PONDS IN UUKWANGULA SETTLEMENT, OSHANA REGION



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ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (OPERATION PHASE)

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

In a letter dated 15 April 2016, the Environmental Commissioner of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism notified the Oshana Regional Council that the existing oxidation ponds in Uukwangula settlement require an application for environmental clearance, and that an Environmental Management Plan is required as part of the application. Later in 2016, Consulting Services Africa was appointed to prepare the Environmental Management Plan and assist the Oshana Regional Council in applying for environmental clearance.

1.2 Objectives

In a letter dated 15 April 2016, the Environmental Commissioner of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism notified the Oshana Regional Council that the existing oxidation ponds in Uukwangula settlement require an environmental clearance certificate. On 20 March 2021, the Oshana Regional Council appointed Consulting Services Africa to update the Environmental Management Plan and assist the Oshana Regional Council in applying for the renewal of the environmental clearance certificate. In addition to this updated EMP being required for the renewal of the environmental clearance certificate, it is also needed by the Oshana Regional Council and Uukwangula settlement office to provide guidance on proper management of the oxidation ponds.

The objectives of this EMP are to:

- Promote sustainable development by encouraging conservation and mitigation of negative significant impacts to the natural and social environments.
- Identify laws, regulations and standards that are applicable to the environmental management of the oxidation ponds.
- Identify actions and procedures to be taken by the Oshana Regional Council and Uukwangula settlement office staff to prevent or minimise negative impacts to the natural and social environments and ensure compliance with this EMP.

1.3 Relevant Listed Activities and Legislation

In Government Notice No. 29 of 2012, List of Activities that May Not Be Undertaken Without an Environmental Clearance Certificate: Environmental Management Act, 2007, the Uukwangula oxidation ponds constitute the following listed activities:

- 2.1 The construction of facilities for waste sites, treatment of waste and disposal of waste.
- ii. 2.3 The import, processing, use and recycling, temporary storage, transit or export of waste.
- iii. 8.6 Construction of industrial and domestic wastewater treatment plants and related pipeline systems.
- iv. 9.2 Any process or activity which requires a permit, license or other form of authorisation, or the modification of or changes to existing facilities for any process or activity which requires an amendment of an existing permit, licensee or authorisation or which requires a new permit, license or authorisation in terms of a law governing the generation or release of emissions, pollution, effluent or waste.

The environmental impacts associated with the operations of the Uukwangula oxidation ponds are required to be managed in compliance with the EIA Regulations published in Government Notice No. 30 of 2012 read with Section 27 of the Environmental Management Act. There is also other legislation, policies and guidelines that need to be adhered to when operating oxidation ponds. See Table 1 below, which is not exhaustive.

Table 1. Relevant legislation, policies and guidelines

Title of legislation, policy or guideline	Implications for Uukwangula oxidation ponds
The Namibian Constitution of 1990	The Constitution clearly indicates that the state shall actively promote and maintain the welfare of the people by adopting policies aimed at management of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and biological diversity of Namibia for the benefit of all Namibians, both present and future.
Water Resources Management Act No. 24 of 2004	This Act protects all water resources in Namibia. The Act also laid down conditions to ensure that proper wastewater treatment is provided, including requirement for wastewater discharge permit from the Directorate of Water Affairs.
Environmental Assessment Policy of Namibia (1995)	The Policy seeks to ensure that the environmental consequences of development projects and policies 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.
Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007	The Act provides a list of projects requiring an Environmental assessment. It aims to promote the sustainable management of the environment and the use of natural resources and to provide for a process of assessment and control of activities which may have significant effects on the environment.
Public Health Act, No. 36 of 1919 and Amendments and Regulations	This Act makes provision for the prevention and control of infectious diseases and epidemics. It also regulates sanitation, food and public water supplies.
Hazardous Substances Ordinance No. 14 of 1974	The Ordinance applies to the manufacture, sale, use, disposal and dumping of hazardous substances, as well as their import and export. Its primary purpose is to prevent hazardous substances from causing injury, ill-health or the death of human beings.
Pollution Control and Waste Management Bill of 1999	The Bill promotes sustainable development and the establishment of the Pollution Control and Waste Management Unit: to prevent and regulate the discharge of pollutants to the air, water and land; to make provision for the establishment of an appropriate framework for integrated pollution prevention and control; to regulate noise, dust and odour pollution; to establish a system of waste planning and management; and to enable Namibia to comply with its obligations under international law in this regard.
National Waste Management Policy, 2010	This policy is focusing specifically on Waste Management and use of various technologies waste treatment and disposal to minimize health risks. It is also geared to have a unified waste management system country wide. This policy provides the necessary guidance on the processes related to waste management in the MOHSS, wider Namibia health and social welfare sectors, and other relevant stakeholders. It is taking into consideration the process of integrated waste management from generation to final disposal. This practice also focus on medical, household, mining, agricultural, and construction waste.
Pond System, Code of Practice: General Guidelines Volume 2, 2008	This manual addresses treatment of wastewater by means of pond systems. It includes design information and strives to present information that may be helpful to owners and operators of pond systems, individuals performing compliance inspections, sampling and writing or assessing technical reports on which permit conditions are based.

