PROOF OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

















Notice of Environmental Impact Assessment for the upgrading to low volume seal standards of access roads DR3815 (DR1004), DR3816 and DR3824

Meeting Minutes

Type of Meeting: Public Consultation Meeting Venue: Kambanderu Hall (Aminuis)

Time: 14h30 – 15h50

Agenda

- 1. Welcome Maike Prickett
- 2. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Maike Prickett
- 3. Project Scope Rodney Gawiseb
- 4. RA Application Processes Bruno Mokhatu
- 5. Q&A
- 6. Conclusion Maike Prickett

1. Welcome

Maike Prickett, Consulting Team

2. EIA Presentation (see attached presentation document)

Maike Prickett, Consulting Team

- What is an EIA? It is a practical implementation to prevent negative and improve positive impacts.
- Environment defined bio-physical (water, soil, plants, etc), social and legislation
- Impacts what we do and how that changes the environment (cause and affect)
 - Building a road: what is needed to build the road (layer works, materials), how does that change the environment, during operation what are the positive or negative effects of the road on the environment
- Rules and Regulations/Legislation Constitution of Namibia, Environmental Management
 Act No.7 (2007)
- What is the ultimate objective of an EIA? To maintain sustainability a balance between development and conservation
- Normal stakeholder concerns of road development projects:
 - Land taken and no benefit to stakeholder
 - Water / Materials
 - o Consider the gain of such a project: economic gain
- The objective of EMC is to:
 - Consult the public, stakeholders that know the area need to give their input (comments and concerns)
 - Consider the negative and positive impacts

- Present and Submit EIA and application for Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC)
 application to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) they grant
 or reject ECC
- If ECC is granted, it is valid for 3 years. It is attached to the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) – measures that force whoever develops to work according to the Environmental Managament Act. The EMP needs to be adhered to during development/construction, to avoid/minismise/reduce the negative impacts and enhance the positive impacts. The EMP is a practical and important document. We want to avoid – spillage, pollution (surface water/soil, etc), bad waste management practices, etc.
- Borrow pits: Borrow Pit Rehabilitation Project from the Roads Authority of Namibia (RA).
- Examples of good practices (shown during presentation): construction camp, waste management, borrow pit rehabilitation (Whk/Okh road)
- We need to strike a balance between development and conservation to ensure that someone does not lose to the cost of someone else winning.
- You are welcome to raise your comments and concerns, we will listen to what you have to say and gladly answer as far as we can.

3. Project Scope

Rodney Gawiseb, Consulting Team

The Roads Authority appointed Tulipamwe Joint Venture for the Consultancy Services for the Upgrading to Bitumen Standard of MR 91: Gobabis - Aminuis - Aranos.

Main road MR 91 is approximately 239km long and starts on TR 6/3 (km 0) and ends on MR 40 at Aranos (km 239). The road traverses two Regions in eastern Namibia with the section of road from km 0 to km 174 located in the Omaheke Region and the section from km 174 to km 239 in the Hardap Region.

MR 91 and MR 40 serve as a link between the Trans-Kalahari Highway and the Omaheke and Hardap Regions, and the need to improve the link between the farming and rural communities of the Omaheke and Hardap Regions and the main services centre of Gobabis, as well as with other parts of Namibia, and the decision to upgrade the road are outlined below:

- The need to improve the link between Gobabis and Aranos is crucial for the agricultural sector of the eastern region.
- Reduced transportation costs to road users.
- Increasing agricultural, tourism and hunting potential in the area.
- Increased social benefits through improved access to health and educational facilities and improved employment opportunities.

As part of the Roads Authority's mandate in support of the Government's Rural Access Roads Development Programme to enhance rural accessibility, stimulate economic growth and connect the rural population to the economic belt of Namibia, the construction and upgrading to Low Volume Seal standards of three (3) access roads intersecting the MR91: Gobabis – Aminuis – Aranos road namely, DR3815 (DR1004), DR3816 and DR3824, was prioritised.

The total length of the roads is approximately 96km as follows:

- DR3815 & DR1004: MR91 Toasis 1 Village (Length = 28.2km)
- DR3816: MR91 Corridor 13 (Length = 53km)
- DR3824: MR91 Hugus Village (Length = 14.8km)

The works to be conducted will mainly comprise the following:

- The upgrading to low volume seal road standard of the existing gravel roads.
- The construction of prefabricated rectangular or box culverts.
- Appurtenant works such as accommodation of traffic, construction of drainage works, supply
 and installation of road signs, guide blocks, distance markers, road markings, shaping and
 landscaping, and finishing-off of the road and road reserve.

4. RA Application Processes

Bruno Mokhatu, Roads Authority of Namibia

RA requires that certain procedures be followed, rules adhered to and application forms be submitted for certain activities and developments that are being planned within a proclaimed road reserve by landowners.

