




ECC-79-193-REP-37-A

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE REPORT

EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EPL 3308, ERONGO REGION, NAMIBIA

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE - RENEWAL APPLICATION

PREPARED FOR

ELEVATE URANIUM (PTY) LIMITED

November 2021

PO BOX 91193 Windhoek Namibia
Environmental Compliance Consultancy CC
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TITLE AND APPROVAL PAGE

Project Name:	Environmental compliance report for the exploration activities on EPL 3308, in the Erongo Region, Namibia.
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DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ECC	Environmental Compliance Consultancy
EMA	Environmental Management Act
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EPL	Exclusive Prospecting Licence
MEFT	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT INTRODUCTION

Elevate Uranium Limited, previously known as Marenica Energy Limited changed its name in June 2021. The parent company Elevate Uranium is an Australian Securities Exchange Listed Company that owns 100% of the Namibian Company 'Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd'. Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd is a wholly subsidiary of Elevate Uranium, which holds the exclusive prospecting licence 3308 (EPL 3308).

Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd (herein referred to as the proponent), is seeking to continue with exploration opportunities and activities on EPL 3308. The proponent holds a current and valid environmental clearance certificate for exploration activities on EPL 3308, for which a renewal is being applied. As part of this application, an environmental compliance review has been undertaken to determine the status of compliance with the Environmental Management Plan.

EPL 3308 is located north of Henties Bay, in the vicinity of Mile 72. The entire EPL is situated within the Dorob National Park area and is located approximately 100km north of Swakopmund, 15km north of Henties north of Henties Bay. In line with stipulations of the National policy (titled?) and year, "no mining" zones have been identified and excluded from the EPL area. Additionally, the proponent has further identified sensitive areas which have also been excluded, further reducing the size of EPL 3308.

In terms of the Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007, a renewal application for the EPL's environmental clearance certificate is required. As part of this application an environmental compliance review of the work undertaken on site and status of compliance with the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) is to be submitted to the competent authority, Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT).

FIGURE 1 – LOCALITY MAP OF EPL 3308

1.2 THE PROPONENT OF THE PROJECT

The details of the proponent are set out in Table 1.

TABLE 1 - PROPONENTS DETAILS

CONTACT	POSTAL ADDRESS	EMAIL ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
ELEVATE URANIUM (PTY) LTD MURRY HILL (CEO)	P O Box 186 Windhoek Namibia	mhill@elevateuranium.com.au	+61 8 6555 1816

1.3 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANCY

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (ECC) is a Namibian registered consultancy and environmental practitioner, registration number CC/2013/11401. ECC has prepared this document on behalf of the proponent. ECC operates exclusively in the environmental, social, health and safety fields for clients across Southern Africa in the public and private sector. The curriculum vitae of the authors of this report are contained in Appendix B. ECC is independent of the proponent and has no vested or financial interests in the proposed project except for fair remuneration for professional services rendered.

All compliance and regulatory requirements regarding this document should be forwarded by email or posted to the following address:

Environmental Compliance Consultancy
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Tel: +264 81 669 7608
Email: info@eccenvironmental.com

1.4 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to document the findings of an environmental compliance audit, which accompanies the renewal application for the environmental clearance certificate for EPL 3308. A site inspection was undertaken on the 27th of March 2019, which reviewed the current baseline and evaluated the status of environmental management practices, covering the period since the approval of the renewal environmental clearance licence from the 23 November 2018.

This compliance report is subjected to periodical auditing as the project's exploration activities progress. The approved EMP for the existing environmental clearance certificate is audited in order to monitor the proceeds of the project and ensure that all measures stipulated in the document are met and effectively adhered to, as required by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA). In an event where the project activities are altered, the EMP is required to be revised and amended accordingly.

As per the Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007 and it's EIA Regulations of 2012, exploration activities on EPL 3308 cannot be undertaken without a valid environmental clearance certificate. The exploration activities at EPL 3308 proposes to assess the viability of base and rare, precious metals, nuclear fuel, and industrial minerals that can be found in the EPL 3308 area. The proposed methods of exploration have minimal impacts, as they are done on a small scale and rehabilitation of the natural vegetation will be done as per the approved EMP.

2 BACKGROUND TO EPL 3308

This section provides a brief history of the exploration licence EPL 3308, to provide context of the granting of the EPL, the consenting of the environmental clearance certificate, and works undertaken to date on the EPL site. A description of the environment and society and the conclusions of the environmental assessment are not provided, and the initial 2013 report should be referred to. The assessment findings and conclusion are still relevant and applicable due to the limited activity on the site.

2.1 EXPLORATION ON EPL 3308

Ongoing exploration activities have been taking place since July 2008, when the first environmental clearance certificate was issued. In 2013, when the new EIA regulations were enacted, a site visit was undertaken by EnviroSolutions for which an environmental scoping report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) were submitted to the competent authorities, as part of a renewal application for the environmental clearance certificate.

For the exploration activities that took place between the period of (2018-2021), an environmental clearance certificate was granted on the 23 November 2018 and is valid until the 23 November 2021.

2.2 PROPOSED RENEWAL AND ACTIVITIES

The proposed activities once the environmental clearance certificate is renewed include:

- Geophysical surveys (airborne electromagnetic survey, ground HLEM surveys, etc);
- Geochemical analysis (resample high U intervals in trenches using 1m channels/composites);
- Geological (construct geological map of mile 72 tenement and validate and verify chips from Metals Australia drilling); and
- Drilling (RC drilling programme).

2.3 NATIONAL POLICY ON THE PROSPECTING AND MINING IN PROTECTED AREAS

In 2018, the MEFT issued the National Policy on Prospecting and Mining in Protected Areas, which provides direction in terms of where mining and exploration related impacts are legally prohibited and where biodiversity priority areas may present high risks for mining projects. The Policy provides a framework for integrating relevant biodiversity information into decision making about exploration and mining options and how best to avoid, minimise or remedy biodiversity impacts caused by mining, and in so doing, supporting sustainable development. A review of the Policy has been undertaken in relation to the exclusion zones and the EPL boundary as set out below.

Due to this Policy, the proponent then took the initiative and reviewed their EPL and compared it to the areas excluded for mining and exploration within the policy. Elevate Uranium then voluntarily reduced the size of their EPL removing the areas which fell into the excluded areas.

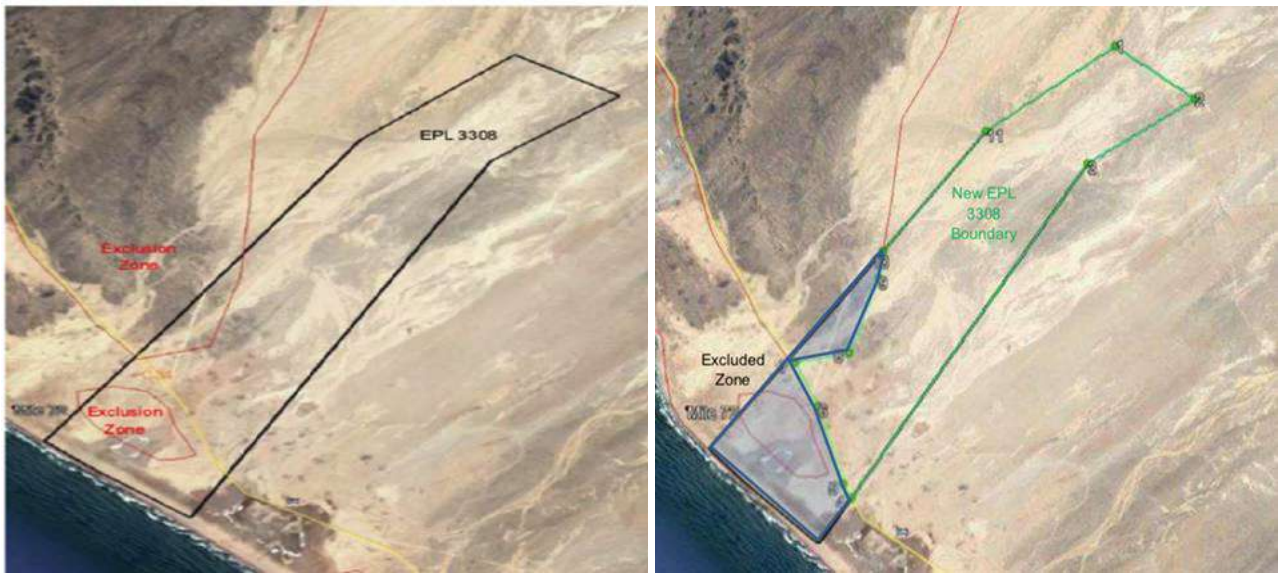

FIGURE 2 – MAP OF EPL 3308 INDICATING THE ZONES EXCLUDED ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL POLICY (PICTURE OF BEFORE – LEFT) AND REVISED EPL BOUNDARY WITH EXCLUSION AND SELF-IMPOSED EXCLUSION AREAS (PICTURE OF AFTER – RIGHT)

The reduction changes to the EPL boundaries are shown in the area to the south-west of the C34 road from Henties Bay to Cape Cross, and also cuts out the exclusion zone just north of the road. The resultant EPL excludes the delineated no mining zones, as well as an area south-west of the C34.

The proponent believes that the action taken to exclude these sensitive zones from EPL 3308 demonstrates their commitment and seriousness when it comes to environmental issues. The recognition of the delineated no mining zones and exclusion from the EPL demonstrates, the proponent's commitment to protect the environment as far as practicably possible during the exploration phase of determining the viability of the uranium deposit and project.

The requirements for exploration in the National Park as per the Policy included the EMP and commitments have been included in Table 3.

3 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AUDIT

3.1 SITE INSPECTION

3.1.1 ECO MONITORING APPROACH

MONTHLY MONITORING

ECC was engaged by the proponent an audit of the project. The objective of the audit was to ensure compliance with the project's EMP, with the aim of minimizing potential impacts and to ensure the pro-active identification of any potential environmental issues or aspects that the proponent and or contractors should consider.

ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONITORING PERIOD

Exploration activities include drilling near Mile 72 on EPL 3308. Shallow holes, which are often less than 10 m deep, are done by a rotary air blast (RAB) drill. The drill is attached to a Unimog-vehicle and supplied with power from a transformer pulled by another vehicle. Samples taken are logged and put in bags for laboratory tests (see Figure 4).

FIGURE 3 - SOIL SAMPLES BAGGED FOR LABORATORY TESTING

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

The drilling team overnights at the camping ground at Mile 72 (a camping ground, mainly utilized by holiday goers and recreational anglers during Namibia's peak holiday periods) and not on site, which implies that the footprint is limited to tracks and refilled boreholes.

Near the turn-off of Mile 72 from the main road, at the C34, there is also a turn-off to the east leading to the "Dead Sea". The latter is a pit lake in the abandoned Strathmore tin mine. Along this stretch of the C34 there are many signs of off-road driving. There are also old exploration trenches, scattered scrap, and small mining pits to be seen in the area. Despite these landscape scars, the drilling program is done with admirable care and consent. The current drilling program is also of short duration.

Provided that the drilling program is going to expand and become more intensive, more measures of mitigation shall be practised to avoid potential reputational issues through pro-active initiatives. Some ideas in this regard include the erection of clear signboards to discourage off-road driving and to identify no go zones, grading of the road to the "Dead Sea", and removal of discarded scrap. The findings of the site inspections which were done in 2019 are included in Appendix B.

SITE PHOTOS

FIGURE 4 - EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EPL 3308

FIGURE 5 – EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES MARKED BY A TEMPORARY SITE NOTICE

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE EMP
Nil to date

NON-CONFORMANCE / INCIDENT REPORTING
There are no incidents or matters of non-conformance reported to date.

ISSUES AND COMPLAINTS
Off-road driving around Mile 72 is a major reason for concern as the sensitive desert crust shows these tracks for many years afterward. Lichens occur in abundance on the higher ground and outcrops, and despite its sensitivity, these areas are marked with many scars of disrespectful off-road driving (Figure 8).

FIGURE 6 – EVIDENCE OF OFF-ROAD DRIVING

3.2 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE AUDIT

Furthermore, the approved EMP covers all adverse environmental impacts, including any additional potential impacts that may result from the exploration activities at EPL 3308. The EMP provides the technical details for each mitigation, monitoring and institutional measure, including the impact(s) to which it relates and the conditions when required, together with designs, equipment descriptions and operating procedures as granted.

3.3 COMPLIANCE AUDIT FINDINGS

This section outlines the findings of the environmental audit completed for the project. It addresses obligations in terms of the key Acts that govern the activities on site, the commitments made in the EMP, and present the findings and recommended corrective actions where applicable (Table 2).

The EMP:

- Identifies all mineral exploration activities that could cause environmental damage (risks) and provides a summary of actions required;
- Identifies institutions responsible for ensuring compliance with the EMP and provides their contact information;
- Provides standard procedures to avoid, minimise and mitigate the identified negative environmental impacts and to enhance the positive impact of the proposed activities on the environment;
- Provides for site and exploration rules and actions required;
- Forms a written record of procedures, responsibilities, requirements and rules for contractor/s, their staff and any other person who must comply with the EMP;
- Ensure zero pollution incidents; minimal vegetation clearing and earthworks, protect local flora and fauna; and use natural resources effectively and efficiently.
- Provides a monitoring and auditing programme to track and record compliance and identify and respond to any potential or actual negative environmental impacts, and
- Provides a monitoring programme to record any mitigation measures that are implemented.
- Communicate with the national park staff on a regular basis to ensure that mutual expectations are clear and reinforced.
- Ensure that an annual environmental audit is carried out by either MME or MEFT.
- Once closure has been completed impacts shall be rehabilitated.

