

## Public Consultation Activities Undertaken

To ensure that I&APs were openly notified of the environmental assessment for the project activities, Popeti undertook the following:

- Formal public notices announcing the commencement of the Environmental Assessment process, inviting the public to register as I&AP and attend the public consultation meeting were published in the *New Era* and *Windhoek Observer* newspapers (dated 26 October & 02 November 2023) - adverts attached hereto.
- A notification email (with Background Information Document (BID)) was circulated to pre-identified I&APs from the 06<sup>th</sup> of November 2023 announcing the commencement of the EIA process and an invitation to the consultation meeting in Omaruru on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2023.
- Printed A3 notices were placed at various publicly accessible (Omaruru Municipality and Spar Supermarket Community notice board) in Omaruru, over a week before the consultation meeting date - (as per some photos below): The clear copy of the site notice (poster) is attached hereto.



The A3 notices placed at the two Municipality notice boards in Omaruru



The A3 notices placed at the Spar Supermarket community notice board in Omaruru

- A consultation and engagement meeting was scheduled and held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2023 in Omaruru. The meeting was attended by twenty (27) people – see photo below. The consultation meeting minutes were taken and are attached hereto.



Consultation meeting in Omaruru at Central Hotel Conference Hall on 16 November 2023

### **Feedback from the Public Engagement Meeting (Consultation)**

A summary of main issues and concerns raised during consultation meeting (please refer to the Meeting Minutes attached hereto) are provided in the table below, and these have been incorporated in this EMP and forming basis of the management and mitigation measures.

#### **Summary of issues and comments noted during the consultation meeting and responses**

Issue	Summary	Response
Artificial water structures in the Omaruru	Artificial water blocking structures (dams) within the Omaruru upstream that the water does not reach the community downstream (blocking water flow) as it used to be in the past.	This is well noted. These structures, particularly artificial dams and weirs constructed within the River courses could have contributed to that over the years, However, the low water flow downstream could be also attributed to rainfall variations

Issue	Summary	Response
		<p>that the River has not been receiving enough rain which would cause it to flow as in the past.</p> <p>There are also some gauging stations that may entail weirs in the River that are installed to prevent flooding and for data collection such as water levels/heights, and water flow measurements. Sometimes these gauging stations are mistaken with weirs.</p>
<p>The issue of EMP only and not Scoping Report too</p>	<p>The BID states that only an EMP will be prepared for this EIA Study, and not an EIA or Scoping Report. Therefore, a Scoping report supposed to be prepared</p>	<p>The standard procedure for the application of environmental clearances is done by uploading the project BIDs on the ECC portal of the MEFT. The MEFT team at the Department of Environmental Affairs screens the BIDs and also considering if the proposed project activities are completely new or not (this is where MEFT decides whether among other documents for the application, they will need a Scoping Report and EMP or just an EMP according to the project (consultants do not determine this but the Portal/System of the MEFT).</p> <p>Please also note that the EIA Study is conducted for existing boreholes for Omaruru of which most, if not all were drilled (and water has been abstracted) way before our Environmental Management Act, 2007 and its EIA Regulations in 2012 where the EIA Studies started. This is the case with most local authorities (municipalities) that have existing listed activities or facilities in the EIA regulations requiring ECCs. Some of these facilities include sewage treatment plants or ponds and dumping sites that are in existence for over 30 years (older than the Environmental Management Act) and are only getting ECCs now. I have done such EIA studies for most of these local authorities, where the MEFT only needed EMPs given the fact that the project activities have been in existence (but I made these EMPs detailed/comprehensive to include public consultation section, impacts assessments and baseline information, etc., in addition to the management and mitigation measures. Environmental Consultants do not determine the required</p>

Issue	Summary	Response
		documents to be submitted for ECC application, but MEFT determine this based on the project status and probably type.
Potential water losses through transfer (from source to consumer)	The Municipality should make an analysis of how much water they are abstracting versus the water actually sold to the customers. There could be water leakages/losses due to aging infrastructure through the transfer ways.	This is a good suggestion and has been noted for incorporation in the EMP and subsequent implementation.
Verification of connection of all boreholes to flow meters	Municipality also need to check or monitor if the boreholes are connected to the meters.	All boreholes are connected to the water meters and bulk returns are recorded monthly. However, there are incomplete return readings for September, October at one of the boreholes when the meter started malfunctioning. This is being rectified (procurement of a new meter), and the incomplete reading has been noted in the system.
Implementation of water restrictions	Water restrictions need to be implemented to ensure that the water resource is sustainable.	This suggestion has been noted for incorporation in the EMP for implementation.
Water quality monitoring	Water quality monitoring needs to be done and inspection thereto made.	For water quality, the Municipality takes water samples from the reservoirs and Wildlife water tank on a quarterly basis. These samples are sent to the laboratory (either Analytical Laboratory or NamWater) for microbiology and chemistry testing and analysis. Sometimes the Municipality also samples at the schools and State Hospital. These water test results are available at the Municipality
The involvement of the Water Affairs in engaging communities	The MAWLR need to raise awareness to people regarding the availability and vulnerability of groundwater reserves.	The MAWLR cannot unfortunately avail someone based on one applicant's project as part of the EIA process which one of many other similar projects in the country. However, they will get this comment as the EMP will also be submitted to the MAWLR as part of the water permit renewal process. The suggestion is also good that maybe the Ministry can also use that for future considerations and to incorporate into their water management plans.
Loss of employment due to lack of water on farms	The water reserves are low at some farms that the farmers reduced employees from 25 to 10 people due to the lack of water to supply farm activities.	That is unfortunate and we have taken note of this.

Issue	Summary	Response
Issue of unpaid water bills by some consumers	Some water consumers such as Namibian Correctional Service, Ministry of Works, and schools in the Town may not be paying for water.	From the Finance records, the highlighted entities have been paying for their water accounts, Namibian Correctional Services last made their payments on 27 November 2023, Ministry of Works on 12 September 2023. Schools are paid for by Ministry of Education and Culture and their last payment was on 01 December 2023. Although some accounts are not at zero balance, there is a commitment from the entities and this is reflected in their payment records.
Population increase and high water demand	The Town's population is increasing, thus, abstraction of more water at the expense of farming.	The concern is noted for consideration.
Water supply to an Estate	The Municipality is selling/supplying water to a wildlife estate at the expense of the community.	The Wildlife Estate does fall within the Municipal Townland, thus, the Municipality is mandated to supply water to them. However, we will see how we can remedy this or ensure sustainable water supply sharing without affecting each other.
Lack of holistic approach to cater for farmers	There is no holistic water approach to take care of the farmers upstream. This needs to be communicated weekly by engaging community in the conservation of water.	This suggestion has been noted for incorporation in the EMP for implementation. The suggestion to engage the community is a great one and definitely needs to be implemented, but the frequency of weekly may not be practical. However, a bi-monthly or quarterly engagements could be realistic as we need to also consider availing resources and having something detailed to present to the community.
Watering of parks with potable water	The issue of Municipality watering Luna Park with potable water and during the day.	I would suggest that the watering can be done in the late evenings to ensure that the water is absorbed by the vegetation and not lost to evaporation between sunrise and sunset. Furthermore, the Municipality will need to explore other ways of supplying water for the park instead of using fresh water for this. One of this option would be using semi-treated wastewater that is approved by the Water Environment Division of MAWLR to ensure that the water discharged into the environment via park watering meets the standards.

Issue	Summary	Response
Lack of water conservation measures	There is no effort taken by the Municipality in the last 2 years to conserve water. The Town supposed to implemented stringent water restrictions. Thus, conservation measures to be place.	The concerns and suggestions have been noted for incorporation in the EMP and subsequent consideration by the Municipality to implement and ensure water sustainability
Records of water infrastructure mechanical issues	Mechanical issues such as pump data need to be recorded.	This has been noted for consideration and incorporated into the management and mitigation measures.
Lack of community engagement platform in the Town	Lack of communication to the community pertaining to water issues. Thus, Municipality needs a platform (forum) where the community and Municipality meet to discuss sustainable use of water resources where stakeholders can contribute to the discussion.	Currently, there is no major platform for this, apart from a Facebook page (' <i>Omaruru se mense</i> ') and a WhatsApp group ( <i>Omaruru peeps</i> ) where some people may be on, and this is where we send notifications to, in cases of water interruptions and any other notice from the Municipality. However, we look into how we can improve on this.
Delayed repairing of broken/damaged	Timely repairing of technical issues for water infrastructures.	The concerns and suggestions have been noted for incorporation in the EMP and subsequent consideration by the Municipality to implement and ensure water sustainability.
Maintenance of (aging) water infrastructures	The Municipality needs to find the root causes of water issues, preserve water for the future and maintain the infrastructure to avoid water losses leading to more abstraction at a time.	This has been noted for consideration and incorporated into the management and mitigation measures.
Communication channels for engagement and notifications	Make use of existing and easily accessible communication channels like churches to announce the meetings for you	The suggestion and guide is welcomed and noted for future and for the improvement of consultation meetings in Omaruru.

The comments period (submission of inputs, concerns, issues) on the EIA as well as public registration as I&APs commenced on the 26th of October 2023 and ended on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November 2023.

### **Feedback on the Draft Review of the Comprehensive EMP and Appendices**

The compiled draft of the comprehensive EMP alongside its appendices where circulated to the registered I&APs for review and comments on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March 2024 for a period of ten (10) days including the weekend and public holidays, i.e., from 13 March to 22 March 2024.

