure that the continuation of the project and the maintenance of the infrastructure is operated in a manner that demonstrates responsible, precautionary environmental management. The EMP will address specific areas of concern in terms of the long-term environmental management of the affected environment.

The management actions for the operational phase during which the exploration activities are listed in Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference..



Table 3-3: Operation phase management actions.

Environmental	Potential Impact	Management Actions	Target Date
Features			
Waste Management	Visual impact and soil	• The exploration site should always be kept tidy.	Ongoing
	contamination	• The exploration activities should strictly happen within the	
		project footprint.	
		All domestic and general waste accumulated daily should be	
		cleaned and contained daily.	
		No waste may be buried or burned.	
		• Waste containers (bins) should be emptied regularly and	
		removed from site to the nearest municipal waste disposal	
		site.	
		• All recyclable waste needs to be taken to the nearest recycling	
		depot.	
		• Several, separate waste containers (bins) for hazardous and	
		domestic / general waste must be provided on site.	
		• Employees should be sensitised to dispose of waste in a	

Hazardous Waste	Soil and groundwater contamination	 responsible manner and not to litter. All the wastes must be removed from site after the completion of the project. All heavy operation vehicles and equipment on site must be supplied with a drip tray to prevent spill-outs All heavy operation vehicles should be maintained regularly to avoid oil leakages. Maintenance and washing of operation vehicles must happen only at a designated workshop. 	 Phase two and Phase three of the project
Groundwater	Groundwater contamination	 The usage of the toilets instead of the veld must be strictly adhered to. If grey water can be collected from ablution facilities at the contractors' camp it should be recycled and: Used for dust suppression; Used to water vegetable gardens or to support a small nursery in local communities (as and when agreed 	Ongoing

upon by such communities), and/or	
upon by such communities); and/or	
 Used to clean equipment. 	
• All run off materials such as hydrocarbons, wastewater and	
other potential contaminants should be contained on site	
appropriately and disposed of in accordance with municipal	
wastewater discharge standards, so that they do not reach to	
ground or surface water systems.	
 Wastewater (excluding sewage) should be drained into 	
lined / impermeable catch pits, big enough for daily /	
weekly usage without overflowing. Water from these catch	
pits should be removed from site to the nearest wastewater	
treatment facility by an approved wastewater removal	
company.	
• Employees must properly be trained on the groundwater	
impact awareness.,	
• There must be an established and maintained emergency	
preparedness and response system that facilitates space	

		for responding to any accidental and emergency situations to prevent and mitigate any harm to people and the environment. This can account for major / minor spills and firefighting at the exploration site during exploration activities (with consideration of air, groundwater, soil and surface water).	
Soil	Soil contamination	 Spill control preventative measures should be put in place to control soil contamination. An impermeable liner should be placed on site to prevent contamination from reaching to surrounding soils and groundwater systems. Potential contaminants such as hydrocarbons and wastewater should be placed in appropriate containers on site and be disposed of in accordance to municipal wastewater discharge standards to ensure that they do not contaminate soils in the area. Soil contamination should be monitored on site daily by PR 	• Ongoing

		 and monthly by ECO. ECO(s) should ensure that enough number of drip trays are available on-site and that these are utilised in the event of leakage from construction trucks or vehicles. Contaminated soils onsite that may have resulted from leakage/spillage from construction vehicles or equipment should be removed to a depth dependent on the size of the spill and disposed at a designated landfill. The removed soil must be replaced with clean soil.
Biodiversity	Loss of Biodiversity	 Recommendations and mitigation measures as provided by the vegetation study with regards to the protection of biodiversity in the area should be adhered to and monitored during exploration activities. Trees with a trunk size of 150 mm and bigger should be surveyed, marked with paint (readily visible) and protected. Trees that are not within the footprint should be left to

		 preserve biodiversity in the area. If cleared, the numbers of protected, endemic and near endemic species removed should be documented. Trees and plants protected under the Forest Act No 12 of 2001 must not be removed without a valid permit from the local Department of Forestry. 	
Terrestrial environment	Noise and dust	 The dust generated during the exploration activities should be reduced by means of water spray. If attainable, wastewater should be treated to an acceptable water quality level, so that it can be used for dust suppression. Noise levels during exploration activities should be kept within the allowable standards for urban areas. Noise levels should adhere to the SANS restrictions on noise. The working hours should be restricted to daytime due to the use of heavy equipment, power tools and the 	• Ongoing

