

The Environmental Commissioner

15 October 2021

Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism Environmental Affairs **Private Bag 13306** Windhoek **NAMIBIA** 

Dear Sir

RE: ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE APPLICATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF KUISEB COUNTRY ESTATE ON FARM 569 (A PORTION OF FARM LANDMISTER NO.331), WINDHOEK, KHOMAS REGION

## **Background**

Trustco Property Holdings (PTY) Ltd acquired ownership of Farm 569 (a Portion of Farm Landmister No.331), currently registered under Kuiseb Country Estate (PTY) Ltd, which was officially declared as Kuiseb Settlement Area in the Government Gazette on the 29<sup>th</sup> December 2017. The development is approximately 52km southwest of Windhoek, just north of the Friedenau Dam, Khomas Region. The Settlement Area declared over Farm 569 is 353,2 hectares in size compromising of a residential and conservation component. The concept is to have a low-density residential development that would be an environmentally sensitive and self-sustaining development, in touch with the limitations and potential of the surrounding natural environment.

Before the acquisition of the development, the previous owner submitted a Scoping Report which was approved by the Office of the Environmental Commissioner and an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) was awarded on the 22 January 2016. Since award of the ECC all statutory planning approvals were obtained and since ownership transfer, no developments have occurred as of yet on Farm 569.

## Request for renewal

The proposed project includes certain activities that are listed as 'Listed Activities' according to Government Notice No.29 of 6 February 2012, which requires that an Environmental Clearance Certificate be obtained from the office of the Environmental Commissioner.

The first ECC expired under the previous ownership in 2019, and therefore Trustco Properties would like to submit a new ECC application. The Scoping Report has been compiled as part of an assessment that has been undertaken for the development of the proposed Kuiseb Country Estate and associated infrastructure. The



previous Scoping report will accommodate the application, as no changes or developments have occurred since award of the first ECC and transfer of ownership. The initial intent of the project remains the same even after ownership transfer.

As is currently the case with all our developments, Trustco Properties would like to indicate its commitment to sound environmental practices and to comply with all National laws and regulations, as required. Trustco Properties humbly requests the office of the Environmental Commissioner to consider the application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate for the Kuiseb Country Estate which will subsequently be monitored through submission of bi-annual reports by our inhouse Environmental Division.

Our office would appreciate the favourable consideration to this request and if there are any other requirements for this application, we will gladly provide the required information.

Yours Faithfully

**Edwin Thornley** 

**Acting Deputy CEO: Trustco Properties**