There were no responses or comments received by Popeti Consultants on the shared documents wither by 22 March or 25 March 2024 when the documents were finalized for submission at MEFT

**Appendix A: EIA Study notification adverts - The  
*New Era* and *Windhoek Observer* newspapers  
(dated 26 October & 02 November 2023)**



# Former Swapo district coordinator calls for tribal balance

■ Albertina Nakale

**K**ATIMA MULILO – As he departs from political leadership, former Swapo district coordinator for Katima Rural Jerome Kwenani leaves behind an illustrious legacy of exceptional management and equity within all Swapo structures of the constituency.

After his term of office came to an end on 27 August this year, he did not contest for any position due to his advanced age, having achieved his objective of showcasing that party unity is achievable and sustainable.

Kwenani told *New Era*: “I am over 70 years old. My sight is very poor, and I can’t drive at night if a meeting drags on until late. I can’t drive home. When we sit in meetings, I can’t hear well and follow very well due to my age.” The new district coordinator is Joseph Wamunyima, who was duly elected on the same day when Kwenani’s term of office came to an end.

Kwenani has been hailed for having quelled tribal animosity between Swapo members in the district.

When he was first elected as district coordinator in 2012, tribal divisions were so widespread that Swapo national leaders assigned to the Zambezi region had to be summoned to oversee the hotly-contested district election of 2012.

Although faced with challenges, he emerged victorious, assuming the role of district coordinator after the conference.

Kwenani then united the fractured branches and fostered a sense of togetherness.

He said his goal was not to hold onto power indefinitely, but to demonstrate that tribal politics could be handled amicably and to the satisfaction of all members within the structure.

In 2015 and 2019, Kwenani was re-elected as district coordinator, a testament to the trust and respect he garnered from his constituents.

Since then, tribal tensions have calmed down following his mantra of reconciliation – particularly between the warring factions of the Mafwe and the Masubia, who had in the past crossed swords over who should be in control of the district.

Kwenani (74) fondly narrated the story of how he managed to unite party members in Katima Mulilo Rural during his term of office from 2012 to August 2023.

“When I took over as district coordinator, there was a dispute between the Masubia and Mafwe. I watched those developments closely. At the time, there were 20 branches in Katima Mulilo Rural. However, I realised that only some members turned up for meetings. When I



*Servant... Jerome Kwenani leaves behind an illustrious legacy of exceptional management and equity within all Swapo party structures. Photo: Contributed*

won the elections, I went to consult those branches who didn’t turn up,” he said.

He then convinced members who had differences, and was able to address their concerns and bring unity within the party.

“From 2012 to 27 August 2023, there was unity, and I was able to go to any branch without anybody resorting to tribal tensions. I visited members physically, talked to them freely and shared party information with every branch without looking at tribal lines,” he added.

Kwenani noted that whenever any party position was at stake, for instance during the hot district conference in 2015, he always pleaded with delegates to strike a tribal balance.

He was quick to point out that he is not out of the party, and that he is only out of the Swapo management due to his advanced age.

“Any time members are looking for advice, they can consult me. I remain available. I don’t want to keep knowledge and wisdom to myself, but to share it with the new leadership,” he indicated.

Asked about his future, he would like to take time off to relax, although he does a bit of farming.

Kwenani also served as director of administration at the ministry of agriculture during his civil service journey in December 2009.

A devout man of faith, he attributed his success to a life deeply rooted in prayer, placing unwavering trust in God.

Quoting Mark 10 verse 27 from the Bible, he lived by the maxim, “With God, all things are possible.”

Additionally, he embraced the prayer of serenity, seeking the wisdom to accept what he could not change, the courage to change what he could and the discernment to distinguish between the two.

- anakale@nepc.com.na

# Omahenene to receive electricity

■ Max Henrich

ONGWEDIVA – The Ondangwa Town Council has identified the Omahenene location as one of the priority areas to benefit from the Ministry of Mines and Energy’s funding for electrification this year.

Nored will execute the electrification from September this year until January next year.

Ondangwa town council spokesperson Petrina Shitalangaho-Mutikisha said the project was planned to commence in the 2020/2021 financial year – but due to the effects of Covid-19, it was put on hold. “The project will provide 300 electrical connections and connections to around 153 households. Electricity is not a privilege but a basic human right. It is a much-needed service by the people – just like other basic needs, such as water,” she added. Shitalangaho-Mutikisha said the Omahenene location is one of the oldest informal settlements in the town, and it is also classified as a low-income area.

“In the past, there were a number of challenges associated with an area without electricity. This will now be a thing of the past, with streets, dark areas and homes all being electrified,” she noted. The spokesperson equally extended a call to other entities to collaborate in infrastructural development so that together, they can improve the livelihoods of the residents.

“This is not the only electrification project in Ondangwa, as the council is busy with another similar project in Omashaka,” said Shitalangaho-Mutikisha.

As a town, they would, thus, like to express their deep appreciation and gratitude to the mines ministry for coming on board for the project. “For ease of construction and implementation, residents of Omahenene are requested to fully cooperate with the contractor on site and allow this project to be carried out as planned without any interruptions nor delays from their side,” she pleaded. - maxhenrich356@gmail.com

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ARTIST LINE UP:

JAEI MK | ALEX SHIWAYU | CLIVE & THENOWGENERATION  
 ADORATION HC | NDENDA | COLLECTIVE SINGERS | DEE'A  
 PRIDE PANASHE | ETIENNE BOOIS | MANDA GABRIEL | JOYOUS CELEBRATION  
 D-NAFF | NATSE OYOMUWA CHOIR | JOHARETHA NEL | ADORA | SOLI DEO GLORIA  
 RUTH | KHWEZI | MARANATHA | VUUYO JOHNSON | OMARURU YOUNG BROTHERS

## A Call for Public Participation & Engagement on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study: The Existing and Proposed Groundwater Abstraction and Use within the Omaruru Townlands of Omaruru Town in the Erongo Region

The public is hereby notified that an application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as per the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. Water resources development are listed activities in the EIA Regulations that cannot be undertaken without an ECC. Thus, the EIA Study is required to apply for and obtain the ECC.

**Project Nature (Activities):** The project activities entail the abstraction and use of groundwater from the Omaruru Municipality boreholes to supply water to its growing population (residents and business community). The Municipality currently abstracts water from nine production boreholes. To meet the water demands of the Town, the Municipality proposes to add two more boreholes to the abstraction scheme.

**Proponent:** Municipality of Omaruru

**Appointed Environmental Consultant:** Popeti Investment CC  
 Therefore, members of the public are invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to submit comments, issues and or to receive further information on the EIA Study process. The request for registration as I&APs and to submit comments should be done in writing **before or on Friday, 24 November 2023.**

**A Public Consultation Meeting will be held in Omaruru and meeting details will be shared in due time with all registered I&APs/stakeholders.**

**Contact Person:**  
 Ms. Fredrika Shagama  
 Mobile No.: +264 (0) 81749 9223  
 Email: popetieias@gmail.com



Popeti Investment





**CLASSIFIEDS**

### CALL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

#### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF NEW HOSTEL BLOCKS, KITCHEN AND DINING HALL AT OMAGALANGA VILLAGE, OSHIKUKU CONSTITUENCY

This notice serves to inform all interested and affected parties that an application for the environmental clearance certificate will be launched with the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No.7 of 2007) and the Environmental Regulations (GN 30 of 2012).

**Project:** The proponent intends to build new hostel blocks, kitchen and dining hall at the Millenium Vocational Training Institute.

**Proponent:** Millenium Vocational Digital Training Institute (Pty) Ltd

All interested and affected parties are hereby invited to register and submit their comments regarding the proposed project on or before **30/10/2023**. Contact details for registration and further information:

**Impala Environmental Consulting**  
**Mr. S. Andjamba**  
 Email: [eia@impalac.com](mailto:eia@impalac.com), Tel: 0856630598




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#### NOTICE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Environclim Consulting Services cc hereby gives notice to all potentially Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) that an application will be made to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No 7 of 2007) and Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (GN 30 of 6 February 2012) for the following:

**PROJECT NAMES:**

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the establishment of exploration activities of base and rare metals, dimension stone and industrial minerals on EPL 8852, Henties Bay District, Erongo Region.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The EPL 8852 is situated approximately 65 Km North-west of Henties Bay, Henties Bay District, Erongo Region.


**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**  
 The project involves conducting an Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) for the establishment of exploration activities of base and rare metals, dimension stone and industrial minerals at the above EPL.

**PROJECT INVOLVEMENT:**  
**Proponent:** Valmet Trading CC

**Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP):** Environclim Consulting Services cc

**REGISTRATION OF I&APs AND SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS:** In line with Namibia's Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and EIA regulations (GN 30 of 6 February 2012), all I&APs are hereby invited to register and submit their comments, concerns or questions in writing via: Email: [environclim@gmail.com](mailto:environclim@gmail.com) on or before Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

A public participation meeting will be held as follows:  
**Place:** Community Hall, Henties Bay  
**Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> October 2023  
**Time:** 10h00.  
**Contact:** +264 815955643  
**Email:** [environclim@gmail.com](mailto:environclim@gmail.com)



#### PUBLIC NOTICE


##### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES WITHIN EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCES (EPLs) 9048, 9050, 9053, 9054, 9056, 9058, 9060, 9061, 9063 & 9064. IKARAS REGION

On behalf of the proponent, Alliance Environmental Consultancy CC (AEC) herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations for the proposed prospecting activities within EPLs 9048, 9050, 9053, 9054, 9056, 9058, 9060, 9061, 9063 & 9064. !Karas Region.