		 movement of heavy vehicles. Noisy equipment should be off when not used to avoid noise pollution on site and its surroundings. Workers should wear ear plugs when performing noisy tasks and should be rotated regularly to avoid exposing them to excessive noise for a long period of time in a day. Workers should be equipped with personal protective equipment (PPE) such as earplugs to reduce noise exposure. Workers should ensure that they always wear the PPE on work sites. 	
Health and Safety	Health and safety impacts	 The contractor(s) should ensure that all personnel are equipped with personal protective equipment (PPE), such as coveralls, gloves, safety boots, safety glasses and hard hats always. Workers should ensure that they always wear their PPE at 	 Ongoing

	 work, in an appropriate way. Alcohol should be prohibited during working hours. No workers should be allowed on site if under the influence of drugs and alcohol. An appropriate location should be indicated on the site for the parking of operation vehicles and must be demarcated to be visible to everyone. Public access to the exploration site should be prohibited.
Exploration labourers	 The Proponent should ensure that locals got the priority for employment of any type of a job. Portable toilets (i.e., easily transportable) should be available on site. Separate bathrooms or toilets should be available for men and women and should clearly be indicated as such. Sewage waste needs to be removed on a regular basis to the nearest approved sewage disposal site. Workers responsible for cleaning the toilets should be provided with latex gloves, rubber boats, overalls, masks

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 and all the necessary PPE for cleaning. No workers may reside on-site for the entire duration of the exploration period. Only a security guard will be allowed to sleep on-site (if there will be any). The proponent or contractor should draft a Communication Plan, which should outline as a minimum the following: 	
 How stakeholders, who require ongoing communication for the duration of the exploration period, will be identified and recorded and who will manage and update these records. How these stakeholders will be engaged throughout the project lifetime. Provision should be made for a grievance mechanism – outlining how to discover and assess the issues raised and determine how to address them, inclusive of further steps of 	

		arbitration if feedback is deemed unsatisfactory. There should be continuous engagement with the stakeholders and affected communities and farmowners to ensure they are aware of the relevant communication channels and that they are part of the project decision making where needed.	
Water	Groundwater contamination	 No wastewater / effluent should be allowed to leave the site premises without proper control. The disposals should be done in accordance with municipal wastewater discharge standards. Daily maintenance of exploration equipment and vehicles should be done to detect early spills or leakages. An emergency responsive plan should be available for major / minor spills at the exploration site during operation (with consideration of air, groundwater, soil and surface water) to prepare the workers on how to respond to any emergency. 	• Ongoing

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		Groundwater impact awareness should be raised among the				
		employees involved in this phase.				
Wildlife and Stock	Disturbance of wildlife	• Working hours should be committed to during the day so	٠	Prior	to	the
animals	and stock theft	that the wildlife can roam freely at night.		project	t	
		• The contractor is to compile a Non-Theft Policy to which all		comme	encer	nent
		workers are to comply with.		(in		the
		• All exploration workers are to cohere to the Non- Theft		employ	ymen	t
		Policy.		contra	ct).	
			•	Ongoir	ng	

3.4. Rehabilitation and Decommissioning Management Actions

The table below presents the management action for the decommissioning phase.

 Table 3-4: Decommissioning phase management actions.

Environmental	Impact	Management Actions	Target date
Feature			
Employment	Loss of employment	 The Proponent should tell the employees well in advance, of any intentions to cease the exploration activities, and the expected date of such. The Proponent should encourage and raise awareness of the possibilities for work in other industrial sectors. Conduct a skills training program 	 At least 6 months before the project closure Ongoing
Rehabilitation	Groundwater contamination	 during the operations phase. During the initial prospecting phase, only limited surface rock and soil sampling will take place and it is unlikely that any damage be left by this activity. All waste, inoperative samples, and any other remains from the site must be removed. All sample bags, plastic waste, survey pegs, materials used for sump creation etc. from site at completion of sampling schedule must be 	 Throughout the entire phase 2 and Phase 3.



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1	
detached.	
• Site should be returned to as close as	
possible to its original condition.	
• Re-contour and rip the drill site	
before the site is finally	
decommissioned.	
 Fill holes, rip up, rake track, and 	
spread stockpiled topsoil back over	
the entire new tracks made, to allow	
re-vegetation.	
• Make sure that the ECO did a site	
inspection prior to and after	
rehabilitation to check rehabilitation	
efforts of each drill site.	



