Appendix: D

Application No. APP-002369

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE SUBDIVISION OF ERF 5360 AND CREATION OF A PUBLIC ROAD (STREET) IN EXTENSION 15, SWAKOPMUND

# **ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING REPORT**

### Prepared For



Municipality of Swakopmund

P. O. Box 53

Swakopmund

### **Prepared by**



- +264 81 142 2927
- info@greegain.com.na
  - https://www.greengain.com.na

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# DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Project Name	Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Subdivision of Erf 5360 and Creation of a public road (street) in Extension 15, Swakopmund.							
Proponent	Municipality of Swakopmund							
	Address: P. O. Box 53 Swakopmund							
	Tel: 064 4104418							
	Contact: Mrs. Johanna Angolo							
	Email: <u>jangolo@swkmun.com.na</u>							
EAP	Green Gain Consultants cc							
	Address: P. O. Box 5303, Walvis Bay							
	Contact: Mr. Joseph K Amushila							
	Cell: 0811422927							
	Email: <u>info@greegain.com.na</u>							
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# LIST OF ACRONYMS

EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EAPAN	Environmental Assessment Professionals Association of Namibia
ECC	Environmental Clearance Certificate
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessments
EMA	Environmental Management Act
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
GN	Government Notice
I &APs	Interested and Affected Parties
MAWF	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry
MEFT	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism
POS	Public Open Space
RA	Roads Authority
SDF	Spatial Development Framework

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Municipality of Swakopmund is in the process of redesigning the remainder of Erf 5360, Swakopmund Extension 15 by sub-dividing it into seven portions and remainder. As a result of this redesigning, a public road (street) will be created to provide access to the created erven.

In terms of the Environmental Management Act (EMA) No.7 of 2007 (Schedule 5.1) and its regulations (GN No. 30 of 2012), the construction of a public road or a road which caters for more than one lane of traffic in both directions cannot take place without an ECC being obtained.

The Municipality has appointed Green Gain Consultants cc to conduct the required Environmental Impacts Assessment (EIA) study and apply for the ECC for the proposed activities. This study was carried out in line with the requirements of the Environment and Management Act (Act No.07 of 2007) and its Regulations (GN No. 30 of February 2012). Since the proposed project is of a small scale with limited impacts only a scoping process was employed. A multidisciplinary approach was used which include collection of baseline information both biophysical environment and socioeconomic as well as consultation with potential Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and relevant stakeholders.

This Scoping Report presents an assessment of potential environmental and socio-economic impacts. Also attached is an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) which detail a list of mitigation measures to avoid and minimize potential negative impacts and optimize the potential positive impacts. It also outlines roles and responsibilities of the proponent and other different role players. The EMP, upon approval by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MEFT) will be a legally binding document to which the proponent (Municipality of Swakopmund) will be needed to adhere to. Thus, a copy should always be given to any contractor or sub-contractor to be involved in the construction or maintenance of the proposed road.

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

#### 1.1 BACKGROUND

The Municipality of Swakopmund is in the process of redesigning the remainder of Erf 5360, Swakopmund Extension 15 by sub-dividing it into seven portions and remainder. As a result of this redesigning, a public road (street) will be created to provide access to the created erven.

In terms of the Schedule 5.1 of the EMA 7 of 2007 and its regulations (GN No. 30 of 2012), the construction of a public road or a road which caters for more than one lane of traffic in both directions cannot take place without an Environmental Clearance Certificate being obtained, hence this study.

#### 1.2 SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The environmental scoping study was conducted in line with the Namibia's Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (GN No. 30 of 2012). It indicates a description of the affected environment and the way the proposed activities may affect the environment.

A multidisciplinary approach was used to collect baseline information. Information pertaining to the receiving environment and its social surroundings has been sourced through site investigations, Municipality documents and the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping. The study also benefited a great deal from Interested and Affected Parties contributions.