1.4 Methodology

The input required to prepare this EMP was obtained by the following means:

- A site inspection performed by CSA staff;
- Meetings and discussions with Oshana Regional Council
- Review of desktop literature;
- Previous experience with the preparation of EMPs for wastewater treatment ponds;
- Consultations with registered professional engineers regarding operation and maintenance practices.

Aspects of the oxidation ponds that could impact the surrounding environment directly or indirectly were identified and analysed.

The impact analysis undertaken to forecast the characteristics of the main potential impacts

included three sections:

• Identification - to specify the impacts associated with current and future oxidation

pond activities,

• Prediction - to forecast the nature, magnitude, extent and duration of the main

impacts, and

• Evaluation - to determine the significance of residual impacts i.e. after taking into

account how mitigation will reduce a predicted impact.

Parameters that were taken into account during the impact analysis include:

Nature of impact (positive, negative, direct, indirect, cumulative),

Magnitude of impact (severe, moderate, low),

Extent/location of impact (area/volume covered, distribution),

• Timing of impact (during construction, operation, decommissioning, immediate,

delayed, rate of change),

Duration of impact (short term, long term, intermittent, continuous),

Reversibility/irreversibility of impact,

Likelihood of impact (probability, uncertainty or confidence in the prediction), and

Significance of impact (local, regional, global).

1.5 The Applicant

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1.6 The Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)

Consulting Services Africa (CSA) is a multi-disciplinary consulting firm of engineers and environmental managers. CSA has been active in Namibia under several names since its establishment in 1963 as Wolhuter and Associates. CSA is 100% owned by a Namibian citizen: Mr. Evat N. Kandongo (CEO). CSA's head office is in Windhoek, and its regional office in Ongwediva.

CSA is primarily an engineering consulting firm, but also has significant project experience in: environmental impact assessments, socio-economic and baseline studies, renewable energy studies, climate change studies, water resource management, and training of SMEs.

Previous and current projects of similar nature or complexity include:

- EIAs and EMPs for the upgrading of two gravel roads, DR3608 and MR67 to bitumen standards, approximately 185 km in total length. Two separate EIA reports submitted.
 Ministry of Works and Transport
- Environmental Scoping and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the Osona Village development which is located just south of Okahandja and will involve the construction of hundreds of homes and new municipal infrastructure. Preferred Management Services
- Environmental Scoping and EMP for the City of Windhoek's Gammans Wastewater
 Treatment Works to produce commercial fertilizer by composting and pelletizing the treatment sludge. City of Windhoek
- EIAs and EMPs for the upgrade of two cattle quarantine camps in the Caprivi Region.
 Two separate EIA reports submitted. Millennium Challenge Account Namibia.
- Environmental Scoping and EMP for a new wastewater treatment plant for Engela town. Helao Nafidi Town Council.
- Environmental Scoping and EMP for new wastewater treatment ponds for Groot Aub village. Khomas Regional Council.
- Supervision of the Environmental Monitoring and Auditing for the new wastewater treatment ponds for Engela town. Helao Nafidi Town Council.
- Supervision of the Environmental Monitoring and Auditing for the MR122 road upgrading from gravel road to bitumen standards. Roads Authority is Client.