4. SITE CLOSURE AND REHABILITATION

Rehabilitation is the process of returning the land in a given area that has been disturbed by construction and earthworks to some degree of its former state, or an otherwise determined state. Many projects, if not all, will result in the land becoming degraded to some extent. However, with proper rehabilitation most impacts associated with the reservoir construction project, could be mitigated and restored to an acceptable level. The rehabilitation plan should address various aspects, such as the access road, vehicle tracks, vegetation removal, abandoned exploration drill holes, and the restoration of areas covered by sampling stockpile and rock piles.

4.1. Site closure and rehabilitation activities

Poorly rehabilitated construction areas provide a difficult legacy issue for governments, communities, and companies, and ultimately tarnish the reputation of operators as a whole. Objectives of proper site closure and rehabilitation include the following:

- Reduction or elimination of the need for a long-term management program to control and minimize the long-term environmental impacts;
- Clean-up, treatment or restoration of contaminated areas (e.g. soils contaminated by oil or fuel spills, concrete spills, etc.).
- Excavation of contaminated material and disposal thereof in an acceptable manner.

Rehabilitation measures to implement:

- A site inspection will be held quarterly by the scheme supervisor after every maintenance work during operation of the scheme. Rehabilitation will be done to the satisfaction of the MEFT.
- Frequent inspections of the scheme and effective follow-up procedures, to prevent minor defects from becoming major repair jobs.
- Make sure all soil polluted during maintenance work is properly stored in drums and removed to an appropriate waste dump.



- Make sure all windblown litter is removed once maintenance has seized.
- Make sure that all potential hazards (i.e. the sewerage pit) are properly closed and left in a safe and neat position.

Rehabilitation will be completed when the above have be achieved.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MONITORING

For the environmental impacts to be avoided and/or minimized, the monitoring measures below must be implemented:

- Monitoring of the implimentation of mitigation measures to ensure success as set out in the EMP has been complied with.
- Non-compliance is to be recorded and discussed at weekly site meetings and timeous remedial actions taken.
- Should dust and noise complaints be received, moderation measures should be implemented such as water spraying, and continued communication should be held with the aggrieved parties until the noise and dust matters are clarified.

6. CONCLUSION

According to the recommendations outlined in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP), SS Consultants express confidence that, as detailed the scoping report, the proposed exploration activities have the potential to receive an Environmental Clearance Certificate. However, this is contingent on strict adherence to the EMP and compliance with all relevant legal requirements for development. The EMP should function as an active and dynamic guiding document on-site throughout all project phases, with regular audits to verify its effective implementation. Those accountable for any breaches of the EMP should be held responsible for any necessary rehabilitation efforts.



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN REPORT EPL 8816

In summary, the anticipated environmental impacts of the proposed project are anticipated to be of low likelihood, limited in scope, with minor and temporary effects on the receiving environment, including physical, biological, socioeconomic elements, and ecosystem functions. This report establishes a framework for integrating mitigation strategies and applicable legal measures to ensure both environmental compliance and preservation of the ecosystem. To guarantee the successful execution of the proposed mitigations and effective environmental management during exploration activities, the project proponent must allocate adequate human and financial resources.



7. REFERENCES

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- Schneider, G. & Seeger, K., 1992. Copper. In: s.l.:The Mineral Resources of Namibia, pp. 2.3, 1-172.

APPENDIX C: LIST OF INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES



PROJECT TITLE: ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT REORT FOR THE PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EPL 8816

Table 0-1: THE LIST OF THE REGISTERED INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES I&AP

NAME AND SURNAME	ORGANISATION	POSTAL ADRESS	CONTACT NUMBER	EMAIL
1. lipinge Ndelimona	Namibia Environment and Wildlife Society		+264814138822	ndeliimonachox@gmail .com
2. Paul Stommel	Farm Owner, Otjikondo Area		+26464512440	stommelpaul@gmail.co m

APPENDIX D: BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

SS CONSULTANTS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)

ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT (ESA) FOR THE PROPOSED BASE AND RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, DIMENSION STONE AND PRECIOUS METALS, EXPLORATION ACTIVITES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE (EPL) 8816 LOCATED IN OUTJODISTRICT, KUNENE REGION, NAMIBIA.