#### 1.3 PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The aims of this Scoping process are.

- Evaluate the suitability of the proposed activities against the biophysical and socioeconomic of the area.
- Propose the appropriate mitigation measures to avoid, mitigate or lessen the negative impacts.
- Consult all I&AP's and relevant stakeholders.
- Above all, comply with the EMA, No. 07 of 2007.

#### 1.4 Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)

Green Gain Consultants cc is a Namibian based professional environmental and natural resources consulting firm established and driven through belief, passion, and dedication to sustainable development. Established in 2012, Green Gain has grown into a substantial team of environmental practitioner in Namibia providing innovative and cost-effective solutions to environmental challenges and help our clients meet regulatory and stakeholder expectations for environmental performances. The table below presents detailed information about Green Gain Consultants cc.

Table 1: Details of the EAP

Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP): Green Gain Consultants cc							
Physical address	Cnr. Joe Davis and Paul van Harte, Narraville, Walvis Bay						
Postal address	P.O. Box 5303, Walvis Bay						
Contact numbers	0813380114 or 0811422927						
Email address	info@greengain.com.na						
Expertise	Name: Mr. J.K. Amushila						
	Qualifications: M. Sc. Environmental Management, B. Honors						
	Agriculture, B. Degree Agriculture, National Diploma in Agriculture.						
	Experience: He is a registered EAPAN member (No.165) He has						
	worked on several EIA and SEA projects. Through his consulting						
	work he gained experience of not only EIA project management, but						
	also environmental specialist experience as well as public						
	consultations.						

### 2. APPROACH TO THE STUDY

Given the nature of the proposed activities, a combined scoping assessment and EMP approach was followed, this includes the following methods.

- Site visits to collect primary data.
- Legal and policy review
- Gleaning over existing information pertaining to similar developments and issues
- Discussions, meetings, and site visits with the Authority and in this case the proponent (Municipality of Swakopmund)
- Incorporate opinions and concerns raised by interested and affected parties.
- Make professional judgment and recommendations.

### 2.1 Baseline study

#### a). Site Visits:

Sites visit was conducted to collect biophysical data such as.

- Flora and Fauna of the area
- Roads and traffic information
- Land use and adjacent areas
- Hydrological features
- Soil and Geology
- Topographic features, etc.

#### b). Review of Policy and Relevant Documents/Literatures

The following Literatures were reviewed.

- Swakopmund Town Planning Scheme
- Local Authority Act, (Act 23 of 1992)

#### 2.2 Public participation process

The Environmental Assessment Regulations specifies that a Public Participation Process must be conducted as an integral part of the EIA study. This was adhered to, as potential I& AP and relevant stakeholders were invited to register and forward concerns / comments to the EAP to ensure an equitable and effective participation.

#### 2.2.1 Notification of IAPs and Stakeholders

Potential Interested and Affected Parties were notified through newspaper advertisements in the local Newspapers; Namib Times for 22 and 29 January 2021 and New Era newspaper for 26 January and 1 February 2021 (See appendix B for proof of consultation). Public notices were also displayed at the Municipal notice board and at the development site (See pictures below). The advert provided brief information about the proposed project and the EIA process. The deadline for registration for I&APs and submission of comments was on the 12 February 2021. A list of all registered Interested and Affected Parties is attached on this report (See Appendix A).



Figure 1: Public notices

### 3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### 3.1 Site Locality

The development site (Erf 5360) measures approximately 30119m<sup>2</sup> in extent and is in Extension 15, Swakopmund and can found on the geographical coordinates - 22.63333" South, 14.53250" East, along the Ernst Konnecke Street.

