Environmental Assessment Scoping Report for:

June 2021

Subdivision and Consolidation of Erf 1132 Okakarara Extension 2, Okakarara, Otjozondjupa Region.

APP-002739

Prepared for: Namterra Industrial Properties cc

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PROJECT DETAILS

Title	Environmental Scoping Report for the: Subdivision and Consolidation of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2, Okakarara, Otjozondjupa Region		
Report Status	Final		
SPC Reference	W/21006		
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

Namterra Industrial Properties cc hereinafter referred to as the proponent intends to undertake the following activities:

- Subdivision of the Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 into Erven A, B and the Remainder;
- Rezoning of Erf B/1132, Okakarara Extension 2 to from "Business" to "Street";
- Inclusion of rezoning of Erf B/1132, Okakarara Extension 2 in the next Okakarara
 Zoning Scheme;
- Subdivision of the Remainder of Farm No. 517 of Okakarara Townlands into Portion A (±11.7 ha) and the Remainder to be exchanged with the Government of Namibia for Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2.

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, Forestry and Tourism: Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry (MEFT: DEAF).

Project Description

With the proclamation of Okakarara, no provision was made for expansion of the business area of Okakarara and all the large portions of land were reserved for Government. This brought about the demand for business erven within the town, specifically for private developers and investors. With that in mind, the proponent identified land that is suitable for urban business development and earmarked Erf 1132, Okakarara as being ideally located for business expansion. However, the subject erf was reserved for the Government of Namibia for educational purposes.

In the year 2000, SPC was appointed by the Okakarara Town Council to assist with the transfer of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 from the Government to the Okakarara Town Council. It however has come to light that the transfer of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 to the Town Council was never finalised and that the created portion of the Townlands was never surveyed.

In 2020, a private developer expressed their interest to lease (by right to occupation) a portion of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2, with the purposes of purchasing the leased portion from the Town Council as soon as the transfer from the Government has been finalised. The developer intends to develop a Shoprite Shopping center on the subject erf.

The proponent thus intends to subdivide the Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 into Erven A, B and the Remainder. The subdivision will allow the proponent to sell Erf A/1132, Okakarara Extension 2, to a private developer for the construction of a shopping center.

The proponent further intends to rezone Erf B/1132, Okakarara Extension 2 from "Business" to "Street". The street is to be created to secure formal access to the proposed shopping centre to be developed on Erf A/1132, as access cannot be obtained directly from the C47 (M0117) road. The street is to measure ± 30 metres wide. The proposed street will be a municipal road and will be maintained by the Okakarara Town Council, as it will be extended and developed in the future to provide access to the additional business erven that will be created by the further subdivision of the Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2.

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 17 March 2021;
- Notices were placed in The New Era and The Sun newspapers dated 17 March 2021 and 24 March 2021, briefly explaining the activity and its locality, inviting members of the public to register as I&APs (Appendix B); and
- A notice 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, the I&APs were given two weeks to submit their comments on the project (until **7**th **March 2021**).

The Draft Scoping Report was circulated from the **24**th of May **2021 until the 8**th of June **2021** so that the public could review and comment on it. The comment period will remain open until the final scoping report is submitted to MEFT.

Conclusions and Recommendations

With reference to **Table 8**, none of the negative planning and design, construction or operational phase impacts were deemed to have a high significant impact on the environment. The 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). The social impact was assessed to have Medium (positive) impact associated with possible job opportunities during construction and operation.

It is recommended that this project be authorised because should the development not proceed the subject erven will remain undeveloped and underutilised. This would result in no additional erven being developed. 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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INTRO	DUCTION	1
1.1	PROJEC	T BACKGROUND	1
1.2	PROJEC	T LOCATION	2
	1.2.1	The Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2	2
	1.2.2	Portion A of the Remainder of Farm No. 517 of Okakarara Townlands	3
1.3	TERMS	OF REFERENCE AND SCOPE OF PROJECT	4
1.4	ASSUM	PTIONS AND LIMITATIONS	4
1.5	CONTE	NT OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT	4
2	LEGAL	FRAMEWORK	7
2.1	LEGISLA	TION RELEVANT TO THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	7
3	ENVIR	ONMENTAL BASELINE DESCRIPTION	13
3.1	SOCIAL	ENVIRONMENT	13
	3.1.1	Socio-Economic Context	13
	3.1.2	Archaeological and Heritage Context	14
3.2	ВІО-РН	YSICAL ENVIRONMENT	14
	3.2.1	Climate	14
	3.2.2	Topography, Geology and Soils	15
	3.2.3	Hydrology and Hydrogeology	16
3.1	TERRES	TRIAL ECOLOGY	17
	3.1.1	Flora and Fauna	17
4	PROJE	CT DESCRIPTION	18
4.1	PROJEC	T COMPONENTS	18
4.2	ALTERN	ATIVES	18
	4.2.1	No – Go Alternative	18
	4.2.2	Land Use Alternatives	19
4.3	THE PR	OPOSED DEVELOPMENT	19
	4.3.1	Engineering Services and Access Provision	21
5	PUBLIC	PARTICIPATION PROCESS	25
5.1	PUBLIC	PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS	25
	5.1.1	Environmental Assessment Phase 2	25
6	ASSESS	SMENT METHODOLOGY	26
6.1	MITIGA	TION MEASURES	28
7	ASSESS	SMENT OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION MEASURES	30
7.1	INTROD	DUCTION	30
7.1	PLANNI	NG AND DESIGN PHASE IMPACTS	30
	7.1.1	Existing Service Infrastructure Impacts	30
	7.1.2	Flora and Fauna (Biodiversity)	30

7.2	CONST	RUCTION PHASE IMPACTS ON THE BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	31	
	7.2.1	Flora and Fauna Impacts (Biodiversity)	31	
	7.2.2	Surface and Ground Water Impacts	31	
	7.2.3	Soil Erosion Impacts	31	
7.3	CONST	RUCTION PHASE IMPACTS ON THE SOCIO-EONOMIC ENVIRONMENT	32	
	7.3.1	Heritage impacts	32	
	7.3.2	Health, Safety and Security Impacts	32	
	7.3.3	Traffic Impacts	32	
	7.3.4	Noise Impacts	32	
	7.3.5	Dust and Emission Impacts	32	
	7.3.6	Municipal Services	33	
	7.3.7	Storage and Utilisation of Hazardous Substances	33	
7.4	OPERA?	TIONAL PHASE IMPACTS	33	
	7.4.1	Visual Impacts	33	
	7.4.2	Noise Impacts	34	
	7.4.3	Emission Impacts	34	
	7.4.4	Social Impacts	34	
7.5	CUMUL	ATIVE IMPACTS	34	
7.1	ENVIRO	NMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN	34	
7.2	SUMMA	ARY OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS	34	
8	CONCL	USION	45	
8.1	PLANNI	NG AND DESIGN PHASE IMPACTS	45	
8.1	CONST	RUCTION PHASE IMPACTS	45	
8.2	OPERATIONAL PHASE45			
8.3	LEVEL OF CONFIDENCE IN ASSESSMENT45			
8.4	MITIGATION MEASURES46			
8.5	OPINION WITH RESPECT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION46			
8.6	WAY FO	WAY FORWARD		
9	REFERI	ENCES	47	

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Locality of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2	2
Figure 2: Locality Map of Portion A of the Remainder of Farm NO. 517, Okakarara Townlands	
	3
Figure 3: EIA flow Diagram	12
Figure 4: Annual average temperature	14
Figure 5: Average annual Rainfall	15
Figure 6: Geology of Namibia	16
Figure 7: Groundwater basins and hydrogeological regions in Namibia	17
Figure 8: Subdivision of the Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 into Erf A and the	
Remainder	20
Figure 9: Subdivision of the Remainder of Farm No 517 Okakarara Townlands, into Portion	
A and Remainder	21
Figure 10: Access Map	23
Figure 11: Proposed Site Plan	24
Figure 12: Mitigation Hierarchy	28
LIST OF TABLES	
Table 1: List of triggered activities identified in the EIA Regulations which apply to the proposed	
project	1
Table 2: Contents of the Scoping / Environmental Assessment Report	4
Table 3: Legislation applicable to the proposed development	7
Table 4: Statistics of the Okakarara Constituency and Otjozondjupa Region	13
Table 5: Table of Public Participation Activities	25
Table 6: Impact Assessment Criteria	26
Table 7: Summary of the significance of the potential impacts	35
Table 8: Proposed mitigation measures for the planning and design phasephase	
Table 9: Proposed mitigation measures for the construction phase	
Table 10: Proposed mitigation measures for the operational phase	44

LIST OF ANNEXURES

Annexure A: Proof of Site Notices/ PostersAnnexure B: Proof of AdvertisementsAnnexure C: Public Participation process

I&AP Database & Registered List

Notification Letters and Emails sent of BID

Notification Letters and Emails sent of DESR Available for Comment

Annexure D: Curriculum Vitae and ID of Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Annexure E: Environmental Management Plan

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AIDS Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

CRR Comments and response report

dB Decibels

DESR Draft Environmental Scoping Report

EA Environmental Assessment

EAP Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EAR Environmental Assessment Report
ECC Environmental Clearance Certificate

ECO Environmental Control Officer

EIA Environmental Impact Assessment
EMA Environmental Management Act
EMP Environmental Management Plan
FESR Final Environmental Scoping Report

Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit

HIV Human Immunodeficiency Virus

1&AP Interested and Affected Party

IUCN International Union for Conservation of Nature

MEFT Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism

MEFT: DEAF Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism: Department of Environmental

Affairs and Forestry

MURD Ministry of Urban and Rural Development

MWTC Ministry of Works Transport and Communication

NAMPAB Namibia Planning Advisory BoardNPC Namibia Planning CommissionPPP Public Participation Process

SADC Southern African Development Community

SPC Stubenrauch Planning Consultants

USAID United States Agency for International Development

VMMC Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

Namterra Industrial Properties cc hereinafter referred to as the proponent intends to undertake the following activities:

- Subdivision of the Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 into Erven A, B and the Remainder;
- Rezoning of Erf B/1132, Okakarara Extension 2 to from "Business" to "Street";
- Inclusion of rezoning of Erf B/1132, Okakarara Extension 2 in the next Okakarara Zoning Scheme;
- Subdivision of the Remainder of Farm No. 517 of Okakarara Townlands into Portion A (±11.7 ha) and the Remainder to be exchanged with the Government of Namibia for Erf 1132,
 Okakarara Extension 2.

