ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT REPORT

EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES FOR BASE AND RARE METALS ON MINING CLAIM 74467 IN KUNENE REGION

APP: 002352



EPIC

PREPARED FOR: Tjapeuare Ngauezeeta P.O. Box 119 Opuwo

PREPARED BY:

Environmental Consultancy cc

Our Trusted Environmental Specialist

CELL.: (+264-81) 209 7875 PO BOX 2291 | | Swakopmund | | NAMIBIA E-MAIL: nkenviro.consultancy@gmail.com



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ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
BID	Background Information Document
CV	Curriculum Vitae
DEA	Directorate of Environmental Affairs
°C	Degree Celsius
EA	Environmental Assessment
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
ECC	Environmental Clearance Certificate
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMA	Environmental Management Act No.7 Of 2007
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EPL	Exclusive Prospecting Licence
ESAR	Environmental Scoping Assessment Report
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GPS	Global Positioning System
На	Hectare
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IAPs	Interested and Affected Parties
km	Kilometre
Km2	Kilometre Square
I	Litre
MAWRD	Ministry of agriculture, Water and Rural Development
MEFT	Ministry Of Environment, Forestry and Tourism
МС	Mining Claim

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ML	Mining Licence
mm	Millimetre
MME	Ministry of Mines and Energy
NAMPOWER	Namibia Power Corporation
NAMWATER	Namibia Water Corporation
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PPP	Public Participatory Process
ToR	Terms of Reference



GLOSSARY

Definitions given below are for explanatory purposes only.

Activity	The physical work that a Proponent intends to construct, operate, change, decommission, or an activity that a Proponent proposes to carry out.
Alternative	A choice limited to one of two or more possibilities, as of things, proposals, or courses of action, the selection of which precludes any other possibility.
Assessment	The process of identifying, predicting, and evaluating the significant effects of activities on the environment; and the risks and consequences of activities and their alternatives and options for mitigation with a view to minimise the effects/impacts of activities on the environment.
Competent Authority	A body or person authorized under the local authorities act or Environmental Management Act to enforce the rule of law.
Contaminated Water	Water polluted by the Contractor's activities, e.g. concrete water, and runoff from plant/personnel wash areas.
Cumulative Impacts	In relation to an activity, means the impact of an activity that in itself may not be significant but may become significant when added to the existing and potential impacts from similar or diverse activities or undertakings in the area.
Environment	As defined in the Environmental Assessment Policy and Environmental Management Act – refers to "land, water and air; all organic and inorganic matter and living organisms as well as biological diversity; the interacting natural systems that include components referred to in sub-paragraphs, the human environment insofar as it represents archaeological, aesthetic, cultural, historic, economic, paleontological or social values".
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	The process of examining the environmental effects of a development as prescribed by the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2012) for activities listed as List of Activities which may not be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate from the Environmental Commissioner.
Environmental Management Plan (EMP)	A working document on environmental and socio-economic mitigation measures, which must be implemented by several responsible parties during all the phases of the proposed project.



Independent Environmental Control Officer	A qualified professional independent from the Proponent and Contractor who oversees the construction phase and ensure that all environmental specifications and EMP requirements are met during the phase. Will also be responsible for the monitoring, revising, and verifying of compliance with the EMP by the Contractor.
Interested & Affected Parties (IAP)	Any person, group of persons or organisation interested in, or affected by an activity; and any organ of state that may have influence over any aspect of the activity.
Listed Activity	An activity listed in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and its EIA Regulations (2012) and the List of Activities which may not be carried out without an Environmental Clearance Certificate from the Environmental Commissioner.



1. INTRODUCTION

The Proponent, Tjapeuare Nguezeeta applied to the Ministry of Mines and Energy to explore Base and Rare Metals; and the proposed exploration requires an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). The proponent plans to conduct small-scale exploration activities of Base and Rare metals in Kunene Region. Mining claim 74467 measures 13.4165 hectares (ha) in extent.

The anticipated project is a listed activity in terms of the Environmental Management Act (EMA). Prior to commencing with this proposed project, approval is necessary for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) to be issued by the competent authority (MEFT) to the proponent, in terms of the Environmental Management Act No.7 of 2007 and its Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2012.

This scoping report summarizes the environmental, social and economic potential impacts that the proposed exploration activities might have on all stakeholders involved.