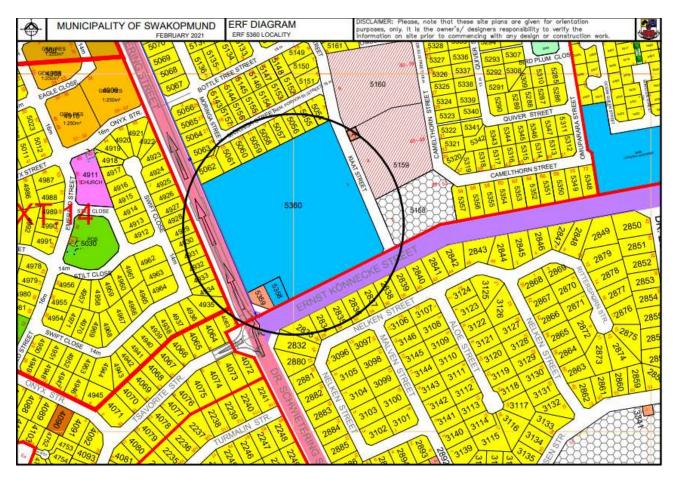


Figure 2: Locality of the site (Source: Swakopmund Mun, 2020)

### 3.2 Site description

The site erf is zoned "local business" and is currently vacant. It is located within a developed township of Swakopmund extension 15, which is predominantly made up of residential properties, business, institutional, and local authority.



Figure 3: Site locality context

The topography is very flat and with no drainage lines. The vegetation the site is sparely distributed and dominated by the Pencil-bush or *Arthraerua leaubnitziae*, as depicted in figure 4, which is endemic to Namibia. The local occurring fauna are expectedly, the desert mice and small lizards.



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#### 3.3. Intended activities.

As depicted on Figure below, the site will be subdivided into seven erven and remainder, as follow.

- 1 Public Open Space (POS)
- 4 Businesses
- 1 Parking
- Parastatals
- Remainder as street

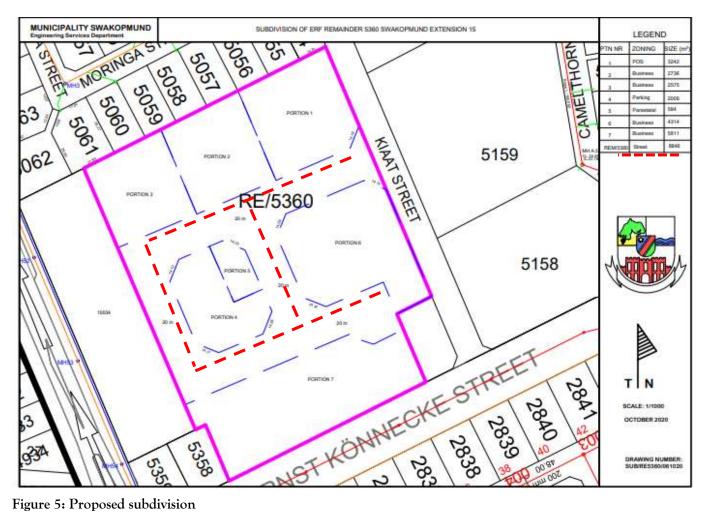


Figure 5: Proposed subdivision

#### 3.4 Project alternatives

The EIA Regulations stipulates that the Scoping process should investigate alternative development options to any proposed developments/activities. For this project, an alternative route or site was considered not be ideal. This is because, a part of the proposed road network already exists although not formalized.

Moreover, the proposed road network is planned in line with the proposed subdivision of Erf 5360 to provide access to other erven. The "Do-Nothing" option will imply that no action will be taken. This option will not be ideal as the street is necessary to provide access and enable traffic free flow.

#### 3.5 Need and desirability

The "need" and "desirability" 'for the intended activities is based on the following aspects.

- There is a need to subdivided Erf 5360 into individual erven as per the Swakopmund Town Planning Scheme.
- Hence, the creation of public road network is necessary to provide accessibility to the newly created erven.
- The proposed activities would not compromise the integrity of the town SDF agreed to by the stakeholders.
- The approval of this application would not compromise the integrity of the existing environmental management priorities for the area.

### 4. BIOPHYSICAL AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

This section provides a brief description of the existing biophysical and built/social environments. It draws on information from site visits, the study team and member's experiences, background literature as well as maps and photographs. It also presents a background against which the positive and negative impacts of the proposed options can be assessed.