**Proponent:** KoBold Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd.


**Commodities:** Base and rare metals, industrial minerals, nuclear fuels, and precious metals.

**Locality:** Within the Karasburg West & East constituencies covering a total area of approximately 649,727 Hectares across private and government farmlands (Figure below).



All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby invited to register and submit comments duly motivated in writing on or before the 30 November 2023. Registration and Background Information Documents (BID) for the project can be requested from the email address below. Public meeting date and venue will be shared to the registered I&APs in due course.

**Email:** [info@enviro-aec.com](mailto:info@enviro-aec.com)  
**Cell:** +264 81 298 9118  
 OR +264 81 435 1689



#### PUBLIC NOTICE

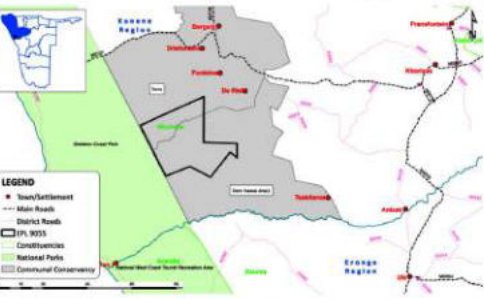
##### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES WITHIN EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE (EPL) 9055 KUNENE REGION

On behalf of the proponent, Alliance Environmental Consultancy CC (AEC) herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations for the proposed prospecting activities within EPL 9055, Kunene Region.

**Proponent:** KoBold Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd.


**Commodities:** Base and rare metals, industrial minerals, nuclear fuels, and precious metals.

**Locality:** Within the Khorixas constituency covering a total area of approximately 75,887 Hectares across the Torra and Doro !Nawas Area 1 communal conservancies (Figure below).



All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby invited to register and submit comments duly motivated in writing on or before the 30 November 2023. Registration and Background Information Documents (BID) for the project can be requested from the email address below. Public meeting date and venue will be shared with the registered I&APs in due course.

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**Cell:** +264 81 298 9118  
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**Proponent:** Municipality of Omaruru

**Appointed Environmental Consultant:** Popeti Investment CC


Therefore, members of the public are invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to submit comments, issues and or to receive further information on the EIA Study process. The request for registration as I&APs and to submit comments should be done in writing **before or on Friday, 24**

**A Public Consultation Meeting will be held in Omaruru and meeting details will be shared in due time with all registered I&APs/stakeholders.**

**Contact Person:** Ms. Fredrika Shaqama

**Mobile No.:** +264 (0) 81 749 9223

**Email:** [popetieias@gmail.com](mailto:popetieias@gmail.com)





# Ikaba cattle farmers: Zambezi veterinary office not proactive

■ Aron Mushaukwa

**I**KABA – The flood plains of Ikaba in the Kabbe South constituency are always evergreen, and many farmers thus choose to farm there because of the vast grazing land for their livestock.

The area is prone to seasonal floods, but whenever the water subsides, farmers would take their cattle back to the lower land where apart from green pastures, there is plenty of water for their animals.

However, when farmers took their cattle back to the lower land this year, no one anticipated the disaster which awaited their livestock. As early as July, farmers noticed that their animals - particularly the lactating and pregnant cows - started dying one by one.

By mid-August, the situation worsened, and most farmers in the flood plains started losing animals in large numbers. The major and early symptoms included weakening, diarrhoea and failing to stand, which led to death within two or three days.

During a visit to Ikaba, a bad smell emanated from the rotting carcasses scattered all over the plains.

“The loss of our cattle has left us scared and hopeless. Starting from June-July to date, we have lost our bulls; cows which are pregnant and about to deliver, die; and heifers are also dying. It is a great loss,” said Betty Namata, a farmer in the Ikaba area.

Farmer Muyoba Mubita said they have no idea why their cattle are dying.

“We are worried. As you can see, we have green pastures. But we are troubled why our cattle are dying. We request the minister of agriculture to come and see our losses. If we walk around, there are just carcasses all over,” he added.



Picture: MICT

**Dying...** Rodrick Silishebo watches on as his bull takes its final breath.

Showing one of the bulls which was about to die was farmer Rodrick Silishebo, who said they are financially strained because of the dying animals which they cannot sell.

“This one is about to die. If I were to sell it, as you can see how big it is, I could get almost N\$8 000. From that amount, I could buy my children food, school uniforms, and stationery. But now, I will not get anything I will walk away empty-handed,” he lamented.

Farmers reportedly engaged the regional

veterinary office for assistance in diagnosing what they deemed as a mysterious illness. However, they complained that veterinary officials were reluctant to respond, and allegedly viewed the issue as not serious.

This prompted farmers to engage private vets while others took samples, which they handed over to the regional veterinary offices. It was at this stage that the mysterious illness was diagnosed as Pasteurella.

In a response to the questions sent to the

agriculture ministry, deputy director: public relations Chrispin Matongela confirmed that they had received several reports of animals dying in the region. He added that samples were taken, and Haemorrhagic Septicaemia (HS) and heartwater disease were confirmed.

“HS is caused by Pasteurella multocida, an opportunistic bacterium of the upper airways, which then descends to the lungs and causes infection. This disease is infectious, with a high mortality rate if unattended,” he stated.

Matongela said affected farmers were advised to immediately vaccinate all their healthy cattle against pasteurella, black quarter, botulism and anthrax, which are common during the dry season.

However, farmers at Ikaba say they have never seen veterinary officials in their area to assess the situation. Additionally, they took the advice to vaccinate their animals, but to no avail.

“We vaccinated our animals against Pasteurella.

Another thing which is worrisome is that we heard they used a vaccine that is new, which they have never used before. That’s the one for food and mouth disease (FMD). We want them to confirm it to us. Why is it that our area here is a ground for trials? This where they come to try new medicines,” stated visibly agitated farmer Kakambi Mbeha.

This reporter understands that the agriculture ministry has thus far dispatched a fact-finding team to the Zambezi region to investigate further if other diseases are causing the deaths, and whether there is a need to vaccinate.

\*Aron Mushaukwa is an information officer for the MICT in the Zambezi region.

## Police gear up for festive season

■ Festus Hamalwa

Police chief Joseph Shikongo has urged all police commanders to ensure that there will be enough manpower to attend to administration and operational duties during the festive season.

He made these remarks during the 2023/24 festive season crime prevention and road safety preparation meeting held in Windhoek on Tuesday.

The meeting devised appropriate strategies to curb crimes during the upcoming festive season, as well as to ensure that community members and visitors are safe.

Shikongo emphasised the importance of community engagements and partnerships, and urged police to continue building trust and collaboration with local communities.

He added that the support and cooperation of citizens is vital in their efforts to prevent and combat crime.

“Let us ensure that our actions during this operation reflect our commitment to serving and protecting all members of our society, regardless of their background,” he noted.

In addition, he called on the men and women in uniform to lead by example, treat every citizen with respect and empathy,

and remember that they are here to serve and protect. “We must also look after our own well-being and that of our fellow officers, ensuring we are mentally and physically prepared for the demands of this operation,” the police boss stated.

Shikongo then urged officers to always be vigilant, professional and courteous.

Also speaking at the meeting was deputy inspector general Elia Mutota, who said to achieve these objectives, it will take the combined efforts of dedicated law-enforcement agencies, local

businesses, community organisations and the community itself.

“We should identify several key areas in our quest to strengthen and improve law-enforcement efforts to prevent and reduce crime during the festive season, ensuring that families can enjoy their holidays without fear, promote road safety by raising awareness and preventing accidents on our roads, as well as fostering a sense of unity and community spirit that transcends any challenges we may face,” he stressed.

- fhamalwa@nepc.com.na

### A Call for Public Participation & Engagement on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study: The Existing and Proposed Groundwater Abstraction and Use within the Omaruru Townlands of Omaruru Town in the Erongo Region

The public is hereby notified that an application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as per the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. Water resources development are listed activities in the EIA Regulations that cannot be undertaken without an ECC. Thus, the EIA Study is required to apply for and obtain the ECC.

**Project Nature (Activities):** The project activities entail the abstraction and use of groundwater from the Omaruru Municipality boreholes to supply water to its growing population (residents and business community). The Municipality currently abstracts water from nine production boreholes. To meet the water demands of the Town, the Municipality proposes to add two more boreholes to the abstraction scheme.

**Proponent:** Municipality of Omaruru

**Appointed Environmental Consultant:** Popeti Investment CC


Therefore, members of the public are invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to submit comments, issues and or to receive further information on the EIA Study process. The request for registration as I&APs and to submit comments should be done in writing **before or on Friday, 24 November 2023.**

**A Public Consultation Meeting will be held in Omaruru and meeting details will be shared in due time with all registered I&APs/stakeholders.**

**Contact Person:**

Ms. Fredrika Shagama  
Mobile No.: +264 (0) 81 749 9223  
Email: popetieias@gmail.com





## Join Our Team

### Senior Analyst: Livestock

**To manage and represent the Livestock Producers Association and to conduct research and statistical analysis of the Namibian agricultural economy.**

**Key Performance Areas**

- Strategic Planning (Livestock Producers Organisation)
- Agricultural Research and Analysis
- Communication and Stakeholder Engagement
- Administration
- General Functions

**Minimum Tertiary Qualification**  
A B.Sc. or B. Agriculture or B. Com with a post graduate qualification in Agricultural Economy as major subject.