Traditional procedures of trenches and shallow pitting will be used; reverse circulation drilling will be used for deeper targets. The proponent shall ensure that all holes that will be drilled shall be covered completely. Likely negative impacts might include: noise pollution from drilling and heavy equipment/machines shall be suppressed, air pollution from dust emission of drilling activities will be suppressed as well and the risk of ground water contamination from grease, lubricants, etc. shall be monitored as recommended in the Environmental Management Plan for this proposed project to ensure that environmental measures and obedience is obeyed to all the time for the entire duration of the project. Probable positive impacts of the proposed exploration activities will include: employment creation, skills and knowledge transfer.

1.1 Need and Desirability of the Proposed Project

Mining and exploration activities in Namibia is one of the main provider of the country's revenue (GDP) and one of the key economic sectors in the country. There are insufficient social aids in exploration project activities in the country.



1.2 Terms of Reference (ToR)

The Terms of Reference for the proposed project activity is founded on the requirements that are set out by the Environmental Management Act (EMA) of No.7 of (2007) and its Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (GN notice No.30 of 2012). The procedure enclosed the below, which are specified in this document:

- Provision of a detailed description of the proposed project activities;
- Classification of all legislations, policies and guidelines that have reference to the proposed project activities
- Identification of existing environmental (both ecological, socio and economic) conditions of the reception environment in order to determine environmental sensitivities;
- Consultation with Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and relevant authorities of the details of the proposed development and provide them with a reasonable opportunity to take part during the process;
- Considering the probable environmental impacts of the development (negative and positive impacts), and assess the significance of the identified impacts.
- Managing and mitigating measures that will be outlined more in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) to minimise and/or mitigate potentially negative impacts, which cannot be avoided.

1.3 The No-go Alternatives

If the proposed project does not take place, the residents will lose out on opportunities, which may possibly benefit the community. This proposed project can meaningfully contribute to the economy of our country as well; and basically enhance socio-economic benefits in the concerned region as well including factors such as:

*<u>Local Empowerment-</u> the shareholders are local people hence the project will help to reduce poverty rate and enable to improve their social wellbeing.

* <u>Transfer of skills-</u> during the exploration period will enable locals to acquire skills and knowledge through trainings.

*<u>Growth and development-</u> the proposed project has the potential to benefit the locals. This project may result in growth and development of the area in terms of human capital and infrastructure. *<u>Employment creation</u>-more jobs will mainly be created in future thus during the mining phase. Currently, two people will be employed permanently and locals will be hired in cases when manual labor is required.

* <u>Land utilization</u>- if the project continues, land allocated to the locals to conduct mining activities will be utilized for the benefit of the people.

1.4 Exploration Method Alternatives

Geochemical sampling and geological mapping approaches will be utilized for the duration of the early exploration period up to when a target is demarcated. Subsequently, reverse circulation and diamond drilling procedures will be used to assess or test the deepness and magnitude of the mineral rock components.



2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

Mining claim 74467 is situated around the Sesfontein constituency around, Kunene Region. GPS coordinates of the mining claim (latitude: -19.2928° and longitude: 14.2864°).

The Proponent, Tjapeuare Nguezeeta proposes to carry out small-scale exploration activities of Base and Rare Metals. The mining claim measures 13.4165 hectares (ha) in extent. This proposed project is a listed activity according to the Environmental Management Act of 2007 and its EIA Regulations of 2012 and requires an Environmental Clearance Certificate to be issued to the proponent before the anticipated project commences.



Figure 1: Location of Mining Claims 74467 in Kunene Region on the MME Portal





Figure 2: Satellite image of Mining Claim 74467 in Kunene region.

Table 1. Of 5 corrier coordinates of Finning claim 7 1107	Table	1:	GPS	corner	coordinates	of Mining	claim	74467
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Order	Latitude	Longitude
1	19°15′53″S	14°17′31″E
2	19°16′12″S	14°17′30″E
3	19°16′12″S	14°17′37″E
4	19°15′54″S	14°17′41″E

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Figure 3: Mc 74467



3. REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

3.1 Environmental Assessment Requirement

The Environmental Management Act No.7 of 2007 (also referred to as the EMA), requires that for every activity which is listed under the EIA regulations of 2012, an Environmental Clearance Certificate must be obtained before commencement of any listed activity.