### 4.1 About Swakopmund Town

Swakopmund is a town on the coast of western Namibia, 352 km west of the Namibian capital Windhoek via the B2 main road. It is also connected to other big urban centres such as Walvis Bay and Hentis Bay. The town covers 196 square kilometres of land. The city is situated in the Namib Desert and is the fourth largest population centre in Namibia. Swakopmund is a beach resort and a holiday destination for many. It is considered a capital of the Erongo administrative district and thus one of the fast-growing towns in Namibia with a current urban population estimated more than

50,000 people.



Figure 6: Overview of Swakopmund town

### 4.2 Context of the development site

Extension 15 is characterized by a mixed development consisting mainly of residential, businesses, institutional and public open spaces. Municipal services such as water reticulation, sewer line, bulk electricity and road network are readily available.



As depicted in the Figure 7 B below., the proposed street will be connected to the existing public road (street) of Kiaat Street which connects to the main streets of Ernest Konneck Street and Dr. Schwietering Street.



Figure 7: Site overview (A and B)

# 5. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The following is a brief overview of all pertinent Acts, bills, laws, policies, and standards regarding the environment which were considered while conducting the Scoping study for the intended activity.

Table 2: Applicable National Laws

LEGISLATION	PROVISION	PROJECT IMPLICATION
Constitution of the Republic of Namibia (1990)	The articles 91(c) and 95 (i) commits the state to actively promote and sustain environmental welfare of the nation by formulating and institutionalizing policies to accomplish the sustainable objectives which include:  - Guarding against overutilization of biological natural resources,  - Limiting over-exploitation of non-renewable resources,  - Ensuring ecosystem functionality,  - Maintain biological diversity.	The proposed development must be of sound environmental management objectives.
Environmental Management Act No. 07 of 2007	The purpose of this Act is to promote the sustainable management of the environment and the use of natural resources by establishing principles for decision-making on matters affecting the environment; to provide for a process of assessment and control of projects which may have significant effects on the environment; and to provide for incidental matters. The Act gives legislative effect to the Environmental Impact Assessment Policy. Moreover, the act also provides procedure for adequate public participation during the environmental assessment process for the interested and affected parties to voice and register their opinions and concern about the proposed project.	This has been complied with; thus an EIA was carried out and an ECC has been applied for prior to the creation of the proposed road.
Water Resources Management Act 2004	The Water Resources Management Act (No 11 of 2013) stipulates conditions that ensure effluent that is produced to be of a certain standard. There should	The protection of ground and surface water resources should be a priority. Obligation not to pollute surface water bodies.

Pollution Control and Waste Management Bill	also be controls on the disposal of sewage, the purification of effluent, measures should be taken to ensure the prevention of surface and groundwater pollution and water resources should be used in a sustainable manner.  This Bill serves to regulate and prevent the discharge of pollutants to air and water as well as providing for general waste management. This Bill will license discharge into watercourses and emissions into the air.	All activities shall be conducted in an environmental sustainably manner.
Labour Act (No 11 of 2007)	135 (f): "the steps to be taken by the owners of premises used or intended for use as factories or places where machinery is used, or by occupiers of such premises or by users of machinery in connection with the structure of such buildings of otherwise in order to prevent or extinguish fires, and to ensure the safety in the event of fire, of persons in such building;" (Ministry of Labour and Employment Creation)	Contractors, Sub-contractor shall be guided by this Act when recruiting or handling employment related issues.
Noise Control Regulations (Labour Act)	It is essential to ensure that before any development project is approved and undertaken, an assessment or evaluation of expected noise level is done.	Noise generation during construction/development should be minimized to the satisfactory of neighboring residents and the town Council.
Town and Regional Planners Act, 1996 (Act No. 9 of 1996)	This Act establishes the Namibian Council for Town and Regional Planners, defines functions, and powers of the Council and provides for the registration of town and regional planners and the supervision over their conduct. The Minister may, on recommendation of the Council prescribe the kinds of work of a town and regional planning nature which shall be reserved for town and regional planners. The Act also defines improper conduct and defines disciplinary powers of the Council. Furthermore, the Act provides for the establishment of national, regional, and urban structure plans, and the development of zoning schemes. It also deals with a variety of	A registered Town Planner has been appointed for this project.

