

APPENDIX C – ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT AND NATIONAL HERITAGE COUNCIL OF NAMIBIA CONSENT LETTER



National Heritage Council of Namibia

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CONSENT

(Section 55(9) of the National Heritage Act, 2004 (Act No. 27 of 2004)) Consent is hereby given to:

17th December 2021

Consent Number No: 69/2021

Name of applicant: Best Cheer Investment Namibia

(Title and full name of the applicant)

Address of applicant: P.O Box 1642, Windhoek, Namibia

(Address of the applicant and of the applying institution (if applicable))

For:

To undertake exploration of suitable natural rock (Granite and Marble) to produce dimension stone and industrial minerals on EPL 5393 in the Erongo Region

(Type of Activity applied for)

Of: Does not contain any significant nor sensitive heritage and archaeological sites, apart from seed digging storage and scattered stone tools.

(Description of Heritage Resources)

From: Overlies Farm Kubas 77, Farm Ubib 76 and borders farm Etusis 75, farm KabiGaub west 115, Farm Dorstrivier 15 and Farm Tsawisis 95.

(Description of the site, location as in the application)

In accordance with:

Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) to undertake exploration of suitable natural rock (Granite and Marble) to produce dimension stone and industrial minerals on EPL 5393 in the Erongo Region.

07/11/2021

(Specify relevant documentation and Permit application date)

The following conditions (imposed in terms of section 55(9) of the Act.) apply to this permit:

- a) that the activity authorised by the consent be supervised by a person with appropriate professional qualifications or experience in the identification and conservation of heritage.
- b) that any archaeological or palaeontological object or meteorite found in the course of the activity authorised by the consent must be recorded, conserved and dealt with as per the manual on chance find procedures of heritage resources; and
- c) that Namibian citizen, especially members of the local community in and around the project area, be engaged in the activity authorised by the consent for the purpose of identification of heritage resources in the project area as well as of receiving professional training;
- d) that the consent holder reports back to the National Heritage Council every six (6) months on compliance with the conditions of this consent.



- e) This Consent does not exempt the holder from any conditions that may be imposed by owners, hosts or any other relevant authorities in consultation with NHC who have a stake in the project area.
- f) NHC shall not be liable for any losses, damages or injuries to persons or properties as a result of any activities related to this permit.
- g) Existing roads and access tracks should be rerouted to detour the burial sites by at least 50 m
- h) The local Community should be consulted about possible fencing of the burial sites.
- i) This Consent is subject to the provisions of the National Heritage Act (Act 27 of 2004). Should any of the conditions contained herein conflict with the Act; the provisions of the Act as per section 55 (10) shall prevail.
- j) This consent is renewable, upon submission of an application at least two months before the current permit lapses

(List any conditions that the Council may see fit to impose in terms of section 55 (9) of the act

This Consent will be valid from 17th December 2021 to 17th December 2022



Director: National Heritage Council

National Heritage Council of Namibia



**PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL IMPACT
ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR PROPOSED EXPLORATION OF
SUITABLE NATURAL ROCK (GRANITE AND MARBLES) TO
PRODUCE DIMENSION STONE AND INDUSTRIAL MINERALS ON
EPL 5393 IN THE ERONGO REGION, NAMIBIA**

Compiled by

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&

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Compiled for:

Omavi Geo - technical and Geo-Environmental Consultants

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Item	Description
Proposed development and location	Best Cheer Investment Namibia cc (The Proponent) is proposing to undertake prospecting, on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) 5393, for suitable natural rocks such as granite and marbles which could be quarried for the production of dimension stone as well as industrial minerals such as construction aggregates. The concerned EPL is situated approximately 27 km south of the town of Usakos. The EPL has an approximate total surface area of 661 Ha, and overlies Farm Kubas 77 and Farm Ubib 76 and borders Farm Etusis 75, Farm Gamikaub West 115, Farm Dorstrivier 15 and Farm Tsawisis 95.
Title	Archaeological and Cultural Impact Assessment report for proposed exploration of suitable natural rock (granite and marbles) to produce dimension stone and industrial minerals on EPL 5393 in the Erongo Region, Namibia
Purpose of the study	The purpose of this document is an Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment report that describes the cultural values and heritage factors that may be impacted on by the proposed exploration activities
Coordinates	`
Municipalities	Usakos, Erongo Region
Predominant land use of surrounding area	Farming
Developer	Best Cheer Investment Namibia
Heritage Consultant	Henry Nakale & Henry Chiwaura
Date of Report	13 September 2021
Contact person	Henry Nakale +264816680633
Author(s) identification	Henry Nakale, Henry Chiwaura (Archaeologists and Heritage specialists)
Project Number	006

Copyright

Authorship: This A/HIA Report has been prepared by Messers Henry Nakale, Henry Chiwaura and (Professional Archaeologist). The report is for the review of the National Heritage Council of Namibia.