- 1. Application for an access point. (Toegangspad tot plaas/huise etc)
- 2. Road removal of development with the road reserve of the proclaimed road.
- 3. Notification form of accident.
- 4. Welding of grid gate rails.
- 5. Grass cutting in proclaimed road reserve running across farm district as well as removal of trees.
- 6. Notice to owner/lessee that land will be entered upon.
- 7. Application to infringe on a proclaimed road.
- 8. Application for installation of a swing/grid gate.
- 9. Letter informing addressee of unauthorised advertising sign/structure outside road reserve visible from proclaimed road.
- 10. Letter instructing removal of advertising sign/structure inside proclaimed road reserve.
- 11. Indemnity against claims: Quarries on private property.
- 12. Application for re-opening, closing, deviation or construction of proclaimed road.
- 13. Application for erection, fencing off, conversion or improvement of fence along trunk, main or district roads.
- 14. Maintenance of road reserve fences.
- 15. Removal of animals present in road reserve.

All pipelines that cross the existing road that have not been indicated with signage or have been registered with RA are illegal and the contractor cannot be held responsible for damage to these pipelines during road construction, if they have not been made aware of their location, regardless of how old these pipelines are, they need to be registered with the RA.

5. Questions & Answers

<u>Verikomba Kanguatjivi:</u> Where are RA applications for pipelines done?

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): RA offices in Gobabis. I will see that we get some application forms to the Aminuis constituency office.

<u>L Bendt</u>: In Aminuis there is a pipeline that crosses the road.

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): if there are boreholes that have been drilled by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) they need to hand in the application form for the pipeline to the RA.

Eben Muniaro: Material is being taken and not paid for in the reserve, but on commercial farms people are being compensated.

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): No, material is not being paid for unless that the owner's activities are prevented and property is being destroyed where material is being taken, then they will be compensated.

Verikomba Kanguatjivi: Are people compensated for water?

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): Water is not being paid for if RA drills the boreholes, if it is an existing borehole that was drilled by the community or an individual the water will be paid for in accordance with the national rates.

<u>C Mafunga:</u> Employment of community. Please do not make the same mistakes that were done during the MR91 construction where there have been numerous strikes, even today. We need the tar road but the project has stopped because people are striking.

<u>C Dirks:</u> If I live next to the road and I want an access point to my house, is that what I need to apply for?

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): Yes, applications for access points must be submitted to the RA office.

Mongake Vincent: If the community asks for an access road of 5km at Okambepera, what is the chance of that being granted?

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): All access points need to be applied for and access points need to be at least 300m apart.

<u>Verikomba Kanguatjivi</u>: Would like to inform the RA that in the past numerous pipes that cross the road have been damaged which have not been applied for.

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): Noted.

<u>C Dirks:</u> Could you please explain to the people of Hugus where the road will be constructed? People have been coming into Hugus and taking measurements and nothing has been explained to the community and what the engineers are busy doing. People are scared that their houses will have to be relocated, the community of Hugus mainly consist of elderly people.

<u>Response</u> (Rodney): Measurements have been taken to determine where the road must go. <u>Response</u> (Maike): We take note. The measurements assist the engineers with the road design, once this has been finalised it will be communicated to the community.

<u>Verikomba Kanguatjivi:</u> We would like to ask that boreholes are being left for the community to use. Who do we need to speak to?

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): You need to speak to RA. In reserves, if boreholes are left for further use, they are being given to the community and not to individuals.

<u>D Leberake:</u> We will inform the community that they have to apply for the pipelines that cross the road.

L Bendt: Who will show us where pipes should cross the road?

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): RA, the Gobabis office. I will arrange that application forms are available at the constituency office.

<u>Mongake Vincent:</u> Old pipes that are crossing the road that have been there for more than 40 years, what about those?

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): If the RA does not know about them, they are illegal, regardless of how old they are.

Eben Muniaro: I don't think that there will be any environmental impacts to construct this road because it will follow the old road. We are looking forward to the road.

<u>C Mafunga:</u> Older people should also be entitled to work on these projects. I am a 60-year-old lady and would like to do administrative work on a project like this.

<u>Response</u> (Rodney): The employment will be done through the Councillors Office and the contractor employs people based on lists with names that they receive.

E Dirks: Please explain the access points/roads. Do we need to apply for a road to our church?

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): Any access road that leads to a farm or house etc. The distance between two access points must be more than 300m. Speak to the contractor once they are on site, they might be able to do this as a social responsibility.

<u>C Mafunga:</u> We don't know what the engineers are doing in the area.

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): The consultants will come back to the community to discuss plans and where necessary compensation.