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).

In terms of the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Government Notice No. 30 of 2012), the following listed activities in **Table 1** were triggered by the proposed project:

Table 1: List of triggered activities identified in the EIA Regulations which apply to the proposed project

Activity description and No(s):	Description of relevant activity	The portion of the development as per the project description that relates to the applicable listed activity
Activity 10.1 (b) Infrastructure	The construction of Public roads	The proposed project includes the construction of a public road.
	The route determination of roads and	
Activity 10.2 (a)	design of associated physical	The proposed project includes the
Infrastructure	infrastructure where — it is a public road	construction of a public road.

The above activities will be discussed in more detail in Chapter 4. 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, Forestry and Tourism: Department of Environmental Affairs (MEFT: DEAF).

The process will be undertaken in terms of the gazetted Namibian Government Notice No. 30 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (herein referred to as EIA Regulations) and the Environmental Management Act (No 7 of 2007) (herein referred to as the EMA). The EIA process will investigate if there are any potential significant bio-physical and socio-economic impacts associated with the intended activities. The EIA process would also serve to provide an opportunity for the public and key stakeholders to provide comments and participate in the process.

1.2 PROJECT LOCATION

1.2.1 The Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2

The Remainder of Erf 1132 is located within the neighbourhood of Okakarara Extension 2. The subject erf is located at the corner of a trunk road C47 (M0117) (to the east) and main road C22 (M0101) (to the south) as shown in **Figure 1** below.

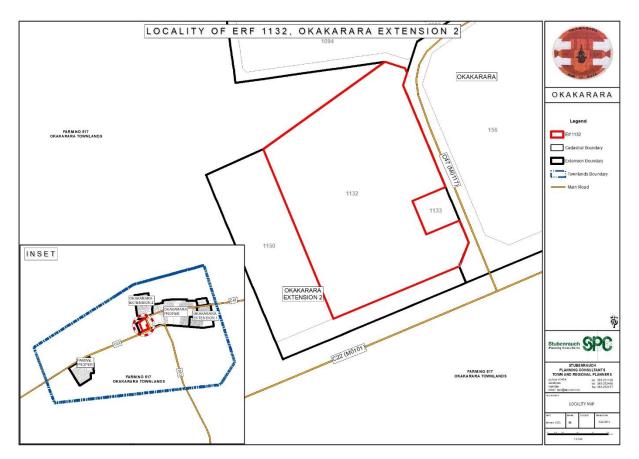


Figure 1: Locality of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2

1.2.2 Portion A of the Remainder of Farm No. 517 of Okakarara Townlands

Proposed Portion A is situated on the Remainder of Farm No. 517 of Okakarara Townlands towards the west of Okakarara and is located north of the Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 as shown in **Figure 2** below.

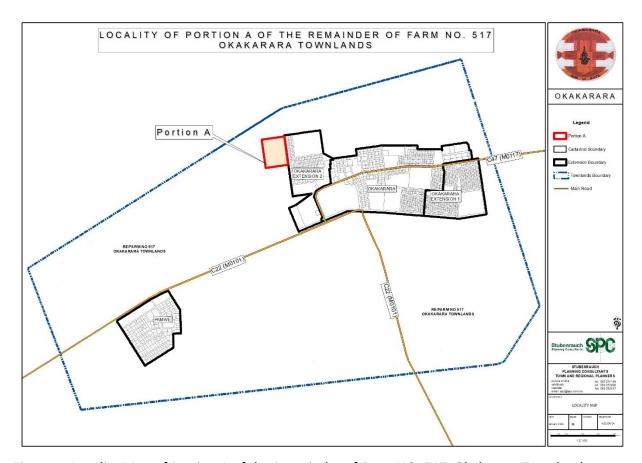


Figure 2: Locality Map of Portion A of the Remainder of Farm NO. 517, Okakarara Townlands

1.3 TERMS OF REFERENCE AND SCOPE OF PROJECT

The scope of this project is limited to conducting an environmental impact assessment and applying for an Environmental Clearance Certificate for the following as indicated in section 1.1 above:

- Subdivision of the Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 into Erven A, B and the Remainder;
- Rezoning of Erf B/1132, Okakarara Extension 2 to from "Business" to "Street";
- Inclusion of rezoning of Erf B/1132, Okakarara Extension 2 in the next Okakarara Zoning Scheme;
- Subdivision of the Remainder of Farm No. 517 of Okakarara Townlands into Portion A (±11.7 ha) and the Remainder to be exchanged with the Government of Namibia for Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2.

1.4 ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

In undertaking this investigation and compiling the Environmental Scoping Report, the following assumptions and limitations apply:

- Assumes the information provided by the proponent is accurate and discloses all information available.
- The limitation that no alternative except for the preferred layout plans and the 'no-go' option was considered during this assessment. The unique character and appeal of Okakarara were however taken into consideration with the design perspective. Various layout alternatives were initially considered by the proponent, also taking terrain and environmental constraints into account, thus the current design plans being the most feasible result.

1.5 CONTENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

Section 8 of the gazetted EIA Regulations requires specific content to be addressed in a Scoping / Environmental Assessment Report. **Table 2** below is an extract from the EMA and highlights the required contents of a Scoping / Environmental Assessment Report whilst assisting the reader to find the relevant section in the report.

Table 2: Contents of the Scoping / Environmental Assessment Report

Section	Description	Section of FESR/ Annexure
8 (a)	The curriculum vitae of the EAPs who prepared the report;	Refer to Annexure E
8 (b)	A description of the proposed activity;	Refer to Chapter 4

Section	Description	Section of FESR/ Annexure
8 (c)	A description of the site on which the activity is to be undertaken and the location of the activity on the site;	Refer to Chapter 3
8 (d)	A description of the environment that may be affected by the proposed activity and the manner in which the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic and cultural aspects of the environment may be affected by the proposed listed activity;	Refer to Chapter 3
8 (e)	An identification of laws and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the scoping report;	Refer to Chapter 2
8 (f)	Details of the public consultation process conducted in terms of regulation 7(1) in connection with the application, including	Refer to Chapter 5
	(i) the steps that were taken to notify potentially interested and affected parties of the proposed application	Refer to Chapter 5
	(ii) proof that notice boards, advertisements and notices notifying potentially interested and affected parties of the proposed application have been displayed, placed or given;	Refer to Annexures A and B for site notices and advertisements respectively.
	(iii) a list of all persons, organisations and organs of state that were registered in terms of regulation 22 as interested and affected parties in relation to the application;	Refer to Annexure C
	(iv) a summary of the issues raised by interested and affected parties, the date of receipt of and the response of the EAP to those issues;	Refer to Annexure C
8 (g)	A description of the need and desirability of the proposed listed activity and any identified alternatives to the proposed activity that are feasible and reasonable, including the advantages and disadvantages	Refer to Chapter 4

Section	Description	Section of FESR/ Annexure
	that the proposed activity or alternatives have on the environment and on the community that may be affected by the activity;	
8 (h)	A description and assessment of the significance of any significant effects, including cumulative effects, that may occur as a result of the undertaking of the activity or identified alternatives or as a result of any construction, erection or decommissioning associated with the undertaking of the proposed listed activity;	Refer to Chapter 7
8 (i)	terms of reference for the detailed assessment;	NB – Assessment of impacts are included in this EA Report
8 (j)	An environmental management plan	Refer to Annexure F

2.1 LEGISLATION RELEVANT TO THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

There are multiple legal instruments that regulate and have a bearing on good environmental management in Namibia. Table 3 below provides a summary of the legal instruments considered to be relevant to this development and the environmental assessment process.