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This report can however be reproduced by IDT and The National Heritage Council of Namibia for the purposes of the Archaeological and Heritage Management in accordance with the National Heritage Act, 27 of 2004

Geographic Co-ordinate Information: Geographic co-ordinates in this report were obtained using a hand-held Garmin Global Positioning System device. The manufacturer states that these devices are accurate to within +/- 5 m.

Maps: Maps included in this report use data extracted from the NTS Map and Google Earth Pro.

Disclaimer: The Authors are not responsible for omissions and inconsistencies that may result from information not available at the time this report was prepared.

The Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment Study was carried out within the context of tangible and intangible cultural heritage resources as defined by the National Heritage Council Regulations and Guidelines as to the authorisation of proposed exploration project being proposed by Zondi Shipuata and the JTD Mining Group.

Signed by



Acknowledgement

The authors acknowledge Omavi Geotechnical and Geo-Environmental Consultants for their assistance with project information as well as responding to technical queries related to the project.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment (AIA/HIA) Report has been prepared to address requirements of the National Heritage Act 27 of 2004. The study was commissioned by **Omavi Geotechnical and Geo-Environmental Consultants** to conduct this Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment (AIA/HIA) Study for the proposed exploration. The proposed development is located near Usakos Town in Erongo region. This report includes an impact study on potential archaeological and cultural heritage resources that may be associated with the proposed exploration activities. This study was conducted as part of the specialist input for the Environmental Impact Assessment exercise. The proposed development consists of exploration of Dimension stones in Usakos Town in Erongo Region. The project information has been passed to research team by the OMAVI project engineers. Analysis of the archaeological, cultural heritage, environmental and historic contexts of the study area predicted that archaeological sites, cultural heritage sites, burial grounds or isolated artefacts were likely to be present on the affected landscape. The field survey was conducted to test this proposition and verify this prediction within the proposed development site. The general project area is predominantly residential, agriculture (livestock rearing) and mining.

The report makes the following observations:

- The findings of this report have been informed by desktop data review, field survey and impact assessment reporting which include recommendations to guide heritage authorities in making decisions with regards to the proposed project.
- Most sections of the project area are very accessible and the field survey was effective enough to cover all sections of the project receiving environs. However, some small portions of the proposed EPL development site had limited access because of the rugged terrain cover.
- The immediate project area is predominantly farming and residential areas.
- Some sections of the proposed development site are severely degraded environmental clearance from agriculture.

- The study recorded few archaeological site cultural) and places of historical significance but these features does not fall within the proposed exploration site.

The report sets out the potential impacts of the proposed exploration on heritage matters and recommends appropriate safeguard and mitigation measures that are designed to reduce the impacts where appropriate. The Report makes the following recommendations:

- ❖ The prospecting/mining teams must be inducted on the possibility of encountering archaeological resources that may be accidentally exposed during subsurface exploration prior to commencement of work on the site in order to ensure appropriate mitigation measures and that course of action is afforded to any chance finds.
- ❖ If archaeological materials are uncovered, work should cease immediately and the National Heritage Council (NHC) be notified and activity should not resume until appropriate management provisions are in place.
- ❖ The findings of this report, with approval of the NHC, may be classified as accessible to any interested and affected parties within the limits of the legislations.

This report concludes that the impacts of the proposed project of the cultural environmental values are not likely to be significant on the entire EPL 5393 site if the Chance Find Procedures (CFP) are followed including recommended safeguard and mitigation measures identified in this report.