PUBLIC INVITATION TO REGISTER AND COMMENT

PURPOSE OF ODCUMENT

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INTRODUCTION

SS CONSULTANTS CC (hereafter referred to as the consultant), an independent mineral resource and environmental consulting company has been appointed by Sebion Kambwale Hangula (here after referred to as the Proponent) to undertake an environmental scoping assessment process and obtain an environmental clearance certificate on behalf of the proponent for the proposed mineral exploration activities on EPL 8816.

The proposed exploration activities fall in the listed activities under the Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007 - activities which may not be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate. Hence the proponent is expected to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate from the Environmental Commissioner prior to the commencing of these exploration activities.

The proposed development is therefore related to the specific listed activities as outlined by relevant sections in the Environmental Management Acts Regulations of 2012:

Construction of facilities for any process or activities which requires a license, right or other form of authorization, and the renewal of a license, right or other form of authorization, in terms of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining Act), 1992 (Section 3.1);

Other forms of mining or extraction of any natural resources . whether regulated by law or not (Section 3.2);

Resource extraction, manipulation, conservation, and related . activities (Section 3.3);

Abstraction of ground or surface water for industrial or commercial purposes (Section 8.1).

Manufacturing, storage, handling, or processing of a hazardous substance defined in the Hazardous Substances Ordinance, 1974 (Section 9.1)

Any process or activity which requires (Section 9.2).

1|Page

L. Project Description

EPL 8816 was applied by Mr Sebion Kambwale Hangula, on 31 March 2022 of which a notice of preparedness to grant EPL was presented to the proponent by the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME). To execute any exploration activities within EPL 8816, it is a requirement under the Environmental Management Act (EMA) (2017) and its 2012 EIA Regulations that the proponent obtains an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET). The EEC will allow the owner to conduct. exploration activities for base and rare metals, industrial minerals, dimension stone, and preclous metals. The project area is made up of one EPL license which may be converted to a mining license (5) If an economically viable deposit is discovered and the licensing requirements are met. The proposed exploration activities will involve both non-invasive and invasive exploration methods. Non-invasive exploration methods usually include remote sensing, geological field mapping, ground geophysical survey and surface soll and rock sampling, whereas invasive exploration methods include techniques such as reverse circulation or diamond drilling and pitting/trenching. Non-invasive exploration activities will be undertaken first in order to define the need for more invasive activities. Should the results from the non-invasive activities be positive the detailed site-specific drilling, trenching, and sampling will be undertaken. The license falls within a well serviced area with infrastructure, such as water, national roads, railways, telephones, petrol stations (Outjo, Kamandjab)) and power line. Thus, the applicant will use the existing water and electrical infrastructure in the area. Utilization of these infrastructure will depend on the agreement reached with other landowners and or community members and all the necessary permits and requirements will be obtained from the necessary authorities. During exploration, various geological consultants and contractors will be appointed during different exploration phases. In addition to this, a geophysics expert will potentially be contracted during exploration to conduct geophysical surveys. Drilling operations will be executed by an appointed registered drilling contractor, and is expected that they will have their own work force (drilling crew). Furthermore, exploration activities on EPL 8816 has a potential for the establishment and operation of a mineral exploration program which will create direct permanent employment and indirect job creation in supporting services. These activities further have the potential for the discovery of an ore deposit of economic potential, which through mineral extraction, benefits the country in terms of employment, wealth and economic development. Employment on the new project will be attractive to the local workforce by virtue of the comparatively high wages offered, which will boost economic growth in the economy of the Kamanjab constituency and surrounding towns, constituencies and the country at large. The nearest populated towns/settlement/village are Fransfontein, Kamandjab, Outjo, Khorixas, Otjikondo and Onguati from which unskilled labour can be sourced from. It is anticipated that the workforce will be housed in temporary site camps or may reside in the nearest towns throughout the exploration program.

2. Project Location

EPL 8816 is located 60 km northeast of Khorixas and about 3 kilometers southwest of Otjikondo village in the Kunene Region. The project covers an area of 19730.343 hectares and is demarcated by six (6) corner coordinates as shown on Figure 1 below. The EPL overlies partially several commercial farms, notably: Leicester, Saratoga, Oenitzaub, Otjikondo, Gewaagd, Galpan, Klein Tutara, Charon, Miltindes, Beaumontia and Nadas. The EPL can be accessed through the D2 666 road from Otjikondo village, which branches from the main Kamanjab - Outjo C40 road. The location is shown in Figure 2.