Persons who qualify and are interested in this position, are requested to forward a CV to [danie@nau.com.na](mailto:danie@nau.com.na) CV's can also be hand delivered at the office of the NAU, 1st floor Agrihouse Building, John Meinert Street (Southern Entrance)

Only candidates on the short list will be contacted for interviews.

**Closing date for applications: 3 November 2023**

☎ 061 237 838  
✉ [danie@nau.com.na](mailto:danie@nau.com.na)  
📍 Namibia Agricultural Union, 1st floor Agrihouse Building, John Meinert Street, Windhoek

To obtain the full job description, please scan here



**SCAN ME**





## CALL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR MINING CLAIMS 72850, 72851 and 72852 in the vicinity of Khorixas, Kunene Region

This notice serves to inform all interested and affected parties that an application for the environmental clearance certificate will be launched with the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No.7 of 2007) and the Environmental Regulations (GN 30 of 2012).

Project: The license area is located **35 kilometers south east of Khorixas, Kunene Region**, accessible along the D2743, gravel road which connects to the C39 tarred road. The proponent intends to mine on a small scale for industrial metals. Mining methods may include digging small pits, trenching and sampling.

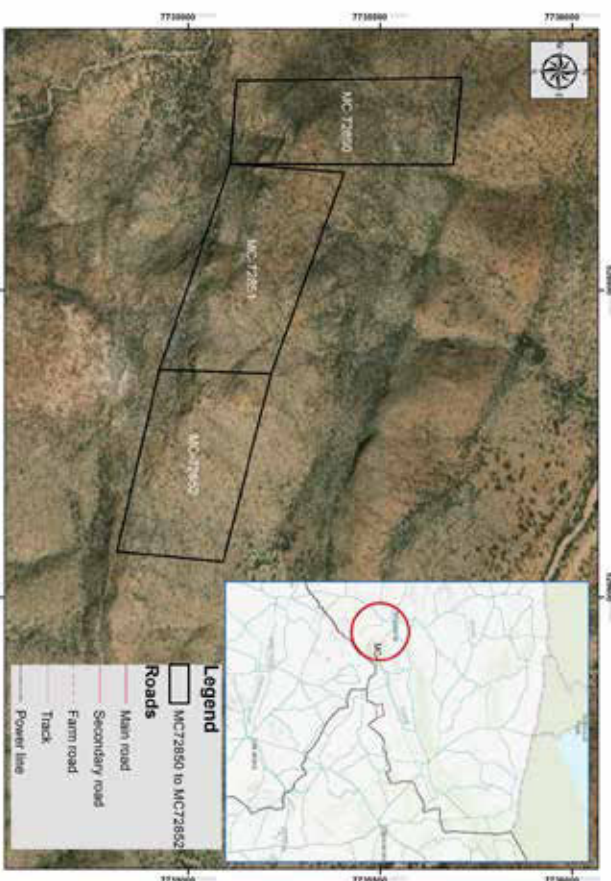
**Proponent:** Kairanderua Katjari

All interested and affected parties are hereby invited to register and submit their comments regarding the proposed project on or before 25/11/2023. Contact details for registration and further information:

Augite Environmental Consulting

Dr. K Kanguечи

Email: [kkanguечи0@gmail.com](mailto:kkanguечи0@gmail.com), Cell number: 0817069027



## CALL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR MINING CLAIMS 72863, 72864 and 72865 in the vicinity of Khorixas, Kunene Region

This notice serves to inform all interested and affected parties that an application for the environmental clearance certificate will be launched with the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No.7 of 2007) and the Environmental Regulations (GN 30 of 2012).

Project: The license area is located **35 kilometers south east of Khorixas, Kunene Region**, accessible along the D2743, gravel road which connects to the C39 tarred road. The proponent intends to mine on a small scale for industrial metals. Mining methods may include digging small pits, trenching and sampling.

**Proponent:** Haroldt Katjari

All interested and affected parties are hereby invited to register and submit their comments regarding the proposed project on or before 25/11/2023. Contact details for registration and further information:

Augite Environmental Consulting

Dr. K Kanguечи

Email: [kkanguечи0@gmail.com](mailto:kkanguечи0@gmail.com), Cell number: 0817069027



### A Call for Public Participation & Engagement on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study: The Existing and Proposed Groundwater Abstraction and Use within the Omaruru Townlands of Omaruru Town in the Erongo Region

The public is hereby notified that an application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as per the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. Water resources development are listed activities in the EIA Regulations that cannot be undertaken without an ECC. Thus, the EIA Study is required to apply for and obtain the ECC.

**Project Nature (Activities):** The project activities entail the abstraction and use of groundwater from the Omaruru Municipality boreholes to supply water to its growing population (residents and business community). The Municipality currently abstracts water from nine production boreholes. To meet the water demands of the Town, the Municipality proposes to add two more boreholes to the abstraction scheme.

**Proponent:** Municipality of Omaruru

**Appointed Environmental Consultant:** Popeti Investment CC

Therefore, members of the public are invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to submit comments, issues and or to receive further information on the EIA Study process. The request for registration as I&APs and to submit comments should be done in writing **before or on Friday, 24**

**A Public Consultation Meeting will be held in Omaruru and meeting details will be shared in due time with all registered I&APs/stakeholders.**

**Contact Person:** Ms. Fredrika Shagama

**Mobile No.:** +264 (0) 81 749 9223

Email: [popetieias@gmail.com](mailto:popetieias@gmail.com)



### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES WITHIN EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCES (EPLs) 9048, 9050, 9053, 9054, 9056, 9058, 9060, 9061, 9063 & 9064. IKARAS REGION

On behalf of the proponent, Alliance Environmental Consultancy CC (AEC) herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations for the proposed prospecting activities within EPLs 9048, 9050, 9053, 9054, 9056, 9058, 9060, 9061, 9063 & 9064. IKaras Region.

**Proponent:** KoBold Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd.

**Commodities:** Base and rare metals, industrial minerals, nuclear fuels, and precious metals.

**Locality:** Within the Karasburg West & East constituencies covering a total area of approximately 649,727 Hectares across private and government farmlands (Figure below).



All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby invited to register and submit comments duly motivated in writing on or before the 30 November 2023. Registration and Background Information Documents (BID) for the project can be requested from the email address below. Public meeting date and venue will be shared to the registered I&APs in due course.

Email: [info@enviro-aec.com](mailto:info@enviro-aec.com)  
Cell: +264 81 298 9118  
OR +264 81 435 1689



### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES WITHIN EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE (EPL) 9055 KUNENE REGION

On behalf of the proponent, Alliance Environmental Consultancy CC (AEC) herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations for the proposed prospecting activities within EPL 9055, Kunene Region.

**Proponent:** KoBold Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd.

**Commodities:** Base and rare metals, industrial minerals, nuclear fuels, and precious metals.

**Locality:** Within the Khorixas constituency covering a total area of approximately 75,887 Hectares across the Torra and Doro INawas Area 1 communal conservancies (Figure below).



All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby invited to register and submit comments duly motivated in writing on or before the 30 November 2023. Registration and Background Information Documents (BID) for the project can be requested from the email address below. Public meeting date and venue will be shared with the registered I&APs in due course.

Email: [info@enviro-aec.com](mailto:info@enviro-aec.com)  
Cell: +264 81 298 9118  
OR +264 81 435 1689



**Appendix B: Email communications (BID) and meeting invitation sent to pre-identified stakeholders and I&APs upon request of registration as well as circulation of the merged draft Comprehensive EMP and appendices for review by I&APs**



**Email communications on the BID circulation (with consultation meeting invitation) to pre-identified stakeholders and upon request of registration and BID by I&APs**

Environmental Impact Assessment Study for the Existing and Proposed Groundwater Abstraction and Associated Activities in Omaruru Town, Erongo Region - Background Information Document (BID) and Invitation to the Consultation Meeting 🔍 🖨️ 📧

**Popeti EIA Consultations** <popetieias@gmail.com> Nov 6, 2023, 8:39 AM ☆ ↶ ⋮  
to me, bcc: vsindongo, bcc: nvilleka, bcc: jrhajingje, bcc: cro, bcc: ewetha, bcc: mgomes, bcc: Maria-Amakali, bcc: ED, bcc: ED, bcc: ED, bcc: NehemiaA, bcc: KamburonaJ, bcc: VorsterJ, bcc: imbusch, bcc: Patricia, bcc: [redacted]

Good day Stakeholder / Interested & Affected Party,  
The Municipality of Omaruru (hereinafter referred to as the Municipality or the Proponent) currently abstracts groundwater from nine (9) existing production boreholes with a plan to add two more boreholes - [Please refer to the attached Background Information Document \(BID\) for your perusal.](#)  
Water resources development and associated activities (particularly high abstractions for commercial, industrial and urban use) are among listed activities that may not be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) under the Environmental Management Act (EMA) (2007) and its 2012 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. In addition to an ECC, a Groundwater Abstraction & Use Permit is required from the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR). The permit was initially issued in 2019, and due for renewal in 2022. An application for renewal was made in 2022, however, the renewal cannot be considered pending an ECC, which is subject to an EIA Study (approval of an EIA Report and or Environmental Management Plan(EMP)). In this instance, only an EMP is required by MEFT, alongside other documents that include consultation/engagement - please refer to Figure 2 of the BID.  
To fulfil the requirements of the EMA and its EIA Regulations, the Proponent appointed Popeti Investment to conduct the required EIA Study and apply for the ECC on their behalf.  
An ECC Application has been launched with the Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism (MEFT) and assigned an ECC application number APP-002402.  
**The Consultation Meeting for the EIA Study will be held in Omaruru as follows:**

- Date: Thursday, 16 November 2023
- Time: 10h00
- Venue: Central Hotel Boardroom(104-105 Wilhelm Zeraua Road, Omaruru)

Should you have any comments or issues that you would like us to record and be included in the EIA Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP), please submit them to Popeti Consultants before close of business on [Friday, 24 November 2023.](#)

Best regards,  
Fredrika: Environmental Assessment Practitioner & Hydrogeologist  
Mobile No. +264 81 749 9223

One attachment • Scanned by Gmail



## Omaruru townlands EIA Inbox x



**Patricia Craven** <[redacted]>

to me ▾

Wed, Nov 1, 2023, 11:06 AM



I would like to register as an I&APs for this regarding boreholes in Omaruru.