ABBREVIATIONS

AIA	Archaeological Impact Assessment
CFP	Chance Find Procedure
ECO	Environmental Control Officer
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EM	Environmental Manager
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
HIA	Heritage Impact Assessment
LA	Local Authority
LIA	Late Iron Age
NHA	Nation Heritage Act, Act 27 of 2004
SM	Site Manager
NHCN	National Heritage Council of Namibia
NMN	National Museum of Namibia

1.0 Introduction

Best Cheer Investment Namibia cc has appointed OMAVI Geotechnical & Geo-Environmental Consultants to conduct an Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) and apply for the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) to the Competent Authority in accordance with the Environmental Management Act (EMA) No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. OMAVI in turn requested archaeologists to conduct Cultural and Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) at the Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) 5393 in the south of the town of Usakos Erongo Region. The EPL is situated about approximately 27 km south of the town of Usakos. The EPL has an approximate total surface area of 661 Ha, and overlies Farm Kubas 77 and Farm Ubib 76 and borders Farm Etusis 75, Farm Gamikaub West 115, Farm Dorstrivier 15 and Farm Tsawisis 95. The proponent is proposing to carry out exploration activities such as non-intrusive investigation: Desktop study, field evaluation, detailed geological mapping and hand specimen sampling and for the production of dimension stone and industrial minerals and Intrusive investigation: Rotary core drilling and test quarrying on EPL 5393.

Due to the destructive tendency of such exploration activities, which may include earth moving/ land alteration operations, it is a pre-requisite to conduct an Archaeological and/ or Heritage Impact Assessment (AIA) as obligated by the National Heritage Act, Act No. 27 of 2004 and, in part, by the Environmental Management Act, Act No. 7 of 2007. The main thrust of the provisions of the aforementioned legislations is to protect and salvage cultural/ archaeological and environmental resources from potential destruction resulting from developmental activities. It was against this background that an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) was carried out on EPL 5393 to fulfill the following objectives:

- a) To identify and document cultural/ archaeological materials and sites occurring in the area proposed EPL,

- b) To assess the nature and scale of archaeological impact of the proposed exploration activities to heritage resources,
- c) To suggest some conservation strategies for the cultural heritage resources that might occur in the area proposed for exploration which can be potentially destroyed in the course of detailed exploration.

2.0 Site Description and Location

The concerned EPL is situated approximately 27 km south of the town of Usakos. The EPL has an approximate total surface area of 661 Ha, and overlies Farm Kubas 77 and Farm Ubib 76 and borders Farm Etusis 75, Farm Gamikaub West 115, Farm Dorstrivier 15 and Farm Tsawisis 95.