Table 3: Legislation applicable to the proposed development

LEGISLATION/POLICIES	RELEVANT PROVISIONS	RELEVANCE TO PROJECT
The Constitution of the Republic of Namibia as Amended	Article 91 (c) provides for duty to guard against "the degradation and destruction of ecosystems and failure to protect the beauty and character of Namibia."	Sustainable development should be at the forefront of this development.
	Article 95(I) deals with the "maintenance of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and biological diversity" and sustainable use of the country's natural resources.	
Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 (EMA)	Section 2 outlines the objective of the Act and the means to achieve that. Section 3 details the principle of Environmental Management	The development should be informed by the EMA.
EIA Regulations GN 28, 29, and 30 of EMA (2012)	GN 29 Identifies and lists certain activities that cannot be undertaken without an environmental clearance certificate. GN 30 provides the regulations governing the environmental assessment (EA) process.	The following listed activities are triggered by the proposed development: Activity 10.1 (b) Infrastructure Activity 10.2 (a) Infrastructure
Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)	Article 1 lists the conservation of biological diversity amongst the objectives of the convention.	The project should consider the impact it will have on the biodiversity of the area.
Draft Procedures and Guidelines for conducting EIAs and compiling EMPs (2008)	Part 1, Stage 8 of the guidelines states that if a proposal is likely to affect people, certain guidelines should be considered by the proponent in the scoping process.	The EA process should incorporate the aspects outlined in the guidelines.

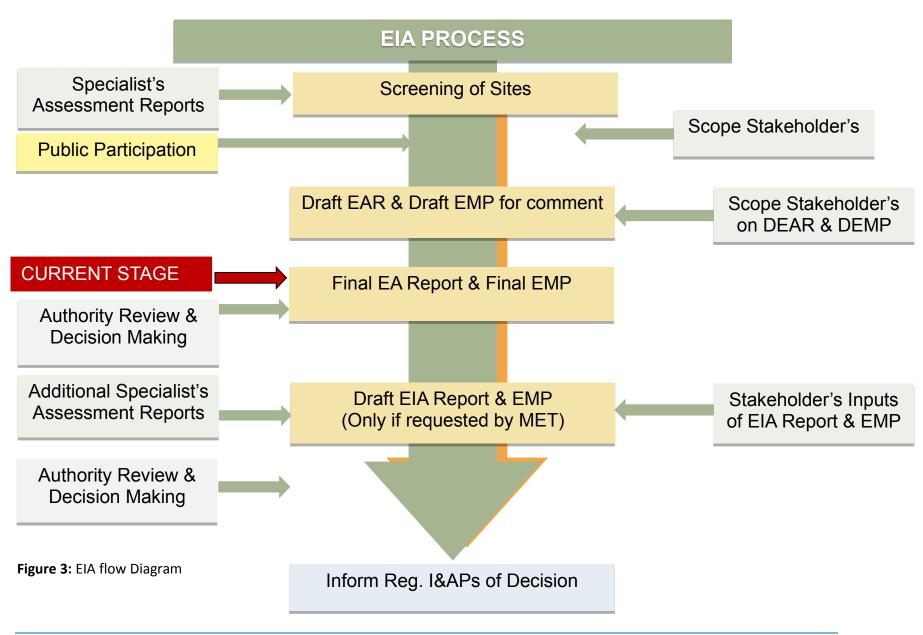
LEGISLATION/POLICIES	RELEVANT PROVISIONS	RELEVANCE TO PROJECT
Namibia Vision 2030	Vision 2030 states that the solitude, silence and natural beauty that many areas in Namibia provide are becoming sought after commodities and must be regarded as valuable natural assets.	Care should be taken that the development does not lead to the degradation of the natural beauty of the area.
Water Act No. 54 of 1956	Section 23(1) deals with the prohibition of pollution of underground and surface water bodies.	The pollution of water resources should be avoided during construction and operation of the development.
The Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) Policy on HIV & AIDS	MET has recently developed a policy on HIV and AIDS. In addition, it has also initiated a programme aimed at mainstreaming HIV and gender issues into environmental impact assessments.	The proponent and its contractor must adhere to the guidelines provided to manage the aspects of HIV/AIDS. Experience with construction projects has shown that a significant risk is created when migrant construction workers interact with local communities.
Township and Division of Land Ordinance 11 of 1963	The Townships and Division of Land Ordinance regulates subdivisions of portions of land falling within a Local Authority area	In terms of Section 19 such applications are to be submitted to NAMPAB and Townships Board respectively.
Local Authorities Act No. 23 of 1992	The Local Authorities Act prescribes the manner in which a town or municipality should be managed by the Town or Municipal Council.	The development must comply with provisions of the Local Authorities Act.
Labour Act no. 11 of 2007	Chapter 2 details the fundamental rights and protections. Chapter 3 deals with the basic conditions of employment.	Given the employment opportunities presented by the development, compliance with the labour law is essential.
National Heritage Act No. 27 of 2004	The Act is aimed at protecting, conserving and registering places and objects of heritage significance.	All protected heritage resources (e.g. human remains etc.) discovered, need to be reported immediately to the National Heritage Council (NHC) and require a permit from the NHC before they may be relocated.

LEGISLATION/POLICIES	RELEVANT PROVISIONS	RELEVANCE TO PROJECT
Roads Ordinance 17 of 1972 Public and Environmental Health Act of 2015	 Section 3.1 deals with width of proclaimed roads and road reserve boundaries Section 27.1 is concerned with the control of traffic on urban trunk and main roads Section 36.1 regulates rails, tracks, bridges, wires, cables, subways or culverts across or under proclaimed roads Section 37.1 deals with Infringements and obstructions on and interference with proclaimed roads. This Act (GG 5740) provides a framework for a structured uniform public and environmental health system in Namibia. It covers notification, prevention and control of diseases and sexually transmitted infections; maternal, ante-natal and neo-natal care; water and food supplies; infant nutrition; waste management; health nuisances; public and environmental health planning and reporting. It repeals the Public Health Act 36 of 1919 (SA GG 979). 	Adhere to all applicable provisions of the Roads Ordinance. Contractors and users of the proposed development are to comply with these legal requirements.
Nature Conservation Ordinance no. 4 of 1975	Chapter 6 provides for legislation regarding the protection of indigenous plants	Indigenous and protected plants must be managed within the legal confines.
Water Quality Guidelines for Drinking Water and Wastewater Treatment	Details specific quantities in terms of water quality determinants, which wastewater should be treated to before being discharged into the environment	These guidelines are to be applied when dealing with water and waste treatment
Environmental Assessment Policy of	The Policy seeks to ensure that the environmental consequences of development projects and policies	This EIA considers this term of Environment.

LEGISLATION/POLICIES	RELEVANT PROVISIONS	RELEVANCE TO PROJECT
Namibia (1995) Water Resources	are considered, understood and incorporated into the planning process, and that the term ENVIRONMENT is broadly interpreted to include biophysical, social, economic, cultural, historical and political components. Part 12 deals with the control and	The pollution of water resources
Management Act No. 11 of 2013	protection of groundwater Part 13 deals with water pollution control	should be avoided during construction and operation of the development. Should water need to be abstracted, a water abstraction permit will be required from the Ministry of Water, Agriculture and Forestry.
Forest Act 12 of 2001 and Forest Regulations of 2015	To provide for the establishment of a Forestry Council and the appointment of certain officials; to consolidate the laws relating to the management and use of forests and forest produce; to provide for the protection of the environment and the control and management of forest fires; to repeal the Preservation of Bees and Honey Proclamation, 1923 (Proclamation No. 1of 1923), Preservation of Trees and Forests Ordinance, 1952 (Ordinance No. 37 of 1952) and the Forest Act, 1968 (Act No. 72 of 1968); and to deal with incidental matters.	Protected tree and plant species as per the Forest Act No 12 of 2001 and Forest Regulations of 2015 may not be removed without a permit from the Department of Forestry.
Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Ordinance No 45 of 1965	Part II - control of noxious or offensive gases, Part III - atmospheric pollution by smoke, Part IV - dust control, and	The development should consider the provisions outlined in the act. The proponent should apply for an Air Emissions permit from the Ministry of Health and Social Services (if needed).

LEGISLATION/POLICIES	RELEVANT PROVISIONS	RELEVANCE TO PROJECT
	Part V - air pollution by fumes emitted by vehicles.	
Hazardous Substance Ordinance 14 of 1974	To provide for the control of substances which may cause injury or ill-health to or death of human beings by reason of their toxic, corrosive, irritant, strongly sensitizing or flammable nature or the generation of pressure thereby in certain circumstances; to provide for the division of such substances into groups in relation to the degree of danger; to provide for the prohibition and control of the importation, manufacture, sale, use, operation, application, modification, disposal or dumping of such substances; and to provide for matters connected therewith.	The handling, usage and storage of hazardous substances on site should be carefully controlled according to this Ordinance.
Soil Conservation Act No 76 of 1969	Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to the combating and prevention of soil erosion, the conservation, improvement and manner of use of the soil and vegetation and the protection of the water sources	The proposed activity should ensure that soil erosion and soil pollution is avoided during construction and operation.

This EIA process will be undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations. A Flow Diagram (refer to **Figure 3** below) provides an outline of the EIA process to be followed.



3.1 SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

3.1.1 Socio-Economic Context

The statistics shown in **Table 4** below are derived from the 2011 Namibia Population and Housing Census (Namibia Statistics Agency, 2013), and presented from a local and regional perspective.