Please will you also send me a copy of your company profile.

Thank you

Patricia Craven

081[redacted]

[redacted][@gmail.com](mailto:[redacted]@gmail.com)



**Popeti EIA Consultations** <popetieias@gmail.com>

to Patricia ▾

Wed, Nov 1, 2023, 12:22 PM



Dear Ms. Craven,

Thank you for your email and request to be registered as I&AP for the EIA Study. We have added you to the I&AP list.

We will share the background information document (BID) for the EIA from tomorrow for your perusal (including consultation meeting details).

Best regards,

Fredrika



add email Inbox x



**Kollmitz Farming** <[redacted]@com.na>

to me ▾

Tue, Nov 14, 2023, 3:43 PM



Good day Ms Shagama  
Please add me to your name and email address,  
Groundwater abstraction in Omaruru basin  
Lothar Kollmitz  
081 [redacted]  
[k\[redacted\]](#)



**Popeti EIA Consultations** <popetieias@gmail.com>

to Kollmitz ▾

Tue, Nov 14, 2023, 5:37 PM



Good day Mr. Kollmitz,  
Thank you for your email and request to be included in the I&AP list. We have added you to the list.  
Please find attached the Background Information Document (BID) to the EIA Study for your perusal.  
Kindly also note that a **consultation meeting will be held this week** as follows:

- **Date:** Thursday, 16 November 2023
- **Time:** 10h00-11h30
- **Venue:** Central Hotel Boardroom, Omaruru

Best regards,  
Fredrika

Environmental Impact A

EIA study for ground water abstraction in Omaruru Inbox x



Cornelis van der Waal <[redacted]>

to me ▾

Fri, Nov 17, 2023, 9:25 AM



Good day,

Hereby I would like to register as an interested and affected party for the EIA for groundwater abstraction in the Omaruru river by the Omaruru municipality. Can you please send me all the documentation concerning this study?

Thank you,

Cornelis van der Waal

--

C. van der Waal (PhD)

Agri-Ecological Services

Cell no. +[redacted]

PO Box 510, Omaruru, Namibia

email: [redacted]



Popeti EIA Consultations <popetieias@gmail.com>

to Cornelis ▾

Fri, Nov 17, 2023, 12:41 PM



Dear Dr. van der Waal,

Thank you for your email and interest to be registered as an I&AP - You have been added to the I&AP List and you will be receiving communication regarding the Study going forward.

Please find attached the preliminary background information document (BID) for your perusal - this is not a Report yet.

The EIA Study is still ongoing with the consultation meeting held yesterday in Omaruru. We will share the draft meeting minutes for your review next week (when they are ready).

Afterwards, the EIA documents will be shared for your review and further comments again before they are submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism (MEFT) for evaluation.

Best regards,

Fredrika

Environmental Impact A -



**Circulation of the the Draft Comprehensive EMP and Appendices for I&APs' Review and Comments on 13 March 2024**

Environmental Impact Assessment Study for the Groundwater Abstraction and Associated Activities in Omaruru Town, Erongo Region - Draft Comprehensive Environmental Management Plan (EMP) with associated Appendices for review and comments Inbox x



**Popeti EIA Consultations** <popetieias@gmail.com>

Wed, Mar 13, 2:13 PM (12 days ago) ☆ 😊 ↶ ⋮

to me, bcc: Shindongo, bcc: Venelanda, bcc: jnhaipinge, bcc: cro, bcc: ewetha, bcc: mgomes, bcc: ED, bcc: imbusch, bcc: Patricia, bcc: [redacted]

Dear Stakeholder/Interested & Affected Party,

Following the consultation meeting held on the 16th of November 2023, the draft Comprehensive Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and the Baseline Hydrogeological Assessment Report for the Groundwater Abstraction in Omaruru (by the Municipality) are now available for your review and further comments - **Please see attached the Comprehensive EMP merged with its appendices A to F (Appendix F being the Baseline Hydrogeology Report).**

**Should you have questions or further comments to these documents, please do send them to us in writing by the end of the day on Friday, 22 March 2024.**

Once we have your comments on the draft documents, we will incorporate them into the final documents for submission to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) for evaluation and consideration of the Environmental Clearance certificate (ECC).

Please also note that as per the evaluation procedures of Environmental assessment documents at MEFT, you will have another 14 days to send your comments directly to the Environmental Commissioner on the Portal (we will share the link for this with you once available to us upon uploading the documents on the MEFT Portal after 22 March 2024).

Best regards,  
Fredrika

One attachment • Scanned by Gmail ⓘ



**Appendix C: Copy of the Printed  
A3 EIA Notice placed in Omaruru  
in November 2023 (prior to the  
consultation meeting)**

## **PUBLIC NOTICE: INVITATION TO THE CONSULTATION MEETING**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY FOR THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED GROUNDWATER ABSTRACTION AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES IN OMARURU TOWN, ERONGO REGION**

The public is hereby notified that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) has been submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism (MEFT) as per the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The ECC is subject to an approval of the EIA Study which is currently being done to be used to compile a Comprehensive Environmental Management Plan (EMP) only (based on the MEFT's requirements upon screening of the project background document).

**Project Proponent:** Municipality of Omaruru

**Environmental Consultant:** Popeti Investment CC

**Project Background and Location:** The Municipality of Omaruru currently abstracts groundwater from nine (9) existing production boreholes to supply its community (residents and businesses) - please refer to the locality map below. Due to the Town's growing population, the Municipality is planning to drill and develop two more boreholes to the supply scheme. Since Omaruru Town is within the Omaruru Subterranean Water Control Area water, water abstraction from the boreholes (meant for urban and domestic use (commercially)) requires abstraction and use permits from the Department of Water Affairs at the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR). This is also done in accordance with the old Water Act No. 54 of 1956' Regulations and new Water Resources Management Act No. 11 of 2013 (and its newly promulgated Regulations). A permit has been issued for the abstraction and use of groundwater from the boreholes in 2019 and valid for a period of 2 years, upon which a renewal can be applied from MAWLR. The Municipality had applied for the permit renewal to MAWLR in 2022, but due to the absence of a Hydrogeological (Groundwater) Impact Assessment for the Town's abstraction and an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC), the permit renewal has not been approved. It should be noted that the ECC is subject to an EIA Study, thus, being conducted.