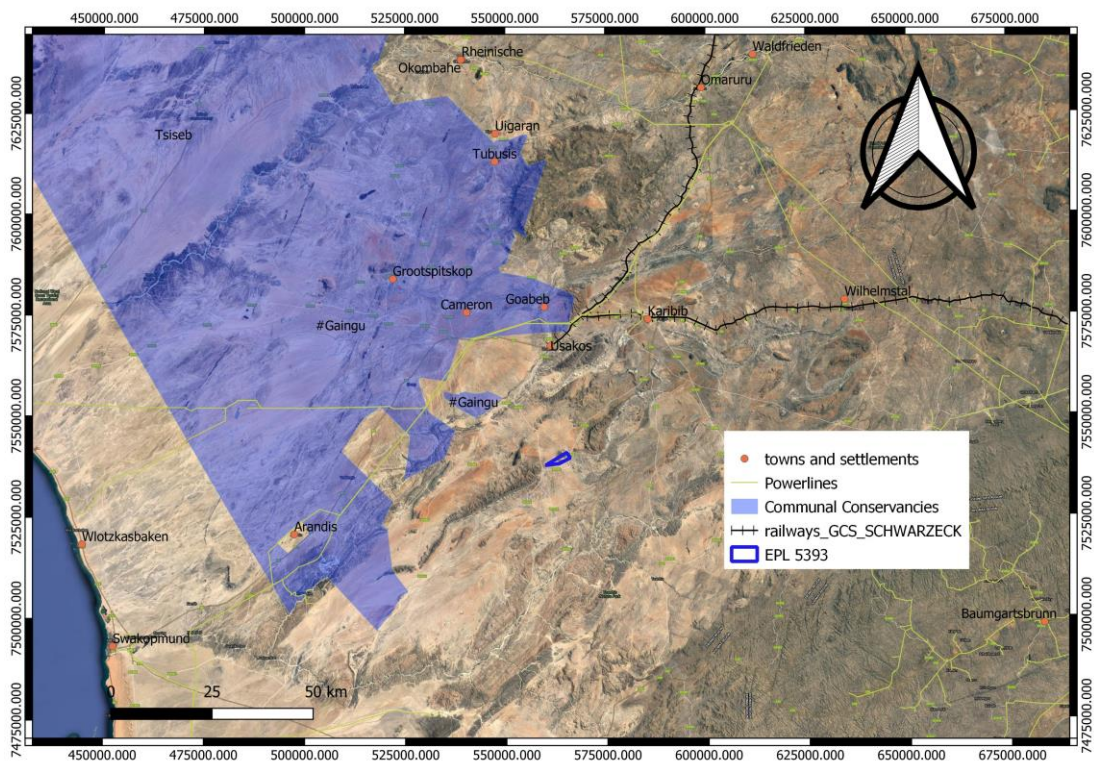


Plate 1. Locality Map of EPL 5393. Credits: Omavi.2021.

2.1. Scope of the Proposed Project

The property, which is the subject of this assessment, is registered under the name of Best Cheer Investment Namibia cc. The proponent proposes to undertake prospecting, on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) 5393, for suitable natural rocks such as granite and marbles which could be quarried for the production of dimension stone as well as industrial minerals such as construction aggregates.

Diamond Core Drilling

Where the results of the field evaluation are positive, vertical holes will be drilled into selected rock formations. Core drilling will specifically aid in obtaining very detailed information about: The vertical extent (thickness) of the deposit formation.

- Evaluation of colour consistency.
- Evaluation of the frequency of defects such as joints, veins and banding.

There will be a need to clear some vegetation to allow access tracks and working areas for the drill rig and support equipment (e.g., one 4x4 bakkie, water tank). To minimize the extent of vegetation clearing and ground disturbance, drilling targets will be spatially constrained by limiting them to areas with exposed or shallow bedrock as much as possible. Where bedrock is seen to be under thin soil cover air compressors will be used to blow off the thin soil cover in order to expose the targeted rock formation. The duration of exploration activities is unknown at this stage as it will depend on findings from the field mapping and evaluation exercises. The exploration program is to be refined as more geological and geotechnical information becomes available.

Feasibility Study: Test Quarrying (Exploration Component)

Where exploration drilling yields encouraging results, spatially constrained test quarrying by means of butterfly cutting will be conducted to cut out 2 to 3 sample blocks at selected places for further quality assessment. Test quarrying will be performed to evaluate the recovery percentage of saleable blocks within the targeted rock formations, to beneficiate the sample blocks to

finished products and test the target markets with those products and see if at all there is a market for the specific product, determine if full scale mining is economically viable, to assess the most feasible extraction methods, production costs and operations associated with possible quarrying. Exploration test quarrying will be conducted on a small scale to minimize the environmental impacts in the event that a final decision not to proceed with further