Evat Kandongo, CSA, Environmental and Energy Consulting: Mr. Kandongo has been CSA's manager for the office in the north since 1997. He has a BSc in Civil Engineering from the Tampere University of Technology, FINLAND. He has been involved in various EIA's and EMP's for various wastewater projects for CSA and has supervised the construction of oxidation ponds in many areas in the north including the Eheke ponds. He has also been a founder and member of the Sustainable Energy, Environment and Livelihood (SEEL) division of CSA.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT UUKWANGULA VILLAGE AND OXIDATION PONDS

2.1 Location and Population of Uukwangula

Uukwangula settlement is located in Oshana Region. Uukwangula is located approximately 10km west of Oshakati. See Figure 1 below. The population of Uukwangula is approximately 500 (ref 1).



Figure 1 – Uukwangula settlement is approximately 10km west of Oshakati

Within Uukwangula, the oxidation ponds are located approximately 700m south of the Uukwangula residential area. See Figure 2 below.



Figure 2 - Aerial view of Uukwangula settlement and oxidation ponds

2.2 Description of Uukwangula Oxidation Ponds

The Uukwangula ponds were constructed in 2011 from imported gravel materials compacted in layers of 150 mm to form embankment walls and the pond floors. The inner faces of the embankment walls were then covered with 100 mm Hyson Cell concrete aprons and an installation of a HDPE liner into the anaerobic ponds. The oxidation pond site was designed, approved by Division of Water Resources, and constructed to clean wastewater in a four-step treatment process and then discharge the cleansed wastewater to the environment:

Treatment step 1: The wastewater is first screened by a grid which removes large objects.

Treatment step 2: The wastewater then flows into one of the deep anaerobic ponds for treatment.

Treatment step 3: The wastewater then flows out of the anaerobic pond, and is split into two streams by a flow splitter installation and directed into the two facultative ponds.

Treatment step 4: The wastewater from the two facultative ponds then flows into the two maturation ponds.

Last step: Lastly, the cleansed wastewater is discharged to the natural environment.

The oxidation ponds were designed so that different types of microbial biomes predominate in the three different types of treatment ponds (anaerobic, facultative and maturation). The different types of microbial biomes have different wastewater treatment capabilities.

There are two anaerobic ponds so that the sludge that has accumulated in one of the ponds can be removed while the other pond is in use. An anaerobic pond typically needs the accumulated sludge to be removed once a year.

The Uukwangula oxidation pond site is protected by a perimeter fence (see photos below). The fence is well maintained but there are no gates to keep out the animals from entering the ponds area.

Currently, there is little wastewater standing in the anaerobic ponds. This is because Uukwangula is very small, and most people live in the village area which is not connected to the sewerage network. Thus, the wastewater that does flow to the ponds currently

evaporates in the anaerobic ponds. This situation will change as Uukwangula develops and more people are connected to the sewerage network.

The oxidation pond site is in good condition, however the following needs to be done: 1) Vegetation on the embankment and inside the ponds needs to be removed, 2) some of the embankment walls of the ponds need to be repaired where soil erosion has occurred, 3) there are cracks that requires to be filled, and 4) the gates must be installed to keep animals and humans out.

Figure 3 below is an aerial schematic of the ponds. Figures 4-6 are site visit photos of the oxidation pond site.

