



March 2024

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED
REZONING OF THE REMAINDER OF ERF 1064, GROOTFONTEIN
EXTENSION 2 FROM RESIDENTIAL TO BUSINESS,
OTJOZONDJUPA REGION, NAMIBIA**

1. INTRODUCTION TO THE PROJECT

Turnix Environmental Consulting has been engaged by Mrs. Munkonge (Proponent) to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed rezoning of the remainder of Erf 1064, Grootfontein Extension 2 from “Residential” to “Business”. The remainder of Erf 1064 has already been developed and is currently used for residential purposes. The provisions of the Grootfontein Town Planning Scheme do not allow business activities on an erf zoned for residential purposes. It is therefore required that the erf needs to be rezoned first before business activities can be supported.

The proponent has therefore engaged Turnix Environmental Consulting to fulfil the requirements of the Environmental Management Act before an application can be lodged with the relevant planning authorities.

According to the Environmental Management Act (No.7 of 2007) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations the following activities may not be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate:

LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

5.1 The rezoning of land from –

(a) Residential use to Industrial or Commercial use.

The proponent’s intention to rezone the Remainder of Erf 1064, Grootfontein Extension 2 from “Residential” to “Business” therefore triggers the need for an

Environmental Impact Assessment and subsequent application for environmental clearance.

The Remainder of Erf 1064 is located in the town of Grootfontein in the Otjozondjupa Region of Namibia in central Namibia. The Erf is 1,280 m² in extent. Grootfontein is located about 450 km north of Windhoek. The Remainder of Erf 1064, Grootfontein, Extension 2, is located in Sinclair Street as shown on the figure below. The erf is located at the following coordinates: - 19.564611, 18.096538.



Figure: Location of Erf RE 1064, Grootfontein.

It is the intention of the Proponent to use the erf, once rezoned to operate a hospitality business to cater for accommodation and associated services. The structure and facilities on the erf as shown on the picture below will be able to cater for the hospitality business with minor additions.



Picture: Structure on erf RE 1064

All municipal services (water, electricity, sewer reticulation and maintenance of access road) are already provided by the Grootfontein Municipality.

2. PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document, Background Information Document (BID), is intended to provide information about the EIA being undertaken for the rezoning of the remainder of Erf 1064, Grootfontein Extension 2 from Residential to Business and provides:

- An overview of the project;
- A description of the manner in which the EIA will be undertaken;
- An indication of how Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) may become involved in the EIA process; and
- Contact details of the consultancy firm to where I&APs may submit their comments.

3. EIA PROCESS

The EIA will be carried out in the following phases as provided for in Namibia's Environmental Management Act No.7 of 2007 and its Regulations.

PHASE I: PROJECT INITIATION & INTERNAL SCREENING

- Formulation of background information note
- Notification to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) of the proposed project through submission of EIA application form and online registration
- Undertake site visits to identify environmental issues
- Identify key stakeholders, regulatory authorities and Interested and Affected Parties (IAP)

PHASE II – EIA AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

- Notify other regulatory authorities as well as IAP (advertisement through newspaper, site notices, email etc)
- Assess the potential environmental impacts of the project activities
- Compile the EIA report and EMP
- Circulate the EIA report and EMP to regulatory authorities and IAP for reviewing and comments
- Incorporate input and comments from the regulatory authorities and IAP
- Submit the final report to MEFT for their review and decision making

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Your role as a stakeholder

The EIA process gives you an opportunity to:

- Review background information of the proposed project and provide comments;
- Find out more about the proposed project and the EIA process;

- Raise your issues and comments regarding the proposed project;
- Provide the Environmental Assessment Practitioner with additional information to be considered in the decision making process;
- Review and comment on the reports to be produced during the EIA process; and
- Appeal the Environmental Clearance that may be issued if you have serious objections.

How can you be involved?

- By responding to the invitation for you to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP);
- By mailing your comments to the EIA contact person (Contact details provided below);
- By contacting the EIA contact person telephonically; and
- By reviewing, the draft reports and provides comments.

Whom should you contact to register as an Interested &Affected Party?

Please complete the attached registration and comments form and send it to EIA consultants.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

FOR THE PROPOSED REZONING OF THE REMAINDER OF ERF 1064,
GROOTFONTEIN EXTENSION 2 FROM RESIDENTIAL TO BUSINESS,
OTJOZONDJUPA REGION, NAMIBIA

REGISTRATION AND COMMENTS FORM

I request to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party for the proposed project. Please provide me all relevant information regarding the project throughout the EIA process and invite me to all meetings. My particulars are as follow:

Name:

Telephone:

Organization:

Designation:

E-mail:

My interest in this project:

Comments and matters of concern:

Signature:

Date:

Please return this completed form to:

Turnix Environmental Consulting
Cell: +264 81 1405033
E-mail: samasore2018@gmail.com