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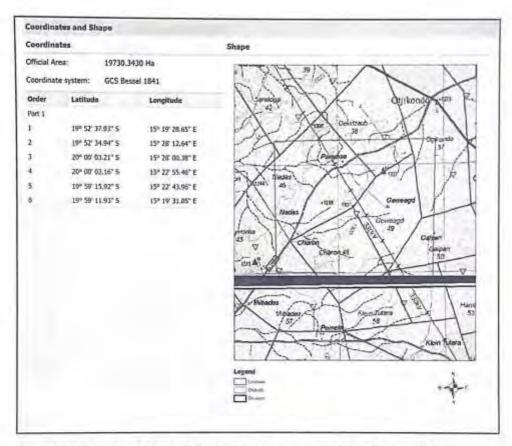


Figure 1: Map depicting the coverage of EPL 8816 and corner coordinates of the license area

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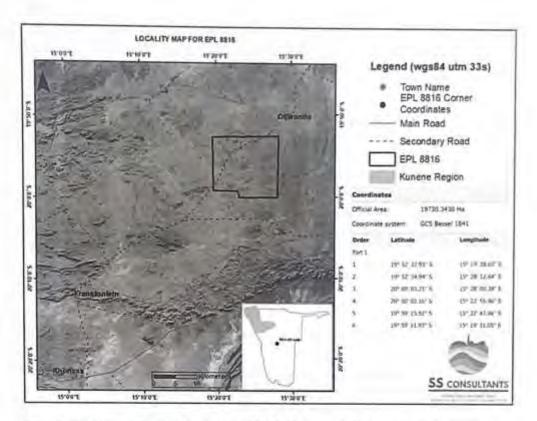
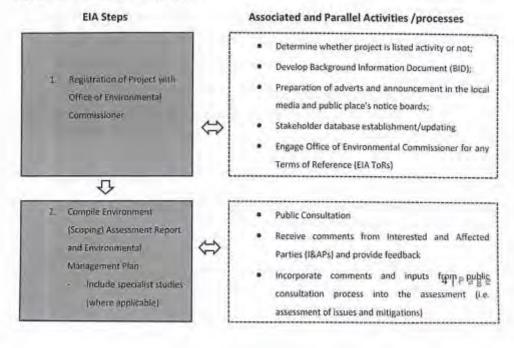
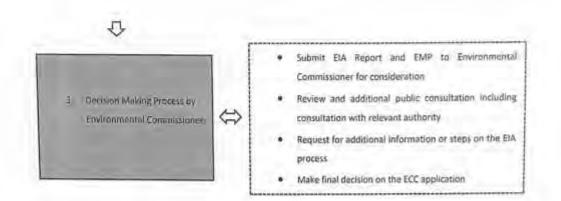


Figure 2: Google image showing the location of EPL 8816, northeast of Khorixas and southwest of Otjikondo village, in the Kunene Region.

3. Environmental Impact Assessment process

The EIA process follows the general guideline as outlined in the 2012 EIA regulations of the EMA. The process followed is summarized below.





4. Potential Impacts

Below are the potential impacts that have been identified from the proposed exploration activities on the license area:

- Temporary job creation this is the hiring of workers non-skilled to skilled workers from the area to be involved during the clearing of the fauna and flora in order to access target sites, and to also assist during pitting and trenching as well as drilling and associated exploration works.
- Impact on vegetation and fauna: some vegetation may need to be removed to create access roads, pitting and trenching, geophysical lines as well as drilling sites. This may also lead to habitat destruction for some fauna.
- Traffic safety: very slow drilling rigs and associated vehicles may compromise traffic safety in the area.
- Environmental degradation through different types of waste generated on the site.
- Soil and water contamination from chemicals and other substances used in drilling fluids.
- Noise and dust generated by pitting and trenching as well as drilling vehicles and activities.
- · Health and safety risks which may result to workers operating on site.
- Archaeological and Heritage Impacts if these sites are located close to the planned exploration area.

5. Public consultation

Public participation is an essential part of any Environmental Assessment process. Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) include any person or organization that will be directly or indirectly involved and/or affected by the project.