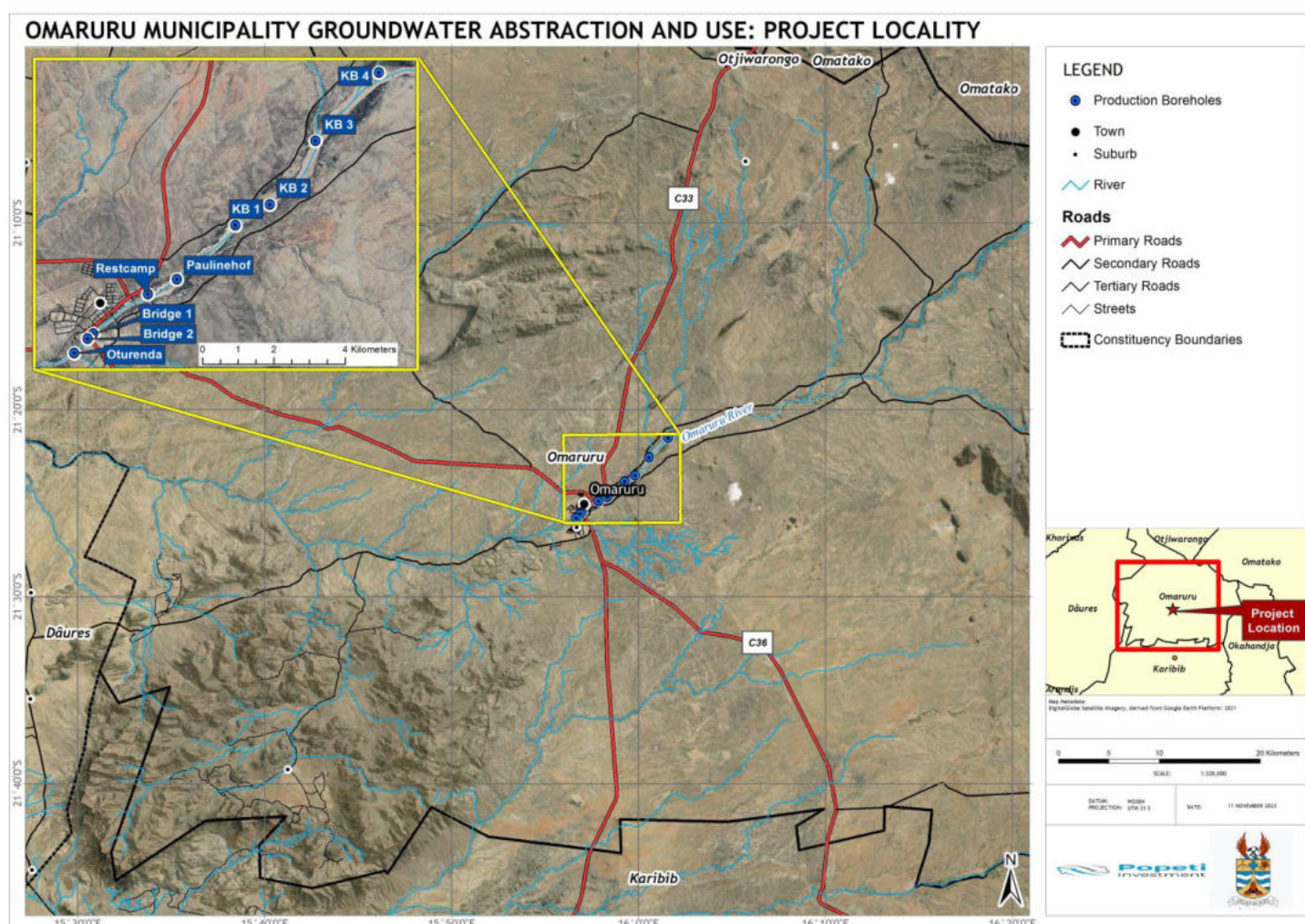
Members of the public are therefore invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to comment/raise concerns or receive further information on the Environmental Assessment. Registration or comments' **submission should be done in writing** to the contact details below.

**Contact Person for the EIA Study:** Ms. Fredrika Shagama, **Mobile No.:** +264 81 749 9223, **E-mail:** [popetieias@gmail.com](mailto:popetieias@gmail.com)

**Please note that the deadline** for registration as I&APs and submission of comments/concerns/issues requests is **Friday, 24 November 2023**.

**A Public Consultation Meeting for the EIA Study will be held in Omaruru as follows:**

- **Date: Thursday, 16 November 2023**
- **Time: 10h00 – 11h30**
- **Venue: Central Hotel Boardroom (104-105 Wilhelm Zeraua Road), Omaruru**



**Appendix D: Minutes from the  
Consultation Meeting held with  
I&APs in Omaruru**



## **MEETING MINUTES FOR THE PUBLIC/STAKEHOLDERS' CONSULTATION MEETING**

### **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Existing and Proposed High Groundwater Abstraction on the Aquifer System in Omaruru Town, Erongo Region**

**Date:** Thursday, 16 November 2023

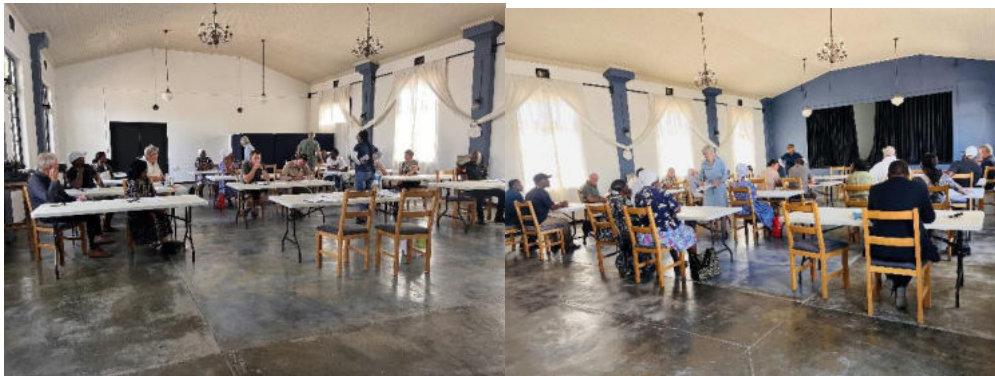
**Time:** 10h00 to 12h40

**Venue:** Central Hotel Conference Hall, Omaruru

**Project Proponent:** Municipality of Omaruru

#### Meeting Attendance

The attendance comprised of one Environmental Assessment Practitioner from Popeti Investment CC, three representatives from the Omaruru Municipality, and twenty-three (23) Omaruru community members - as shown in the pictures below (Figure 1) - The signed attendance register for the meeting is attached hereto.



*Figure 1: Consultation meeting in progress at Central Hotel on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2023 in Omaruru*

#### **1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING**

Ms. Fredrika Shagama (Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) / Consultant) from Popeti Consultants opened the meeting, thanked the attendees for making time, she then introduced herself. She further requested the Municipality representatives to introduce themselves. Ms. Shagama presented the meeting agenda points, which is based on the requirements of the 2012 EIA Regulations: Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 on Public Consultation's Regulations 21 to 24. The main agenda points were as follows:

- The Environmental Assessment Process,
- The Project description: taking in account that the project is not entirely new but an addition to the existing activities (groundwater abstraction),
- Impacts associated with the project, and
- Public Discussion and way forward.

The printed copies of the Background Information Document (BID) were distributed among the attendees for self-reading and follow throughout the meeting proceedings. The attendance register was circulated for attendees to sign for future correspondence on the EIA process and as proof of consultation to be appended to the environmental assessment documentations. Due to the fact that some attendees were not fluent in English, and only understood Afrikaans and Otjiherero, the translations from English to Afrikaans and vice-versa was done voluntarily by Dr. Patricia Craven. For some Otjiherero only speakers, translations were provided by Mr. Ben Kandukira.

The translations were necessary to ensure that the contents of the meeting were comprehended by all attendees.

## **2. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION**

### **2.1 Explanation of what an EIA is, its Process and the Public Role in the Process**

Ms. Shagama explained that the EIA process is done in compliance with the EMA, as the abstraction of water is one of the listed activities that cannot be undertaken without obtaining an environmental clearance certificate (ECC) from the Environmental Commissioner. The ECC is subject to an EIA Study process and based on the screening of the BID by the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) on the ECC Portal, the outcome of the EIA Study is either a Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) or just an EMP. The decision for MEFT to decide on the outcome is mainly determined by the project type and whether the project is new or has been in existence, but without an ECC issued for it to date. The case of existing projects not having ECCs is common with projects or facilities that have been in existing way before 2007 when the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 came into force, followed by its EIA Regulations that were promulgated in 2012. Thus, most of these facilities or projects are only getting environmental cleared in recent years. This is usually triggered by making changes to the project activities or applying for project associated licenses or permits whereby other stakeholders require an ECC. At times, some funding institutions or agencies require that projects should have valid ECC before financial aid is approved. In line with water resources use management legal requirements, a permit has been issued for the abstraction and use of groundwater from the Municipality boreholes in 2019 and valid for a period of 2 years, upon which a renewal can be applied from the Department of Water Affairs (DWA). The Municipality had applied for the permit renewal to DWA in 2022, but due to the absence of an ECC, the permit renewal has not been approved. The ECC is subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study, thus, being carried out to develop the EMP for the groundwater abstraction activities.

In the case of the Municipality project (groundwater abstraction), this is an existing listed activity (according to the (2012) EIA Regulations of the EMA No. 7 of 2007), which explains why the MEFT only requires an EMP to apply for the ECC. This is common with most old facilities and project activities.

For the public, the EIA process requires that the consultation meeting is held with the affected and or interested parties (community members/public).

### **2.2 Brief Description of the Project**

Ms. Shagama indicated that the Municipality currently abstracts groundwater from nine (9) existing production boreholes to supply its community (residents and businesses). Due to the growing Town's population, the Municipality is planning to drill and develop two more boreholes to the supply scheme.

The current average abstractions water returns from the nine boreholes range between 45,000 and 70,000m<sup>3</sup> per month and about 850,000m<sup>3</sup> per year since the 2016 crisis. The Municipality is planning to increase their abstraction

limit from the current one million cubic meter per year (1Mm<sup>3</sup>/year) to one and half million cubic meter per year (1.5Mm<sup>3</sup>/year). The additional 500,000 m<sup>3</sup> shall enable the Municipality to meet the future water demands, as there are four new extensions and one estate anticipated to be developed within the next 2-5 years within the Omaruru Townlands. Hence, the need to apply for a Groundwater Abstraction and Use Permit to abstract the annual 1.5Mm<sup>3</sup> from eleven boreholes (the existing nine and two proposed new boreholes - siting is in progress to locate suitable locations for the new boreholes that will be due for drilling mid-2024, i.e., once the EMP is approved and ECC issued).