TABLE 2 - EXPLORATION EMP AUDIT

ASPECT	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES	MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	COMPLIANCE	COMMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS
AIR QUALITY sampling use of roads and excavation	Increased dust levels and reduction in air quality. Affects safety, worker's health risk and visual impact to tourists. 1. Affects safety 2. Worker's health risk 3. Visual impact to tourists	Periodic wetting of the road surfaces using sea water, particularly in areas where a significant safety risk exists	**Compliant** When the proponent visits the site, only existing tracks are used as per the permits issued by Parks.	When exploration commences the proponent will ensure mitigation measures are in place as per the EMP.
		Restriction of vehicles speeds on site.		
		Limiting disturbance to soils by remaining on existing tracks within the EPL, thereby maintaining the integrity of the soil surface,		
		The provision of personal protective equipment to all those employees potentially exposed to silica dust through the provision of adequate facemasks.		

ASPECT	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES	MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	COMPLIANCE	COMMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS
FLORA AND FAUNA sampling, use of roads and excavation / pits	Loss of flora and fauna	All attempts must be made to prevent its destruction, especially considering the sparse distribution of such vegetation as well as its slow growth. No trenching activities will take place outside the boundaries of the EPL area and vegetated areas should be avoided as far as practically possible.	**Compliant**	
		A. The lichen fields and outcrops on the northern section of the EPL should not be disturbed.	A. Marenica excluded the areas from EPL	A. Revised EPL boundary to exclude area EPL with MME
		B. Established vegetation must not be destroyed during prospecting activities	B. No disturbing earth works conducted	B. Tourists appear to be driving all over the areas without care for using existing tracks disrupting vegetation and lichens
		C. Existing vehicle tracks must be used as far as practically possible	C. Only existing tracks used	C. Continue to rehabilitate when exploration recommences
		D. Staff awareness must be ensured so as to prevent the unwanted destruction of vegetation	D. Staff is a small team and well managed	D. Reiterate environmental requirements annually when exploration commences

ASPECT	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES	MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	COMPLIANCE	COMMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS
		E. Strictly disciplinary measures shall be applied to staff members caught poaching or attempting to trap wildlife	E. Small team well managed	E. Nil
		F. The prevention of litter and the adequate disposal of domestic wastes to prevent attracting pest animals	F. All waste removed from site	F. Nil
		G. The enforcement of speed restrictions on all roads / tracks to prevent accidents with animals	G. Speed limit compiled with	G. Nil
		H. Rehabilitation as soon as possible, including careful rehabilitation of the topsoil to promote vegetation growth	H. Rehabilitation attempts and trials ongoing	H. Ensure rehabilitation continues concurrently with exploration
LANDSCAPE AND TOPOGRAPHY Pits and excavation Stockpiling Tracks	Change of topography. Visual effects on tourist views and deterioration of landscape	A. The adequate control of dust generated within the sampling areas, including the access roads	A. **Compliant** - No exploration activities causing dust	A. Nil
		B. Adequate disposal methods for all waste types, including domestic waste, scrap metal etc.	B. Evidence of scrap car found on site (unsure of ownership could be tourists)	B. Remove and clean up waste irrespective of ownership of waste
		C. Reducing the visibility of structures, including water tanks, bulk fuel tanks etc.	C. N/A	C. Nil

ASPECT	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES	MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	COMPLIANCE	COMMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS
		D. Reducing the visibility of open tranches, pits, and stockpiles through ongoing rehabilitation	D. No open trenches visible	D. Continue with rehab when exploration recommences
		E. Limited or selected rehabilitation of present disturbed areas	E. Rehabilitation attempts ongoing	E. When exploration recommence inductions will be held
		F. Promotion of a culture of awareness amongst all employees involved with sensitivity of tourism to visual impacts as a result of activities in this area.	F. Small team well managed	F. Elevate Uranium will rehab previous exploration attempts
		G. Rehabilitation as soon as possible	G. Ongoing	G. Nil
SOIL AND EROSION Movement of vehicles Earth moving	Disruption of surface micro-topography. Compaction and modification of the subsurface layers. Increased erosion potential of soils by wind erosion. Loss of seeds in the upper layer. Reduction in topsoil quality.	A. Prohibit use of vehicles off established and well-used tracks	A. Existing tracks visible	A. Continue to ensure only existing tracks are used
		B. Rehabilitate areas as soon as possible	B. Ongoing	B. Elevate Uranium will rehab previous exploration attempts
		C. Store topsoil and restore	C. N/A no exploration	C. Ensure compliance to EMP when exploration commences

TABLE 3 - CONDITIONS TO OPERATE IN PROTECTED AREAS

General Conditions: 1. A list of company personnel, including ID/Passport numbers, nationality, and position, authorized to enter or work on the company's tenements within a PA, must be supplied to the MET officer in charge of the area. 2. Employee and personnel lists must be updated on a regular basis (when any changes happen). 3. An annual permit must be obtained from the MET to enter a protective area. All permanent staff must be listed on this permit. This permit must be shown each time a staff member enters the park, and all people in a group must correspond with the permit list. A separate permit must be obtained from the MET for non-permanent employees (contractors, service providers etc.) to cover the duration of their visit. 4. A copy of all permits and permissions from the relevant authorities or ministries to carry out any of the proposed activities on the EPL must be supplied to the officer in charge of the area. 5. All employees must be in possession of an ID/name tag with their name, photo and job or function with an authorizing signature. 6. A suitable communication system to enable regular contact with protective area officials must be installed.
Environmental Conditions: 1. A six monthly progress report and environmental management report must be submitted to the MET starting from date of commencement of operations. 2. All provisions of the Nature Conservation Ordinance, Ordinance 4 of 1975 and all amendments to this ordinance and Regulations Relating to Nature Conservation, GN 240 of 1976, with all amendments or any legislation that replaces it must be complied with. 3. All provisions of the Environmental Management Act, Act 7 of 2007, must be complied with. 4. Provisions of any other legislation pertaining to any aspect of the environment must be complied with. 5. Strict compliance with all conditions in the Environmental Contract and appendices. 6. No movement outside of the EPL area except when in transit between entrance to the PA and the EPL area will be allowed. Such transit will be on a specified route. 7. A detailed site inspection will be carried out in conjunction with MET staff prior to commencement of any prospecting activities to establish access routes to target areas. 8. No motor bike, 3-wheeler or quad bike of any nature will be allowed to be used in an EPL for any purpose. 9. No hunting, catching or wilfully disturbing any animal is allowed. 10. No boating will be allowed on any river or water body unless it is within the operations detailed on the operational documentation.

11. No gathering of firewood or driftwood for any purpose will be allowed.
12. No pets of any description will be allowed.
13. No firearms, bows, crossbows, catapults, or other weapons. Weapons for security purposes must be motivated and registered with the officer in charge of the area.
14. Traveling will be confined to an agreed upon track network. New tracks will be kept to a minimum.
15. All waste must be removed from the license area to a waste disposal unit. No waste to be disposed of within the PA. A suitable scavenger and wind proof storage facility must be constructed to store waste material prior to transportation out of the area. Waste may be burnt on site and the ash and non-burnable residue must be removed as described above. Attention must be given to wind conditions and all necessary measures must be taken to prevent wind distribution of rubbish. All fuel and lubricant waste products must be disposed of at a suitable facility outside of the PA.
16. Suitable and effective traps or pans must be used at vehicle or machinery refuelling points. Soil contaminated with fuel or oil must be immediately dug up and stored in a safe place for later removal to a suitable disposal facility.
17. Under no circumstances may any waste material of any nature be disposed of in any water body or river.
18. All structures are to be of a temporary nature.
19. Toilets of a 'long drop' or pit latrine type must be put up immediately. The use of chemical toilets will not be acceptable, as there is the problem of disposing of the chemical residue. Any toilet must be constructed away from the any river to prevent contamination.
20. Harvesting of reeds or other natural materials for construction or other purposes will not be allowed.
21. Transgressions of any provisions of the Nature Conservation Ordinance or its amendments will be dealt with severely. Second time offenders will be asked to leave the park.

4 REHABILITATION PLAN

Due to the sensitive ecology of the area, as well as the fact that it is in a national park, which makes it sensitive for both biodiversity and tourism as a land use to visual impacts rehabilitation measures applied after prospecting activities is essential. All impacts caused by the proponent during exploration activities, must be rehabilitated should no further use of the land be required.

4.1 REHABILITATION ACTIVITIES

Rehabilitation measures include the following:

- Remove all construction equipment, surplus materials and temporary structures, fences and works of every kind;
- The sale/removal of all waste types from the project site to a recognized dump site;
- Break up bunds and all other concrete slabs (if applicable) and remove these, together with all waste concrete, to a recognized waste dump;
- Burn all uncontaminated, non-hazardous combustible substances (i.e. wood, cardboard, paper and food scraps) in a waste pit;
- Any other waste should be removed from site to an appropriate landfill facility (e.g. Henties Bay or Swakopmund);
- Oil spills should be cleaned up immediately. Contaminated soils should be disposed of at an approved disposal site (e.g. Walvis Bay);
- Bury all uncontaminated construction rubble (i.e. waste concrete) in a waste pit;
- Demolish buildings, if applicable;
- The surface of used roads should be broken up (scarified) to alleviate compaction and increase the rate of vegetation regeneration;
- Any sample pits or tracks that were previously created by the proponent and no longer used shall be rehabilitated as soon as possible and should not be left to the end of the exploration campaign;
- Whilst some historic tracks and sample pits were not created by the proponent, it would be best practice for the proponent to rehabilitate this legacy and improve the site conditions;
- New sample pits shall be rehabilitated once not envisaged to be used further through filling in the pits with overburden and covering with top soil;
- Once new tracks are no longer used, they shall be rehabilitated to avoid further soil erosion. This shall be undertaken immediately after use or concurrently with the exploration program;
- Once new trenches are no longer in use, they shall be rehabilitated through filling in the trenches with overburden and covering with top soil;

- The camp site shall be rehabilitated at the end of the exploration work, including the removal of the infrastructure and concrete slab, and historic hydrocarbon spills and waste shall be cleared from site; and
- All rehabilitation shall be undertaken in a manner so that the natural flow pattern of the landscape is not obscured.

With regard to trenches, stockpiles, and waste dumps, it is recognized that once the overburden has been removed, a 30% swell factor of the overburden is anticipated. It will therefore be necessary to find alternative uses and permanent stockpiling points for the material, that cannot be accommodated in the trenches when backfilling during rehabilitation. Furthermore, it is vitally important that the shallow topsoil layer is conserved during prospecting activities. Soils in arid areas store seeds in the upper layers for extended periods of time until the germination conditions of seeds are met. These seeds will be very valuable to the rehabilitation process, as they will provide a source of plant material. Separate stripping of differentiated soil layers will therefore be necessary for rehabilitation.

The following rehabilitation measures are therefore required for trenches, pits and waste dumps:

- Used pits and trenches must be backfilled, compacted marginally (to prevent slumping) and contoured to follow the natural contours of the land; and
- Where topsoil is available (containing the valuable seedbed), this topsoil should be spread evenly over areas requiring rehabilitation.
- When rehabilitation is complete there must be little or no evidence of the sampling activities, which have taken place in the area.

4.2 REHABILITATION MONITORING

To ensure rehabilitation is successful, the following shall be undertaken. Fixed photo points shall be established, and photos taken:

- Prior to any further exploration work are undertaken and thereafter periodically to visually assess rehabilitation processes over time; and
- At sites with previous activities and thereafter periodically to visually assess rehabilitation processes over time.

5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

All proposed activities shall be carried out in compliance with the relevant requirements and conditions of the granted licence in accordance with the approved EMP. It is recommended that the proponent continue to adhere to all environmental legislation and company standards to ensure that best practical environmental protection continues as the project activities progress.

APPENDIX A: ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

Tel: (00 26461) 284 2111
Fax: (00 26461) 232 057

Cnr Robert Mugabe &
Dr Kenneth Kaunda Street
Private Bag 13306
Windhoek
Namibia

Enquiries: Mr. Josafat K Hiwana
E-mail: josafat.hiwana@met.gov.na

22 November 2018

OFFICE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSIONER

The Managing Director
Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 3046
Swakopmund
Namibia

Dear Sir/Madam

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE FOR THE EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) 3308 SITUATED IN DOROB NATIONAL PARK, ERONGO REGION

The Environmental Management Plan submitted is sufficient as it made provisions of the environmental management concerning the proposed activities. From this perspective, regular environmental monitoring and evaluations on environmental performance should be conducted. Targets for improvements should be established and monitored throughout this process.

This Ministry reserves the right to attach further legislative and regulatory conditions during the operational phase of the project. From this perspective, I issue the environmental clearance certificate with the following condition; that the key recommendations in the Environmental Management Plan shall be followed.