The purpose of the EIA is to identify, assess and ascertain potential environmental impacts that may arise from the proposed activity. An Environmental Impact Assessment is a process of identifying, predicting, interpreting and communicating potential impacts to interested and affected parties (I&APs).

Section 7 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (GN notice No. 30 of 2012), if an activity is listed, an Environmental Scoping Assessment Report and Environmental Management Plan should be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner (EC) as part of the application process for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). Please see below:

"MINING AN QUARRYING ACTIVITIES

- The construction of facilities for any process or activities which requires a licence, right or other form authorisation, and the renewal of a licence, right or other form of authorisation in terms of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining Act) of 1992.
- Other forms of mining or extraction of any natural resources whether regulated by law or not.
- *Resource extraction, manipulation, conservation and related activities.*
- The extraction or processing of gas from natural and non-natural resources, including gas from landfill sites.
- The extraction of peat."



3.2 National Legislations

Table 2: Inter	related Nation	al Legislations
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Legislation	Applicability	Legislation Objective(s)
The Namibian Constitution	To maintain the ecosystems, ecological processes and biological diversity by conducting Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).	"The state shall actively promote and maintain the welfare of the people by adopting policies that are aimed atmaintenance of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and the biological diversity of Namibia and utilization of natural resources on a sustainable basis for the benefit of all Namibians, both for present and future".
Environmental Management Act No.7 of 2007	Legal requirement to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).	The Environmental Management Act No.7 of 2007 promotes the sustainable management of the environment and the use of natural resources and provides for the process of assessment and control of activities which may have significant effects

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		on the environment; and provides for incidental matters. The Act ensures that potential impacts are considered, a comprehensive stakeholder's consultation is carried out, all interested and affected parties are given a chance to comment/object on the project. The Act as well provides a list of activities that may not be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (GN notice No. 30 of 2012)	Provides guidelines for Environmental Assessments.	Provides procedures for Environmental Assessments.
Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act No.33 of 1992 As amended Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Amendment Act 8 of 2008	Governs all mining activities in the country.	To provide for the reconnaissance, prospecting and mining for, and disposal of, and the exercise of control over, minerals in Namibia; and to provide for matters incidental thereto.

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Public Health Act No. 36 of 1919	Safeguards the public is protected from noise, dust and air pollution.	No person shall cause a nuisance or shall suffer to exist on any land or premises owned or occupied by him or of which he is in charge any nuisance or other condition liable to be injurious or dangerous to health.
Water Resources Management Act No. 11 of 2013	Guarantees that the water systems are not polluted and that pollution control mechanisms are in place.	An Act to provide for the management, protection, development, use and conservation of water resources; to provide for the regulation and monitoring of water services and to provide for incidental matters.
Environmental Policy Framework (1995)	Provides guidelines for EIA.	The Policy ensures that all developmental projects are subjected to environmental assessments so that all potential impacts are taken into consideration and incorporated into the planning and development stages.
Labour Act No. 11 of 2007	Regulates labour in general, remuneration, etc in the country.	The Labour Act regulates labour in general and protects the safety, health and welfare of employees.





		The regulation of 1997 relating to the safety and health of employees at work, sets out the duties of employers, welfare and facilities at the work place.
Soil Conservation Act No. 76 of 1969	Promotes soil conservation.	The Act promotes the conservation of soil and the prevention of soil erosion.
National Heritage Act No. 27 of 2004	Provides protection and conservation of places and objects that has national heritage significance; and the registration of such places or objects.	The Act makes provision for the protection of places and objects of heritage significance and the registration of such places And objects. Section 46 of the Act, further prohibits the removal, damage, alteration, excavation of national sites or remains; and Section 48, sets out the procedure for application and granting permits for exploration activities such as trenching, drilling, etc.
Hazardous substances Ordinance No. 14 of 1974		The Ordinance controls the handling of hazardous substances such as manufacturing, imports

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Controls th	ne hand	ling	of	and	exports	to	ensure
hazardous s	substanc	es su	ch	huma	an and er	nviro	nmental
as fuel, fire,	, etc.			safet	y.		

3.3 Relevant International Treaties and Protocols

Relevant international treaties and protocols consented by the Namibian Government:

- Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992.
- World Heritage Convention, 1972.
- Convention on international Trade and Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), 1973.



4. INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

4.1 Electricity

Electricity requirement for this proposed project is nominal or minimal, as power require will only be for lighting, powering small machinery that will be used during the mineral exploration. The Proponent will provide a generator that will be used on-site.

4.2 Water Supply

Water required will be minimal. Therefore, the water will be brought onsite and stored in containers. The water will be used for consumption and cleaning. The water used for drilling will be re-used/recycled.

4.3 Waste Disposal

All waste produced will be disposed of at the local dumpsite/landfill used by all local residents in the study and the surrounding area. Sewerage will be disposed in a way that does not pollute the environment. The proponent will ensure that bins are available onsite.

The proponent will be liable for the discharging of the ablution facility weekly and dispose of at the nearest sewerage discarding ponds in the area. The proponent will include the suppliers of grease and other lubricants to collect and dispose of such waste in an environmentally responsive/friendly manner.

4.4 Security and Safety

Strict access to the exploration site will be facilitated by the staff/workers that will be hired during the exploration project. Provision for fire extinguishers in the vehicles that will be used and in mobile containers (where possible) will be made available by the proponent.

4.5 Roads

Existing roads will be used to gain access to the exploration site; and for any new road that will be created proper procedures and regulations will be adhered to.



4.6 Staff Accommodation

About 10 possible temporary job opportunities are expected during the exploration stage. Personnel will be obtained from the nearest town or settlements/villages. The workforces will be positioned at different stages of exploration including soil sampling, geological mapping, geophysical surveys, and drilling operations.

It is anticipated that for most of the exploration project, the personnel will reside in the nearest town and/or settlements/villages; and be transported to and from the site. The Proponent will make transport available. However, during the latter part of the prospecting (drilling) personnel may be required to stay at the exploration site in campsites or in existing housing rented from the property/farm owner if possible.

The Proponent shall arrange for suitable living facilities during this exploration period. Should the Proponent consider setting up camps for the exploration team on site, precaution and safe use of flammable materials shall be adhered to.

4.7 IT and Communication

When the proposed project commences, the proponent will provide the prospecting/exploration team (staff) with two-way radios to allow the team to communicate efficiently.

4.8 Fuel Storage and Lubricants

All light vehicles will be fuelled at the nearest service stations in Kamanjab or Omakange. A 1000 litres fuel trailer will be made available onsite (where necessary) to operate various equipments needed for the duration of the prospecting/exploration project. Consumables and lubricants will be stored at a designated area on site.

4.9 Fire Fighting

Potable fire extinguishers will be fitted as required in vehicles onsite and in mobile containers where possible.



5. DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURAL RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

5.1 Weather and Climate

The study area's yearly temperature is roughly 27.79°C and it is 3.33% higher than Namibia's averages. Precipitation naturally received is around 56.61 millimeters (mm) and has 89.55 rainy days (24.53% of the time) yearly.



Figure 4: Weather and climate in the study area

Table 3: General Climate Data in Kunene region

Average annual rainfall	Average rainfall in the area is between		
	300-350mm per year.		
Variation in rainfall	Variation in annual rainfall is averaged to		
	be 40-50 % per year.		
Average evaporation	Average evaporation in the area is		
	between 2240-2380mm per year.		
Precipitation	Average evaporation in the area is		
	between 2240-2380mm per year.		
Wind direction	Wind directions in the area are primarily		
	from the south.		
Humidity	The most humid month is March with		
	80%-90% whilst September is the least		
	with 10%-20%.		
Temperatures	Average maximum temperature is roughly		
	between 34°C-36°C yearly.		
	(Courses Atlac of Namihia 2002)		

(Source: Atlas of Namibia, 2003)

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5.2 Geology, Soil and Topography

Geology of the study area is limestone and dolomite. Lithology include: phyllite, quartzite, schist, and conglomerate (Nm) Formation: Namibian. According to Mendelsohn (2000), besides diamond, most valuable minerals are found in the western side of the country. The elevation of Kunene region is about 868m and elevation of the study area is 570m about sea level. The study area is in general mountainous and predominantly covered by lithic leptosols soil which is thin and shallow; therefore the soil fertility is classified as relatively low.

Leptosols are coarse-textured soils characterized by their restricted depth triggered by the occurrence of hard rock. Leptosols are the shallowest soils in Namibia and contain considerable gravel with a low water holding capacity; vegetation area in which they occur is often subject to drought (Mendelsohn 2000). Rates of water run-off and water erosion can be high when heavy rains fall.