It should be noted that the EMA specifically makes provision for water resources development under the following Listed Activities (which does not restrict the siting of borehole(s), and only the actual " water abstraction"):

- Listed Activity 8.1 The abstraction of ground or surface water for industrial or commercial purposes.
- Listed Activity 8.2 The abstraction of groundwater at a volume exceeding the threshold authorised in terms of a law relating to water resources.
- Listed Activity 8.8 Construction and other activities in water courses within flood lines
- Listed Activity 8.9 Construction and other activities within a catchment area.

### **2.3 Presentation of Potential Project Impacts**

To ensure transparency and that the attendees understand both sides of the proposed project activities, Ms. Shagama also referred the attendees to the potential pre-identified potential positive and negative environmental impacts associated with the project activities provided in the BID.

### **2.4 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)**

The meeting attendees were provided with an opportunity to ask questions and/or raise concerns with regards to the project activities so that these can be incorporated into the meeting minutes and used as basis for the compilation of the Comprehensive EMP. The key comments and issues made in the meeting were recorded and noted for consideration and inclusion in the environmental documents (Comprehensive EMP). These issues and comments are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1: Comments and issues raised during the stakeholders (I&APs) consultation meeting in Omaruru on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2023**

No.	Name of Commenter	Input: Comment/Issue/Concern/Suggestion	Response to the Comments/Issues or Concerns
1.	Mr. Stanley Geieb	There are structures within the Omaruru River that have been blocking water flow to us downstream. The water does not reach us anymore as it used to be in the past when I was younger and it used to be better.	<p><u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u>: This is well noted. These structures, particularly artificial dams and weirs constructed within the River courses could have contributed to that over the years, However, the low water flow downstream could be also attributed to rainfall variations that the River has not been receiving enough rain which would cause it to flow as in the past.</p> <p><u>Mr. Bernard Haraseb (Omaruru Basin Management)</u>: There are also some gauging stations that may entail weirs in the River that are installed to prevent flooding and for data collection such as water levels/heights, and water flow measurements. Sometimes these gauging stations are mistaken with weirs.</p>
2.	Dr. Patricia Craven	The BID states that only an EMP will be prepared for this EIA Study, and not an EIA or Scoping Report. I think this is wrong and a Scoping report should be prepared.	<p>The standard procedure for the application of environmental clearances is done by uploading the project background information document (BIDs) on the ECC portal of the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism. The MEFT team at the Department of Environmental Affairs screens the BIDs and also considering if the proposed project activities are completely new or not (this is where MEFT decides whether among other documents for the application, they will need a Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) or just an EMP according to the project (We, as consultants do not determine this but the Portal/System of the MEFT).</p> <p>Please also note that the EIA Study is conducted for existing boreholes for Omaruru of which most, if not all were drilled (and water has been abstracted) way before our Environmental</p>

No.	Name of Commenter	Input: Comment/Issue/Concern/Suggestion	Response to the Comments/Issues or Concerns
			<p>Management Act, 2007 and its EIA Regulations in 2012 where the EIA Studies started. This is the case with most local authorities (municipalities) that have existing listed activities or facilities in the EIA regulations requiring ECCs. Some of these facilities include sewage treatment plants or ponds and dumping sites that are in existence for over 30 years (older than the Environmental Management Act) and are only getting ECCs now. I have done such EIA studies for most of these local authorities, where the MEFT only needed EMPs given the fact that the project activities have been in existence (but I made these EMPs detailed/comprehensive to include public consultation section, impacts assessments and baseline information, etc., in addition to the management and mitigation measures. Environmental Consultants do not determine the required documents to be submitted for ECC application, but MEFT determine this based on the project status and probably type.</p>
3.	Mr. Gunnar Waldschmidt	<p>I am a crop farmer for many years and I was a committee member for the Basin Management between 2003 and 2008 and then around 2015/12016. My comment is that, the Municipality needs to make an analysis of how much water they are abstracting versus the water actually sold to the customers. There could be water leakages/losses due to aging infrastructure through the transfer ways.</p> <p>-The Municipality also need to check or monitor if the boreholes are connected to the meters.</p>	<p><u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u>: This is a good suggestion and has been noted for incorporation in the EMP and subsequent implementation.</p> <p><u>Mrs. Venelanda lileka (Omaruru Municipality)</u>: All boreholes are connected to the water meters and bulk returns are recorded monthly. However, there are incomplete return readings for September, October at one of the boreholes when the meter started</p>



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			malfunctioning. This is being rectified (procurement of a new meter), and the incomplete reading has been noted in the system.
4.		The average figure of 750,000m <sup>3</sup> used in the presentation might not be correct because I think this figure should be over 1Mm <sup>3</sup> , at least 1.2Mm <sup>3</sup> per year already. Please verify this figure.	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : Noted.
5.		How often does the Municipality take water levels of the boreholes?	<u>Mrs. Venelanda lileka (Omaruru Municipality)</u> : We used to do it monthly but since October 2023, we are taking levels weekly.
6.		There are times when the River used to flow but now we had a case when there was no flow for 3 years. I suggest that water restrictions need to be implemented to ensure that the water resource is sustainable.	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : This suggestion has been noted for incorporation in the EMP for implementation.
7.		Water quality monitoring needs to be done and inspection thereto made.	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : This suggestion has been noted for incorporation in the EMP for implementation.  <u>Mrs. Venelanda lileka (Omaruru Municipality)</u> : For water quality, the Municipality takes water samples from the reservoirs and Wildlife water tank on a quarterly basis. These samples are sent to the laboratory (either Analytical Laboratory or NamWater) for microbiology and chemistry testing and analysis. Sometimes the Municipality also samples at the schools and State Hospital. These water test results are available at the Municipality.
8.		Why is the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) not in the meeting to explain to the people that there is no more reserve of water?	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : The MAWLR cannot unfortunately avail someone based on one applicant's project as part of the EIA process which one of many other similar projects in the country. However, they will get this comment as the EMP will

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			also be submitted to the MAWLR as part of the water permit renewal process. The suggestion is also good that maybe the Ministry can also use that for future considerations and to incorporate into their water management plans.
9.		According to the records at MAWLR, the last permit for the Municipality was 5 years ago.	<u>Mrs. Venelanda Iileka (Omaruru Municipality)</u> : The last water abstraction permit issued to the Omaruru Municipality by MAWLR was on 21 October 2019, valid for 2 years. However, the Municipality did make an attempt to renew the permit in 2022, however, due to the absence of the hydrogeological impact assessment and ECC, the permit application cannot be considered. Since the Municipality cannot completely halt the water abstraction and distribution, we continue to abstract water, while we then tasked Popeti Investment to help us comply with the MAWLR requirements so that we can renew the permit.
10.		The water reserves are low that the Waldschimdt Farm had to reduce their employees from 25 to 10 people due to the lack of water. Mr. Kollnitz here had between 30 to 50 employees and had to reduce to 20 people due to low water supply for the activities on the Farm.	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : That is unfortunate and we have taken note of this.
11.		Some water consumers in the Town were not paying for water and these include the Namibian Correctional Service, Ministry of Works, and schools. Are these consumers' accounts up to date now?	<u>Mrs. Venelanda Iileka (Omaruru Municipality)</u> : We do not have this information to confirm. Therefore, we will check this with Accounts/Finance division.  From the Finance records, the highlighted entities have been paying for their water accounts, Namibian Correctional Services last made their payments on 27 November 2023, Ministry of Works on 12

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			September 2023, Schools are paid for by Ministry of Education and Culture and their last payment was on 01 December 2023. Although some accounts are not at zero balance, there is a commitment from the entities and this is reflected in their payment records.
12.	Mr. Lothar Kollnitz	<p>My farm is 6km upstream near the 2 Municipality boreholes (KB3 and KB4). My concern is that the Town's population is increasing, but does it make sense to abstract more water at the expense of farming?</p> <p>The Municipality is abstracting more water that the other water users will not have water anymore, even the vegetation along the River is visibly dying.</p>	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : The concern is noted for consideration.
13.		The Municipality is selling/supplying water to a wildlife estate at the expense of the community.	<u>Mrs. Venelanda lileka (Omaruru Municipality)</u> : The Wildlife Estate does fall within the Municipal Townland, thus, the Municipality is mandated to supply water to them. However, we will see how we can remedy this or ensure sustainable water supply sharing without affecting each other.
14.	Mr. Chris Johnston	As a geologist, I know and understand that finding water in the ground is not an open system but a closed system and in these granites, there is no water.	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : This is noted.
15.		There is no holistic water approach to take care of the farmers upstream. This needs to be communicated weekly by engaging community in the conservation of water.	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : This suggestion has been noted for incorporation in the EMP for implementation. The suggestion to engage the community is a great one and definitely needs to be implemented, however, the frequency of weekly may not be practical. However, a bi-monthly or quarterly engagements

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			could be realistic as we need to also consider availing resources and having something detailed to present to the community.
16.		The community needs water to drink and maybe have a small garden behind their homes too.	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : This is noted.
17.		Why is the Municipality watering Luna Park and during the day even?	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : I would suggest that the watering can be done in the late evenings to ensure that the water is absorbed by the vegetation and not lost to evaporation between sunrise and sunset. Furthermore, the Municipality will need to explore other ways of supplying water for the park instead of using fresh water for this. One of this option would be using semi-treated wastewater that is approved by the Water Environment Division of MAWLR to ensure that the water discharged into the environment via park watering meets the standards.
18.		<p>-There is no effort taken by the Municipality in the last 2 years to conserve water. The Town supposed to implemented stringent water restrictions, and this the Municipality negligence.</p> <p>-If conservation measures were in place, there should not have been water problems.</p> <p>-Mechanical issues such as pump data has not been provided.</p> <p>-Lack of communication to the community is a big concern in this regard.</p>	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : The concerns and suggestions have been noted for incorporation in the EMP and subsequent consideration by the Municipality to implement and ensure water sustainability.