On the basis of the above, this letter serves as an environmental clearance certificate for the project to continue. However, this clearance letter does not in any way hold the Ministry of Environment and Tourism accountable for any misleading information, nor any adverse effects that may arise from this project's activities. Instead, full accountability rests with Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd.

This environmental clearance is valid for a period of 3 (three) years, from the date of issue unless withdrawn by this office.

P/Bag 13306
Windhoek, Namibia
2018 -11- 23

Yours sincerely,

Teofilus Nghitila
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSIONER

"Stop the poaching of our rhinos"

All official correspondence must be addressed to the Permanent Secretary

Annex 1: Conditions applicable to Environmental Clearances in Proclaimed Protected Areas

1. Conditions of the Park entry permits should be adhered to at all time.

2. Rehabilitation/Mitigation work, especially, the removal and replanting of vegetation to be conducted in consultation with the National Botanical Institute in the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry, and the progress to be reported to the Ministry of Environment and Tourism regional office and to the Deputy Director of Wildlife Monitoring and Research.

3. All provisions of applicable legislation and regulations concerning protected areas apply.

4. This Environmental Clearance shall serve as a contract of agreement between the holder and the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, but it does not in any way make the Ministry of Environment and Tourism responsible for any wrong or insufficient information provided, nor any adverse effects that may arise from this project's activities. Instead, full responsibility and accountability rest with the developer and his/her consultants.

5. The Holder of this Environmental Clearance (hereafter refer d to as the Holder) assumes full responsibility and liability for the safety and conduct of employees, contractors and/or visitors.

6. The Holder agrees to fully indemnify the Government of the Republic of Namibia in the event that the Government is held liable in respect of any loss, damage or injury sustained to an employee, contractor and/or visitor whilst such employee, contractor and/or visitor is in the Park under the auspices, direction or invitation of the holder.

7. Entry and exit points to the Park as well as the driving routes to be followed in the Park shall be determined by this Ministry in its sole discretion and shall be communicated to the Holder in writing. The Holder shall strictly adhere to the designated entry points, exit points and driving routes.

8. Only existing tracks or roads may be used unless prior approval is obtained from the Ministry.

9. All tracks or roads must be established, constructed and rehabilitated under the supervision of officials designated by the Ministry for this purpose.

10. The Holder shall erect a signboard not smaller than 70 cm in height and 100cm in width, at the major entrance/s to each of its license areas, specifying the number of the license, the duration of its validity and the name of the license holder, and a contact name and number for enquiries.

11. The Holder acknowledges that designated staff of this Ministry may monitor the Park and the activities of the Holder within the park in order to verify adherence to the conditions imposed in this authorization. The Holder undertakes to give its full cooperation to the designated staff in this regard.

12. In the event that an application to renew the clearance is received, the renewal of this clearance is entirely within the discretion of the Ministry and the Holder should entertain no expectation of whatsoever nature in that regard. In this regard, this Ministry accepts no responsibility of whatsoever nature, for any expenditure which the Holder incurs in order to exercise its rights and obligations in terms of this clearance, and which expenditure is rendered redundant or futile in the event that this clearance is not extended.

13. In the event that the Ministry extends the clearance for an additional period, the Ministry reserves the right to impose additional conditions or amend existing conditions of this

authorization, and the Holder agrees to be bound by such additional and/or amended conditions.

14. In the case of non-compliance with any of these conditions, the clearance can be terminated by the Ministry at any time by written notice to the holder, including the reasons for such termination. Notice of termination in terms hereof will not detract from any of the Holder's obligations pertaining to the clearance, including the implementation of the environmental management plan and the rehabilitation of disturbed areas or other impacts caused by the Holder.

15. A six monthly report on project progress and environmental management profile, starting from date of commencement of operations, must be submitted by the Holder to the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, particularly, the directorates of Environmental Affairs, and Parks and Wildlife Management.

16. Boating, biking, swimming, fishing, hunting, wood gathering or the collection of soil, insects, birds, animals and plants, including the introduction of pets and weapons of all types, are strictly prohibited within the jurisdiction of a protected area.

17. Unless permitted by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, the operation of an aircraft and the construction of a runaway, including any other attempt to harvest natural resources for any form of construction purposes, shall not be allowed in all protected areas. Where the construction of structures is allowed, the design of such structures must be of a temporary nature.

18. There shall be no voluntary disposal of any form of waste in all protected areas of the Republic of Namibia. A suitable waste storage facility must be constructed to serve as a waste retention device prior to transportation out of the protected area.

19. Using the best and affordable methodology, the Holder must ensure that all mining or quarrying and exploratory operations are thoroughly rehabilitated prior to closure of the operation. Wherever possible, the Holder must proceed with the rehabilitation process concurrently with the progression of the project rather than wait until the damage is far beyond the available means of management.

20. The general standard for all rehabilitation processes must at all costs aim at restoring the natural character of the environment to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism. Such rehabilitation processes shall be inspected and certified satisfactory or unsatisfactory by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism. Where a certificate of unsatisfactory is issued, the Holder shall be advised to carry-out certain tasks to meet the requirements. Failure to meet the basic rehabilitation requirements shall be regarded by this Ministry as a breach of this contract and of which serious consequences shall follow.

21. If the EIA/EMP report for a given exploration or mining or quarrying require the services of an external reviewer, the Holder shall bear the full cost of the review of that particular report. Under such circumstances, this Ministry shall only pronounce its decision on the issue once the full cost of the review is paid-out to the reviewer.

22. Finally, the Holder is advised that these conditions shall be reviewed and refined on a regular basis to ensure compliance and sound management of our protected areas. From this perspective, and depending on site specifics and the technical nature of a given project, further conditions shall be attached to guide the operations of such projects.

2

All official correspondence must be addressed to the Permanent Secretary

APPENDIX B: EXAMPLE OF THE MONTHLY CHECKLIST

INSPECTION DATE: 27/03/2019
ACTIVITIES ON SITE: Drilling, Sampling

COMPLETED BY: Pierre Smit ECC
CONTRACTORS ON SITE: YES

EMP COMMITMENTS/REGULATORY OBLIGATIONS	FINDING/OBSERVATIONS	COMPLIANT (YES/NO)	RECOMMENDED ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Park entry permits available and adhered to	None	YES		- Contractor - Project Manager
Adherence to the removal and replanting of vegetation conducted in consultation with the National Botanical Research Institute in the MAWF and the progress reported to MET regional office and Deputy Director of Wildlife Monitoring and Research	None	YES		- Contractor - Project Manager
Protected Area as per legislation and regulations have been adhered to	None	YES		- Contractor - Project Manager
Designated entry, exit and driving routes adhered to	- Off-road driving appear to happen despite existing tracks, and without any care, disturbing the desert crust and lichens - Only existing tracks are used by the proponent Personnel.	YES	Erection of clear signboards to discourage off-road driving, identify no go zones, grade the road to the "Dead Sea", and remove discarded scrap.	- Contractor - Project Manager

EMP COMMITMENTS/REGULATORY OBLIGATIONS	FINDING/OBSERVATIONS	COMPLIANT (YES/NO)	RECOMMENDED ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
			  	
Roads and tracks established, constructed and rehabilitated in accordance with the EMP	Drilling team uses only existing tracks	YES		- Contractor - Project Manager
Workers may not harvest firewood from the site or from the areas adjacent to it. No use of boating, biking, fishing, hunting, wood gathering or collection of soils on site	None	YES		- Contractor - Project Manager
Workers may not bring pets onto the construction site	None	YES		- Contractor - Project Manager
A suitable waste storage facility available on site	No storage, no waste, and no	YES		- Contractor

EMP COMMITMENTS/REGULATORY OBLIGATIONS	FINDING/OBSERVATIONS	COMPLIANT (YES/NO)	RECOMMENDED ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
	temporary infrastructure on site			- Project Manager
Litter and waste management measures must be adhered to at all times	No waste seen on site, site is neat and tidy 	YES		- Contractor - Project Manager
Machinery and vehicles are to be kept in good working order for the duration of the project, to minimize noise impact	Noise is kept at appropriate levels	YES		- Contractor - Project Manager
Dust suppression measures in place	The drilling process generates no dust, as it is a wet process.	YES		- Contractor - Project Manager
Accommodation must be kept clean to minimise the visual impact of the site and minimise vermin and pests.	The team overnights at the camping grounds at Mile 72 and not on site, which implies that the footprint is limited to tracks	YES		- Contractor - Project Manager
Rehabilitation done as per standard procedures	- Tracks and the small areas around the refilled boreholes are raked before each scene is	YES	Ensure rehabilitation continues concurrently with exploration	- Contractor - Project Manager

EMP COMMITMENTS/REGULATORY OBLIGATIONS	FINDING/OBSERVATIONS	COMPLIANT (YES/NO)	RECOMMENDED ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
	left. - All material from the drilling is piped to an enclosed cyclone, from where bags are filled with material. From this material the samples are taken, and the rest of the material is used to refill the borehole afterwards. - The area is cleared and raked as an appropriate 			
All the necessary PPE required for the safe handling and use of petrochemicals and oils shall be provided to, and used or worn by, the onsite staff		YES		

APPENDIX C: CONSULTANT'S CV






ECC-76-165-REP-08-D

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EPL 3308, ERONGO REGION, NAMIBIA

PREPARED FOR

ELEVATE URANIUM (PTY) LIMITED

NOVEMBER 2018

PO BOX 91193 Windhoek Namibia
Environmental Compliance Consultancy CC
CC/2013/11404

TITLE AND APPROVAL PAGE

Project Name:	Environmental compliance report for the exploration activities on EPL 3308, in the Erongo Region, Namibia
Project Number:	ECC-76-165-REP-08-D
Client Name:	Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd - Elevate Uranium Limited
Ministry Reference:	APP - 003223
Status of Report:	Final for Government Submission
Date of issue:	October 2018 – updated November 2021
Review Period	NA

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Confidentiality

DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMA	Environmental Management Act
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EPL	Exclusive Prospecting Licence
MET	Ministry of Environment and Tourism
MME	Ministry of Mines and Energy
PM	Project Manager

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. PROJECT BACKGROUND

Elevate Uranium Limited, previously known as Marenica Energy Limited changed its name in June 2021. The parent company Elevate Uranium is an Australian Securities Exchange Listed Company that owns 100% of the Namibian Company 'Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd'. Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd is a wholly subsidiary of Elevate Uranium, which holds the exclusive prospecting licence 3308 (EPL 3308).

Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd (herein referred to as the proponent), holds a current and valid environmental clearance certificate for exploration activities on EPL 3308, for which a renewal is being applied. The proponent has also developed a uranium concentration process that is unique and ground-breaking, lowering the extraction cost of uranium at the deposit, this process has various environmental benefits. This *U*-pgrade™ technology can be applied to surficial uranium deposits and is capable of concentrating uranium by a factor of up to 50 times, thereby reducing the feed to a leaching circuit dramatically.

The proponent is seeking to explore further uranium mining opportunities and proposes to undertake exploration activities on EPL 3308 for base, rare and precious metals, nuclear fuel, and industrial minerals in the Erongo Region. EPL 3308 is located north of Henties Bay, in the vicinity of Mile 72, in a National West Coast Recreational Area. A locality map of the site is provided in Figure 1.

FIGURE 1 - LOCALITY OF EPL 3308

1.2. ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

The proposed project is considered as a listed activity as set out in the Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007 and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation, No. 30 of 2012 (herein referred to as the EIA Regulations). A renewal application for an environmental clearance certificate is to be submitted. An Environmental Management Plan (EMP) is required to be submitted as part of the renewal process, as well as to support the decision-making process. This report presents the EMP and has been undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007 and associated Regulations.

1.3. PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THIS REPORT

This EMP provides a logical framework, mitigation measures and management strategies for the exploration activities associated with the proposed project, in this way ensuring that the potential environmental and social impacts are mitigated and minimised as far as practically possible and that statutory and other legal obligations are adhered to and fulfilled. Outlined in the EMP are the protocols, procedures and roles and responsibilities to ensure the management arrangements are effectively and appropriately implemented.

This EMP forms an appendix to the environmental scoping report and has been based on the findings of the assessment; therefore, the environmental scoping report should be referred to for further information on the proposed project, assessment methodology, applicable legislation, and assessment findings.

This EMP is a live document and shall be reviewed at predetermined intervals, and or updated when the scope of works alters, or when further data / information can be added. All personnel working on the project will be legally required to comply with the standards set out in this EMP.

The scope of this EMP includes all activities carried out during the exploration stage in search of base, rare and precious metals, and industrial minerals on EPL 3308.

1.4. MANAGEMENT OF THIS EMP

The proponent 'Metal Namibia (Pty) Ltd' will hold the environmental clearance certificate for the proposed project and shall be responsible for the implementation and management of this EMP. Prior to the exploration activities commencing, this EMP shall be reviewed, amended as required and approved ready for implementation. The implementation and management of this EMP and thus the monitoring of compliance shall be undertaken through daily duties and activities and monthly inspections.

This EMP shall be circulated to all contractors and shall be made available on the Environmental Compliance Consultancy's (ECC) website.

1.5. LIMITATIONS, UNCERTAINTIES AND ASSUMPTIONS OF THIS EMP

This EMP does not include measures for compliance with statutory occupational health and safety requirements. This will be provided in the safety management plan to be developed by the proponent.