	related land use control issues such as the subdivision and consolidation of land and the establishment and extension or urban areas.			
Town Planning Ordinance (No. 18 of 1954)	Subdivision of land situated in any area to which an approved Town Planning registered through the NAMPAl Scheme applies must be consistent with that scheme (S31).			
Swakopmund Town Planning amendment Scheme No.2	Identify different land use categories, zoning, use and consent use.  "Public Open Space" is referring to as a land which is under or will be under the ownership of the local authority, which is not leased nor will it be leased on a long-term basis, and which is utilized or will be utilized as an open space or a park, garden, picnic area, playground or square and includes a public place.	Consent was obtained from the Town Council for the proposed activities. Town Planning procedures will be registered, and approval will be requested from NAMPAB.  Consent must be obtained if any other activities are required.		
Local Authorities Act (No. 23 of 1992)	The purpose of the Local Authorities Act is to provide for the determination, for purposes of local government, of local authority councils; the establishment of such local authority councils; and to define the powers, duties, and functions of local authority councils; and to provide for incidental matters.	The proponent is a Local Authority. The need and desirability for the proposed subdivision has been approved.		
Soil Conservation Act 76 of 1969	The Soil Conservation Act stipulates that the combating and preventing of soil erosion should take place; the soil should also be conserved, protected, and improved, vegetation and water sources and resources should also be preserved and maintained. When proper mitigation measures are followed along the construction and implementation phase of the project, the natural characteristics of the property is expected to have a moderate to low impact on the environment.	This should be complied with during the construction phase as outlined in the EMP for this project.		

## 6. ASSESSMENT OF PROJECT IMPACTS

The scoping process has identified potential project impacts during its planning and operation phase and examined each of these issues. In assessing the impact of the proposed development, four rating scales were considered. Each issue identified was evaluated in terms of the most important parameter applicable to environmental management. These include the *extent, intensity, probability, and significance* of the possible impact on the environment. The rating scales used are as follows.

Table 3: Significance assessment

CRITERIA	DESRCIPTION							
	National (4)	Regional (3)	Local (2)	Site (1)				
EXTENT	The whole country	Erongo region and neighbouring regions	Within a radius of 2 km of the proposed site	Within the proposed site				
	Permanent (4)	Long-term (3)	Medium-term (2)	Short-term (1)				
DURATION	Mitigation either by man or natural process will not occur in such a way or in such a time span that the impact can be considered transient	The impact will continue/last for the entire operational life of the development but will be mitigated by direct human action or by natural processes thereafter.	ontinue/last for the ntire operational life of the development but will be mitigated by direct numan action or by natural processes the proces					
	Very High (4)	High (3)	Moderate (2)	Low (1)				
INTENSITY	Natural, cultural, and social functions and processes are altered to extent that they permanently cease	Natural, cultural, and social functions and processes are altered to extent that they temporarily cease	Affected environment is altered, but natural, cultural, and social functions and processes continue albeit in a modified way	Impact affects the environment in such a way that natural, cultural, and social functions and processes are not affected				
	Definite (4)	Highly Probable (3)	Possible (2)	Improbable (1)				
PROBABILITY	Impact will certainly occur	Most likely that the impact will occur	The impact may occur	Likelihood of the impact materialising is very low				
SIGNIFICANCE	Is determined through a synthesis of impact characteristics. Significance is also an indication of the importance of the impact in terms of both physical extent and time scale, and therefore indicates the level of mitigation required. The total number of points scored for each impact indicates the level of significance of the impact.							