Table 4: Statistics of the Okakarara Constituency and Otjozondjupa Region (Namibia Statistics Agency, 2014)

OKAKARARA CONSTITUENCY			
ATTRIBUTE	INDICATOR		
Population	22 747		
Females	10 953		
Males	11 794		
Population under 5 years	17%		
Population aged 5 to 14 years	24%		
Population aged 15 to 59 years	51%		
Population aged 60 years and above	8%		
Female: male ratio	98:100		
Literacy rate of 15 years old and above	81%		
People above 15 years who have never attended school	21%		
People above 15 years who are currently attending school	30%		
People above 15 years who have left school	44%		
People aged 15 years and above who belong to the labour	60%		
force			
Population employed	53%		
Homemakers	17%		
Students	39%		
Retired or old age income recipients	44%		
Income from pension	19%		
Income from business and non-farming activities	10%		
Income from farming	33%		
Income from cash remittance	6%		
Wages and salaries	27%		
Main Language	Herero Languages- 40%		
OTJOZONDJUPA REGION			
ATTRIBUTE	INDICATOR		
Population	143 903		
Population aged 60 years and above	6%		
Population aged 5 to 14 years	22%		
Population aged 15 to 59 years	58%		

3.1.2 Archaeological and Heritage Context

No archaeological and heritage sites are known to be located within the proposed development area.

3.2 BIO-PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

3.2.1 Climate

The climate of the subject area can be described as hot semi-arid. Average annual temperatures are usually more than 20 °C, with average maximum temperatures between 20°C and 21 °C and average minimum temperatures between 19°C and 20 °C (Mendelsohn, Jarvis, Roberts, et al., 2002).

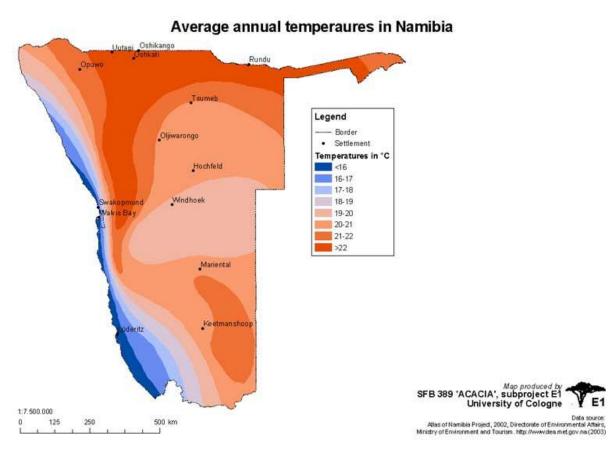


Figure 4: Annual average temperature (http://www.uni-koeln.de/sfb389/e/e1/download/atlas_namibia/e1_download_climate_e.htm#temp erature_annual)

The subject area generally experiences more rainfall than the south and west of the country with an average rainfall of 350 to 400 mm as indicated in **Figure 5** below.

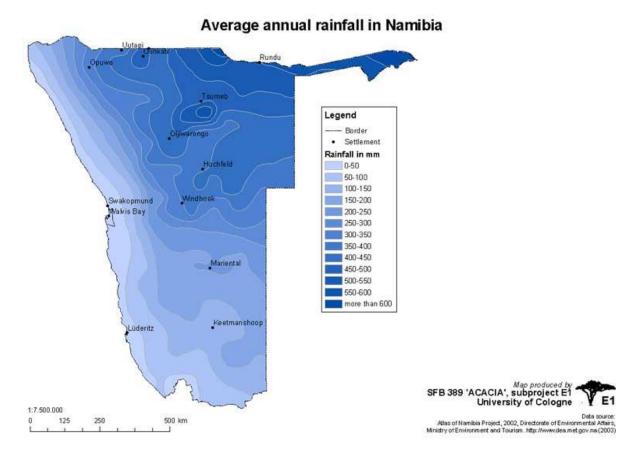


Figure 5: Average annual Rainfall (http://www.uni-koeln.de/sfb389/e/e1/download/atlas_namibia/pics/climate/rainfall-annual.jpg)

3.2.2 Topography, Geology and Soils

The Otjozondjupa Region forms part of the Kalahari Group Geological Divisions depicted in pale yellow in **Figure 6** below. The Kalahari Sequence forms a blanket of unconsolidated to semiconsolidated sand covering most of the area. Specialists divide the Kalahari layers here into three main units. The uppermost consists mostly of unconsolidated windblown sand and sand deposited under fluvial conditions. The middle part is predominantly fluvial sand with minor aeolian deposits. The basal layer is as yet poorly understood and consists of conglomeratic, red clayey sand with carbonate cement. The thickness of the Kalahari layers is lowest (less than 50m) along the Botswanan border and increases towards the middle reaches of the Omatako-Omuramba and further to the north-west (Ministry of Agriculture Water and Rural Development, 2011)

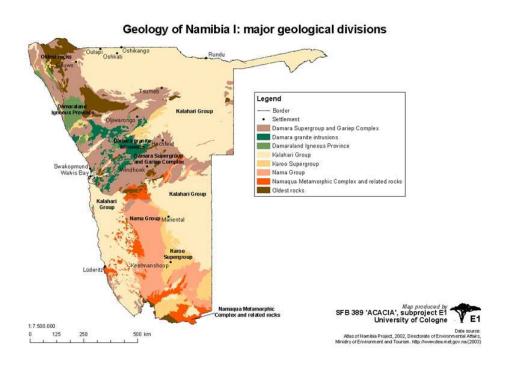


Figure 6: Geology of Namibia (http://www.uni-koeln.de/sfb389/e/e1/download/atlas_namibia/pics/physical/geology.jpg)

3.2.3 Hydrology and Hydrogeology

In terms of groundwater, the area falls within the Okavango-Epukiro groundwater basin depicted in **Figure 7** below. The hydrogeological Okavango-Epukiro Basin lies at the margin of the much larger Kalahari Basin, which extends far across the Namibian border. The bedrock that underlies this huge sand-filled basin consists of various rock types (Ministry of Agriculture Water and Rural Development, 2011).

Groundwater within the area is hosted in two distinct aquifer systems, Kalahari aquifers and fractured bedrock aquifers. These two aquifer types are treated separately here as they have different characteristics. Kalahari aquifers hold water in intergranular pore spaces, whereas water in fractured aquifers is held in cracks and fractures in otherwise impermeable strata. Kalahari aquifers are common in the northeastern Otjozondjupa and Kavango regions (Ministry of Agriculture Water and Rural Development, 2011).

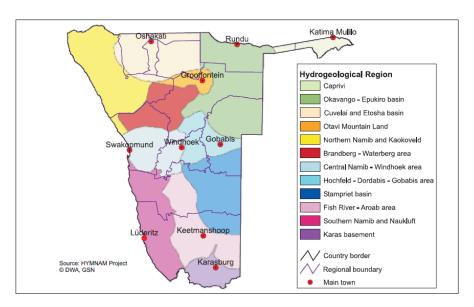


Figure 7: Groundwater basins and hydrogeological regions in Namibia

3.1 TERRESTRIAL ECOLOGY

3.1.1 Flora and Fauna

The good rainfalls in the Otjozondjupa region result in a rich biodiversity, especially regarding the flora (Ministry of Agriculture Water and Rural Development, 2011). More than 500 different plant species are found within the region. Trees commonly found in the area is Shepherd's Tress (*Boscianal bitrunca*), Burkea (*Burkea Africana*), Black thorn (*Acacia Mellifera*), Camel Thorn (*Acacia erioloba*), and Silver-Leaf Terminalia (*Terminalia sericea*) (Mendelsohn & el Obeid, 2005).

The local occurring fauna that are expected or known to occur at the site includes domestic animals and small ground burrowing animals, reptiles, and local bird's species.

4.1 PROJECT COMPONENTS

As previously outlined in Section 1.1, the proposed project involves the following activities:

- Subdivision of the Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 into Erven A, B and the Remainder;
- Rezoning of Erf B/1132, Okakarara Extension 2 to from "Business" to "Street";
- Inclusion of rezoning of Erf B/1132, Okakarara Extension 2 in the next Okakarara Zoning Scheme;
- Subdivision of the Remainder of Farm No. 517 of Okakarara Townlands into Portion A (±11.7 ha) and the Remainder to be exchanged with the Government of Namibia for Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2.

These components will be described in further detail below, in terms of their design, layout and footprint.

4.2 ALTERNATIVES

As pointed out in Section 1.4 above various layout alternatives were initially considered by the proponent, ultimately resulting in the final layouts. Alternatives are defined as: "different means of meeting the general purpose and requirements of the activity" (Environmental Management Act (Act 7 of 2007) of Namibia and its regulations (2012)). This chapter will highlight the different ways in which the project can be undertaken and identify the alternative that will be the most practical but least damaging to the environment.

4.2.1 No – Go Alternative

The no-go alternative is the baseline against which all alternatives are assessed. The no-go alternative would essentially entail maintaining the current situation, whereby the existing land would remain undeveloped. Thus, none of the positive or negative impacts associated with the intended development would realize.