Where there is any conflict between the provisions of this EMP and any contractor's obligations under their respective contracts, including statutory requirements (such as licences, project approval conditions, permits, standards, guidelines, and relevant laws), the contract and statutory requirements are to take precedence.

The information contained in this EMP has been based on the project description as provided in the environmental scoping report. Where the design or construction methods alter, this EMP may require updating and potential further assessment undertaken.

1.6. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANCY AND ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

ECC, a Namibian consultancy registration number 2013/11401, has prepared this EMP on behalf of the proponent. ECC operates exclusively in the environmental, social, health and safety fields for clients across Southern Africa, in the public and private sector. ECC is independent to the proponent and has no vested or financial interested in the proposed project.

1.7. STRUCTURE OF THIS EMP

The report has the following structure:

- Chapter 1 – Introduction
- Chapter 2 – Project Management Personnel
- Chapter 3 – Communication and Training
- Chapter 4 – Compliance and Enforcement
- Chapter 5 – Environmental and Social Management
- Chapter 6 – Implementation of the EMP

2. PROJECT MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

2.1. THE PROPONENT

The proponent shall provide a project team to oversee and undertake the preparation and exploration activities, which shall be composed of the proponent's personnel and contractors. A nominated role shall be identified to ensure the management and implementation of this EMP is throughout the duration of the project.

2.2. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The proponent shall be responsible for:

- Ensuring all members of the project team, including contractors, comply with the procedures set out in this EMP;
- Ensuring that all persons are provided with sufficient training, supervision, and instruction to fulfil this requirement; and
- Ensuring that any persons allocated specific environmental responsibilities are notified of their appointment and confirm that their responsibilities are clearly understood

Contractors shall be responsible for ensuring and demonstrating that all personnel employed by them are compliant with this EMP, and meet the responsibilities listed above.

The key personnel and environmental responsibilities of each role through the project life are presented in **Error! Reference source not found.**.

TABLE 1 - KEY PERSONNEL AND THEIR RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

ROLE	RESPONSIBILITIES & DUTIES
Proponent	– Responsible for the management and implementation of the EMP; – Ensure environmental policies is communicated to all personnel throughout the proposed project and that employees understand the guidelines of the EMP; – Responsible for providing the resources required to complete the project tasks; – Appoint a site manager and project Manager; and – Ensure all workers are inducted on safety measures.
Project Manager (PM)	– Overseeing exploration activities; – Monitoring daily operations and ensure adherence by personnel to the EMP; – Maintain the community issues and concerns register and keep records of complaints; and – Maintain an up-to-date register of employees who have completed site induction. –

ROLE	RESPONSIBILITIES & DUTIES
Site Manager	– Ensuring that all contract workers, sub-contractors and visitors to the site are conversant with the requirements of this EMP, relevant to their roles on site and adhere to this EMP at all times; – Reporting any non-compliance or accidents to the PM; – Receiving, recording and responding to complaints; – Ensure adequate resources are available for the implementation of the EMP; – Report non-compliance to the PM; – Ensure safe and environmentally sound operations; and – Responsible for the management, maintenance, and revisions of this EMP.
Employees	– Adhere to measures set out in the EMP; – Ensure they have undertaken a site induction; and – Report any operations or conditions which deviate from the EMP as well as any non-compliant issues or accidents to the Environmental Manager

2.3. CONTRACTORS

Any contractors hired during the exploration activities and accessory works for the project duration shall be compliant with this EMP, and shall be responsible for the following:

- Undertaking activities in accordance with this EMP as well as relevant policies, procedures, management plans, statutory requirements, and contract requirements;
- Implementing appropriate environmental and safety management measures;
- Reporting of environmental issues, including actual or potential environmental incidents and hazards, to the site manager and/or PM; and
- Ensuring appropriate corrective or remedial action is taken to address all environmental hazards and incidents reported by employees and subcontractors.

2.4. EMPLOYMENT

The proponent and all contractors shall comply with the requirements of the Republic of Namibia Regulations for labour, health and safety, and any amendments to these regulations. The following shall be complied with:

- In liaison with local government and community authorities the proponent shall ensure that local people have access to information about job opportunities and are considered first for construction / maintenance contract employment positions;
- The number of job opportunities shall be made known together with the associated skills and qualifications. The maximum length of time the job is likely to last for shall be clearly indicated;
- Foreign workers with no proof of permanent legal residence shall not be hired; and

- Every effort shall be made to recruit from the pool of unemployed workers living in the local area.

3. COMMUNICATION AND TRAINING

3.1. COMMUNICATIONS

During exploration, the PM and site manager shall communicate site wide environmental issues to the Project Team through the following means (as and when required):

- Site induction;
- Audits and site inspections;
- Toolbox talks, including instruction on incident response procedures; and
- Key project specific environmental issues briefings.

This EMP shall be distributed to the exploration team including any contractors and personnel working on the exploration site to ensure that the environmental requirements are adequately communicated. Key activities and environmentally sensitive operations shall be briefed to workers and contractors.

During the exploration activities, communications between the management team shall include discussing any complaints received and actions to resolve them; any inspections, audits, or non-conformance with this EMP; and any objectives or target achievements.

3.2. COMPLAINTS HANDLING AND RECORDING

Any complaints received verbally by any personnel on the project site shall be recorded by the receiver, including the name and contact details of the complainant, date and time of the complaint, and the nature of complaint. The information shall be given to the Project Manager who is overall responsible for the management of complaints and will provide a written response to the complainant. The PM shall inform the site manager of issues, concerns, or complaints. It is the duty of the Project Manager to maintain a complaint register that details the name of the complainant, date and time of complaint, action taken to resolve the issues and date of complaint handover.

The workforce shall be informed about the complaints register, its location and the person responsible, in order to refer local residents or the general public who wish to lodge a complaint. The complainant shall be informed in writing of the results of the investigation and action to be taken to rectify or address the matter(s). Where no action is taken, the reasons why are to be recorded in the register.

The complaints register shall be kept for the duration of the project and will be available for government or public review upon request.

3.3. TRAINING AND AWARENESS

All personnel working on the project shall be competent to perform tasks that have the potential to cause an environmental impact. Competence is defined in terms of appropriate education, training, and experience.

3.3.1. SITE INDUCTION

All personnel involved in the project shall be inducted to the site with specific environment and social awareness training, and health and safety issues. The environment and social awareness training shall ensure that personnel are familiar with the principles of this EMP, the environment and social aspects and impacts associated with their activities, the procedures in place to control these impacts and the consequences of departure from these procedures.

The PM shall ensure a register of completed training is maintained.

The Site Induction should include, but not limited to the following:

- A general site-specific induction that outlines:
  - What is meant by “environment” and “social”;
  - Why the environment needs to be protected and conserved;
  - How exploration activities can impact on the environment; and
  - What can be done to mitigate against such impacts;
- The inductee’s role and responsibilities with respect to implementing the EMP;
- The sites environmental rules;
- Details of how to deal with, and who to contact if environmental problems should they occur;
- Basic vegetation clearing principals and species ID sheets;
- The potential consequences of non-compliance with this EMP and relevant statutory requirements; and
- The role of responsible people for the project.

4. REPORTING, COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

4.1. ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

4.1.1. SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Chapter 5 provides a register of environmental risks and issues, which identifies mitigation and monitoring measures, as well as roles responsible. This register will be subject to regular review by the PM and updated when necessary.

The PM and site manager will use this register to undertake monthly inspections (see next section) to ensure the project is compliant with this EMP.

4.1.2. COMPLIANCE MONITORING

4.1.1.1. MONITORING IN THE NATIONAL PARK

The National Policy on the Prospecting and Mining in Protected Areas provides direction in terms of where mining and exploration related impacts are legally prohibited and where biodiversity priority areas may present high risks for mining projects. EPL 3308 is partially situated in an exclusion zone outlined in the policy. The Policy provides a framework for integrating relevant biodiversity information into decision making about exploration and mining options and how best to avoid, minimise or remedy biodiversity impacts caused by mining, and in so doing support sustainable development. A review of the Policy has been undertaken in relation to the exclusion zones, the proponent also proposed new EPL boundaries to the MME to voluntarily exclude certain areas from EPL 3308. The proposed change cuts out the area to the south-west of the C34 road from Henties Bay to Cape Cross, and also cuts out the exclusion zone just north of the road. The resultant EPL would exclude the delineated no mining zones as well as an area south-west of the C34. The exclusion areas are illustrated in **Error! Reference source not found.**.

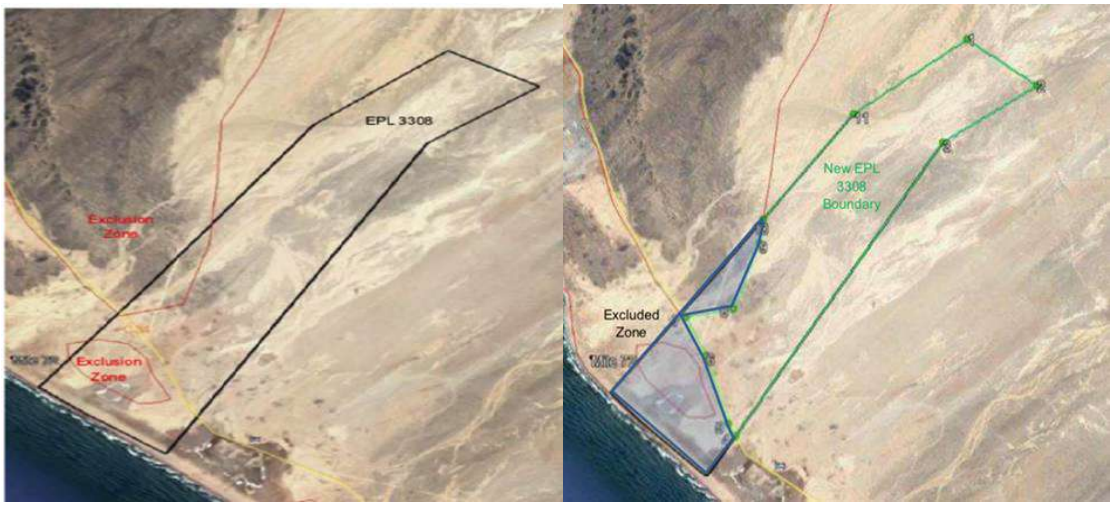

FIGURE 2 - MAP OF EPL 3308 INDICATING THE ZONES EXCLUDED (PICTURE OF BEFORE – LEFT) AND REVISED EPL BOUNDARY WITH EXCLUSION AND SELF-IMPOSED EXCLUSION AREAS (PICTURE OF AFTER – RIGHT)

The proponent shall provide the National Park staff and the MET with an environmental report every six months during exploration works, showing its progress towards meeting agreed upon safeguard targets.

- The proponent shall communicate with the National Park staff on a regular basis to ensure that mutual expectations are clear and reinforced, including:
  - One month prior to undertaking the activities;
  - Once during each scheduled program of works
  - Once a month prior to activities completing; and
  - Within one month of all site rehabilitation works.
- The proponent shall allow Park staff and the MET to regularly visit and talk to the operators during exploration activities. The MET and MME may conduct inspections at any time during the year to monitor compliance with the Environmental Contract, EIA, EMP and/or any other conditions that are stipulated. Where non-compliance is observed, Park staff must immediately report the matter to the Chief Control Warden in order to enable "in house" remediation. If this fails, the matter must be reported to MET headquarters for higher level attention.
- An annual environmental audit must be carried out on any EPL within any Protected Area. This audit must be conducted by the MET or MME, or an independent expert may be commissioned, at the licensee's cost, to conduct the audit.
- Once prospecting has ceased, any impacts shall be rehabilitated in accordance with the stipulations of the EMP.

Conditions as set out in Annex 6 of the Policy are included in TABLE 2.

TABLE 2 - CONDITIONS TO OPERATE IN PROTECTED AREAS

General Conditions:

1. A list of company personnel, including ID/Passport numbers, nationality, and position, authorized to enter or work on the company's tenements within a PA, must be supplied to the MET officer in charge of the area.

2. Employee and personnel lists must be updated on a regular basis (when any changes happen).

3. An annual permit must be obtained from the MET to enter a PA. All permanent staff must be listed on this permit. This permit must be shown each time a staff member enters the park, and all people in a group must correspond with the permit list. A separate permit must be obtained from the MET for non-permanent employees (contractors, service providers etc.) to cover the duration of their visit.

4. A copy of all permits and permissions from the relevant authorities or ministries to carry out any of the proposed activities on the EPL must be supplied to the officer in charge of the area.

5. All employees must be in possession of an ID/name tag with their name, photo and job or function with an authorizing signature.

6. A suitable communication system to enable regular contact with PA officials must be installed.

Environmental Conditions:

1. A six monthly progress report and environmental management report must be submitted to the MET starting from date of commencement of operations.

2. All provisions of the Nature Conservation Ordinance, Ordinance 4 of 1975 and all amendments to this ordinance and Regulations Relating to Nature Conservation, GN 240 of 1976, with all amendments or any legislation that replaces it must be complied with.

3. All provisions of the Environmental Management Act, Act 7 of 2007, must be complied with.

10. No boating will be allowed on any river or water body unless it is within the operations detailed on the operational documentation.

11. No gathering of firewood or driftwood for any purpose will be allowed.

12. No pets of any description will be allowed.

13. No firearms, bows, crossbows, catapults, or other weapons. Weapons for security purposes must be motivated and registered with the officer in charge of the area.