Table 4: Color coding meaning

Low impact	A low impact has no permanent impact of significance. Mitigation measures are feasible and are readily instituted as part of a standing design, construction, or operating procedure.
Medium impact	Mitigation is possible with additional design and construction inputs.
High impact	The design of the site may be affected. Mitigation and possible remediation are needed during the construction and/or operational phases. The effects of the impact may affect the broader environment.
Very high impact	Permanent and important impacts. The design of the site may be affected. Intensive remediation is needed during construction and/or operational phases. Any activity which results in a "very high impact" is likely to be a fatal flaw.
Status	Denotes the perceived effect of the impact on the affected area.
Positive (+)	Beneficial impact
Negative (-)	Deleterious or adverse impact.
Neutral (/)	Impact is neither beneficial nor adverse
It is important to no	ote that the status of an impact is assigned based on the status quo – i.e., should the

# 7. ANTICIPATED PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Table 5: Potential negative impacts associated with the proposed activities: Construction Phase.

ASPECT	POTENTIAL IMPACTS	RATING (If it does occur)			cur)	SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT	MITIGATION/ENHANC EMENT MEASURES
		Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability		
1. BIOPHYSICAL						I	
Impact on Vegetation	Vegetation clearance during construction	1	1	1	1	Low	• Although, the clearance of existing vegetation is inventible, the development site has little to no vegetation.
Impact on small animals	Construction of roads more than 3m have been known to effect small mammals such as voles and rats.	1	1	1	1	Low	The site has very limited fauna habitation. Under road structures to be used can still accommodate small animals.
Soil contamination	Contamination of soil with chemicals (sodium chloride, Calcium magnesium acetate, etc.) which found in deicer agents		1	2	2	Moderate	<ul> <li>Any spillage of oil, lubricant etc. must be cleaned up.</li> <li>Environmentally friendly and recommended products must be used for road marking.</li> </ul>

Impact on drainage Impact on the	Construction works may divert the natural stormwater drainage of the site.	1	1	1	1	Low	Make provision for storm water drainage.
Visual impacts	Uncompleted construction works may decrease the visual attraction of the area	1	1	1	1	Low	All waste should be collected and disposed of weekly.
Air quality	Dust generation from construction work may decrease air quality.	1	1	2	2	Moderate	Control dust generation during construction period.
	Fumes from traffic (road users) and emission of leads from moving vehicles may pollute the air.	1	1	1	1	Low	Construction of the proposed road network will be a small project which is generate little dust.
Water usage	The construction of the proposed road will make use of water in its construction phase.	1	1	1	1	Low	• Given the size of the proposed road area, the impact on water resource availability is limited and can be accommodate within the available water resources.
2. SOCIO-ECONOM	IC						
Traffic impacts	Construction works will increase traffic congestion in the nearby street.	1	1	2	2	Moderate	<ul> <li>Erect construction signals at the construction site.</li> <li>There must be at least two flag bearers at the</li> </ul>

							construction site to direct traffic flow.
Nuisance in the form of noise and vibration	Generation of excessive noise during construction and operation may be nuisance to the residents.	1	1	1	1	Low	<ul> <li>Construction should be limited to daytime.</li> <li>Provide maintenance to construction plant and machineries</li> </ul>
Waste generation	The construction, operation may result in a myriad of waste products in the environment.	1	1	2	2	Moderate	All waste generated during construction should be contained and disposed properly.
Temporary camps	Construction camps onsite can result in secondary environmental impacts i.e., pollution, noise etc.	1	1	1	2	Moderate	<ul> <li>Construction camps should be established at the site approved by the Municipality.</li> <li>Provide ablution facilities at the construction site.</li> </ul>
Health, Safety and Security	The safety, security, and health of the labour force, employees and general, public may be compromised during construction.	1	1	2	2	Moderate	<ul> <li>All employees should be provided with personal protective equipment (PPE).</li> <li>The construction site must be barricaded and out of bound for the public.</li> </ul>
Local employment (positive)	The construction phase will generate temporary local employment opportunities.	1	1	2	2	Moderate	Preferences should be given to local people.

ASPECT	POTENTIAL IMPACTS	RATING (If it does occur)			ur)	SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT	MITIGATION/ENHANC EMENT MEASURES
		Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability		
Business opportunities (positive)	Construction works will also present business opportunity for the local businesses i.e., supplies, construction etc.		1	2	2	Low	• Construction materials should be sourced locally as far as possible.

