

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

The Lüderitz Town Council, hereinafter referred to as the proponent intends to undertake the following activities:

- **Layout approval and Township Establishment on Portion B (a Portion of the Remainder of Portion 41) of the Lüderitz Town and Townlands No. 11 to be known as Benguela Extension 6;**

The above development triggers listed activities in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Government Notice No. 30 of 2012).

As such the proponent appointed Stubenrauch Planning Consultants (SPC) to undertake an independent Environmental Assessment (EA) in order to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the above activities. The competent authority is the Ministry of Environment and Tourism: Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry (MEFT: DEAF).

Project Description

The Lüderitz Town Council desires to replan and formulate the existing informal settlement which is locally known as Amilema to be formalized as Benguela Extension 6 on Portion B of the Remainder of Portion 41 of the Lüderitz Town and Townlands No. 11 in order to reduce the growth of informal structures within this area.

The following statutory steps need to be undertaken as part of the intended development:

- **Layout approval and Township Establishment on Portion B (a Portion of the Remainder of Portion 41) of the Lüderitz Town and Townlands No. 11 to be known as Benguela Extension 6;**

Public Participation

Communication with Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) about the proposed development was facilitated through the following means and in this order:

- A Background Information Document (BID) containing descriptive information about the proposed activities was compiled and sent out to all identified and registered I&APs via email on **18 August 2023**;
- Notices were placed in The New Era and The Republikein newspapers dated **18 August 2023 & 25 August 2023**, briefly explaining the activity and its locality, inviting members of the public to register as I&APs (**Appendix B**); and
- A notices was fixed at the project site (see **Appendix A**).

Public consultation was carried out according to the Environmental Management Act's EIA Regulations. After the initial notification, I&APs were given two weeks to submit their comments on the project (until **22 September 2023**), however the deadline was extended to **29 September 2023** to ensure that all the neighbours receive their letters and have enough time to comment.

The Draft Scoping Report will be circulated from **05 October 2023 until the 19 October 2023** so that the public could review and comment on it. The overall commentary received from the public on the draft report will be documented in a comments and responses report document to be included in the final report. The comment period will remain open until the final scoping report is submitted to MEFT.

Conclusions and Recommendations

With reference to **Table 7**, none of the negative construction phase impacts were deemed to have a high significant impact on the environment. The construction impacts were assessed to a **Medium to Low (negative)** significance, without mitigation measures. With the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures in Chapter 7 as well as in the EMP, the significance of the construction phase impacts is likely to be reduced to a **Low (negative)**.

With reference to **Table 7**, none of the negative operational phase impacts were deemed to have a high significance impact on the environment. The operational impacts were assessed to a **Medium (negative)** significance, without mitigation measures. With the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures in Chapter 7 as well as in the EMP, the significance of the construction phase impacts is likely to be reduced to a **Low (negative)**.

It is recommended that this project be authorised because should the development not proceed the area will remain undeveloped. None of the positive or negative impacts from the proposed development would be realized.

The “no go” alternative was thus deemed to have a High (negative) impact, as all the benefits resulting from the development would not be realised.

The significance of negative impacts can be reduced with effective and appropriate mitigation provided in this report and the EMP. If authorised, the implementation of the EMP should be included as a condition of approval.