5 Page

Registered I&APs will be kept informed of the Public Participation Process throughout the Environmental Assessment process, they will be given the opportunity to review and comment on the EIA reports and documents and, will also receive feedback on how comments have been taken into account, and will be informed of the outcome of the assessment. All comments will be recorded and presented to the project team and competent authority by means of the Project Comments and Responses Register (CRR).

Notices for public invitation to participate in the process will still be placed in the local newspaper as well as at strategic public places (notice boards). The date and venue for the public consultation meeting will be communicated.

If you categorize yourself as an I&AP who wishes to receive information regarding the abovementioned project and/or provide input into the Environmental Impact Assessment process, you are hereby invited to register using the form on Page 6. You may also communicate with SS Consultants via email, or telephone to obtain further information or comment on the proposed project.

Contact details:

Ms. Anna Nekuta

Environmental Specialist (Environmental Assessment Practitioner)

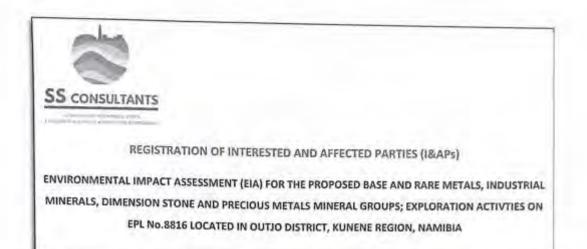
SS Consultant CC

Physical Address: Unit 24B, Bougain Villa, Sam Nuuyoma Road, Windhoek, Namibia

Email: admin@ssconsultants.co

Mobile number: +264 812409124

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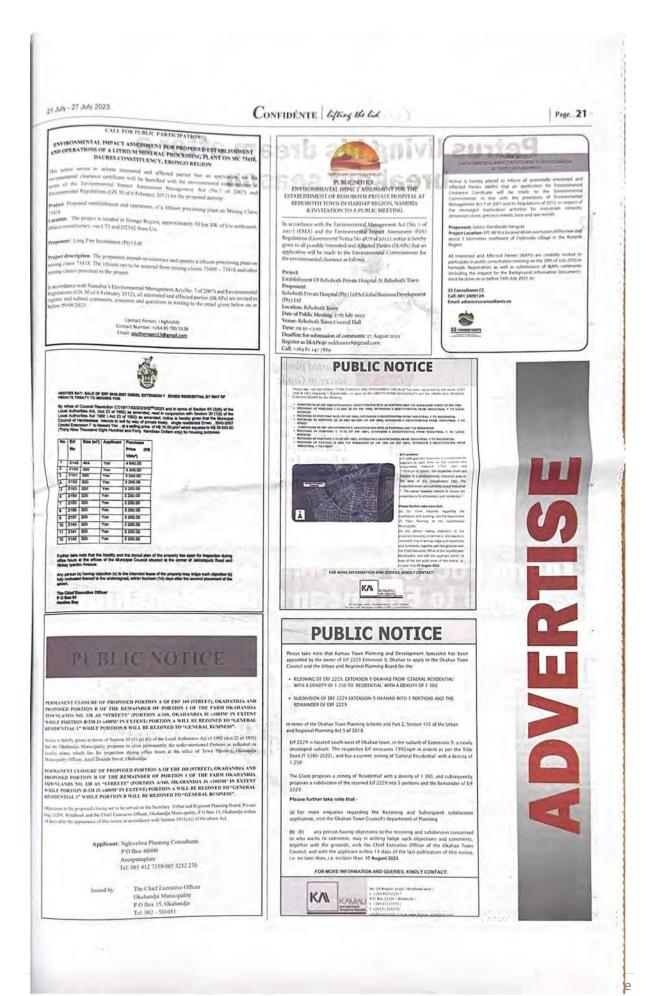