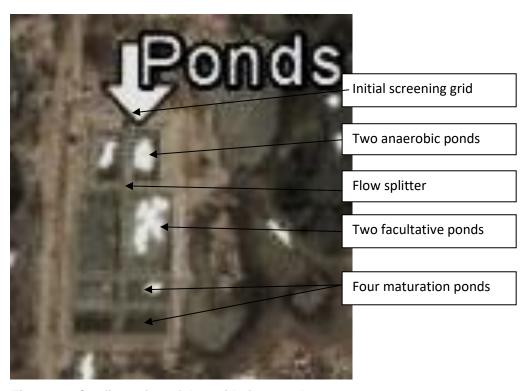


Figure 3 - Configuration of the oxidation ponds



Figure 4 – Security fence around the perimeter of the oxidation pond site with missing gates



Figure 5 – Flow splitter installation and the two anaerobic ponds

Note: Flow from the pump station is directed to both anaerobic ponds in the flow splitter installation. Previously the anaerobic pond on the left required some repair or repositioning of the impermeable membrane sheet. There is currently wastewater in both anaerobic ponds. The facultative ponds can be seen in the background.



Figure 6 –Facultative Ponds with vegetation to be removed



Figure 7 –Soil erosion occurring on the pond embankment walls



Figure 8 – Cracking on embankment concrete walls



Figure 9 –Animals grazing inside the ponds

3. GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

Appropriate methods were used to learn about and describe the existing environment. These included a site visit, meetings with local authorities, and a review of relevant literature.

3.1 Socio-Economic Environment

3.1.1 Staff Structure

The proponent for this EMP is the Oshana Regional Council. All funding required for significant oxidation pond-related activities, such as this EMP, is approved and sourced by the Regional Council. The Uukwangula settlement office is responsible for providing the technical staff required to perform maintenance and repair activities at the oxidation ponds.

3.1.2 Infrastructure on Site

The only infrastructure located in the fenced off site area is the oxidation ponds and guard house.

3.1.3 Site Economic Activities

No economic activities are taking place at the oxidation ponds.

3.1.4 Adjacent Development

Uukwangula village is located approximately 700m north/northwest of the oxidation ponds.

3.2 Biophysical Environment

3.2.1 Climate

Uukwangula, just like the rest of Namibia, falls within the Subtropical High Pressure Zone, which is characterised by massive dry air. The presence of the Botswana Anticyclone and the South Atlantic Anticyclone makes Namibia the driest country in Sub-Sahara Africa. The Botswana Anticyclone is most prominent in winter and feeds dry air over Namibia and also obstructs the flow of moist air from the north.

Annual rainfall in Uukwangula is approximately 450mm on average. See Figure 7 below.

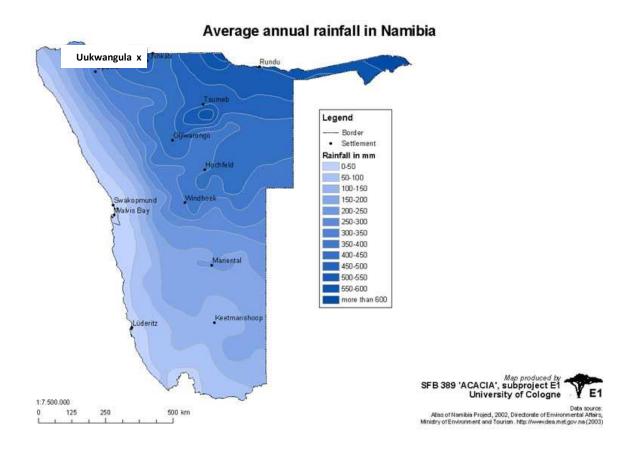


Figure 10 - Average annual rainfall (Ref 2)

As indicated in Fig. 8 below, the average annual temperature in Uukwangula is greater than Average annual temperaures in Namibia

22°

Uukwangula x

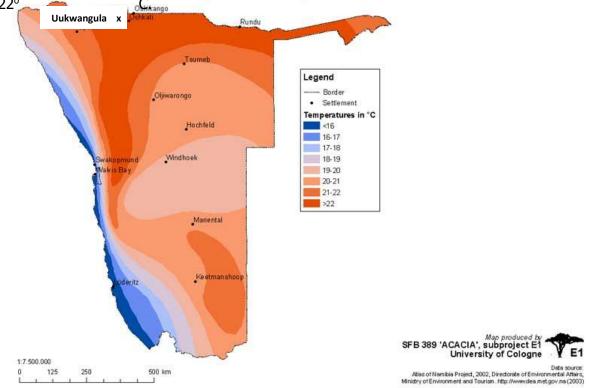


Figure 11 – Average annual temperature (Ref 2)

3.2.2 Hydrogeology and Hydrology

As indicated in Figures 9 & 10 below, Uukwangula is located within the Owambo groundwater basin and within the area where there are oshanas. The general direction of the overland flow of stormwater is from north to south.

