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APP-002276

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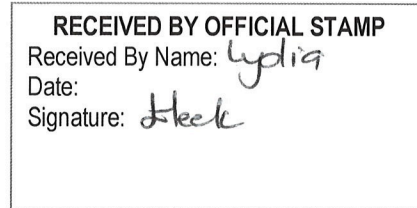
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Ministry of Mines and Energy  
Private Bag 13297  
Windhoek  
Namibia

REFERENCE: ECC-105-235-LET-03-D  
09.06.2021



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

**COPY TO:** Mr. Timoteus Mufeti (Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism – Environmental Commissioner)  
Mr. Erasmus Shivolo (Ministry of Mines and Energy – Mining Commissioner)

Dear Mr. Simeon Niilenge Negumbo,

**RE: APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE FOR EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EPL 7699, INCLUDING THE EXPLORATION AND SMALL-SCALE MINING ACTIVITIES ON MINING CLAIMS 68855 – 68861 AND 67633 IN THE KHOMAS AND HARDAP REGIONS.**

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (ECC) has been engaged by Mertens Mining and Trading (Pty) Ltd, the Proponent, to act on their behalf for the environmental clearance certificate application for the proposed exploration activities on Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) 7699, including the exploration and small-scale mining activities on mining claims 68855 – 68861 and 67633 in the Khomas and Hardap regions.

Mertens Mining and Trading (Pty) Ltd (registration number 2007/0308) proposes to undertake bulk sampling, exploration activities and trial processing on EPL 7699 for base and rare metals, industrial minerals, precious metals, precious stones and semi-precious stones. The existing mining claims (68855 – 68861 and 67633) of an area of extent of approximately 18ha will be converted and consolidated as part of EPL 7699.

In terms of Section 32 (1) of the Environmental Management Act, No.7 of 2007, ECC has determined that the Ministry of



Mines and Energy (MME) is the competent authority for the proposed exploration project as it triggers the following listed activities that fall within the jurisdiction and mandate of MME:

#### **ENERGY GENERATION, TRANSMISSION AND STORAGE ACTIVITIES**

- The construction of facilities for the generation of electricity the transmission and supply of electricity
  - o Power will be generated on-site

#### **MINING AND QUARRYING ACTIVITIES**

- The construction of facilities for any process or activities which requires a licence, right or other forms of authorisation, and the renewal of a licence, right or other forms of authorisation, in terms of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act, No. 33 of 1992.
  - o This listed activity, infers the provisions of the Minerals Act (Prospecting and Mining) Act 33 of 1992, under different licenses as basis upon which certain activities qualify for an EIA. Part X of the Minerals Act (1992) defines prospecting/exploration activities under the lawful ownership of an exploration license (EPL). An exploration license excludes any mining activities, but includes activities strictly relating to exploration work. Hence the current project strictly focuses on exploration and not mining
- Other forms of mining or extraction of any natural resources whether regulated by law or not;
  - o Minerals will be explored and sampled within EPL 7699
- Resource extraction, manipulation, conservation, and related activities
  - o The proposed project by its nature, involves resource exploration activities

#### **WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

- The abstraction of ground or surface water for industrial or commercial purposes
  - o Abstraction of groundwater is possible, for domestic and other uses, as a result of the activities.

Due to the nature of the proposed project, the potential limited effects on the environment and society and the implementation of industry best practice mitigation measures, ECC has undertaken a high-level environmental assessment in order to produce an Environmental Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan as per attached.

Therefore, ECC hereby submits the attached application for your consideration and review:

- **COMPLETED FORM 1 (ATTACHED)** – Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007, section 32 Application Environmental Clearance Certificate

- **ENVIRONMENT SCOPING PLUS ASSESSMENT REPORT**– The assessment report
- **PROJECT SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN (EMP)** – Project specific EMP has been developed for the proposed project

Both the environmental assessment and environmental management plan hereto attached and submitted to the Office of the Executive Director of MME is provided for your review, input, and feedback. ECC kindly requests confirmation that the above application is acceptable by your office and in order to fulfill the requirements as per Section 17(b) and Section 33(1) of the Environmental Management Act, 2007 and by the Mining Commissioner in terms of section 50 f (i) and of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act, No. 33 of 1992.

ECC aspires to build an open and transparent relationship with your office and ECC understands that the MME are the competent authority for mining related projects, therefore we understand that once MME completes the review of the attached application MME will forward the application to the MEFT for their attention and action.

Should you or your office require our assistance with the details contained within this letter or any project specific details, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will gladly assist.

We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,



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