5.3 Hydrogeology in the study area

According to Mendelsohn (2000), in Namibia there is not much water that is seen on the surface. The little rain that falls evaporates or rapidly driains into the ephemeral rivers. Water for domestic use is obtained from boreholes.

5.4 Vegetation in the study area.

Kunene region is classified under the Acacia tree and Shrub Savanna. The study area is however dominated by the Western Highlands vegetation type. The Colophospermum mopane forms the focal vegetation all over the place or the study area.

Sesfontein is a dusty but beautiful, located between mountains in the Hoanib Valley. The local vegetation is dominated by umbrella thorns (Acacia tortilis), the adaptable mopane (Colophospermum mopane, known by its butterfly-shaped leaves) and the beautiful, feathery real fan palms (Hyphaene petersiana).



The vegetation density has been affected over the past years. See **Table 3 below** for the protected species spotted in the study area.

Table 4: Protected plants observed in the study area

Scientific Name	Common Name	Occurrence
Boscia Albitrunca	Shepherd's tree	Occur Occasionally
Colophospermum	Mopane	Common to abundant
mopane		

5.5 Surrounding Land Uses

Kunene region boasts the presence of the big four, namely, the Leopard, Elephant, Rhino, and the Lion, which can be found roaming freely in their natural environment. Agricultural, fishing, construction, administrative and support service activities significantly contribute to the region's Gross Domestic Product. Tourism and mining are among the growing sectors due to its variety of scenery, wildlife, and the discovery.



5.6 Fauna

Sesfontein has a diverse range of large game. Cattle and small stock farming is practiced in the area. Challenges faced include: the balancing of farming activities with the environmental limitations of the arid ecosystem, improving benefits from natural resources amid people with a long tradition of livestock herding and the people coexisting with wild animals.

Table 5: Common fauna data in Sesfontein area

Fauna Type	Estimated Number of Common Fauna
Mammal Diversity	61-75 Species
Bird Diversity	111-140 Species
Reptile Diversity	51-60 Species

Source: Atlas of Namibia (2003)

5.7 Archaeological and Heritage Sites in Namibia

Archaeological sites in Namibia are protected by National Heritage Act No. 27 of 2004. It is proven that the rise of modern humans and their ancestors have lived in Namibia for more than one million years, and there are fossil remains of lineal hominin ancestors as early as the Miocene Epoch (Kinahan, 2017).

The only region with the most archaeological sensitive areas is Erongo region, with over 37 declared national monuments in Namibia and non-designated archaeological sites.

There are no known heritage sites neighbouring the mining claim.

5.8 Socio-Economic Environment

According to Namibia Statistics Agency national housing and census (2011), the Sesfontein Constituency has a population of about 8434. Sesfontein is a settlement in the Kunene Region of Namibia, situated 150 kilometres (93 mi) from the regional capital Opuwo Sesfontein derives its name from the six fountains which have their source in the vicinity. The settlement has a clinic.



6. IMPACT ASSESSMENT APPROACH, PROCESS AND IDENTIFICATION

6.1 Environmental Assessment Requirement in Namibia

Environmental assessment process in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations No. 30 of 2012 gazetted under the Environmental Management Act (EMA) Act No. 7 of 2007 and in line with the provisions of the Cabinet approved Environmental Assessment Policy for Sustainable Development and Environmental Conservation of 1995.

6.2 Assessment of Probable Impacts Identified

The probable impacts identified and evaluated below are associated with the proposed exploration project; and will be discussed in more detail in the Environmental Management Plan:

6.2.1 Likely positive impacts

- Socio-economic development (through employment creation);
- Skills and knowledge transfer;
- infrastructure interrelated development benefits;
- Increased support for local businesses in the area (through the purchasing of equipment spare parts, greases, food, etc.);
- Better local economic development and economic growth.
- 6.2.2 Likely negative impacts
 - **Soil disturbance:** Probable causes of soil contamination comprise petrochemical spills/leaks from vehicles (bakkies), water trucks, drill rig, fuel operated generator as well as the trailer mounted fuel tank for fuel storage.
 - Surface and groundwater pollution/contamination: There is no surface water in the area as it receives rainfall occasionally, and communities rely on groundwater. Consequently, to avoid putting pressure on this scarce resource, the project will source water offsite and transport it in water tankers.
 - Noise Disturbance.