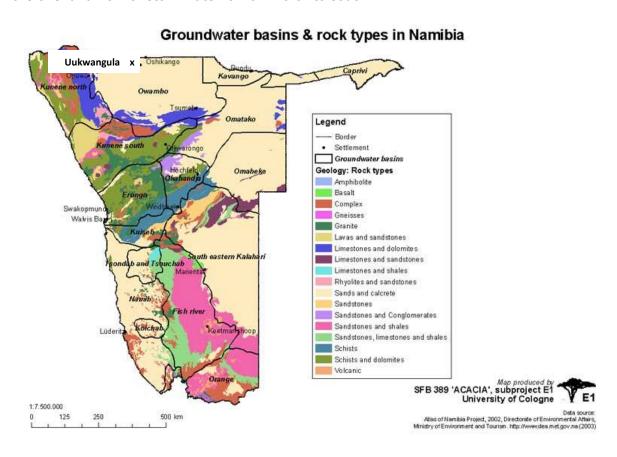


Figure 12 – Groundwater basins and rock types (Ref 2)

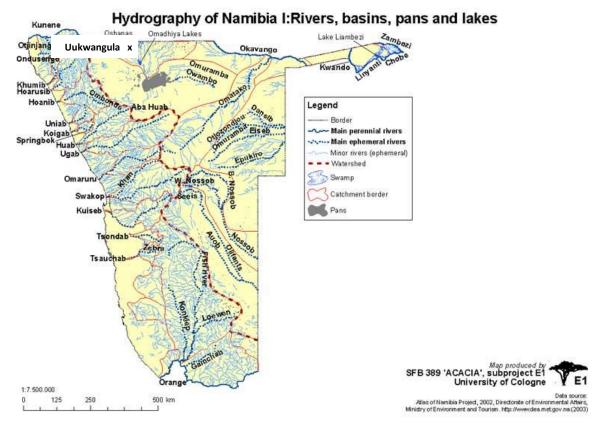


Figure 13 - Rivers, basins, pans and lakes (Ref 2)

3.2.3 Flora and Fauna

Uukwangula is located within the greater Tree-and-Shrub Savanna Biome. The natural vegetation structure of the area is identified as *woodland* (Ref. 2). In terms of plant species in the area, Uukwangula is located on the eastern edge of the area where the Mopane tree species grows.

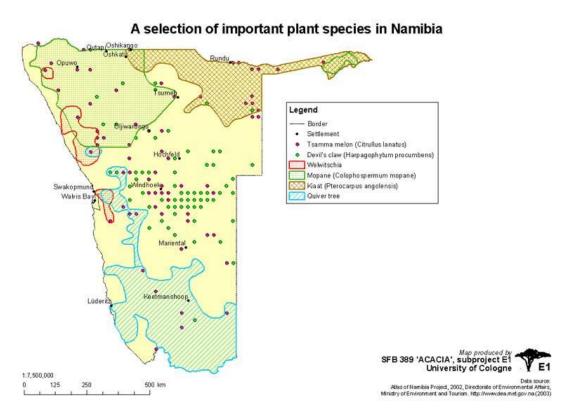


Figure 14 – Important plant species (Ref 2)

A study of animal species occurring in the project area has not been performed. As the Uukwangula oxidation ponds have existed at the current site since 2011, this EMP does not include a study of what animal species could be impacted by the location of the ponds at their current site. It is expected that small terrestrial animal and birds visit the pond site, and will do so more often in the future when there is more water in the pond basins. The perimeter fence prevents any larger animals from entering the site.