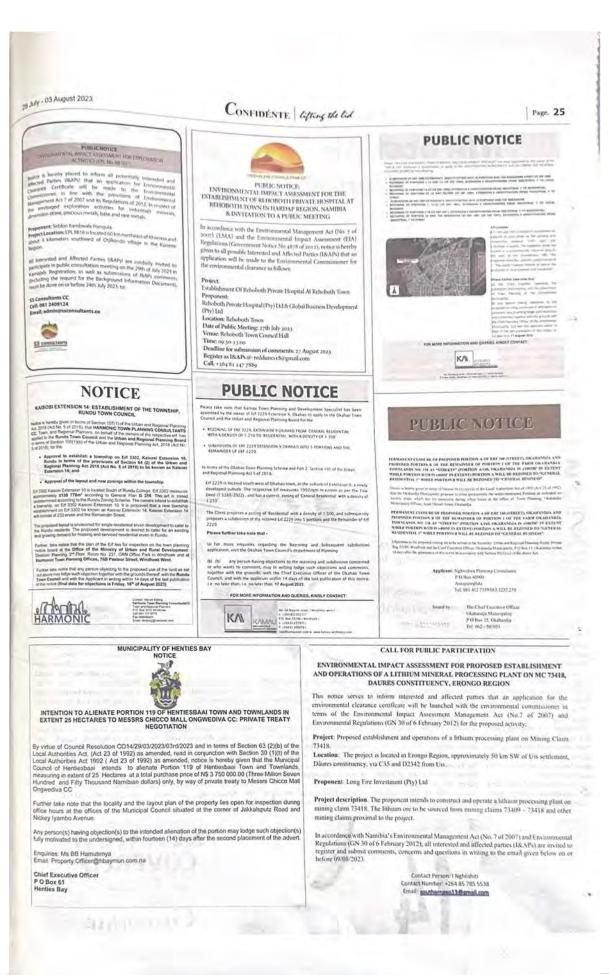
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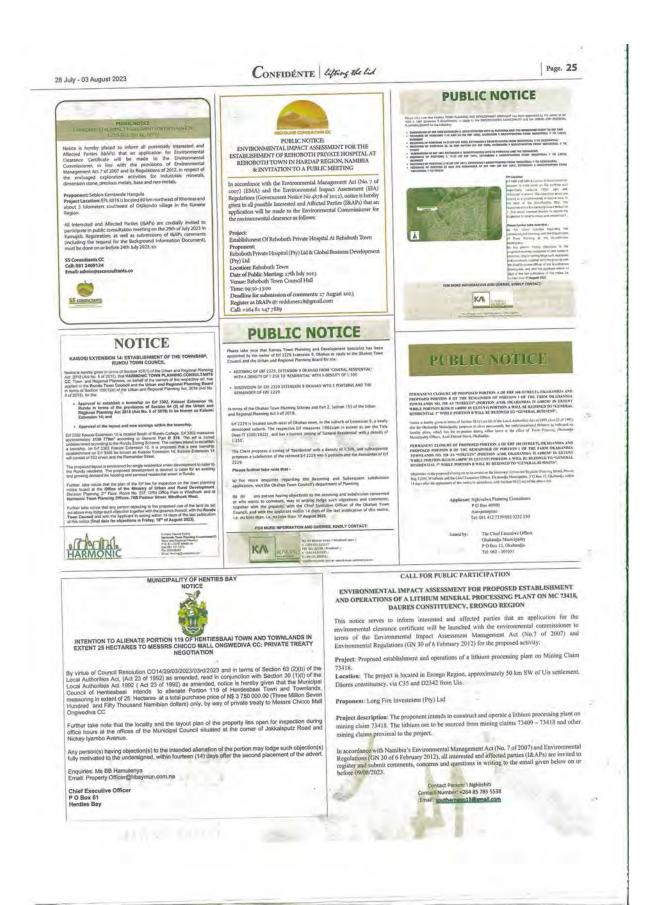
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20th October 2023

Farm Charon No. 48 P.O. Box 363, Outjo, Namibia.

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR THE PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING WITHIN EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) No. 8816 NEAR OTJIKONDO VILLAGE IN THE KUNENE REGION, NAMIBIA

SS Consultants CC, on behalf of Mr Seblon Kambwale Hangula ("The Proponent"), is hereby issuing a notice regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process on Exclusive Prospective License (EPL 8816). This process is in connection with the proposed exploration activities for Base and Rare Metals, Dimension Stone, Industrial Minerals and Precious Metals on EPL 8816, located near Otjikondo Village in the Kunene Region (as depicted in Figure 1).

The proposed prospecting activities fall under the guideline of the Environmental Management Act, 2007 (Act No. 7 of 2007), as well as the EIA Regulations 30 of 2012. These activities necessitate the acquisition of an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) to ensure compliance with environmental regulations. To meet these statutory obligations, we will be preparing an Environmental Scoping and Assessment Report (ESAR) and an Environmental Management Plan (EMP). These documents will be submitted to the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) and the Ministry of Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

As the landowner of above-mentioned Farm which overlies EPL 8816 and or a potential Interested Affected Party (I&AP) and on behalf of our client, we extend an invitation to you as an identified stakeholder and/or I&AP for this project. We kindly request that you register as an affected party to receive the Background Information Document (BID) and the draft ESAR, as well as the EMP. This will enable you to provide your inputs, comments, and concerns regarding the proposed activities.