- Impact on Air quality, Dust and Emissions: The probable cause of air pollution would be dust and fumes produced by project vehicles and/or trucks, diesel power-driven machinery; and dust from drilling.
- Waste generation
- Biodiversity loss and habitat destruction: possible cause of the minimal clearing of plants/vegetation will be to make way for access roads (where required) and possibly put up temporary staff accommodation onsite during field exploration for the exploration team.
- Alien Invasive Species (AIS): Plants that are introduced accidentally or deliberately into a natural environment (exploration/study area) where they are not usually found; and this may or might negatively have serious consequences on the new environment. They represent a threat on the native plant.
- Safety and Health
- **Visual and Sense of Place:** Exploration project activities generally leave marks on the local landscape when rehabilitation is not done properly, this normally depend on the site features, methods used during exploration and the depending on the site characteristics, exploration method and power/intensity of the activities.

6.3 Cumulative impacts

Cumulative impacts are "those impacts that result from the successive, incremental, and/or combined effects of an action, project, or activity (collectively referred to in this document as developments) when added to other existing, planned, and/or reasonably anticipated future ones".

From this scoping valuation conducted, the cumulative impacts are well-defined below:

- Increased loss of vegetation and habitant;
- Reduced visual impact and sense of place;
- Increased benefits to the farm owners and local contractors; and
- Employment opportunities, skills and knowledge transfer.



6.4 Assessment Procedure

Outlined below is the assessment procedure used in determining the significance, location, management and impacts of the exploration activities and the viable alternatives on the bio-physical and socio-economic environment.

Criteria	Category		
Impact	Description of likely impact		
Nature Describe the type of effect	Positive: The activity will have a social/economical/environmental benefit. Neutral: The activity will have no effect. Negative: The activity will have a social/economical/environmental harmful effect.		
Duration Foresees the life time of the impact	Temporary :< 1 year (not included in the construction). Short-term: 1-5 years. Medium: 5-15 years. Long-term: >15 years (Impact will only stop after the exploration due to natural course or by human interferences). Permanent		
Extent Describes the scale of the impact	Site specific: Extends only onsite itself where activity will be carried out. Small: Limited to the site's close environment (within 1 km of the site). Medium: Within 5 km from the site (local). Large: Beyond 5 km from the site (regional).		
Intensity Describe the magnitude (scale/size of the impact)	Zero: Social and/or natural function/ or the process remain an unchanged. Very low: Affects the environment in a way that the natural/social functions and processes are not affected.		

Table 6: Assessment methodology used in determining the significance of impacts.

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	Low: Natural/social functions/processes are slightly changed/affected. Medium: Natural/social/functions/processes are notably altered/changed/affected in a modified way. High: Natural/social functions/processes are severely changed/affected and may permanently or temporarily stop.
Probability of Occurrence Describe the probability of the impact occurring	Improbable: Impact not likely to occur. Probable: Distinctive possibility/impact likely to occur. Highly probable: Impact most likely to occur/happen. Definite: Impact will likely to occur regardless of any prevention measures in place.
Degree of Confidence in predictions State of degree of confidence in predictions based on the availability of information and specialist knowledge.	Unsure/Low: Little confidence regarding the information available (<40%). Probable/Medium: Moderate confidence regarding the information available (40- 80%). Definite/High: Great confidence regarding the information available (>80%).
Significance of Rating The impact on every component is determined by a combination of the above criteria.	Neutral: A potential concern found to have no impact when assessed/evaluated. Very low: Impacts will be site specific and temporary with no mitigation needed. Low: The impact will have a minor influence on the proposed project or environment. The impacts will require feasible and achievable mitigation measures in place. Medium: Impacts will be notable in the local and surrounding areas for the lifespan of the proposed project and may result in long-term changes. The impact

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may be reduced or improved by making
changes to the project design or ensuring
effective execution of the mitigation
measures.

6.5 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation meausres are means to prevent, reduce or control adverse environment effects of a project. A mitigation pyramid can be used to react or to respond to an anticipated project activity. The mitigation hierarchy includes: avoidance, minimization, restoration and compensation.



7. PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS

As specified in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (paragraphs 7 and 21), public participation/involvement/consultation is a requirement and an essential element in the environmental assessment. Comments or suggestions made during the PPP should be noted; and addressed in both the Environmental Assessment Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

Consulting with interested and affected parties (IAPs) in the proposed exploration activities ensured that all interested and affected parties involved were well informed; and offered all stakeholders the opportunity to share their concerns, comments and/or suggestions.

Communication with the interested and affected parties was done through the below means:

- A Background Information Document (BID) was compiled; not even a single person requested or registered as IAP.
- Project Environmental public notices were placed in the Windhoek Observer and Confidente newspapers (15th September and 22nd September 2023), concisely explaining the proposed project and its location as well as inviting the public to register as IAPs and submit their concerns/comments.
- A copy of the contract signed by the Traditional authority, Ehirovipuka conservancy, mining claim owners in the surrounding area and the proponent is attached to support the environmental scoping assessment report.





NEWSPAPER ADVERTS

Windhoek Observer

15 September 2023

Øwhkobserver		OBSERVERSPORTS
Environmental Consultance consultance and a fected parties that an application for Environmental Management CALL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OF BASE & RARE METALS, DIMENSION STONES, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, PRECIOUS METALS, PRECIOUS STONES AND SEMI- PRECIOUS STONES ON EPL 8335 IN ERONGO REGION. This notice serves to inform potential interested and affected parties that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate will be made to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) and its Regulations of 2012 as follows: Location: Uis area in Erongo Region. Public Participation Meeting information will be communicated to all registered interested and affected parties. All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are invited to register and submit commental/suggestions in writing to the below email address by requesting the Background Information Document no later than 28 September 2023. Email address: <u>intervivo consultancy/Rigmail com</u> Cett: 081 209 7875	Fifa Best Awar Haaland, Kevin Declan Rice, L among nomine is players who helped Manchester City win the Treble in 2022-23 are among the nominees for the men's player of the year at the 2023 Fifa Best Awards. Erling Haaland, Julian Alvarez, Kevin de Bruyne, Ilkay Gundogan, Rodri and Bernardo Silva make up half of the 12 players in	rds 2023: Erlin h de Bruyne, ionel Messi es kevin De Bruyne (Belgium/Man City) Ilkay Gundogan (Germany/Barcelona) Erling Haaland (Norway/Man City); Rodri (Spain/Man City)
Environmental Consultance co	contention for the prize. Two-time winner Lionel Messi and Kylian Mbappe are also up for the prestigious award along with England's Declan Rice. Manchester City boss Pep Guardiola is a nominee for coach of the year. He faces competition from three other bosses including Tottenham's former Celtic manager	Khvicha Kvaratskhelia (Georgia/Napoli) Kylian Mbappe (France/Paris St-Germain) Lionel Messi (Argentina/Inter Miami) Victor Osimhen (Nigeria/Napoli)
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES OF BASE AND RARE METALS ON MINING CLAIMS 74467, 74468 AND 72571 IN KUNENE REGION. This notice serves to inform potential interested and affected parties that an application for Environmental Jearance Certificate will be made to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management in (Act No. 7 (2007) and its Resultations of 2012 as follows:	Ange Postecogiou. Lionesses and Hermoso nominated for Fifa women's awards Argentina World Cup winner Messi is the current holder of the player of the year award. Cristiano Ronaldo, who won the first two editions of the award, is not nominated after	Dectan Rice (England/Arsenal) Bernardo Silva (Portugal/Man City) Best Men's Coach Pep Guardiola (Spain/Man City)
Location: Kunene Region. Public Participation Meeting information will be communicated to all registered interested and affected parties.	joining Saudi Arabian side Al Nassr last December. Rice, 24, is looking to become the first	Simone Inzaghi (Italy/Inter Milan)
II Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are invited to register and submit comments/suggestions in writing to ne below email address by requesting the Background Information Document no later than 25 September 2023 . Email address: <u>nkenviro consultancy@gmail.com</u> eli: 081 209 7875	English player to win the prize. Manchester City's Ederson is nominated for best goalkeeper along with recent Manchester United signing Andre Onana. The nominees were shortlisted by a panel of	Ange Postecoglou (Australia/Tottenham) Luciano Spalletti (Italy/Italy national team Xavi (Spain/Barcelona)

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Windhoek Observer

counter-attack, Ponce applying the finish.