3.2.4 State of the On-Site Environment

The Uukwangula oxidation ponds appear to be in good condition. However, as previously noted, the ponds currently require some maintenance to: 1) repair / re-position the impermeable membrane layer in one of the anaerobic ponds, and 2) repair the embankment walls of the ponds where soil erosion has occurred.

4. POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS

4.1 General Considerations

The objective of assessing the potential effects of the Uukwangula oxidation ponds is to make it possible to identify and plan actions that would avoid or reduce any undesirable effects. This section of the EMP addresses the interactions of the oxidation ponds with the natural and socio-economic resources in and around it. These interactions are typically called "impacts". It is worthwhile separating the impacts into two groups: direct (or primary) impacts that result from direct interaction of some components of the oxidation ponds with one or more environmental resources; and indirect (or secondary) impacts that occur as a result of the direct impacts. Note that a classification of a negative impact does not necessarily imply a long-term adverse impact on the environment.

4.2 Impact Criteria and Classification

A number of impacts (positive and negative) have been identified. These impacts are based on an evaluation of the operation of the oxidation ponds. Classification of possible impacts and criterion used are highlighted in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Criteria and Classification of Impacts

Assessment Evaluation Criteria	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,				
Impact Type	-	Negative			
	=	No Impact or Negligible Impact			
	+ Positive				
Extent of impact	I	Immediate (site specific)			
	L	Local			
	R	Regional			
	N	National			
	IT	International			
Duration of impact	ST	Short term (0-5 years)			
	MT	Medium term (5-15 years)			
	LT	Long term (lifetime of the development)			
Intensity of impact	tensity of impact Low (where natural, cultural and social functions and proce affected)				
	M	Medium (where the affected environment is altered but natural, cultural and social functions and processes can continue)			
H High (where the affected environment is altered to the e natural, cultural and social functions and processes will tempermanently cease)					
Probability of impact	LP	Low probability (possibility of impact occurring is low)			
	Р	Probable (where there is a distinct possibility that it will occur)			
	HP	Highly probable (where the impact is most likely to occur)			
	D Definite (where the impact will occur)				

Significance of impact	L	Low (where natural, cultural and social and economic functions and processes are not affected). In the case of adverse impacts, mitigation is either easily achieved or little will be required, or both. In the case of beneficial impacts, alternative means of achieving this benefit are likely to be easier, cheaper, more effective and less time-consuming
	M	Medium (where the affected environment is altered but natural, cultural, social and economic functions and processes can continue). An impact exists but is not substantial in relation to other impacts that might take effect within the bounds of those that could occur. In the case of beneficial impacts, other means of achieving this benefit are about equal in time, cost and effort.
	Н	High (where the affected environment is altered to the extent that natural, cultural, social and economic functions and processes will temporarily or permanently cease). In the case of adverse impacts, there is no possible mitigation that could offset the impact, or mitigation is difficult, expensive, time consuming or a combination of these. In the case of beneficial impacts, the impact is of a Substantial order within the bounds of impacts that could occur.

4.3 Operation Phase-Related Impacts

4.3.1 Socio-Economic Impacts

Impact: Employment Opportunities

The Uukwangula oxidation ponds do contribute positively towards direct job opportunities for the technical staff of the Uukwangula settlement office. The oxidation ponds require maintenance to ensure they continue to operate effectively. Such maintenance activities contribute to employment of local residents.

Impact: Human well-being

The oxidation ponds clean the wastewater, and allow for a safe sewage / sanitation system in Uukwangula. This represents an important positive impact on human well-being.

Impact: Safety

The ponds pose a potential risk to individuals who enter the fenced off pond site. The safety risks include: unhealthy contact with the potentially hazardous wastewater, and the potential for drowning if someone happens to willingly or by mistake submerge themselves in the standing wastewater. This represents a potential negative impact.

Impact: Mosquitos

Oxidation ponds can serve as breeding grounds for mosquitos, especially if there is vegetation growing in the ponds. This a potentially negative impact of the oxidation ponds.