14. Traveling will be confined to an agreed upon track network. New tracks will be kept to a minimum.

15. All waste must be removed from the license area to a waste disposal unit. No waste to be disposed of within the PA. A suitable scavenger and wind proof storage facility must be constructed to store waste material prior to transportation out of the area. Waste may be burnt on site and the ash and non-burnable residue must be removed as described above. Attention must be given to wind conditions and all necessary measures must be taken to prevent wind distribution of rubbish. All fuel and lubricant waste products must be disposed of at a suitable facility outside of the PA.

16. Suitable and effective traps or pans must be used at vehicle or machinery refuelling points. Soil contaminated with fuel or oil must be immediately dug up and stored in a safe place for later removal to a suitable disposal facility.

17. Under no circumstances may any waste material of any nature be disposed of in any water body or river.

18. All structures are to be of a temporary nature.

19. Toilets of a 'long drop' or pit latrine type must be put up immediately. The use of chemical toilets will not be acceptable, as there is the problem of disposing of the chemical residue. Any toilet must be constructed away from the any river to prevent contamination.

20. Harvesting of reeds or other natural materials for construction or other purposes will not be allowed.

21. Transgressions of any provisions of the Nature Conservation Ordinance or its amendments will be dealt with severely. Second time offenders will be asked to leave the park.

4.1.1.2. DAILY COMPLIANCE MONITORING

A copy of this EMP shall be on site throughout the exploration works and shall be available upon request. It is the responsibility of the PM and site manager to ensure this EMP is complied with through their daily roles. Daily inspections will be undertaken by the site manager (or nominated site supervisor). Any environmental problems or risks identified shall be notified to the PM and actioned as soon as is reasonably practicable.

4.1.1.3. MONTHLY COMPLIANCE MONITORING

Monthly internal inspections during exploration activities shall be undertaken by the site manager to check that the standards and procedures set out in this EMP are being complied with and pollution control measures are in place and working correctly. Any non-conformance shall be recorded, including the following details: brief description of non-conformance; the reason for the non-conformance; the responsible party; the result (consequence); and the corrective action taken and any necessary follow up measures required.

4.2. REPORTING

Annual Reports shall be submitted to the Mining Commissioner. The reporting requirements for the site are illustrated in TABLE 3.

TABLE 3 - REPORTING FREQUENCY

TYPE OF LICENCE	MONTHLY	QUARTERLY	ANNUALLY
EPL	N/A	Yes	Yes

4.3. NON- COMPLIANCE

4.3.1.1. NON-COMPLIANCE EVENT

Where it has been identified that works are not compliant with this EMP, the PM shall employ corrective actions so that the works return to being compliant as soon as possible. In instances where the requirements of the EMP are not upheld, a Non-Conformance and Corrective Action Notice shall be produced. The Notice shall be generated during the inspections and the PM shall be responsible for ensuring a corrective action plan is established and implemented to address the identified shortcoming.

A non-compliance event / situation, for example, is considered if:

- There is evidence of contravention of this EMP and associated indicators or objectives;
- The site manager and or contractor have failed to comply with corrective or other instructions issued by the Environmental Manager or qualified authority; or
- The site manager and or contractor fail to respond to complaints from the public.

Works shall be stopped in the event of a non-compliance, until corrective action(s) has been completed

4.3.2. Disciplinary action

This EMP is a legally binding document and non-compliance with it shall result in disciplinary action being taken against the perpetrator/s. Such action may take the form of (but is not limited to):

- Fines / penalties;
- Legal action;
- Monetary penalties imposed by the proponent on the contractor;
- Withdrawal of license/s; and
- Suspension of work.

The disciplinary action shall be determined according to the nature and extend of the transgression / non-compliance, and penalties are to be weighed against the severity of the incident.

4.4. Environmental permits

Whilst the Water Resources Management Act, 2013 is not enforced, it is best practice to adhere to the stipulations. A licence to abstract and use water maybe required if boreholes are to be created, however this is unlikely.

Some vegetation shall be cleared on the project's site to allow exploration activities to commence. It is unlikely that an area greater than 15ha shall be cleared, therefore a permit under the Forest Act, 2001 is not required.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT

5.1. OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS

Environmental objectives for the project are as follows:

- Zero pollution incidents;
- Minimal vegetation clearing and earthworks
- Protect local flora and fauna; and
- Use natural resources effectively and efficiently.

5.2. REGISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS AND ISSUES

An environmental review of the proposed project has been completed to identify all the commitments and agreements made within the environmental scoping report. From this, a schedule of environmental commitments and risks has been produced, which details deliverables including measures identified for the prevention of pollution or damage to the environment during exploration.

TABLE 4 – ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS AND ISSUES, AND MITIGATION AND MONITORING MEASURES

ACTIVITY	POTENTIAL IMPACTS	MANAGEMENT/MITIGATION MEASURES	MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	RESPONSIBILITY
Use of Plant and equipment (on the ground)	– Safety	– Plant and equipment shall be brought onto site as and when required and stored in specific areas. – Amenities (e.g., portable toilets) shall be provided and set up in a suitable location (if required).	– Daily observations	– Project Manager – Site Manager
	– Aerial emissions	– All plant to be shut down or throttled back between periods of use.	– Daily observations	– Project Manager – Site Manager
	– Potential loss of oil and fuel causing ground contamination	– Refueling shall be undertaken in a designated area. – All stationary vehicles and machinery must have drip trays to collect leakages of lubricants and oil – In the event of pollution, polluted soils must be collected and dumped at an approved site – Water during drilling should be retained in a lined pond to prevent pollution – A 'good housekeeping' policy shall be adopted across the construction and maintenance working areas.	– Daily observations	– Project Manager – Site Manager
	– Water contamination		– Daily observations	– Project Manager – Site Manager
	– Dust generation	– Use existing access roads and tracks where possible – Apply dust suppression method such as water spraying during drilling operations – Restricted speeds (<30km/h) – Provide protective masks and eyeglasses to employees in dusty working environments – Specific activities that may generate dust shall be avoided during high wind events, e.g., soil preparation activities	– Daily observations	– Project Manager – Site Manager
	– Noise generation	– Noise shall be minimized as much as possible during construction works. – Limit working hours to 7am to 6pm weekdays and 7am until 1pm on Saturday.	– Daily observations	– Project Manager – Site Manager

ACTIVITY	POTENTIAL IMPACTS	MANAGEMENT/MITIGATION MEASURES	MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	RESPONSIBILITY
		– Inform local communities and residents of scheduling and duration of noisy activities through notices or face-to-face communications. – Regular maintenance and servicing of vehicles, plant, and equipment. – All plant to be shut down or throttled back between periods of use. – Provide earmuffs to employees working in close proximity to excessive noise – Workers must not be subjected to working in noise levels above the threshold of 85dB (A) for longer than 8 hours		
Use of airborne equipment (remote sensing – drone, helicopter)	– Noise generation	– Only use remote sensing equipment between 7am and 5pm – No flying is to be conducted on Sundays and on public holidays	– Daily observations	– Project Manager – Site Manager
Vegetation Clearance	– Alien species	– Ensure the correct removal of alien invasive vegetation from the proposed development area and prevent the establishment and spread of alien invasive plants due to the development activities. – Ensure the potential introduction and spread of alien plants is prevented – All project or earth moving equipment must have an internal weed and seed inspection completed prior to equipment being used on site – Invasive plants shall be removed as per the National Park Management Strategy.	– Monitor daily the removal of the alien invasive vegetation. – Check the tyres of vehicles after use on site	– Employees – Project manager
	– Dust generation	– Apply speed restrictions – Avoid off road driving	– Daily observations	– Project Manager – Site Manager
	– Reduced soil quality	– Use existing tracks where possible. – Refueling to occur in designated areas with drip trays – Avoid natural drainage lines	– Daily observations	– Project Manager – Site Manager
	– Injure or kill	– Relocate slow moving reptiles and amphibians away from the	– Daily observations	– Project

ACTIVITY	POTENTIAL IMPACTS	MANAGEMENT/MITIGATION MEASURES	MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	RESPONSIBILITY
	animals	construction area – No driving off designated access routes (into the bush) / off-road driving – No snares or catching of animals for pets or food. – No animals or birds may be collected, caught, consumed, or removed from site by the contractor or personnel on site.		Manager – Site Manager
	– Removal of vegetation – loss of flora and fauna, protected/important species	– Use existing tracks where possible. – Route new tracks around established and protected trees, and clumps of vegetation – Identify rare, endangered, threatened, and protected species. Demarcate and avoid cutting down, and clearly highlight to construction workers so that they are avoided – Avoid natural drainage lines	– Daily visual inspection during construction of new access tracks/widening	– Project Manager – Employees – Site Manager
Site and ground Preparation – creation of access tracks and areas for setting up drill rigs	– Creation of dust	– As above	– Daily observations	– Project Manager – Site Manager
	– Heritage remains	Discovery of unearthed archaeological remains to be uncovered, the following measures (chance find procedure) shall be applied: – Works to cease, area to be demarcated with appropriate tape by the site supervisor, and the Site Manger to be informed; – Site manager to visit the site and determine whether work can proceed without damage to findings, mark exclusions boundary and inform the Environment and Social Manager with the GPS position if possible; – If works cannot proceed without damage to findings, site manager to inform the Environmental Manager who will get in touch with an archaeologist who will provide advise; – Environment Manager (ECC) / Archaeological Specialist to evaluate	– Daily observations	– Project Manager – Site Manager

ACTIVITY	POTENTIAL IMPACTS	MANAGEMENT/MITIGATION MEASURES	MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	RESPONSIBILITY
		the significance of the remains and identify appropriate action, for example, record and remove; relocate or leave in situ (depending on the nature and value of the remains); – Inform the police if the remains are human; and – Obtain appropriate clearance or approval from the competent authority, if required, and recover and remove the remains to the National Museum or National Forensic Laboratory as direct.		
Fuel handling and storage	– Loss of containment leading to ground or groundwater contamination .	**Safe delivery and handling:** – Training employees and Toolbox Talks. – Good housekeeping across site. – Fuel is handled with care – Spill kits to be at designated areas across site or available for use during refueling, fuel delivery or use. Absorption material should be available and at hand. Where saw dust is used it should be cleaned up immediately and not left for long periods as this poses a fire hazard. – Any major spill is reported to the PM once containment has been achieved. – Plant and equipment to be well maintained and serviced regularly. – In the field, use of hydrocarbons under 200 liters can be used for mobile refueling or servicing. **Storage:** – All tanks to be stored on a non-porous floor and bunded area. – Bund to be capable of storing at least 110% of the volume of the tank – All containers to be suitable for use and not damaged. – Tanks are locked at all times – Spill kits available at storage locations and around site in suitable locations.	– Daily observations when fuels are delivered and handled – Supervision during refueling – Weekly observations monitor containment and storage	– Project Manager

ACTIVITY	POTENTIAL IMPACTS	MANAGEMENT/MITIGATION MEASURES	MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	RESPONSIBILITY
		Refueling – Drip tray to be used during refueling of vehicles and on a permeable flat surface where possible. – Funnel should be available and used to avoid spillage during decanting		
Generation of waste	– Nuisances (odors and visual) – Land use – Litter (nuisance and ecological risk)	– Training and toolbox talks. – Good housekeeping across site. – All working areas shall apply good housekeeping. – Implement the waste management hierarchy across site: Avoid, reuse, recycle, then disposal through burning or dump. – Waste shall be collected and shall be removed on a regular basis to avoid pests and bad odours – It is unlikely that hazardous material and wastes will be produced, however in the event that they do, they shall be managed in a safe and responsible manner so as to prevent contamination of soils, pollution of water and/or harm to people or animals as a result of the use of these materials. Hazardous and non-hazardous waste shall be stored separately at all times.	– Daily observations – Weekly checks	– Project Manager – Employees
Resource use	– Inefficient use of water	– Use water effectively and efficiently – Recycle, treat and reuse	– Daily observations	– Project Manager – Employees
Job creation	– Employment creation and skills development opportunities during the exploration phase.	– Maximise local employment and local business opportunities to promote and improve the local economy. – Enhance the use of local labour and local skills as far as reasonably possible. Where the required skills do not occur locally, and where appropriate and applicable, ensure that relevant local individuals are trained. – Ensure that goods and services are sourced from the local and regional economy as far as reasonably possible.	– Daily observations – Weekly checks	– Project Manager – Employees

6. REHABILITATION PLAN

Due to the sensitive ecology of the area, as well as the fact that it is in a national park, which makes it sensitive for both biodiversity and tourism as a land use to visual impacts rehabilitation measures applied after prospecting activities is essential. All impacts caused by the proponent during exploration activities, must be rehabilitated should no further use of the land be required.