Table 6 Potential impacts during Operation phase

ASPECT	POTENTIAL IMPACTS	RATING (If it does occur)			eur)	SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT	MITIGATION/ENHAN CEMENT MEASURES
		Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability		
1.BIOPHYSICAL							
Impact biodiversity (positive)	Roadside plant will enhance biodiversity.	1	1	1	1	Low	Provide more plants along the road
Impact on small animals (positive)	New road may provide habitant for small animals	1	1	1	1	Low	Culverts and other under road structures may serves as habitant
Visual impacts (positive)	The road will improve aesthetic view.	1	1	1	1	Low	Plant trees alongside the road.
Impact on the soil	Contamination of soil with chemicals (sodium chloride, Calcium magnesium acetate, etc.) which found in deicer agents.	1	1	1	1	Low	Road must be of good standard
Water usage and contamination	Stormwater and surface contamination during road maintenance.	1	1	2	2	Moderate	Only use environmentally friendly materials and detergents.
Erosion and surface runoff	Due to increase hard surface, the surface will become impermeable, thus increasing the surface runoff.	1	1	1	2	Moderate	Make provision for stormwater drainage.

ASPECT	POTENTIAL IMPACTS	RATING (If it does occur)			ur)	SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT	MITIGATION/ENHANC EMENT MEASURES
		Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability		
2. SOCIO-ECONOM	ICS continue.						
Traffic impacts (positive)	New road will allow traffic free flow and accessibility.	1	2	1	2	Moderate	Install Traffic signs to regulate traffic flow.
Development (positive)	The proposed road structure will improve the quality of life to the residents.		2	2	1	Moderate	Road must be of good standard

#### 8. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The objective of the Scoping Phase was to define the range of the impact assessment and determine the need to conduct any specialist study. It is believed that these objectives have been achieved and adequately documented in the Scoping Report. All possible environment aspects have been adequately assessed and necessary control measures have been formulated to meet statutory requirements thus implementing this project will not have any appreciable negative impacts.

#### 8.1 Assumptions and Conclusions:

- The proposed road servitude will not compromise the environmental integrity of the surrounding environment.
- There are no objections or critical issues to the proposed activities.
- All identified key stakeholders and Interested, and Affected Parties agree with the proposed activities.
- The findings of the Scoping Assessment are considered sufficient and no additional specialist study is required.

It is therefore recommended that the Environmental Commissioner do Consider the findings and recommendations of this Scoping process with mitigation measures as outlined in the Environmental and Social Management Plan and subsequently, consider issuing an Environmental Clearance Certificate to authorize for the "Subdivision of Erf 5360 and Creation of a public road at Extension 15, Swakopmund.

### 9. REFERENCES

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# 10. APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: List of I&APs

APPENDIX B: Proof of Consultations

### Appendix A: List of IAPs consulted

CONTACT PERSON	CONTACT DETAILS		
Mr. Johannes Heita	jheita@swkmun.com.na		
Manager Town Planner			
Mrs. Johanna Angolo	jangolo@swkmun.com.na		
Senior Tow Planner			
Ms. Hilaria Kevanhu	hkevanhu@swkmun.com.na		
Town Planner Technician			
Ms. Paulina Engelbrecht	pengelbrecht@swkmun.com.na		
Environmental Officer			
Mr. Trophimus Haiduwa	thaiduwa@swkmun.com.na		
GIS specialist			
Mr. Renier Gomachab	0811226933		
	rgomachab@erongored.com.na		
Mr. Barodryck Bamm	bammb@ra.org.na		
Manager			
Mr. Valdemar Swart	swartnv@telecom.na		
	064412013		
	Mr. Johannes Heita Manager Town Planner Mrs. Johanna Angolo Senior Tow Planner Ms. Hilaria Kevanhu Town Planner Technician Ms. Paulina Engelbrecht Environmental Officer Mr. Trophimus Haiduwa GIS specialist Mr. Renier Gomachab Mr. Barodryck Bamm Manager		