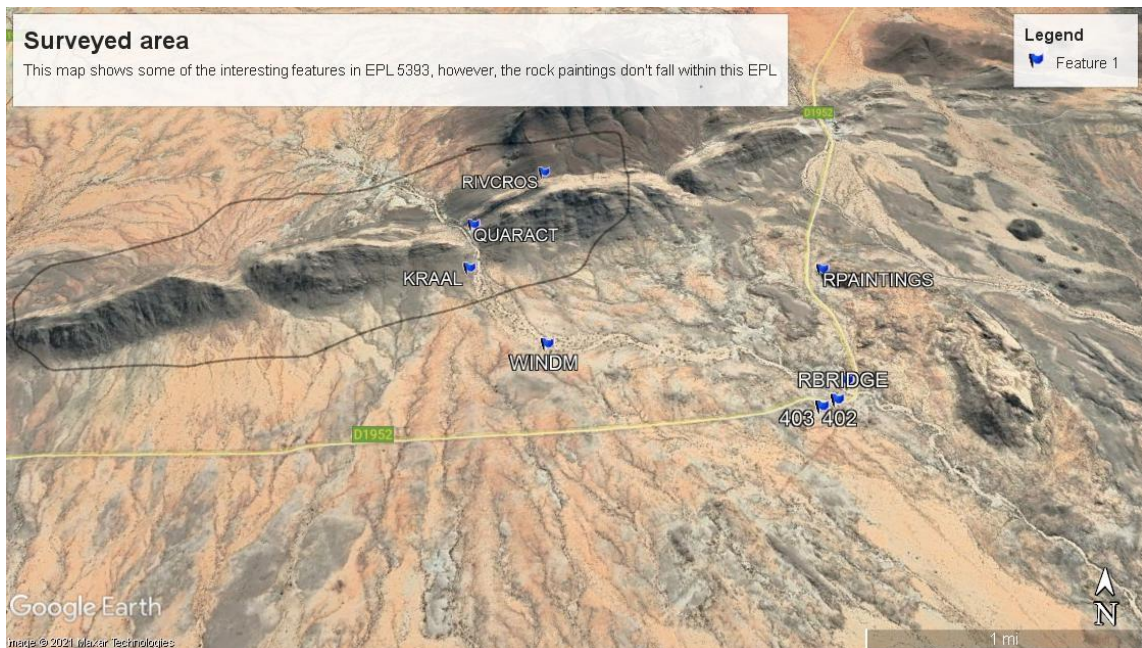


Plate 2. Encircled is the targeted area of exploration interest. Credits: Omavi 2021.

3.0 Legal Framework

In most cases where the aspect of mining or exploration is involved, cultural and/ or archaeological evidence located within areas earmarked for exploration usually face the danger of either complete erasure or total destruction. Such a risk is so high especially in areas that had not been explored or mined before as these activities will involve earth moving activities which will in turn destroy environmental resources as well as archaeological and/or cultural resources that might occur within the project area. In order to ensure that this unique heritage of our past is protected and well documented, the National Heritage Act 27 of 2004 and EIA Terms of Reference in relation to the

assessment of impacts of the proposed development on the cultural and heritage resources associated with the receiving environment shall be used to guide the exploration exercise. The statutory mandate of heritage impact assessment studies is to encourage and facilitate the protection and conservation of archaeological and cultural heritage sites, in accordance with the provisions of the National Heritage Act, Act 27 of 2004 and Environmental Management Act (EMA) No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations.

The legislations require that when constructing or mining exceeds 300m in length or developing an area exceeding 5000 m² in extent, the developer must notify the responsible heritage authority of the proposed development and they in turn must indicate within 14 days whether an impact assessment is required.

4.0 Methodology

Methodologically, primary data for the AIA was collected from the National Heritage Council of Namibia. A stratified systematic survey was conducted in areas which are accessible and with good archaeological visibility, where individuals were walking parallel to each other, and spaced by 5 meters. However, in areas with rugged terrains, a stratified random survey was conducted, where attention was given to areas with archaeological potential (Plate 3). Secondary data was obtained from relevant literary sources, both published and unpublished. Significant information (predominantly unpublished) was mainly obtained from National Heritage Council of Namibia (NHC) and the National Museum of Namibia, these included field reports, national database, marked topographical maps (1:50,000), data recorded on site index cards and graphic information.