6.1. REHABILITATION ACTIVITIES

Rehabilitation measures include the following:

- Remove all construction equipment, surplus materials and temporary structures, fences and works of every kind;
- The sale/removal of all waste types from the project site to a recognized dump site;
- Break up bunds and all other concrete slabs (if applicable) and remove these, together with all waste concrete, to a recognized waste dump;
- Burn all uncontaminated, non-hazardous combustible substances (i.e. wood, cardboard, paper and food scraps) in a waste pit;
- Any other waste should be removed from site to an appropriate landfill facility (e.g. Henties Bay or Swakopmund);
- Oil spills should be cleaned up immediately. Contaminated soils should be disposed of at an approved disposal site (e.g. Walvis Bay);
- Bury all uncontaminated construction rubble (i.e. waste concrete) in a waste pit;
- Demolish buildings, if applicable;
- The surface of used roads should be broken up (scarified) to alleviate compaction and increase the rate of vegetation regeneration;
- Any sample pits or tracks that were previously created by the proponent and no longer used shall be rehabilitated as soon as possible and should not be left to the end of the exploration campaign;
- Whilst some historic tracks and sample pits were not created by the proponent, it would be best practice for the proponent to rehabilitate this legacy and improve the site conditions;
- New sample pits shall be rehabilitated once not envisaged to be used further through filling in the pits with overburden and covering with top soil;
- Once new tracks are no longer used, they shall be rehabilitated to avoid further soil erosion. This shall be undertaken immediately after use or concurrently with the exploration program;

- Once new trenches are no longer in use, they shall be rehabilitated through filling in the trenches with overburden and covering with top soil;
- The camp site shall be rehabilitated at the end of the exploration work, including the removal of the infrastructure and concrete slab, and historic hydrocarbon spills and waste shall be cleared from site; and
- All rehabilitation shall be undertaken in a manner so that the natural flow pattern of the landscape is not obscured.

With regard to trenches, stockpiles, and waste dumps, it is recognized that once the overburden has been removed, a 30% swell factor of the overburden is anticipated. It will therefore be necessary to find alternative uses and permanent stockpiling points for the material, that cannot be accommodated in the trenches when backfilling during rehabilitation. Furthermore, it is vitally important that the shallow topsoil layer is conserved during prospecting activities. Soils in arid areas store seeds in the upper layers for extended periods of time until the germination conditions of seeds are met. These seeds will be very valuable to the rehabilitation process, as they will provide a source of plant material. Separate stripping of differentiated soil layers will therefore be necessary for rehabilitation.

The following rehabilitation measures are therefore required for trenches, pits and waste dumps:

- Used pits and trenches must be backfilled, compacted marginally (to prevent slumping) and contoured to follow the natural contours of the land; and
- Where topsoil is available (containing the valuable seedbed), this topsoil should be spread evenly over areas requiring rehabilitation.
- When rehabilitation is complete there must be little or no evidence of the sampling activities, which have taken place in the area.

6.2. REHABILITATION MONITORING

To ensure rehabilitation is successful, the following shall be undertaken. Fixed photo points shall be established, and photos taken:

- Prior to any further exploration work are undertaken and thereafter periodically to visually assess rehabilitation processes over time; and
- At sites with previous activities and thereafter periodically to visually assess rehabilitation processes over time.

7. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EMP

This EMP:

A. Has been prepared pursuant to a contract with the proponent;

B. Has been prepared on the basis of information provided to ECC up to August 2018;

C. Is for the sole use of the proponent, for the sole purpose of an EMP;

D. Must not be used (1) by any person other than the proponent or (2) for a purpose other than an EMP; and

E. Must not be copied without the prior written permission of ECC.

ECC has prepared the EMP on the basis of information provided by the proponent, specialist reports and the Environmental Scoping Report.

EnviroSolutions
Safety & Environmental Consultants

Renewal of Environmental Clearance Certificate

Prepared for

Metals Namibia (Pty) Limited

For the

Exploration Activities on EPL 3308, Mile 72
Dorob National Park

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Table of Contents

1. Executive Summary

1.1 Project Background

Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd is currently the holder of Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) 3308 north of Henties Bay, in the vicinity of Mile 72. The entire EPL is situated within the Dorob National Park Area and about 30 kilometres north of Henties Bay.

Exploration has been conducted since July 2008, when the 1st Environmental Clearance was issued. Since the Environmental Clearance expired when the new EIA regulations was enacted, Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd, appointed EnviroSolutions to apply for the renewal.

EnviroSolutions has been appointed as an independent environmental consultant to conduct a site visit and to complete an audit report to verify whether the operations were aligned with the conditions of the 1st Environmental Clearance. Key findings include the following:

- The areas where exploration trenches have been dug have been rehabilitated.
- Vehicle tracks on the EPL have been limited to fixed routes and limited damage has been done on the EPL.
- The sensitive lichen fields towards the northern section have not been disturbed and Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd have indicated that the EPL size be reduced to excluded the lichen fields.
- The envisaged future activities planned by Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd will include more exploration to confirm the current exploration work.
- The present ecological status of the EPL area is not entirely pristine. The north-eastern outcrops of the EPL has an abundance of lichens fields and is worthy of conservation. Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd indicated that this section of the EPL will not be used for exploration activities.

1.2 Purpose of this Report

In terms of the Environmental Management Act (7 of 2007) and the 2012 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, this proposal triggers the Environmental Impact Assessment process.

An Environmental Clearance was issued by the MET during July 2008. The purpose of this report is to highlight the findings of the inspection that was conducted by EnviroSolutions during June 2013, and to re-apply for the 2nd Environmental Clearance Certificate.

1.3 Approach and Methodology

The following approach was used:

- Assessment of current environmental management practices on EPL 3308.
- Assessment of potential impacts associated with the further exploration activities on the EPL.
- Develop a new Environmental Management Plan taking into account the cumulative impacts associated with 3 floating docks being operational.

1.4 Assumptions and Limitations

- All information received from sources contributing to this project is correct.
- That the applicant will implement the recommendations derived from this study.

2. Introduction

2.1 The background and Context of this report

Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd (hereafter referred to as the Proponent) wish to conduct further prospecting activities at the Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) area 3308.

EnviroSolutions has been appointed to re-apply for the Environmental Clearance. The 1st Environmental Clearance is available in Appendix A. of this document. An Environmental Clearance is required for the activities that will be undertaken on this EPL.

Prospecting and Exploration activities require the formulation of an Environmental Management Plan (EMP), which forms part of the EIA. The EMP highlights mitigatory measures and assigns responsibility for environmental aspects concerning the activities taking place in the EPL.

The objectives of this report are therefore to:

- Detail the condition of, and any existing damage to, the environment to which the application applies,
- To describe the potential impacts (both positive and negative) which the proposed activities may have on the environment, and
- To detail the proposed mitigatory measures to be taken in order to prevent or minimize any negative impact on the environment as a result of operations.

3. Project Description

3.1 The need for this project

The activities envisaged by the Proponent will involve a feasibility study on the exploitation potential of uranium occurring ore in this area. It is envisaged that about 50% of the EPL will be explored.

During the excavation process the topsoil will be stockpiled separately. Excavations will be made to a depth of about 5 meters and samples will be taken of the excavated material to determine whether the uranium content. It is planned to work 1 x 8 hour shift per day. After samples have been taken the trenches will be backfilled and the topsoil will be used to cover the excavated area as part of the decommissioning process.

It is envisaged that the following equipment will be used during the prospecting period.

Details on the Exploration plan are available in Appendix B.

Earthmoving Equipment:

- 1 x Excavator
- 2 x Percussion Drilling Machines
- 1 x Diamond Drilling Machine

Other Equipment or Machinery

- 4 x Light vehicles (4x4)

3.2 Project Location

The project site location is best appreciated in the figures below.

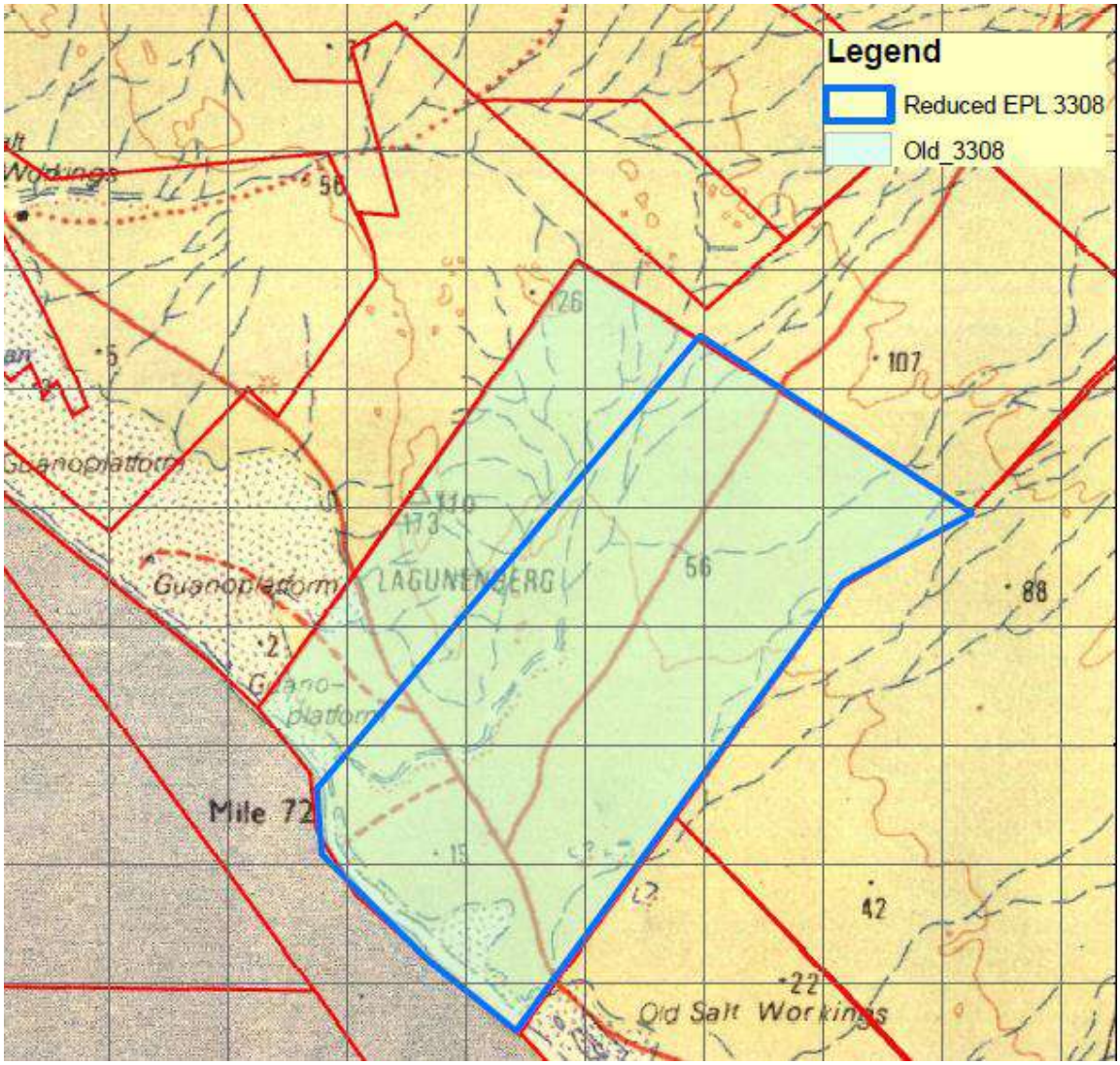

Figure 1: Project Area: Location of EPL 3308

Figure 2: Typical Excavation Pits.

Figure 3: Rehabilitated Excavation Pits

4. Audit and Inspection

The current activities were subjected to a brief inspection to determine its relevance and practicality.

This was important to evaluate the present status of environmental management practices. This is beneficial as it can identify weak areas with regard to system, knowledge and education. This can make problem areas visible before critical situations arise and make it possible to prevent potential problems.

The inspection identified no nonconformities with the criteria as laid out in the original EMP.

Improvements Opportunities

- During site visits it was noted that the top soil was not stored separately. When the exploration pits are rehabilitated the top soils were backfilled with other material.
- Vehicle track were limited on the EPL. The Proponent could however signpost the areas that will no longer be used to ensure tracks are not mad in areas that have been rehabilitated.

Conclusion

From the inspection, it is clear that the Proponent has commendable environmental management practices. However, it is very important to raise environmental awareness at all levels of the organization to ensure continual improvement.

5. Regulatory Framework and other Requirements

5.1 Regulatory Agencies

The regulatory agencies guarding or implementing the relevant environmental regulations are listed as follows:

Table 1: **Government agencies regulating environmental protection in Namibia.**

REGULATING AGENCY	ROLE IN REGULATING ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET)	MET is the lead government agency charged with Environmental Monitoring, Assessment and Management. The mission of MET is to maintain and rehabilitate essential ecological processes and life-supported life-support systems, to conserve biological diversity and to ensure that the utilization of natural resources is sustainable for the benefit of all Namibians, both present and future, as well as the international community, as provided for in the Constitution. MET lays a foundations to implementation and promulgation of regulations relevant to this project including; the Environmental Act no7. Of 2007, Park and Wildlife Management Bill, the Pollution Control and Waste Management Act , The MET plays role in approval of Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) which are prepared under Environmental Assessment Policy for Sustainable Development and Environmental Conservation (1995). Provisions in other line ministries' legislation (strengthens MET's position.

5.2 Environmental Management Requirements

An important component of an Environmental Assessment process is the review of applicable and relevant legislation pertaining to this project. The legislative and regulatory foundation for protection and management of the environment and its natural resources is governed by the Namibian Constitution. Article 95(l) of the constitution clearly emphasizes the promotion of the welfare of the people, whereby *the maintenance of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and biological diversity of Namibia and utilization of living natural resources on a sustainable basis for the benefit of all Namibians, both present and future; in particular*.