4.2.2 Land Use Alternatives

The Land Use alternatives for the proposed development include the following:

Government Land Use

Should the subject erf remain zoned for Government purposes the erf could be developed for Educational purposes. This could result in the development of a government school which would benefit the potential learners in the area. In terms of the locality the alternative site proposed to be exchanged with the Government for Educational purposes is better suited as it is located closer to Residential areas within Okakarara as opposed to Erf 1132 which is better situated for a Business development.

Business Land Use

Should the development proceed as proposed the subject erf will be developed into a Shopping Centre. The development of a shopping center will have socio-economic benefits such as job creation, bringing services that are not readily available to the residents of the town. The Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 is located at the entrance of Okakarara thus making it well located for business developments, especially business developments that aim to serve the larger region.

4.3 THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

With the proclamation of Okakarara, no provision was made for expansion of the business area of Okakarara and all the large portions of land were reserved for Government. This brought about the demand for business erven within the town, specifically for private developers and investors. With that in mind, the proponent identified land that is suitable for urban business development and earmarked Erf 1132, Okakarara as being ideally located for business expansion, however the subject erf was reserved for the Government of Namibia for educational purposes.

In the year 2000, SPC was appointed by the Okakarara Town Council to assist with the transfer of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 from the Government to the Okakarara Town Council. It however has come to light that the transfer of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 to the Town Council was never finalised and that the created portion of the Townlands was never surveyed.

In 2020, a private developer, expressed their interest to lease (by right to occupation) a portion of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2, with the purposes of purchasing the leased portion from the Town Council as soon as the transfer from the Government has been finalised. The developer intends to develop a Shoprite Shopping center on the subject erf.

The proponent thus intends to subdivide the Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 into Erven A, B and the Remainder as depicted in **Figure 8**. The subdivision will allow the proponent to sell Erf A/1132, Okakarara Extension 2, to a private developer for the construction of a shopping center.

The proponent further intends to rezone Erf B/1132, Okakarara Extension 2 from "Business" to "Street". The street is to be created to secure formal access to the proposed shopping centre to be developed on Erf A/1132, as access cannot be obtained directly from the C47 (M0117) road. The street is to measure ± 30 metres wid. The proposed street will be a municipal road and will be maintained by the Okakarara Town Council, as it will be extended and developed in the future to provide access to the additional business erven that will be created by the further subdivision of the Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2.

The proponent additionally intends to finalise the creation of Portion A of the Remainder of Farm No. 517 of Okakarara Townlands which will be given to the Government of Namibia in exchange for the Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 as shown in **Figure 9**.

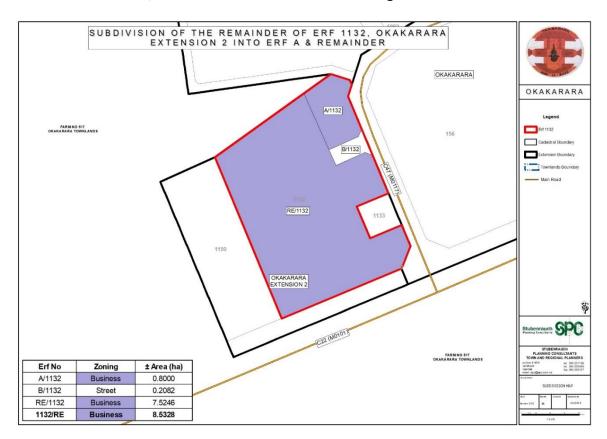


Figure 8: Subdivision of the Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 into Erf A and the Remainder.

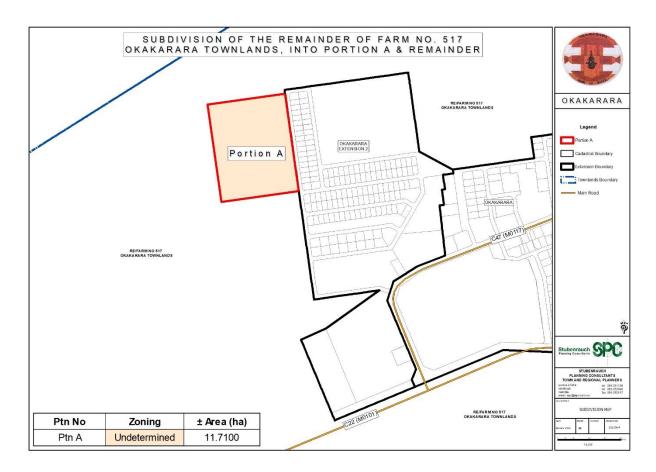


Figure 9: Subdivision of the Remainder of Farm No 517 Okakarara Townlands, into Portion A and Remainder

4.3.1 Engineering Services and Access Provision

4.3.1.1 Water

The Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2

The Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 is connected to the water reticulation system of the Okakarara Town Council. Proposed Erf A and the Remainder will be individually connected to the water reticulation system of the Okakarara Town Council.

Portion A of the Remainder of Farm No. 517 of Okakarara Townlands

Portion A of the Remainder of Farm No. 517 of Okakarara Townlands will be connected to the water reticulation system of the Okakarara Town Council.

4.3.1.2 Sewer

The Erf A and the Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2

The Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 is connected to the sewer reticulation system of the Okakarara Town Council.

Proposed Erf A and the Remainder will be individually connected to the sewer reticulation system of the Okakarara Town Council.

Portion A of the Remainder of Farm No. 517 of Okakarara Townlands

Portion A of the Remainder of Farm No. 517 of Okakarara Townlands will be connected to the sewer reticulation system of the Okakarara Town Council.

4.3.1.3 Electricity

The Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2

The Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 is connected to the municipal electrical grid of the Okakarara Town Council.

Proposed Erf A and the Remainder will be individually connected to the municipal electrical grid of the Okakarara Town Council.

Portion A of the Remainder of Farm No. 517 of Okakarara Townlands

Portion A of the Remainder of Farm No. 517 of Okakarara Townlands will be connected to the sewer reticulation system of the Okakarara Town Council.

4.3.1.4 Access

The Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2

The Remainder of Erf 1132, Okakarara Extension 2 gains access from the existing street network, however given the nature of the proposed activities that are to take place on the subject erf and the locality of the existing access point, an application has been made for road access approval from the Roads Authority to secure formal access to the proposed shopping centre to be developed on Erf A/1132, as access cannot be obtained directly from the C47 (M0117) road (**Figure 10**). The street is to measure \pm 30 metres wide.

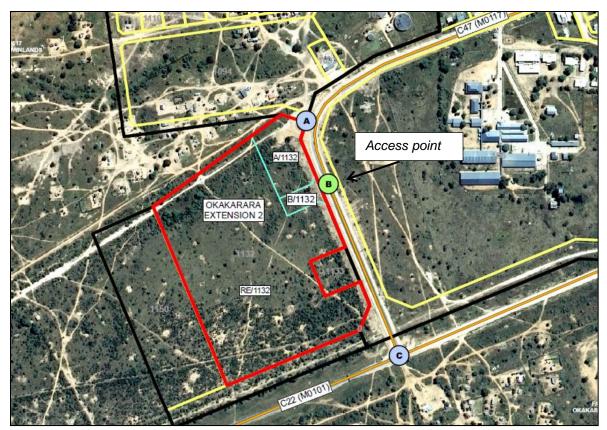


Figure 10: Access Map

The proposed shop buildings are situated to the far western boundary of the erf, taking into account the distance from the road reserve (see **Figure 11** below).

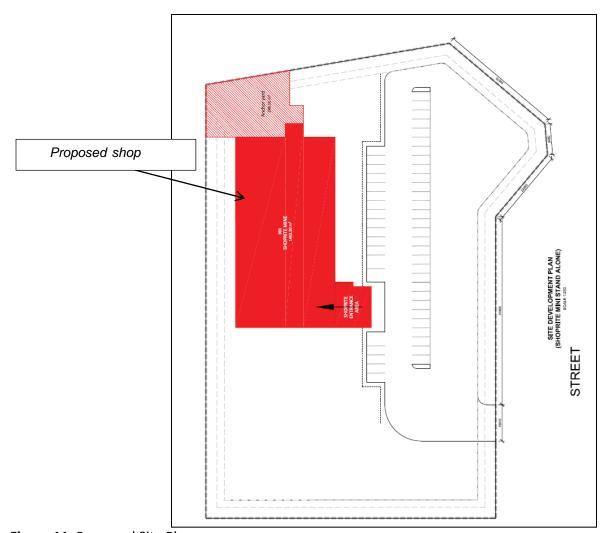


Figure 11: Proposed Site Plan

Portion A of the Remainder of Farm No. 517 of Okakarara Townlands

Portion A of the Remainder of Farm No. 517 of Okakarara Townlands obtains access from the existing municipal street network.