To register, please submit a written request for the BID, including the following details: Your name, farm name/organization, contact information, and your comments/inputs. You can reach us at the following contact details: Cell: +264 812409124, email: info@ssconsultants.co Your participation is valued and will contribute to the transparent and responsible development of this project.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION AND WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS: 04 November 2023

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Additionally, it is important to note that the planned activities within EPL are strictly limited to prospecting, and they do **not** entail mining operations. If there arises a need to conduct fieldwork on your property, the Proponents or their representatives will make direct contact with you to request permission for access. Any arrangements "prior to such access will be subject to notifications telephonically or in person.

We are committed to fostering open and transparent communication with you, and we highly value your input and involvement in this process. If you require additional information or have any questions, please feel free to get in touch with us. We are here to provide clarification and address any concerns you may have.

Yours sincerely, Jes 9h

Anna Nekuta Environmental Specialist-

SS Consultants CC

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20th October 2023

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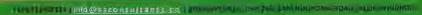
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Anna Nekuta Environmental Specialist-

55 Consultants CC





20th October 2023

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Anna Nekuta Environmental Specialist-

SS Consultants CC





20th October 2023

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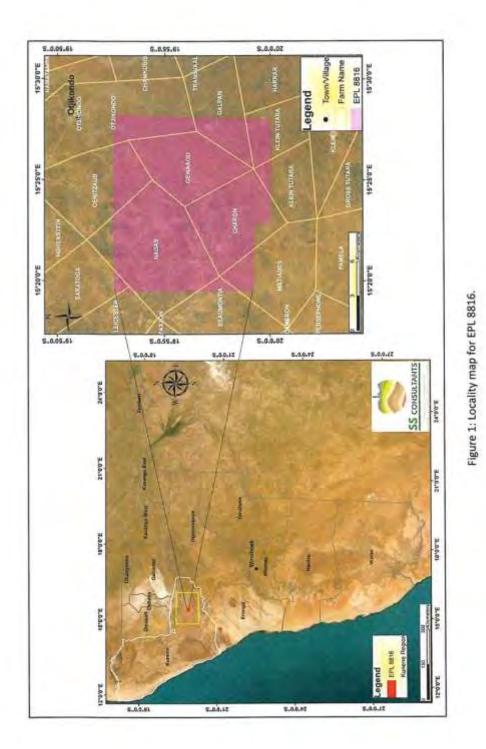
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APPENDIX F: EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE

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	Inbox	124	From: SS Consultants < <u>info@ssconsultants.co</u> >	
64		1	Date: Wednesday, 26 July 2023 at 4:20 PM To: outlostatevet/@omail.com <outlostatevet @omail.com=""></outlostatevet>	
软	Starred		Subject: Request for contacts of various farms in the Ohikondo area covering EPL-8816	
0	Snbozed		Surject. Request for contacts of various forms in the organity area covering LT 20010	
Ð	Important		Good day,	
Þ	Sent		As per our telephonic discussion earlier this morning. I indicated that SS Consultants is contra	ted by the license holder for EPI 8816. These EPI is
D	Drafts	10	located in the Otjikondo area, attached is a background documents for your ease of reference.	그는 것 같은 것 같
.0	Categories		Impact Assessment on behalf of Mr. Sebulon.	
*	More		Thus we wish to reach out to the farmers in the area who are interested or affected by the proj	
Lab	els	+	providing us with contacts of the following farms: OENITZAUB farm no. 38, GALPAN farm no. and NADAS 46,	OU, KLEIN TUTAKA, CHARON Tami no. 48
	Notes		Regards.	
	Paul		SS SS	
	Personal			
	Unwanted		2 Attachments - Scanned by Gmail ①	± @;
*	Macin			

APPENDIX G: SITE NOTICES



Site notices at the Kamandjab Village Council.



Site notice placed at farm gates.

APPENDIX H: MEETING ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Attendance Register for EPL 8816

Exploration application for environmental clearance certificate

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