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19.		I need to see your credentials, Fredrika. This includes your CV, qualifications, professional affiliations and EIA Studies conducted (approved and submitted)	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : I will share these as requested.
20.	Ms. Margaret Grunewaldt	The water always flowed in the River and we use to get vegetables from Kollmitz Farm. The Municipality charges me for the water and it is not good for a pensioner like myself.	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : The comment has been noted.
21.	Mr. Ben Kandikura	Is there a Municipality Platform (Forum) where the community and Municipality come together to discuss these issues? I think there should be a platform focusing on sustainable use of water resources where stakeholders can contribute to the discussion.	<u>Mrs. Venelanda Iileka (Omaruru Municipality)</u> : Currently, there is no major platform for this, apart from a Facebook page ("Omaruru se mense") and a WhatsApp group (Omaruru peeps) where some people may be on, and this is where we send notifications to, in cases of water interruptions and any other notice from the Municipality. However, we look into how we can improve on this.
22.		Farmers do push the Municipality to go out there and repair technical issues but the Municipality take long sometimes to attend to such issues.	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : The concerns and suggestions have been noted for incorporation in the EMP and subsequent consideration by the Municipality to implement and ensure water sustainability.
23.		There is no response to the issue of the tributary being blocked by artificial dams constructed in the River, that the people further cannot get water.	
24.		Once we establish the root cause of the issues, we need to plan on how does the Municipality preserve water for the future and maintain the infrastructure to avoid water losses leading to more abstraction at a time.	
25.	Ms. Van Rhyn	There are Reports with recommendations made to the Municipality for implementation, meaning the formula was	
			<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : The comment has been noted. We will obtain these reports to also aid in the hydrogeological



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		provided to help the Municipality calculate how much water they have in the basin. I do not understand the purpose for us being here, if these reports with recommendations were already submitted to the Municipality, so this is a waste of our time.	impact assessment to make informed decisions. However I do not agree with your statement that this is a waste of time because this consultative meeting, a component of an EIA Study and a requirement in the 2012 EIA Regulations. Furthermore, as part of this ECC application' screening, the MEFT requires proof consultation on the ECC Portal (which entails meeting minutes) to accompany the EMP. Environmental Consultants do not make the rules nor set the requirements for projects when it comes to EIA Studies/ECC applications.
26.	Mr. Simson	I am also on the main problem with artificial dams upstream that the water does not reach the community downstream.	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : This is noted once again.
27.		There has been reports or investigation on why the River stops flowing but no feedback has been provided to the community on this.	<u>Mrs. Venelanda lileka (Omaruru Municipality)</u> : The Municipality does not have any reports on investigations on why the river stops flowing. Although it is believe to be due to climate change, which has affected the perception received, perhaps a thorough investigation can be considered.
28.		The community was not informed of the meeting on time because some of the community members are not here. Some of us only heard about this meeting late yesterday and some of us only today in the morning around 07h00 and 08h00.  How was the meeting venue selected to be here and not at the community hall?	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : The public notices were placed in the newspapers ( <i>New Era</i> and <i>Windhoek Observer</i> dated 26 October and 02 November 2023) and then A3 posters with meeting details were pasted at the most frequented places in town (Municipality offices, and Spar Community notice boards) over a week before the meeting date. However, we learned that the first two posters at Spar was removed by unknown community member(s), and this was confirmed by the security guard at Spar who saw

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			<p>someone putting up another poster days before the meeting (it looked familiar to him).</p> <p><u>Mrs. Venelanda lileka (Omaruru Municipality)</u>: the initial venue was the community hall, but since the hall is booked by the Churches Conference this whole week, and the Consultant has a timeline for carrying out the work, they had to find an alternative venue, which was this Conference Hall at the Central Hotel.</p>
29.	Mr. Raphael Ngueza	If there is a problem with my prepaid water, can I raise my issue here?	<u>Mrs. Venelanda lileka (Omaruru Municipality)</u> : This is not the right platform for prepaid water issues. Please come to the office for that.
30.	Mr. Hans Traupe	I have information on the 60 years of the water operations in the area and I am willing to provide this. I also suggest that there should be a weir to recharge groundwater	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : well noted, Sir. Thank you for willing to share the data that you have.
31.	Ms. Krista Heinuga	I suggest that for future consultation meetings, you should also make use of local churches to announce the meetings for you. I am sure you would have a big turn of community members.	<u>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (EAP - Popeti)</u> : The suggestion and guide is welcome and noted for future and for the improvement of consultation meetings in Omaruru. Thank you.

There were no further questions or comments/concerns.

Ms. Shagama thanked the attendees for their participation and contributions. She informed them that the minutes will be compiled for the meeting and shared with all registered attendees and I&APs. The comments raised in the meeting were recorded and will be included in the Comprehensive EMP and submitted to the Environmental Commissioner for evaluation and consideration of the ECC. However, the EMP will be shared with them for review and comments before it is submitted to the Commissioner.

**The Way forward:**

- The meeting minutes will be shared with all attendees once ready.

- The Comprehensive EMP will be circulated with all registered attendees and other I&APs/stakeholders for review and comments before it is submitted to the Environmental Commissioner for evaluation and consideration of the ECC.

The meeting was closed and adjourned at 12h40.

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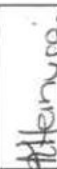

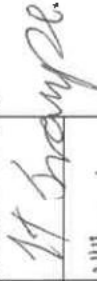





PUBLIC/STAKEHOLDERS' CONSULTATION MEETING ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Existing and Proposed Groundwater Abstraction (including the Hydrogeological Assessment Study) in Omaruru Town, Erongo Region

 Date: Thursday, 16 November 2023

 Time: 10h00

 Venue: Central Hotel <sup>conference hall</sup> ~~board room~~, Omaruru

No.	Full Name and Surname	Name of Organization	Contact number	Email address	Signature
1.	Krista Heinuga	Omaruru resident	0814384478	heinugakrista@gmail.com kristaheinuga	
2	A. Traupe	✓	0812035111	assittraupe@gmail.com	
3	H. Traupe	✓	0812035111	✓	
4.	Verelenda Iiteka	Omaruru Municipality	0814831603	niileka@gmail.com	
5	Lenex Mutilifa	Omaruru Mun	0811567386	healthenvi@omamun.org.na	
6.	Ricardo Karezjokuria	Omaruru resident	0816591620	ricardokarezjokuria@yahoo.co.za	
7.	Chris Johnstun	Resident	0811260016	chris@johnstunamibia.com	
8.	Gunnar Waldschmidt	Omaru Greers	0812744497	omrugreers@gmail.com	

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Popeti Investment CC

CC/2018/01749

Email: [popetieias@gmail.com](mailto:popetieias@gmail.com)

P. O. Box 3868 Oshakati, Namibia

No.	Full Name and Surname	Name of Organization	Contact number	Email address	Signature
9.	LOTHAR KOLLMITZ	KOLLMITZ FARMING cc	081 269 4132	kollmitz Dafrica online. com. na	
10.	PATRICIA CRAVEN	PRIVATE	081 251 7115	petalidium@gmail.com	
11.	Maretha Tretow	-	081 233 6331	P.O. Box 281 Omuramba	
12.	Tsuses Comelitho	/	081 732 7900	P.O. Box 665	
13.	Claudia Kaijuu		081 650 0085		
14.	Elfried. GANSES		081 381 393		
15.	Stanley GIEB		081 570 1101	Box 566	
16.	Josef Haipinge	Municipality of Omuramba	081 355 4589	jobaiping@gmail.com	
17.	Fulvia Gores				
18.	Herman Kamugame		081 224 6190		
19.	Raphael Nweze	Omuramba	081 723 624		
20.	DOJA	Omaliu			
21.	ADAM KAUUPETE	OMARURU	081 342 0356		
22.	Hans Kamaturiri	OMARURU	081 388 6911		
23.	Ben Kandukira	Omuramba	081 633 5634	bkandukira@gmail.com	
24.	Martin Kaula	Omuramba	081 215 6789		



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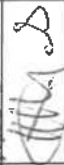

**PUBLIC/STAKEHOLDERS' CONSULTATION MEETING ATTENDANCE REGISTER**

**Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Existing and Proposed Groundwater Abstraction (including the Hydrogeological Assessment Study) in Omaruru Town, Erongo Region**

 Date: Thursday, 16 November 2023

 Time: 10h00

 Venue: Central Hotel Conference Hall, Omaruru

No.	Full Name and Surname	Name of Organization	Contact number	Email address	Signature
25 1.	Albert Somaeb	—	0817548531	albertsomaeb@gmail.com	
26 2.	Boll Haneb		0853008045	bolhaneb@gmail.com	
27 3.	Bernhardt Haraseb	Omanin Basin Management Office	0817478745	bharaseb@gmail.com ombmc.office@gmail.com	
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					

**Appendix E: Grievance  
Mechanism Procedures to be  
followed for any complaints or  
grievances raised with regards to  
groundwater abstraction by the  
Municipality**

**Groundwater Abstraction Activities**

**Comprehensive EMP**