In terms of the Environmental Management Act (7 of 2007) and the 2012 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, this activity triggers the Environmental Impact Assessment process. The intended activity is a listed activity under Annexure 1 and may not be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate.

The completion of an EIA before this development is consistent with the Namibian environmental regulatory requirements.

These instruments make it mandatory for any proposed development to be subjected to an Environmental Assessment procedure. Both promote sustainable development and

economic growth while safeguarding the environment in the long run. The figure below illustrates the Environmental Assessment process in Namibia.

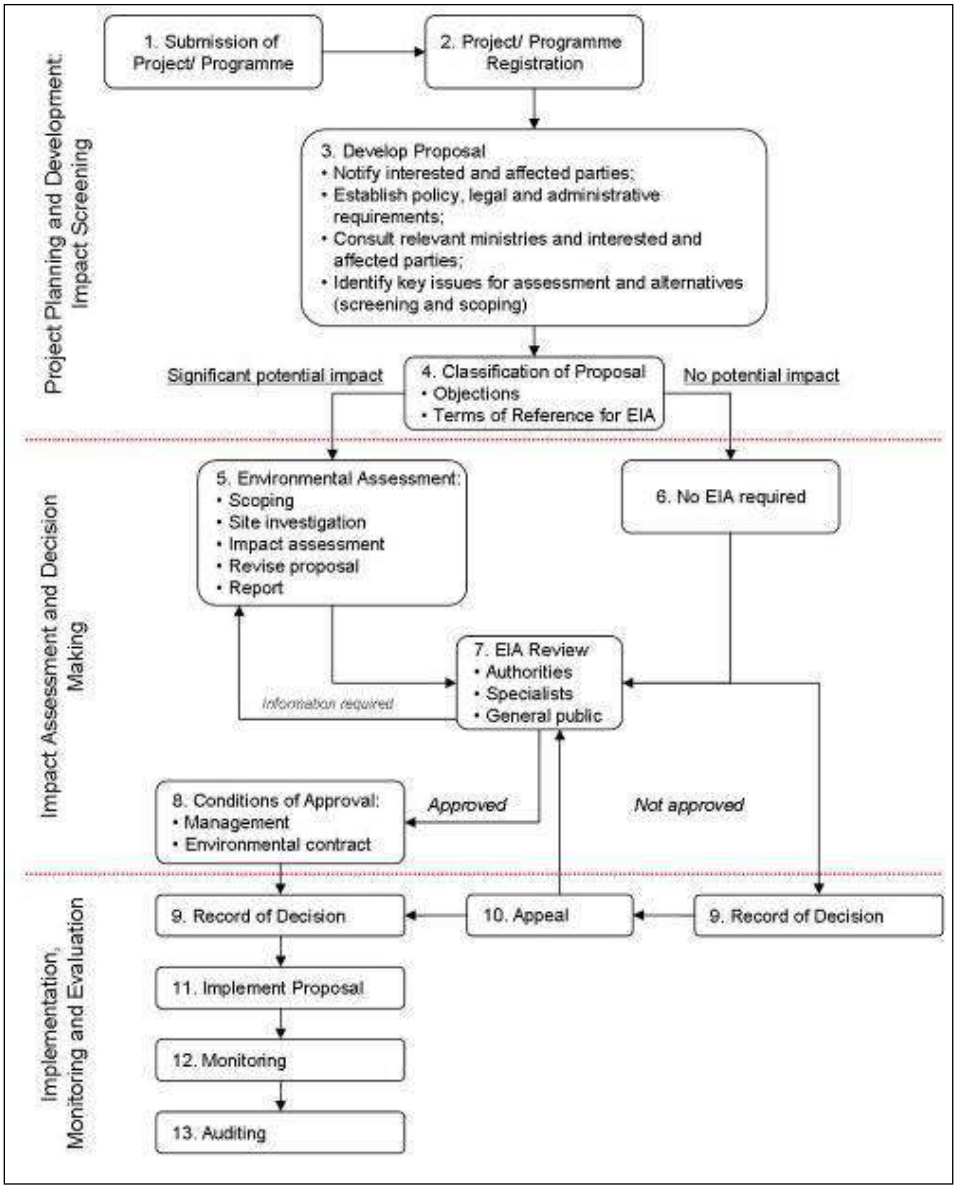

Figure 4: Illustration of the EIA Process in Namibia

5.3 Legislation of international significance

5.3.1 Convention on Combat Desertification (CBD)

The convention recognized that the conservation of biological diversity is “a common concern of humankind” and is an integral part of the development process. The agreement covers all ecosystems, species, and genetic resources. It links traditional conservation efforts to the economic goal of using biological resources sustainably. It sets principles for the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources, notably those destined for commercial use.

The objectives of the CBD are:

- The conservation of biological diversity,
- The sustainable use of its components and
- The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding**.**

The Proponent and the contractors should therefore prevent the unnecessary disturbance of any species prior and during the operational phase. Conservation of species and ecosystem to combat the increasing rate of loss of biological diversity is one of Namibia’s challenges due to a heavy reliance on natural resources and ecosystem goods and services.

In the interest of welfare of the people, the state has adopted policies aimed at maintaining ecosystems, ecological processes and biodiversity for the benefit of present and future generations. The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) and the Namibia Community-based Tourism Association (NACOBTA) can assist the Proponent in environmental management issues. Direct impact on biodiversity is minimal but a precautionary approach is necessary to ensure those disturbances are avoided.

5.4 Legal Requirements of national significance

National legislation exists to protect the environment and threats to public health. Included, among others, are issues related to the protection of public water supplies, nuisances and other public health issues. Nuisances are broadly defined as any condition which is considered to be offensive, injurious or dangerous to health. This definition is broad enough to cover a range of issues, and thus this law may be effective in any instance where public health might be compromised.

5.4.1 Dorob National Park Requirements

The project area falls within the Dorob National Park. The Dorob National Park requirements, December 2011 states the following that will be applicable to the envisaged activities:

Applicable Specific conservation provisions:

- Use water or electricity in excessive quantities or for any other purpose other than for reasonable domestic use;
- Pollute or degrade the environment;
- Kill, injure, hunt, capture, disturb or feed any wild animal or remove any part of any wild animal, whether alive or dead;
- Remove, destroy, damage or disturb any egg, nest or burrow;
- Pick, collect, mutilate, destroy, damage, tamper with, disturb or remove any tree, plant, shrub, herb, mineral or any other object of botanical, zoological, geological, archaeological, historical or any other scientific interest, or part thereof;
- Collect or gather firewood; or
- Remove, damage, destroy, soil, mutilate or interfere with any form of State property.

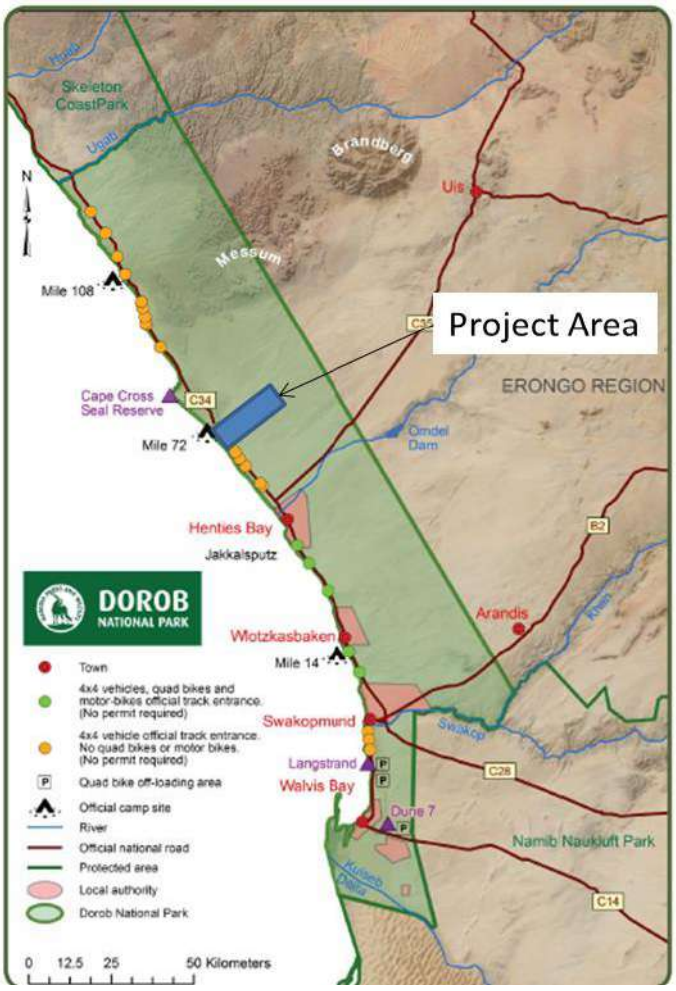

Figure 10: Dorob National Park

Applicable provisions related to camping:

- People may overnight or camp in the Dorob National Park but only with a permit and only at officially designated sites. ***(Within the project are there are designated sites at Mile 72)***
- Domestic animals may not be brought into a camping site unless the officer in charge grants permission indicating where the animal may stay overnight.

Applicable general provisions related to Vehicles and Driving:

- People may use a vehicle in the park with their permit at any time except between 21:00 and 05:00. This provision does not apply to proclaimed roads and people may use those roads at any time.
- Young people aged 16 years or younger may only drive or use a vehicle if an adult accompanies him/her.
- A valid driver's license will be required to use any motor vehicle in the park.

- No person shall drive or use any vehicle in the park whilst under the influence of alcohol or any other narcotic substance or in such a way that is dangerous to human life or that may cause damage to any property or the environment.

5.4.2 Legislation related to Air Quality

Air pollution is controlled primarily by the Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Ordinance (11 of 1976). This Ordinance generally provides for the prevention of the pollution of the atmosphere.

Part IV of this ordinance deals with dust control. The Ordinance is clear in requiring that any person carrying out an industrial process which is liable to cause a nuisance to persons residing in the vicinity or to cause dust pollution to the atmosphere, shall take the prescribed steps or, where no steps have been prescribed, to adopt the best practicable means for preventing such dust from becoming dispersed and causing a nuisance.

Of applicability to the envisaged project, is dust generated by vehicles or equipment as well as dust generated during the drilling and excavating. The risk of dust generation is low.
This deals with air pollution as it affects occupational health and safety, and no consideration is given to the natural environment.

5.4.3 Legislation related to Soil Conservation

The objectives of the Soil conservation Act 76, 1969 are to make provision for the combating and prevention of soil erosion, and for the conservation, protection and improvement of the soil, the vegetation and the sources and resources of the water supplies.

Part II, deals with soil conservation works and it further states that in section 4(1) The Minister may by means of a direction order the owner of land to construct the soil conservation works referred to in such direction either on land belonging to such owner or on land belonging to another person, in such manner and within such period as may be mentioned in such direction, if the Minister is of the opinion that the construction of such soil conservation works is necessary in order to achieve any object of this Act in respect of the land belonging to such owner.

Of relevance is the fact that new areas should not be disturbed. The use of existing track is essential. The Proponent should however ensure that when new areas are

disturbed, rehabilitation of the area should be conducted immediately once the activity has been completed.

5.4.4 Legislation related to petroleum products

Regulations made under the Petroleum Products and Energy Act 13 of 1990 states that:

A license or certificate is required for purposes of storing or keeping fuel in a quantity of 200 liters or less in any container kept at a place within a local Authority area or fuel in a quantity of 600 liters or less in any container kept at a place outside a local authority area.

Containers used to store or convey petroleum products

Petroleum product containers must be completely leak-proof and spill-proof and otherwise safe and suitable for storage and conveyance. Such containers may not be used as water trough or for any purpose that may cause environmental harm, safety or health of any person or animal.

Of relevance is that fact that heavy equipment or vehicles may carry significant quantities of fuel and proper precaution should be taken to prevent spills.

5.4.5 Legislation related to Nature Conservation

The Nature Conservation Ordinance (1975) as amended through the Nature Conservation Amendment Act of 1996 states that permits are required for entering the Namib Naukluft and Dorob National Park and for the removal of any indigenous plant or tree. It also stipulates that no damage may be done to any object of geological, ethnological, archaeological, historical or other scientific interest without the appropriate **permits**.

6. Potential Social and Environmental Impacts

In this chapter, potential environmental impacts associated with prospecting are examined in detail. Mitigatory options to reduce the nature and scale of all such impacts are also presented in this chapter. A summary of the potential impacts associated with prospecting within the area are presented in Chapter 9 of this report, together with suggested mitigatory measures required to ensure impacts associated with prospecting are maintained to a minimum. This information provides the basis of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP), which should be used to ensure all impacts identified in this report are managed accordingly.

6.1 Impacts related to dust generation

Due to the hot and dry environment, loose, sandy nature of the substrate, and low vegetation cover, ambient fugitive dust levels in this area could be naturally high. Ambient air quality can range from good to poor, depending on the prevailing wind speed, wind direction or other environmental conditions.