5.1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

In terms of Section 21 of the EIA Regulations a call for open consultation with all I&APs at defined stages of the EIA process is required. This entails participatory consultation with members of the public by providing an opportunity to comment on the proposed project. Public Participation has thus incorporated the requirements of Namibia's legislation, but also takes account of international guidelines, including Southern African Development Community (SADC) guidelines and the Namibian EIA Regulations. Public participation in this project has been undertaken to meet the specific requirements in accordance with the international best practice. Please see **Table 7** below for the activities undertaken as part of the public participation process. The I&APs were given time to comment from **17 March 2021 to 7 April 2021.**

Table 5: Table of Public Participation Activities

ACTIVITY	REMARKS
Placement of site notices/posters in Okakarara	See Annexure A
Placing advertisements in two newspapers namely	See Annexure B
the New Era and The Namibian (17 March 2021	
and 24 March 2021)	
Written notice to surrounding property owners and	See Annexure C
Interested and Affected Parties via Email (17 March	
2021)	

5.1.1 Environmental Assessment Phase 2

The second phase of the PPP involved the lodging of the Draft Environmental Scoping Report (DESR) to all registered I&APs for comment. Registered and potential I&APs were informed of the availability of the DESR for public comment *via* a letter/email dated **24 May 2021**. An Executive Summary of the DESR was included in the letters to the registered I&APs. I&APs had until **8 June 2021** to submit comments or raise any issues or concerns they may have with regard to the proposed project.

The purpose of this chapter is to describe the assessment methodology utilized in determining the significance of the construction and operational impacts of the proposed project, and where applicable the possible alternatives, on the biophysical and socio-economic environment.

Assessment of predicted significance of impacts for a proposed development is by its nature, inherently uncertain — environmental assessment is thus an imprecise science. To deal with such uncertainty in a comparable manner, a standardised and internationally recognised methodology has been developed. Such accepted methodology is applied in this study to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed development, outlined as follows in **Table 6**.

Table 6: Impact Assessment Criteria

CRITERIA	CATEGORY	
Impact	Description of the expected impact	
Nature	Positive: The activity will have a social / economical /	
Describe type of effect	environmental benefit.	
	Neutral: The activity will have no effect	
	Negative: The activity will have a social / economical /	
	environmental harmful effect	
Extent	Site Specific: Expanding only as far as the activity itself (onsite)	
Describe the scale of the	Small: restricted to the site's immediate environment within 1 km	
impact	of the site (limited)	
	Medium: Within 5 km of the site (local)	
	Large: Beyond 5 km of the site (regional)	
Duration	Temporary: < 1 year (not including construction)	
Predicts the lifetime of the	Short-term: 1 – 5 years	
impact.	Medium term: 5 – 15 years	
	Long-term: >15 years (Impact will stop after the operational or	
	running life of the activity, either due to natural course or by	
	human interference)	
	Permanent: Impact will be where mitigation or moderation by	
	natural course or by human interference will not occur in a	
	particular means or in a particular time period that the impact can	
	be considered temporary	
Intensity	Zero: Social and/or natural functions and/ or processes remain	
Describe the magnitude	unaltered	
(scale/size) of the Impact	Very low: Affects the environment in such a way that natural	
	and/or social functions/processes are not affected	

CRITERIA	CATEGORY
	Low: Natural and/or social functions/processes are slightly
	altered
	Medium: Natural and/or social functions/processes are notably
	altered in a modified way
	High: Natural and/or social functions/processes are severely
	altered and may temporarily or permanently cease
Probability of occurrence	Improbable: Not at all likely
Describe the probability of	Probable: Distinctive possibility
the Impact <u>actually</u> occurring	Highly probable: Most likely to happen
	Definite: Impact will occur regardless of any prevention measures
Degree of Confidence in	Unsure/Low: Little confidence regarding information available
predictions	(<40%)
State the degree of	Probable/Med: Moderate confidence regarding information
confidence in predictions	available (40-80%)
based on availability of	Definite/High: Great confidence regarding information available
information and specialist	(>80%)
knowledge	
Significance Rating	Neutral: A potential concern which was found to have no impact
The impact on each	when evaluated
component is determined by	Very low: Impacts will be site specific and temporary with no
a combination of the above	mitigation necessary.
criteria.	Low: The impacts will have a minor influence on the proposed
	development and/or environment. These impacts require some
	thought to adjustment of the project design where achievable, or
	alternative mitigation measures
	Medium: Impacts will be experienced in the local and surrounding
	areas for the life span of the development and may result in long
	term changes. The impact can be lessened or improved by an
	amendment in the project design or implementation of effective
	mitigation measures.
	High: Impacts have a high magnitude and will be experienced
	regionally for at least the life span of the development or will be
	irreversible. The impacts could have the no-go proposition on
	portions of the development in spite of any mitigation measures
	that could be implemented.

*NOTE: Where applicable, the magnitude of the impact has to be related to the relevant standard (threshold value specified, and source referenced). The magnitude of impact is based on specialist knowledge of that particular field.

For each impact, the EXTENT (spatial scale), MAGNITUDE (size or degree scale) and DURATION (time scale) are described. These criteria are used to ascertain the SIGNIFICANCE of the impact, firstly in the case of no mitigation and then with the most effective mitigation measure(s) in place. The decision as to which combination of alternatives and mitigation measures to apply lies with the proponent, and their acceptance and approval ultimately with the relevant environmental authority.

The SIGNIFICANCE of an impact is derived by taking into account the temporal and spatial scales and magnitude. Such significance is also informed by the context of the impact, i.e. the character and identity of the receptor of the impact.

6.1 MITIGATION MEASURES



There is a mitigation hierarchy of actions which can be undertaken to respond to any proposed project or activity (See **Figure 12** below). These cover avoidance, minimization, restoration and compensation. It is possible and considered sought after to enhance the environment by ensuring that positive gains are included in the proposed activity or project. If negative impacts occur, then the hierarchy indicates the following steps.

Impact avoidance: This step is most effective when applied at an early stage of project planning. It can be achieved by:

- not undertaking certain projects or elements that could result in adverse impacts;
- avoiding areas that are environmentally sensitive; and
- putting in place preventative measures to stop adverse impacts from occurring.

Impact minimization: This step is usually taken during impact identification and prediction to limit or reduce the degree, extent, magnitude, or duration of adverse impacts. It can be achieved by:

- scaling down or relocating the proposal;
- redesigning elements of the project; and
 - taking supplementary measures to manage the impacts.

Figure 12: Mitigation Hierarchy

Restoration: This step is taken to improve degraded or removed ecosystems following exposure to impacts that cannot be completely avoided or minimised. Restoration tries to return an area to the

original ecosystem that occurred before impacts. Restoration is frequently needed towards the end of a project's life-cycle but may be possible in some areas during operation.

Impact compensation: This step is usually applied to remedy unavoidable residual adverse impacts. It can be achieved by:

- rehabilitation of the affected site or environment, for example, by habitat enhancement;
- restoration of the affected site or environment to its previous state or better; and
- replacement of the same resource values at another location (off-set), for example, by wetland engineering to provide an equivalent area to that lost to drainage or infill.

7 ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION MEASURES

7.1 INTRODUCTION

This Chapter describes the potential impacts on the biophysical and socio-economic environments, which may occur due to the proposed activities described in Chapter 4. These include potential impacts, which may arise during the operation of the proposed development (i.e. long-term impacts) as well as the potential construction related impacts (i.e. short to medium term). The assessment of potential impacts will help to inform and confirm the selection of the preferred layouts to be submitted to MEFT: DEAF for consideration. In turn, MEFT: DEAF's decision on the environmental acceptability of the proposed project and the setting of conditions of authorisation (should the project be authorised) will be informed by this chapter, amongst other information, contained in this EA Report.

The baseline and potential impacts that could result from the proposed development are described and assessed with potential mitigation measures recommended. Finally, comment is provided on the potential cumulative impacts which could result should this development, and others like it in the area, be approved.

7.1 PLANNING AND DESIGN PHASE IMPACTS

During the planning and design phase consideration should be given on aspects such as impacts of existing municipal infrastructure and biodiversity.

7.1.1 Existing Service Infrastructure Impacts

The subject area is expected to be connected to the existing municipal reticulation services of the town. The area is located in close proximity to the existing services and thus connections are not expected to be difficult. Increased installation of these services will place an additional load on the existing reticulation services of the town. It will thus have to be investigated by an engineer whether the existing services would be sufficient for the additional number of portions to the increased demand which is expected.

7.1.2 Flora and Fauna (Biodiversity)

There are a few trees located on the subject erf. The trees located on the subject site should be accommodated in the proposed use for the erf. Trees protected under the Forestry Act 12 of 2001 should be protected within the development and may not be removed without a permit from the local Department of Forestry.

It is anticipated that the proposed development area and associated infrastructure (e.g. water, sewage, access route, etc.) would have localised negative implications on the environment and associated fauna and flora should the proposed mitigation measures as outlined in the EMP be enforced.

7.2 CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS ON THE BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The construction phase impacts are those impacts on the biophysical and socio-economic environment that would occur during the construction phase. These impacts are inherently temporary in duration but may have longer lasting effects.

7.2.1 Flora and Fauna Impacts (Biodiversity)

Trees protected under the Forestry Act 12 of 2001 should be protected especially during site clearance for the proposed development. The trees located on the subject site should be accommodated in the layout and proposed use for the erf as far as possible. Trees to be protected should be marked with danger tape or paint to ensure that they are not removed during the construction activities.

It is anticipated that the proposed development area and associated infrastructure (e.g. water, sewage, access route, etc.) would have localised negative implications on the environment and associated fauna and flora should the proposed mitigation measures as outlined in the EMP be enforced.