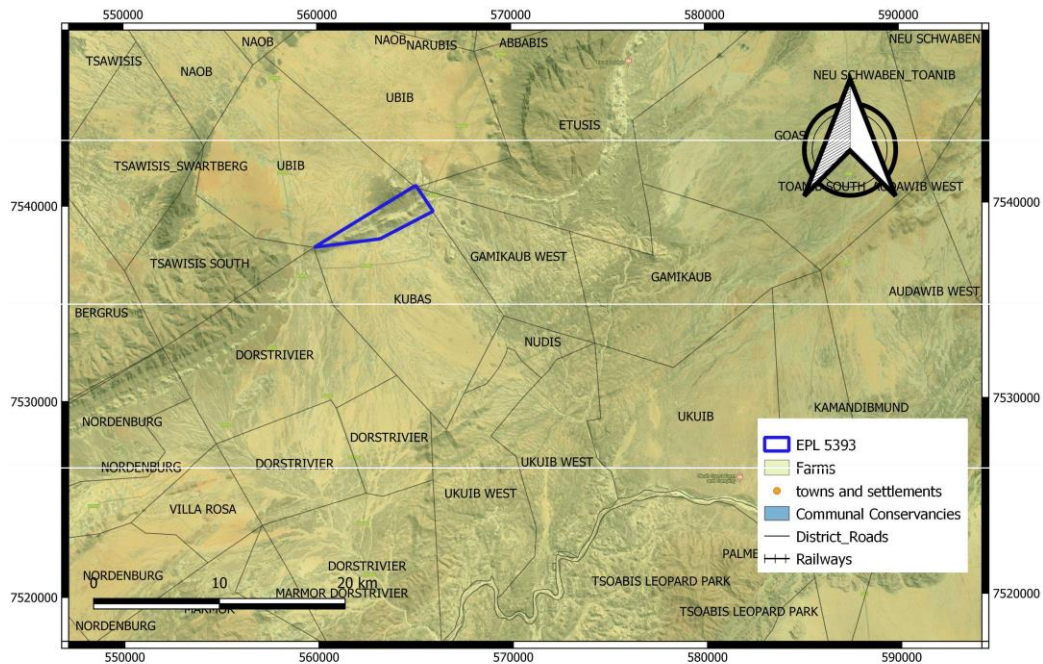


Plate 3. Zoomed in aerial photograph of the site in relation to the surrounding areas. Credits: Omavi 2021

5. 0 Brief heritage setting of the Project Area

Stone Age archaeology is prevalent in the larger geographical area. No systematic research has been carried out in the area project area. Kinahan has carried out comparative research on rock painting shelters in Erongo region from ‘Snake Rock’ in Hungorob Gorge – Brandberg Mountain, ‘Bushman Paradise’ in Pondok Mountain – Spitzkoppe Mountain and at “Rainman Shelter” in Upper Otjohorong Granite Hill in 1998 (Nankela, 2020). About 150 sites were recorded. The region is also endowed with Iron Age and contemporary heritage that has to be ascertained at a later date. Erongo region has 37 heritage sites which are listed as national monuments.

6.0 Fieldwork Findings

Public consultations meeting and field survey took place on the 13th of September 2021 at Farm Kubas No. 77. Followed by a detailed foot survey of the area surrounding the footprint of EPL 5393 on farm Kubas No. 77 and did not yield any archaeological evidence or sites of cultural significance within EPL 5393. However, there are number of late pre-colonial archaeological sites related to grasses seed exploitation, hunting of migratory antelope as well as a number of stone hunting blinds (Kinahan, 2006; 2020). Some sites were also discovered during this field survey such as rock paintings and historical buildings (see below pictures & map of exploration interest on page 7).



Plate 4. Rock art paintings on farm Kubas No. 77 but not within EPL 5393 boundaries. At coordinates 22° 15' 27.56" S - 15° 38' 18.09" E. Credits: Nakale. 2021



Plate 5. Historical Building just in front of the farm house. (Old Train Station). Credits: Nakale. 2021.



Plate 6. Undated War Grave behind the farm house. Credits: Nakale.2021

NB. Please note that all the above-mentioned sites do not fall within the area of interest EPL 5393 but worth mentioning for further research and documentation. Mr. Dirk Louw the farm owner also mentioned that there is a historical war fort on one of the mountains on his farm, this historical building is not within the project area though.

7.0 Results of Desktop Research

Information from the NHC shows that the project area falls under the cultural landscape occurring in Erongo Region. The national monuments list has 37 national monuments recorded within Erongo Region. Table 1 shows details of the part of the national monuments occurring in the same region as the project and are recorded in the National Monuments Register.

Table 1. National Monuments Recorded in National Database

Site Name	Information on Site Index Card
Ameib	`Phillipp's Cave' with rock art drawings.
Badges 158 Farm	Regimental badges laid out in stone of 2 Durban Light Infantry, dating from 1915
Brandberg.	Area of 450km ² of archaeological, ecological and geomorphological importance
Bushman Paradise Cave	Was `one of the finest collections of rock art in Namibia'. (Spitzkoppe
Cape Cross	Replica (1895) of original stone pillar left by Diogo Cão in 1484. First European contact with Namibia.
Erongo Farm	Rock paintings at six sites
Karibib	Rösemann building façade, erected in 1900
Karibib	Quartermasters Stores. Built in 1911
Karibib	Kubas Railway Station. Built in 1900
Karibib	Haus Woll. Built in 1900s
Karibib	Hotel Zum Grünen Kranze. Built in 1913
Karibib	Erf 46 and the Hälbich buildings. Built in 1900s
Karibib	Kaiserbrunnen (Imperial well) - well, water reservoir and drinking trough. Built in 1906

NB. These recorded sites occur on the same cultural landscape but different farms

8.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

8.1 Findings and Analysis

- a. It was noted during this assessment that **Best Cheer Investment Namibia cc** initiated Archaeological and Cultural Impact Assessment as provided for by the Environmental Management Act (2007) and National Heritage Act 27 of 2004 and guidelines for developers but the Ministry of Environment.
- b. The assessment team also noted that the proposed project area does not have visible cultural and archaeological material.