The most significant factor contributing to a potential decline in the air quality at the site will be an increase in fugitive dust concentrations. Dust will be generated from the sources indicated below:

Potential sources of dust as a result of screening operations

Source	Cause of Emissions
Sampling	• Wind erosion of the screening surface • Movement of vehicles within the area
	• Creation of dumps • Wind erosion from dump sites • Physical rehabilitation actions
Roads	• Movement of heavy vehicles; • Dust.
Excavation	• Excavator machines • Compressors

The amount of dust generated will be aggravated by the movement of vehicles along the access roads or within the sampling areas. Dust accumulation will also be greatest where the protective gravel layer or ablation surface overlying the substrate has been disrupted thus exposing the sandy layer below.

Dust generated from the sampling areas passage of vehicles along the access road may become more problematic under windy conditions. Dust problems will be exaggerated by the high temperatures, high evaporation and low rainfall, which result in low substrate moisture content and greater susceptibility to wind erosion.

Although the size of the dust particles determines the residence time and dispersal distance of the dust, elevated dust concentrations will probably be fairly localized. The most likely effects of elevated dust concentrations as a result of prospecting activities include the following:

- Poor visibility, which will result in a safety risk, both within the prospecting area, and particularly along the public roads in the vicinity of the activities.
- Exposure risk to workers, particularly if the dust contains a high silica content, and
- Visual impact for tourism, both for tourists using the public road.

Dust impacts may be effectively minimized through:

- Periodic wetting of the road surfaces using sea water, particularly in areas where a significant safety risk exists
- Restriction of vehicle speeds on site.
- Limiting disturbance to soils by remaining on existing tracks within the EPL, thereby maintaining the integrity of the soil surface, and
- The provision of personal protective equipment to all those employees potentially exposed to silica dust through the provision of adequate facemasks.

6.2 Impacts related to flora and fauna

Several plant communities, particularly the lichen fields, hummock stands as well as the dolerite ridges, are vulnerable to mechanical damage, e.g., by off-road vehicles, and take a very long time to recover. All attempts must be made to prevent its destruction, especially considering the sparse distribution of such vegetation as well as its slow growth. No trenching activities will take place outside the boundaries of the EPL area and vegetated areas should be avoided as far as practically possible.

In order to minimize the impacts of prospecting activities on flora, the following mitigatory measures are recommended:

- The lichen fields and outcrops on the northern section of the EPL should not be disturbed.
- Established vegetation must not be destroyed during prospecting activities.
- Existing vehicle tracks must be used as far as practically possible.
- Staff awareness must be ensured so as to prevent the unwanted destruction of vegetation.

After sampling, rehabilitation of the site must take place as soon as possible. This includes careful rehabilitation of the topsoil to promote vegetation growth. Rehabilitation of sites located in arid climates is, however known to be difficult as the high surface temperatures and low substrate moisture content may result in germination failure.

The impact on fauna as a result of prospecting is expected to be low if existing stands of vegetation is not disturbed. Despite this, the necessary steps will need to be taken to protect the fauna in the sampling areas. These steps include:

- Strict disciplinary measures applied to staff members caught poaching or attempting to trap wildlife.
- The prevention of litter and the adequate disposal of domestic wastes to prevent attracting pest animals.
- The enforcement of speed restrictions on all roads / tracks to prevent accidents with animals.

6.3 Alteration of the Natural Topography / Rehabilitation

The natural topography of the project area has already been altered at some places on the EPL. As the ore body layers are buried below the surface, it will be necessary to excavate further pits and trenches in order to remove layers during the new prospecting activities.

A second implication of excavating the trenches is that a certain volume of overburden will be removed and stockpiled. Once the overburden has been removed it will be necessary to select a suitable site to stockpile it before it can be used to backfill the trenches following the completion of prospecting.

To minimize this impact, backfilling of trenches and effective rehabilitation of degraded area is essential.

6.4 Visual Impacts

Prospecting operations will be visible from the public road. Other factors that would contribute to poor visual quality include numerous vehicle tracks, stockpiled overburden, open un-rehabilitated prospecting trenches, pits as well as dust generated from sampling operations.

The visual quality of the surrounding landscape and wilderness nature of this area promotes tourism, which is becoming an increasingly important form of land use in this area. Tourists could potentially be sensitive to the deterioration in the visual quality of an area. To minimize this impact, it is essential that the Proponent undertake the following:

- The adequate control of dust generated within the sampling areas, including the access roads.
- Adequate disposal methods for all waste types, including domestic waste, scrap metal etc.
- Reducing the visibility of structures, including water tanks, bulk fuel tanks etc.
- Reducing the visibility of open trenches, pits and stockpiles through ***ongoing*** rehabilitation;
- Limited or selected rehabilitation of present disturbed areas.
- Promotion of a culture of awareness amongst all employees involved with prospecting on the sensitivity of tourism to visual impacts as a result of activities in this area.

6.5 Impacts on Soil and Erosion

Due to the hot, dry and arid climate, the soils along the coastal area are poorly developed, shallow, and low in nutrients and organic matter and have low clay content.

Soils in arid areas may be disturbed through the disruption of the surface micro-topography or through compaction and modification of the subsurface layers. Both of these impacts would result from the uncontrolled passage of vehicles including earthmoving equipment across the operation area. Sampling activities as well as the uncontrolled use of vehicles on the EPL site will therefore impact

on the soils on the site and will result in the increased erosion potential of these soils to wind erosion.

To minimize these impacts, it is essential that the Proponent prohibit the use of vehicles off established and well-used tracks within the area of the EPL. The potential impacts of current vehicle tracks observed on the EPL can be seen in the figure below. All such tracks are unsightly and result in visual impacts as discussed in the previous section.

Soils in arid areas store seeds in the upper layers for extended periods of time until the germination conditions of seeds are met. These seeds will be very valuable to the rehabilitation process, as they will provide a source of plant material. Separate stripping of differentiated soil layers will therefore be necessary for rehabilitation.

6.6 Occupational Health Impacts

The occupational health aspects of workers undertaking all related activities required by the Proponent are covered in the Labor Act of 2007. Employees working on the EPL are potentially exposed to a number of occupational hazards, including dust, noise and heat stress.

Dust

Employees working on equipment potentially exposed to dust. As specified by the Labor Act, non-toxic human dust exposure levels may not exceed 5 mg/m^3 for respirable dust and 15 mg/m^3 for total dust. Should the silica content of the dust be high, exposure levels to dust will be more significant. It is therefore recommended that the Proponent supply dust masks to all employees potentially exposed to dust.

Noise

It is likely that employees working on equipment are potentially exposed to noise levels above the 85dB (A) limit. The requirements of the Labour Act stipulate that no employee should be exposed to a noise level exceeding 85 dB (A) over a period of 8 hours.

Should noise levels exceed 85 dB (A), the Proponent will be required to implement a hearing conservation programme which includes noise monitoring, the provision of personal hearing protection, noise awareness training and medical surveillance.

7. Rehabilitation and Decommissioning

Due to the sensitive ecology of the area as well as the sensitivity of tourism as a land use to visual impacts, rehabilitation measures applied after prospecting activities is essential. All impacts caused by the Proponent as a result of prospecting activities, must be rehabilitated should no further use of the land be required.

Rehabilitation measures include the following:

- Remove all construction equipment, surplus materials and temporary structures, fences and works of every kind.
- The sale/removal of all waste types from the project site to a recognized dump site.
- Break up bunds and all other concrete slabs (if applicable) and remove these, together with all waste concrete, to a recognized waste dump.
- Burn all uncontaminated, non-hazardous combustible substances (i.e. wood, cardboard, paper and food scraps) in a waste pit.
- Any other waste should be removed from site to an appropriate landfill facility (e.g. Henties Bay or Swakopmund).
- Oil spills should be cleaned up immediately. Contaminated soils should be disposed of at an approved disposal site (e.g. Walvis Bay).
- Bury all uncontaminated construction rubble (i.e. waste concrete) in a waste pit.
- Demolish buildings, if applicable.
- The surface of used roads should be broken up (scarified) to alleviate compaction and increase the rate of vegetation regeneration.

With regard to trenches, stockpiles and waste dumps, it is recognized that once the overburden has been removed, a 30% swell factor of the overburden is anticipated. It will therefore be necessary to find alternative uses and permanent stockpiling points for the material, that cannot be accommodated in the trenches when backfilling during rehabilitation.

Furthermore, it is vitally important that the shallow topsoil layer is conserved during prospecting activities. Soils in arid areas store seeds in the upper layers for extended periods of time until the germination conditions of seeds are met. These seeds will be very valuable to the rehabilitation process, as they will provide a source of plant material. Separate stripping of differentiated soil layers will therefore be necessary for rehabilitation.

The following rehabilitation measures are therefore required for trenches, pits and waste dumps:

- Used pits and trenches must be backfilled, compacted marginally (to prevent slumping) and contoured to follow the natural contours of the land.
- Where topsoil is available (containing the valuable seedbed), this topsoil should be spread evenly over areas requiring rehabilitation.

When rehabilitation is complete there must be little or no evidence of the sampling activities, which have taken place in the area.

8. Conclusions and Recommendations

The envisaged activities planned by the Proponent might be subjected to potential alternative land uses in future, and might be in conflict with the objective of establishing the Dorob National Park.

The present ecological status of the EPL area is not entirely pristine. The north-eastern outcrops of the EPL has an abundance of lichens fields and will not be included in the new EPL boundaries.

All activities should be limited to the eastern side of the tourist road between Cape Cross and Henties Bay, since the western section of the EPL, along the coast, consists of the Mile 72 campsite, which is currently managed by the Namibian Wildlife Resorts. A summary of the conclusions is given below for the potential impacts.

Socio Economic:

- It is important that recruitment of employees should include Henties Bay residents.

Environmental Impacts

- As far as practically possible, exploration areas should be located close to existing tracks preferably on already disturbed ground.
- Throughout the period of prospecting, activities are to be restricted to within the designated areas.
- On-site waste management facilities (such as waste a container, waste pits) are to be provided.
- Illegal dumping and littering (on the site, along public roads or in surrounding areas) shall not be allowed.
- The Proponent should ensure that all exploration areas and the surroundings are kept in a clean and neat condition at all times and that windblown litter is cleared on a daily basis.

Noise

- The noise level of machinery and equipment must be minimized through adequate maintenance

Dust

- Restriction of vehicle speeds on site.
- Limiting disturbance to soils by remaining on existing tracks within the EPL, thereby maintaining the integrity of the soil surface, and
- The provision of personal protective equipment to all those employees potentially exposed to silica in dust through the provision of adequate facemasks.

To prevent accidental spillages and hence water contamination from occurring, the following recommendations may be made:

- Provide and maintain adequate bunding where hazardous materials are stored and handled.
- Always use a bunded area when refueling or doing maintenance work on vehicles, machinery or equipment or when transferring hazardous substances from one container to another.
- Ensure that all staff are adequately protected and educated about the safe and proper handling and disposal of hazardous substances.
- Used fuel, oils, hydraulic fluids, solvents, and grease should be stored in drums or other suitable containers. These should be labeled, sealed and removed from the site to an appropriate disposal site or recycling facility.

Impacts on flora and fauna

- The lichen fields should not be disturbed.
- Established vegetation must not be destroyed during prospecting activities.
- Limiting disturbance to endemic fauna species by remaining on existing tracks within the EPL
- Staff awareness must be ensured so as to prevent the unwanted destruction of vegetation.
- Strict disciplinary measures applied to staff members caught poaching or attempting to trap wildlife.
- The prevention of litter and the adequate disposal wastes to prevent attracting pest animals.
- The enforcement of speed restrictions on all roads to prevent accidents with animals.

Visual Impacts

- Adequate disposal methods for all waste types, including domestic waste, scrap metal etc.
- Reduce the visibility of structures, including water tanks, bulk fuel tanks etc.

- Reduce the visibility of open trenches, pits and stockpiles through ongoing rehabilitation.
- Promotion of a culture of awareness amongst all employees on the sensitivity of tourism to visual impacts as a result of prospecting activities in this area.
- Limiting visual impacts and unsightly tracks by remaining on existing tracks within the EPL.

Occupational Health Impacts

- Provision of personal protective equipment (ear plugs and dust masks) to limit employee exposure to dust and noise.

Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation measures include the following:

- Remove all construction equipment, surplus materials and temporary structures, fences and works of every kind.
- Salvage and remove all structures, including all scrap and other structures and equipment.
- The sale/removal of all waste types from the project site to a recognized dump sites.
- Break up bunds and all other concrete slabs and remove these, together with all waste concrete, to a recognized waste dump.
- Dispose of all uncontaminated, non-hazardous combustible substances (i.e. wood, cardboard, paper and food scraps) at an approved landfill site.
- Oil spills should be cleaned up immediately. Contaminated soils should be disposed of at an approved disposal site.
- Remove all uncontaminated construction rubble (i.e. waste concrete)
- Demolish buildings, if applicable.
- The surface of used roads should be broken up (scarified) to alleviate compaction and increase the rate of vegetation regeneration.

The following rehabilitation measures are required for trenches, pits and waste dumps:

- Used pits and trenches must be backfilled, compacted marginally (to prevent slumping) and contoured to follow the natural contours of the land.
- Where topsoil is available (containing the valuable seedbed), this topsoil should be spread evenly over areas requiring rehabilitation.

9. Appendix A: Environmental Clearance – July 2008

10. Appendix B: Exploration Plan