<u>Verikomba Kanguatjivi:</u> Will there be corridors/fences along the road? What about the cattle on the road?

<u>Response</u> (Maike): There are guidelines that will determine if fences will be put up or not. We take note of your concern and will pass this on.

<u>Joachim Serogwe:</u> A corridor/fence has been requested in a letter to the RA/engineer. People here will look after fences; these will help avoid accidents.

Response (Maike): Noted, please send me a copy of the letter.

Mongake Vincent: Is fencing restricted to the main routes or will it also be put up along the district roads?

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): We will enquire and revert. We have seen on the main road between Grootfontein and Gobabis that the corridors that have been put up are not being used and fences have been removed in places.

End of meeting 15:50





ATTENDANCE REGISTER

DATE: 11 May 2021

| VENUE: | Aminuis | |
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Meeting Minutes

Type of Meeting: Public Consultation Meeting

Venue: Bakgalagadi Traditional Authority Hall (Corridor 13)

Time: 09h38 – 11h15

Agenda

7. Welcome – Maike Prickett / Beatus Monchwe

- 8. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Maike Prickett
- 9. Project Scope Rodney Gawiseb
- 10. RA Application Processes Bruno Mokhatu
- 11. Q&A
- 12. Conclusion Maike Prickett

6. Welcome

Maike Prickett, Consulting Team
Beatus Monchwe, Aminuis Constituency Office

7. <u>EIA Presentation (see attached presentation document)</u>

Maike Prickett, Consulting Team

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- Examples of good practices (shown during presentation): construction camp, waste management, borrow pit rehabilitation (Whk/Okh road)
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10. Questions & Answers

<u>Chief Hubert Ditshabue:</u> I would like to give thanks for the tar road and the development it brings to the community. Words need to be honoured and the consultant/contractor must work together with the community. We ask that the boreholes that are being drilled are left for the community after the project has been completed.

<u>Verinuka Black:</u> What guarantee do we have that our community will benefit from the road construction through employment?

<u>Response</u> (Rodney): Employment will be done through the Councillors Office.

<u>Response</u> (Mr Monchwe): The procedure followed is that traditional leaders are being asked to give a list of names which are then given to the contractor, this is for unskilled labour. Skilled labour is being advertised.

Sam Katjiperue: Thank you to the delegation for being here.

- 1. The road must get a corridor/fence.
- 2. Boreholes should not be drilled everywhere, and contractors must speak to the community before commencing with drilling. A common problem is that communities settle close to the water source (borehole) and are not willing to share water with other communities.
- 3. Roads Authority should give the boreholes to the communities and not close them up.

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): The boreholes will become RA property if they were drilled by RA. Once the project has been completed, the community can use the boreholes, but they will have to do their own installations because the contractor usually removes his borehole pump upon completion, unless otherwise agreed. Boreholes are usually given to the community(ies) and not to individuals.

Elias Nderura: Borehole pumps should be given to the communities.

<u>Verinuka Black:</u> Homesteads next to the road that are not 100m away, many people are not aware of the proximity rule from road to house/fence (as was indicated by Bruno during the RA Application process presentation). People should be informed of these rules.

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): Apology. These rules are part of the road ordinance.

Ady Riruako: What is the standard with regards to fencing along roads?

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): Not sure, but roads in the reserves are not usually fenced.

<u>Sam Katjiperue:</u> If there are no fences being put up and cattle cause accidents owners are being held liable.

<u>Chief Hubert Ditshabue:</u> Fences should be put up along the tar road to prevent animals from causing accidents.

<u>Response</u> (Maike): We take note of your concern and will convey this to the client.

<u>Ady Riruako:</u> Is there provision being made for road signs, indicating next locality at intersections?

<u>Response</u> (Bruno): Applications for these need to be done. I am not sure if this was included in the project.

Elias Nderura: Who do the engineer/contractor speak to regarding houses being in the way of the road?

<u>Response</u> (Rodney): The owners as well as the traditional leaders will be consulted.

Elias Nderura: How will job appointments be handled?

<u>Response</u> (Rodney): Through the Councillor's Office for the unskilled. Skilled jobs will be advertised, and people brought in from outside.

<u>Verinuka Black:</u> It should be taken up with the Councillor's Office, because the appointments on MR91 were not done according to the lists submitted by the traditional leaders.

<u>Sam Katjiperue:</u> Thank you to the delegation for calling the meeting and we are looking forward to the road.

End of meeting 11:15





ATTENDANCE REGISTER

DATE: 11 May 2021

VENUE: Corridor 13.

| PROJECT: Upgradin | g to Low Volume Seal Standards of Ac | ccess Roads DR3815 (DR1 | 004), DR3816 and DR3824 |
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