7.2.2 Surface and Ground Water Impacts

Surface and groundwater impacts may be encountered during the construction and operation phase, especially if development takes place within the rainy season. The risk of contaminating such water sources can be increased by accidental spillage of oils and fuels and any other equipment used during construction. This risk is minimised by the fact that the construction phase will be a short-term activity.

7.2.3 Soil Erosion Impacts

Given the characteristics of the proposed site, soil erosion is likely to be encountered especially if construction will take place during the rainy season, the removal of vegetation will render the soil vulnerable to erosion as they also serve the purpose of keeping the soils compacted.

7.3 CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS ON THE SOCIO-EONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

7.3.1 Heritage impacts

No archaeological and heritage resources are expected to be found on the site. The project management should however be made aware of the provisions of the National Heritage Act regarding the prompt reporting of archaeological finds.

7.3.2 Health, Safety and Security Impacts

Working conditions on site need to ensure that the health and safety of construction workers are ensured at all times. The use of local labour during construction is strongly encouraged so as to reduce the need to migrant workforce. Health and Safety requirements need to comply with the Labour Act No. 11 of 2007, local and international health and safety legislation and standards during construction.

7.3.3 Traffic Impacts

Traffic is expected to increase slightly during the construction phase of the project in areas where construction will take place. A number of trucks and other heavy machinery will be required to deliver, handle and position construction materials as well as to remove spoil material. Not only will the increase in traffic result in associated noise impacts, but it will also impact on the roads in the area.

7.3.4 Noise Impacts

Construction may result in associated noise impacts. These noise impacts will mainly be associated with construction machinery and construction vehicles. The impact is however limited mainly to the construction period only.

7.3.5 Dust and Emission Impacts

Excavation and stockpiles during the construction phase could result in dust impacts, if not managed correctly. Dust could impact negatively on the health of the nearby community if mitigation measures are not implemented. Dust impacts are primarily associated with the construction phase.

7.3.6 Municipal Services

The construction phase will result in additional people on-site, who will require provision of the following services:

- Potable water for domestic (ablution and drinking) and construction purposes.
- Temporary toilets during the construction phase.
- Solid waste management (domestic and construction waste).

These services if not managed well are likely to create an opportunity for water wastage; litter; solid and human waste pollution.

7.3.7 Storage and Utilisation of Hazardous Substances

Hazardous substances are regarded by the Hazardous Substance Ordinance (No. 14 of 1974) as those substances which may cause injury or ill-health to or death of human beings by reason of their toxic, corrosive, irritant, strongly sensitizing or flammable nature or the generation of pressure thereby in certain circumstances. During the construction period, the use and storage of these types of hazardous substances, such as shutter oil, curing compounds, types of solvents, primers and adhesives and diesel, on-site could have negative impacts on the surrounding environment if these substances spill and enter the environment.

7.4 OPERATIONAL PHASE IMPACTS

The operational phase impacts are those impacts on the biophysical and socio-economic environment that would occur during the operational phase of the proposed project and are inherently long-term in duration.

7.4.1 Visual Impacts

The subject site is currently mostly undeveloped as such there may thus be a change in visual characteristics of the site once it becomes developed particularly for those areas which are currently undeveloped. The extent of this disturbance will depend on how highly the interested and affected parties valued the initial aesthetic quality of the site. The change in sense of place is not expected to be significant as the proposed land use for the subject erven is in line with the surrounding land uses of the area.

7.4.2 Noise Impacts

The operational activities may result in associated noise impacts, depending on the exact type of activities taking place on the properties. However due to the nature of the land uses proposed, which is mostly for shopping center, for the subject erven it is not expected that the noise levels will be significant if managed well.

7.4.3 Emission Impacts

The air quality in the area is considered to be fairly good. Additional emissions are not expected due to the land uses that are intended for the site.

7.4.4 Social Impacts

A small number of residents from Okakarara could benefit from employment during construction. Improved livelihoods are expected for the residents who will be able to buy household groceries within Okakarara.

7.5 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

The cumulative impact of the proposed developments in regard to the degradation of the project area is very difficult to rate. If all proposed mitigation measures are however in place to minimise the overall impacts, then the cumulative impact can be expected to be rated as *Medium-Low* (*negative*) for the proposed developments.

7.1 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

An Environmental Management Plan (EMP) is contained in **Annexure F** of this report. The purpose of the EMP is to outline the type and range of mitigation measures that should be implemented during the construction and decommissioning phases of the project to ensure that negative impacts associated with the development are avoided or mitigated.

7.2 SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS

A summary of all the potential impacts from the proposed project assessed above is included in **Table 7**. The **Tables 8 – 10** provide a summary of the mitigation measures proposed for the impacts. While some difference in magnitude of the potential impacts would result from the proposed alternatives this difference was not considered to be significant for any of the potential impacts. As such, the table below applies to all proposed alternatives.

Table 7: Summary of the significance of the potential impacts

Description of potential impact	Project alternative	No mitigation / mitigation	Extent	Magnitude	Duration	Significance	Probability	Confidence	Reversibility	Cumulative impact
				PLANNING	AND DESIGN	PHASE				
		No	Local	Medium-	Short term	Medium	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium (-
	Okakarara	mitigation		Low						ve)
1. Existing Service		Mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
Infrastructure		No	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
	No go	mitigation								
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		No	Local	Medium	Short term	Medium	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium (-
	Okakarara	mitigation								ve)
2. Biodiversity	Okakarara	Mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Medium -	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium -
Biodiversity (Fauna and Flora)						low				Low (-ve)
(raulia allu rivia)		No	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
	No go	mitigation								
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
				CONST	RUCTION PH	ASE				
		No	Local	Medium-	Short term	Medium	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium (-
	Okakarara	mitigation		Low						ve)
3. Biodiversity		Mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
(Fauna and Flora)		No	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
	No go	mitigation								
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		No	Local	Medium	Short term	Medium	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium (-
4. Surface &	Okakarara	mitigation								ve)
ground water	Okakarara	Mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Medium -	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium -
						low				Low (-ve)

Description of potential impact	Project alternative	No mitigation / mitigation	Extent	Magnitude	Duration	Significance	Probability	Confidence	Reversibility	Cumulative impact
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
	Okakarara	No mitigation	Local	Medium	Short term	Medium – low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium – low (-ve)
5. Soil erosion		Mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
5. Soli erosion	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
	Okakarara	No mitigation	Local	Very low	Short term	Very low	Probable	Certain	Irreversible	Very low(-ve)
6. Heritage		Mitigation	Local	Negligible	Short term	Negligible	Probable	Certain	Irreversible	Negligible (- ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
	Okakarara	No mitigation	Local	Medium- Low	Short term	Medium- Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium- Low (-ve)
7. Health, safety		Mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
and security	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
8. Traffic impacts	Okakarara	No mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Very low	Short term	Very low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Very low
o. Hame impacts	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral

Description of potential impact	Project alternative	No mitigation / mitigation	Extent	Magnitude	Duration	Significance	Probability	Confidence	Reversibility	Cumulative impact
		No	Local	Medium	Short term	Medium -	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium -
	Okakarara	mitigation				low				Low (-ve)
9. Noise impacts		Mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Very low (- ve)
		No	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
	No go	mitigation								
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
	Okakarara	No mitigation	Local	Medium	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
10. Emissions	Okakarara	Mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Very Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Very Low (- ve)
impacts		No 	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
	No go	mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
	Okakarara	mitigation	LUCAI	LOW	Short term	LOW	Probable	Certain	Reversible	LOW (-ve)
11. Municipal services	Okakarara	Mitigation	Local	Very low	Short term	Very low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Very low (- ve)
services		No	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
	No go	mitigation								
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		No	Local	Low	Short term	Medium	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
12. Waste	Okakarara	mitigation								
		Mitigation	Local	Very low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Very low (- ve)
		No	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
	No go	mitigation								
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral

Description of potential impact	Project alternative	No mitigation / mitigation	Extent	Magnitude	Duration	Significance	Probability	Confidence	Reversibility	Cumulative impact
		No mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Medium	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
13. Hazardous	Okakarara	Mitigation	Local	Very low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Very low (- ve)
Substances	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
				OPE	RATIONAL PH	ASE				
 Visual & sense of place 		No mitigation	Local	Medium	Medium term	Medium	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium (- ve)
	Okakarara	Mitigation	Local	Medium- Low	Medium term	Medium- Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium- Low (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Medium term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Medium term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
2. Noise		No mitigation	Local	Medium- Low	Medium term	Medium- Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium- Low (-ve)
	Okakarara	Mitigation	Local	Low	Medium term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Medium term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Medium term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
3. Emissions		No mitigation	Local	Medium- Low	Medium term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium- Low (-ve)
	Okakarara	Mitigation	Local	Low	Medium term	Very Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)

Description of potential impact	Project alternative	No mitigation / mitigation	Extent	Magnitude	Duration	Significance	Probability	Confidence	Reversibility	Cumulative impact
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Medium term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Medium term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
4. Social impact	Okakarara	No mitigation	Local	Medium	Long term	Medium	Probable	Probable	Reversible	Medium (+)
		Mitigation	Local	Medium	Long term	Low	Probable	Probable	Reversible	Medium (+)
	No go	No	Local	Neutral	Long term	Neutral	Probable	Probable	Reversible	Neutral
		mitigation								
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Long term	Neutral	Probable	Probable	Reversible	Neutral