8.2 Recommendations

The study did not find any high-risk heritage with a potential to be disturbed by the exploration activities. The following recommendations are based on the results of the A/HIA research, cultural heritage background review, site inspection and assessment of significance.

Recommendation 1

Since no surface archaeological materials were found the Consultant is to ensure that all the existing archaeological reference guidelines (Chance Find Procedure Guideline by NHC (2017) is shared with the proponent for guidance. Against the background of the above, it is hereby **recommended that Best Cheer Investment Namibia cc, can be granted permission to proceed with the proposed project at EPL 5393 located approximately 27 km south of the town of Usakos provided that the project does not extend to the mentioned rock painting sites and a buffer zone must be maintained as per provisions of the National Heritage Act.**

It should also be noted that when such permission to proceed with exploration is granted, the proponent will still be obliged to comply with the provisions of the National Heritage Act, act 27 of 2004 and if he/she encounters subsurface archaeological/ cultural materials in the course of prospecting. If such a thing

happens, he is obliged by this said Act for him to cease operations and make a report to National Heritage Council for the way forward.

Recommendation 2

The foot print impact of the proposed exploration should be kept to minimal to limit the possibility of encountering chance finds within servitude such as the above – mentioned rock paintings.

Recommendation 3

The Project Public Participation Process should ensure that any cultural heritage related matters for this project are given due attention whenever they arise and are communicated to NHC throughout the proposed project development. This form of extended community involvement would pre-empt any potential disruptions that may arise from previously unknown cultural heritage matter that may have escaped the attention of this study.

9. Conclusion

The literature review and field study confirmed that the project area is situated within a contemporary cultural landscape dotted with settlements with long local history. Field survey established that the affected project area is degraded by environmental clearance. Although the area is degraded, there is a possibility that subsurface archaeological material can be discovered. This report concludes that the proposed exploration development EPL 5393 may be approved by NHCN to proceed as planned subject to recommendations herein made and Chance Find Procedures are followed (also see Appendices). The measures are informed by the results of the HIA study and principles of heritage management enshrined in the NHA, Act 27 of 2004.

References

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Independent Environmental Consultants. 2018. Environmental Assessment for Eight Exclusive Prospecting Licenses in the Omaheke Region Draft Environmental Management Plan.

Appendix 1 Chance Find Procedure Guideline by NHC (2017)

Areas of proposed development activity are subject to heritage survey and assessment at the planning stage. These surveys are based on surface indications alone, and it is therefore possible that sites or items of heritage significance will be found in the course of development work. The procedure set out here covers the reporting and management of such finds.

Scope: The “chance finds” procedure covers the actions to be taken from the discovery of a heritage site or item, to its investigation and assessment by a trained archaeologist or other appropriately qualified person.

Compliance: The “chance finds” procedure is intended to ensure compliance with relevant provisions of the National Heritage Act (27 of 2004), especially Section 55 (4): “ a person who discovers any archaeological objectmust as soon as practicable report the discovery to the Council”. The procedure of reporting set out below must be observed so that heritage remains reported to the NHC are correctly identified in the field.

Responsibility:

Operator To exercise due caution if archaeological remains are found

Foreman To secure site and advise management timeously

Superintendent To determine safe working boundary and request inspection

Archaeologist To inspect, identify, advise management, and recover remains

Procedure:

Action by person identifying archaeological or heritage material

- a) If operating machinery or equipment stop work
- b) Identify the site with flag tape
- c) Determine GPS position if possible
- d) Report findings to foreman

Action by foreman

- a) Report findings, site location and actions taken to superintendent
- b) Cease any works in immediate vicinity

Action by superintendent

- a) Visit site and determine whether work can proceed without damage to findings
- b) Determine and mark exclusion boundary
- c) Site location and details to be added to project GIS for field confirmation by archaeologist

Action by archaeologist

- a) Inspect site and confirm addition to project GIS
- b) Advise NHC and request written permission to remove findings from work area
- c) Recovery, packaging and labeling of findings for transfer to National Museum

In the event of discovering human remains

- a) Actions as above
- b) Field inspection by archaeologist to confirm that remains are human
- c) Advise and liaise with NHC and Police
- d) Recovery of remains and removal to National Museum or National Forensic Laboratory, as directed.