Impact: Smell

Oxidation ponds can cause an unpleasant smell. This is one of the reasons why oxidation

ponds are to be located a significant distance from human settlements. This represents a

potential negative impact.

Impact: Cost savings

Oxidation ponds are the least expensive and least complicated wastewater treatment plant

option in terms of operation (Ref. 3). This allows valuable public funds to be utilised on other

beneficial projects instead of being used on the operation of a more complicated wastewater

treatment plant. This represents a positive impact.

4.3.2 Environmental Impacts

Impact: Contamination of groundwater resources

Each treatment pond of the Uukwangula oxidation ponds has an impermeable layer that

serves to prevent dirty wastewater from contaminating groundwater resources. There is a

risk that an impermeable layer fails for some reason and then allows the wastewater to

potentially infiltrate groundwater resources. This represents a potential negative impact.

Impact: Contamination of adjacent land areas

Each pond of the Uukwangula oxidation ponds has embankment walls that are stabilised by

concrete. Nonetheless, there is a risk that the condition of the embankment walls will

deteriorate in the future and allow wastewater to leak onto adjacent land. There is also the

risk that the evaporation pond completely fills up at some time in the future and allows

wastewater to spill over onto adjacent land. This represents a potential negative impact.

Impact: Wildlife Habitat, Indigenous Flora and Fauna

A desktop literature search on the potential for oxidation ponds cause health and safety risks

for wildlife did not yield anything to be noted. Nonetheless, oxidation ponds may pose

potentially negative health and safety risks for some wildlife as a result of the quality of the

wastewater or the possibility for drowning.

Table 3 - Uukwangula Oxidation Ponds Impacts Evaluation – Operational Phase

	OPERATIONAL PHASE						
	Identified Impact	Impact Type	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability	Significance
1	Surface water pollution	-	I	ST	L	LP	L
2	Groundwater pollution	-	L	LT	М	LP	L
3	Soil erosion	-	I	ST	L	LP	L
4	Soil pollution (sludge)	-	I	LT	L	D	L
5	Air pollution	=					
6	Land use potential	-	I	LT	М	D	М
7	Habitat transformation	-	ı	LT	М	D	М
8	Fauna displacement	=					
9	Damage to Flora	=					
10	Traffic impacts	=					
11	Visual & aesthetic impacts (smell)	-	ı	LT	L	НР	М
12	Social	+	L	LT	L	D	М
13	Economic	+	R	LT	L	D	Н

5. UUKWANGULA OXIDATION PONDS MANAGEMENT PLAN

This EMP requires the involvement of the Oshana Regional Council and local Uukwangula settlement office technical staff.

5.1 General Responsibilities of the Oshana Regional Council and Uukwangula Settlement Office

The following are the responsibilities of the Oshana Regional Council:

- Familiarity with all aspects of the EMP;
- Regularly monitor the implementation of the EMP to ensure full compliance for the entire duration of the oxidation ponds' lifecycle;
- Continual budgeting and resource allocation for maintenance and repair of the oxidation ponds.

The following are the responsibilities of the Uukwangula settlement office staff:

- Continual maintenance and repair of the oxidation ponds;
- Training of staff on how to maintain and repair the oxidation ponds and comply with the EMP;
- Monitor the performance of any contractors that are hired to perform maintenance and/or repairs;
- Notification of relevant authorities if a significant pollution incident occurs;
- Receive, record and respond to any complaints and input provided by Uukwangula residents related to the operation or performance of the oxidation ponds;
- Maintain records of all maintenance and repairs that are performed on the oxidation ponds.