 Table 8: Proposed mitigation measures for the planning and design phase

	PLANNING AND DESIGN PHASE
Impact	Mitigation Measures
Existing Service	 It is recommended that the subject area should be connected to the existing services.
Infrastructure	An investigation by an engineer is to be done to determine whether the existing services would be
	sufficient for the additional number of portions.
Flora and Fauna	Do not clear cut the entire development site, but rather keep the few individual trees/shrubs not
(Biodiversity)	directly affecting the developments as part of the landscaping.
	Protected trees are not to be removed without a valid permit from the local Department of Forestry

 Table 9: Proposed mitigation measures for the construction phase

	CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS
Impact	Mitigation Measures
Flora and Fauna	 Adapt the proposed developments to the local environment – e.g. small adjustments to the site layout could avoid potential features such as water bodies and vegetation. Prevent the destruction of protected and endemic plant species. Prevent contractors from collecting wood, veld food, etc. during the construction phase. Do not clear cut the entire development site, but rather keep the few individual trees/shrubs not directly affecting the developments as part of the landscaping. The plants that are to be kept should be clearly marked with "danger tape" to prevent accidental removal or damage. Regular inspection of the marking tool should be carried out. Recommend the planting of local indigenous species of flora as part of the landscaping as these species would require less maintenance than exotic species. Transplant removed plants where possible, or plant new plants in lieu of those that have been removed. Prevent the introduction of potentially invasive alien ornamental plant species such as; <i>Lantana</i>, <i>Opuntia</i>, <i>Prosopis</i>, <i>Tecoma</i>, etc.; as part of the landscaping as these species could infest the area further over time. Protected trees are not to be removed without a valid permit from the local Department of Forestry.
Surface and Ground	No dumping of waste products of any kind in or in close proximity to surface water bodies.
Water Impacts	Heavy construction vehicles should be kept out of any surface water bodies and the movement of
	construction vehicles should be limited where possible to the existing roads and tracks.
	 Ensure that oil/ fuel spillages from construction vehicles and machinery are minimised and that where these occur, that they are appropriately dealt with.

	CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS						
Impact	Mitigation Measures						
	 Drip trays must be placed underneath construction vehicles when not in use to contain all oil that might be leaking from these vehicles. Contaminated runoff from the construction sites should be prevented from entering the surface and ground water bodies. All materials on the construction site should be properly stored. Disposal of waste from the sites should be properly managed and taken to the designated landfill site. Construction workers should be given ablution facilities at the construction sites that are located at least 30 m away from any surface water and regularly serviced. Washing of personnel or any equipment should not be allowed on site. Should it be necessary to wash construction equipment these should be done at an area properly suited and prepared to receive and contain polluted waters. 						
Soil Erosion	 It is recommended that construction takes place outside of the rainy season in order to limit potential flooding and the runoff of loose soil causing further erosion. Appropriate erosion control structures must be put in place where soil may be prone to erosion. Checks must be carried out at regular intervals to identify areas where erosion is occurring. Appropriate remedial actions are to be undertaken wherever erosion is evident. 						
Heritage	 The project management should be made aware of the provisions of the National Heritage Act regarding the prompt reporting of archaeological finds. In the event of such finds, construction must stop, and the project management or contractors should notify the National Heritage Council of Namibia immediately. 						
Health, Safety and Security	 Construction personnel should not overnight at the site, except the security personnel. Ensure that all construction personnel are properly trained depending on the nature of their work. Provide for a first aid kit and a properly trained person to apply first aid when necessary. 						

	CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS
Impact	Mitigation Measures
	 Restrict unauthorised access to the site and implement access control measures. Clearly demarcate the construction site boundaries along with signage of "no unauthorised access". Clearly demarcate dangerous areas and no-go areas on site. Staff and visitors to the site must be fully aware of all health and safety measures and emergency procedures.
	 The contractor must comply with all applicable occupational health and safety requirements. The workforce should be provided with all necessary Personal Protective Equipment where appropriate.
Traffic	 Limit and control the number of access points to the site. Ensure that road junctions have good sightlines. Construction vehicles' need to be in a road worthy condition and maintained throughout the construction phase. Transport the materials in the least number of trips as possible. Adhere to the speed limit. Implement traffic control measures where necessary.
Noise	 No amplified music should be allowed on site. Inform immediate neighbours of construction activities to commence prior to commencing and provide for continuous communication between the neighbours and contractor. Limit construction times to acceptable daylight hours. Install technology such as silencers on construction machinery. Do not allow the use of horns as a general communication tool but use it only where necessary as a safety measure.

	CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS						
Impact	Mitigation Measures						
Dust and Emission	 It is recommended that dust suppressants such as Dustex be applied to all the construction clearing activities to ensure at least 50% control efficiency on all the unpaved roads and reduce water usage. Construction vehicles to only use designated roads. During high wind conditions the contractor must make the decision to cease works until the wind has calmed down. Cover any stockpiles with plastic to minimise windblown dust. Provide workers with dust masks where necessary. 						
Waste	 It is recommended that waste from the temporary toilets be disposed of at an approved Wastewater Treatment Works. A sufficient number of waste bins should be placed around the site for the soft refuse. A sufficient number of skip containers for the heavy waste and rubble should be provided for around the site. Solid waste will be collected and disposed of at an appropriate local landfill or an alternative approved site, in consultation with the local authority. 						
Hazardous Substances	 Storage of the hazardous substances in a bunded area, with a volume of 120 % of the largest single storage container or 25 % of the total storage containers whichever is greater. Refuel vehicles in designated areas that have a protective surface covering and utilise drip trays for stationary plant. 						

Table 10: Proposed mitigation measures for the operational phase

	OPERATIONAL PHASE IMPACTS
Impact	Mitigation Measures
Visual and Sense	• It is recommended that more 'green' technologies be implemented within the architectural designs and
of Place	building materials of the development where possible in order to minimise the visual prominence of such a
	development within the more natural surrounding landscape.
	• Natural colours and building materials such as wood and stone should be incorporated as well as the use of
	indigenous vegetation in order to help beautify the development.
	• Visual pollutants can further be prevented through mitigations (i.e. keep existing trees, introduce tall
	indigenous trees; keep structures unpainted and minimizing large advertising billboards).
Noise	Do not allow commercial activities that generate excessive noise levels.
	• Continuous monitoring of noise levels should be conducted to make sure the noise levels does not exceed
	acceptable limits.
	 No activity having a potential noise impact should be allowed after 18:00 hours if possible.
Emissions	Consider tarring of the internal road network.
	Manage activities that generate emissions.
Social Impacts	• No specific mitigation measures are required, only that the local community be consulted in terms of possible
	job creation opportunities and must be given first priority if unspecialised job vacancies are available.

The purpose of this Chapter is to briefly summarise and conclude the DESR and describe the way forward.

8.1 PLANNING AND DESIGN PHASE IMPACTS

With reference to **Table 7**, none of the negative planning and design 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 planning and design phase impacts is likely to be reduced to a *Low (negative)*.

8.1 CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS

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)*.

8.2 OPERATIONAL PHASE

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 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 operational phase impacts is likely to be reduced to a *Low (negative)*. The social impact was assessed to have *Medium (positive)* impact associated with possible job opportunities during construction and operation.

8.3 LEVEL OF CONFIDENCE IN ASSESSMENT

With reference to the information available at the project planning cycle, the confidence in the environmental assessment undertaken is regarded as being acceptable for the decision-making, specifically in terms of the environmental impacts and risks. The Environmental Assessment Practitioner believes that the information contained within this FESR is adequate to allow MEFT: DEAF to be able to determine the environmental acceptability of the proposed project.

It is acknowledged that the project details will evolve during the detailed design and construction phases. However, these are unlikely to change the overall environmental acceptability of the

proposed project and any significant deviation from what was assessed in this FESR should be subject to further assessment. If this was to occur, an amendment to the Environmental Authorisation may be required in which case the prescribed process would be followed.

8.4 MITIGATION MEASURES

With the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures in Chapter 7 as well as in the EMP, the significance of the construction and operational phase impacts is likely to be reduced to a Low (negative). It is further extremely important to include an Environmental Control Officer (ECO) on site during the construction phase of the proposed project to ensure that all the mitigation measures discussed in this report and the EMP are enforced.

It is noted that where appropriate, these mitigation measures and any others identified by MEFT: DEAF could be enforced as Conditions of Approval in the Environmental Authorisation, should MEFT: DEAF issue a positive Environmental Authorisation.

8.5 OPINION WITH RESPECT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Regulation 15(j) of the EMA, requires that the EAP include an opinion as to whether the listed activity must be authorised and if the opinion is that it must be authorised, any condition that must be made in respect of that authorisation.

It is recommended that this project be authorised because should the development not proceed the subject erven will remain undeveloped and underutilised. This would result in no additional erven being developed. 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.

8.6 WAY FORWARD

The FESR is herewith submitted to MEFT: DEAF for consideration and decision making. If MEFT: DEAF approves, or requests additional information / studies all registered I&APs and stakeholders will be kept informed of progress throughout the assessment process.

9 REFERENCES

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