It meant Joao Pedro's unique double ended up counting for nothing. Evidently, it is not unusual for the video assistant referee to intervene to award penalties. Remarkably, this time it happened twice, on both occasions after the former Watford forward had gone down - he was booked for diving the first time.

Brighton's £30 million record signing took both penaltics, twice sending the goalkeeper the wrong way.

Brighton's long journey Just before the teams came out, the stadium announcer called on the Brighton fans to "drink it in". It is barely 25 years since the club were nearly relegated from the Football League, in the final match ever to be played at their belowed Goldstone Ground.

Where the club has advanced to is remarkable.

Thanks to the vision of owner Tony Bloom, who was watching from the stands, they have a superb stadium,



Djibril Sidibe (right) stunned Brighton by scoring the first goal in a European match featuring the Seagulls

a state-of-the-art training ground and one of the most attractive and progressive teams in the Premier League.

Deague. Now they have Europe, with the mouth-watering visit of former Champions League winners Ajax to come next month and Marseille to follow in December. Chief executive Paul Barber is fond of saying Brighton are looking forward, not back but, despite the disappointment of defeat on the night, if ever there was a night for nostalgia,

in those dark days and are now getting their reward. Dunk's absence proves key Sadly for Brighton, one of the key components in their rise from the

this was it.

Championship to the brink of the top four was missing. Dunk must have known, like everyone

Images of the past were played across

the stadium - more, it felt, as a thank

you to the fans who stood with the club

else, that AEK's two first-half goals were avoidable and had he been on the pitch rather than in the dug-out, Brighton would have had a far better chance of avoiding them. Igor Julio was not solely at fault but the sight of the Brazilian, a £14.5m signing last summer, getting booked for dragging back Levi Garcia just inside the Brighton half as he feared the Trinidad and Tobago international was about the run away from him was further evidence of what Dunk's absence meant.

On his full debut, on-loan Barcelona star Ansu Fati - whose last European appearance was against Manchester United in this competition last year drew an excellent first-half save out of Cican Stankovic.

When the game was still there for Brighton to win, Joao Pedro disappointed in not completing his hat-trick after beating the offside trap and running clear but firing his shot straight at Stankovic. Pascal Gross had Brighton's best

opportunity to level for a third time but again, the AEK keeper was equal to the challenge.





Confidente Newspaper

15-21 September 2023



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Confidente Newspaper

22-28 September 2023





8. REHABILITATION AND DECOMMISSIONING

It will be the responsibility of the Proponent to conduct the decommissioning exercise, which will be done as per the Proponent's Decommissioning & Rehabilitation Plan at the end of the exploration project.

A full decommissioning implementation should be done by the proponent, which should include the following:

- Demolishing and removal of all temporary and permanent structures;
- Disturbed areas to be prepared accordingly;
- Recovery and backfilling of topsoil;
- Any building rubble have to be disposed of at local dumpsite/landfill; and
- Rehabilitation monitoring should be done.

The impact on the physical environment can be lessened by the proper accomplishment of progressive rehabilitation that will be undertaken by the Proponent.





9. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

Consultations with residents and surrounding community shall be carried out throughout the duration of the exploration project by the proponent to identify any concerns or issues and ensure that suitable mitigation and management measures are further recognised.

The positive significance in the social impact has been recognized to likely direct and indirect jobs associated with the project and the probability of the project contributing to the national economy through loyalties, taxes and foreign currency earnings.

The negative impacts were carefully defined, evaluated, and mitigation measures are provided in the EMP to reduce and/or eliminate their consequence on the environment. The effective implementation of suggested managing actions (mitigation measures) will reduce negative impacts which cannot be completely eliminated from medium to low rating. Maintaining low significance rating will need monitoring of the probable negative impacts by the Proponent's Environmental Control Officer at all times.

Epic Environmental Consultancy recommends that the proposed mineral exploration project receive an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) provided that:

* The EMP is adhered to or complied with at all times and ensure that all required permits, licenses and approvals for the proposed exploration activities are acquired or renewed as required;

* That the Proponent and all project workers or contractors to fulfil the legal requirements leading the anticipated project and its related activities;

*Site areas where exploration activities have stopped to be rehabilitated to the preexploration state; and

*That Environmental Compliance monitoring reports are compiled and submitted to MEFT as per the Ministry's requirements.

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10. REFERENCES

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