5.2 Proposed Mitigation Measures to be Performed

Table 4 – EMP Mitigation Measures

EMP MITIGATION MEASURES

EMP Ref:	Aspect / Impact	Action	Phase	Frequency of Action	Responsibility
1	Solids removal	Clean the screening grid, put the screened solids in a plastic trash bag, and dispose of the screened solids bag at the Uukwangula solid waste dump.	Operational	Weekly	Uukwangula Settlement Office Technical Staff
2	Vegetation control	Remove vegetation growth from the ponds and pond embankment walls and dispose at the Uukwangula solid waste dump.	Operational	Weekly	Uukwangula Settlement Office Technical Staff
3	Soil erosion control	Check the embankment walls of all ponds and repair where soil erosion has occurred.	Operational	Weekly	Uukwangula Settlement Office Technical Staff
4	Safety and health risks for unauthorised persons entering the oxidation pond site	Check the entire length of the perimeter security fence and repair immediately if there is a breach.	Operational	Weekly	Oshana Regional Council Technical Staff

EMP Ref:	Aspect / Impact	Action	Phase	Frequency of Action	Responsibility
5	Sludge removal	 Shut off wastewater flow to the anaerobic pond that is to be cleaned and direct flow to the other anaerobic pond. Allow standing wastewater to evaporate and the sludge to dry out in the anaerobic pond to be cleaned. Carefully remove the dried sludge, either manually or mechanically. Pay careful attention to not damage the impermeable membrane layer. Mix the removed, dried sludge together with natural soil. It may be used for public landscaping purposes. 	Operational	Every 2 – 5 years when the pond is approximately ½-full of sludge	Oshana Regional Council Technical Staff
6	Record keeping	 Input and/or complaints from Uukwangula residents and technical staff regarding the performance of the oxidation ponds, noting issues such as bad smell, mosquitos, dead animals found on site, etc. Significant incidents that impact the environment or persons; for example: spill-overs from any of the ponds onto adjacent land areas, unauthorised entrance by any persons, etc. Maintenance and repairs performed on the oxidation pond site. Details should be provided, such as the method used to effectively remove vegetation. 	Operational	As required	Oshana Regional Council Technical Staff
7	Reporting of significant safety or environmental incidents	Any significant safety or environmental incidents involving, for example, unauthorised entrance to the pond site, potential contamination of groundwater resources, spill-over or leakage of wastewater onto adjacent land area should be immediately reported to the relevant authority, such as the police, MAWF Division of Water Resources, MET Directorate of Environmental Affairs, etc., as well as to the Oshana Regional Council.	Operational	As required	Oshana Regional Council Technical Staff

EMP Ref:	Aspect / Impact	Action	Phase	Frequency of Action	Responsibility
8	Personal protective clothing	All technical staff who work in the dump site are to be provided with personal protective clothing and are responsible for wearing it at all times when working inside the dump site. Such clothing shall include but not be limited to: • Protective and waterproof gloves • Protective and waterproof boots • A full-body, long-sleeved workers uniform • Protective eyewear • Respiratory protection	Operational	To be provided to staff immediately and worn by staff at all times when working inside the dump site	Uukwangula Settlement Office Technical Staff
9	Monitor EMP Implementation	Oshana Regional Council staff to visit the oxidation ponds twice a year accompanied by Eheke settlement office staff to monitor the implementation of, and compliance with, the EMP. A summary of the visit should be recorded, and any issues of noncompliance should be communicated to the Eheke settlement office with a request for immediate action to re-establish compliance.	Operational	Semi-annually	Oshana Regional Council

6. CONCLUSION

This Environmental Management Plan (EMP) is a practical tool for the Oshana Regional Council and Uukwangula settlement office to implement to reduce the magnitude and frequency of potential negative impacts. It is also a tool for the Competent Authority, the Environmental Commissioner of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, to measure compliance by the Oshana Regional Council and Eheke settlement office. Any conditions of the Environmental Clearance Certificate granted by the Competent Authority should be incorporated into this EMP and implemented by the Oshana Regional Council.

7. REFERENCES

- 1. Per communication with Oshana Regional Council staff on 14 May 2021.
- 2. University of Cologne / Atlas of Namibia; J. Mendelsohn, A. Jarvis, C. Roberts, and T. Robertson; published by David Phillip in 2002. Website: http://www.uni-koeln.de/sfb389/e/e1/download/atlas_namibia/main_namibia_atlas.html
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