



Submitted to: Votorantim Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd. Attention: Mr Marcos da Silva 9B South Port Office Park, Hosea Kutako Avenue P O Box 97957, Maerua Mall

# **REPORT:** EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EPL 6927-

# **COMPLIANCE REPORT**

PROJECT NUMBER: ECC-88-407-REP-02-D

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#### **TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

ABBREVIATIONS	DESCRIPTION
AMT	Audio MagnetoTelluric
DEA	Directorate of Environmental Affairs
ECC	Environmental Compliance Consultancy
EIA	environmental impact assessment
EMP	environmental management plan
IP	Induced polarization
EPL	Exclusive Prospecting Licence
MEFT	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism
MME	Ministry of Mines and Energy
RAB	Rotary Air Blast



# **1 INTRODUCTION**

#### 1.1 COMPANY BACKGROUND

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (ECC) has been retained by Votorantim Metals Namibia (Pty) referred to hereinafter as the Proponent. The Proponent currently holds a valid environmental clearance certificate for exploration activities on EPL 6927, for which a renewal is being applied. As part of this application, an environmental compliance audit has been undertaken to determine the status of compliance with the environmental management plan.

The project is located in the Otjozondjupa Region. The licence area is located approximately 25-30 km from Otavi and 12.4 km from Kombat see Figure 1.



#### **Exploration Activities on EPL 6927- Compliance Report**

Votorantim Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd.

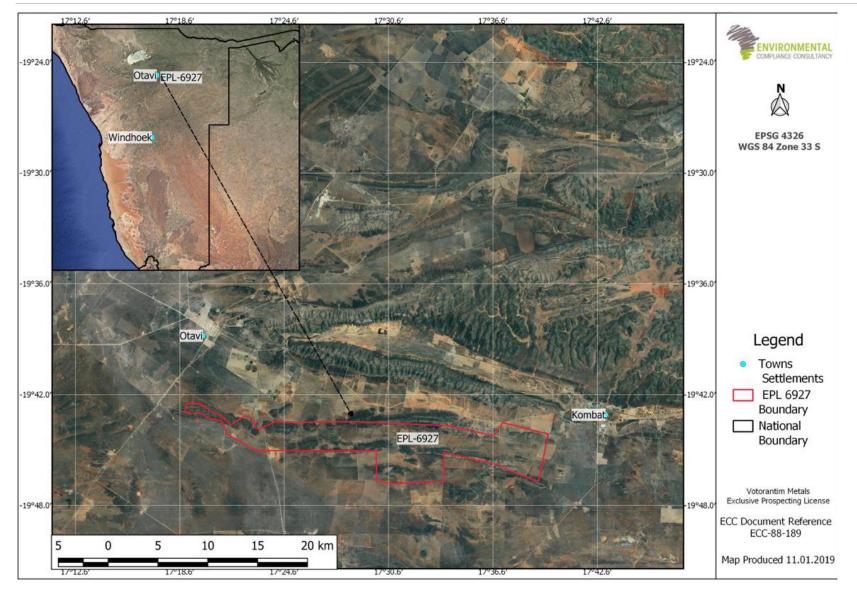


Figure 1 – Project location

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#### 1.2 THE PROPONENT OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Votorantim Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd is the Proponent for the proposed project. The Proponent has a head office in Namibia's capital, Windhoek, 9B South Port, Hosea Kutako Avenue and the Proponents' details are provided in Table 1.

Table 1 – Proponents details			
Company Representative:	Contact Details:		
Mr E Freyer	Votorantim Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd:		
Mrs Y Hass	PO Box 97957, Maerua Mall		
	Windhoek		
	<u>efreyer@iway.com</u>		
	ext.yvonneh@nexaresources.com		
	+264 (61) 221 016		

#### Table 1 – Proponents details

#### 1.3 Environmental assessment practitioner

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (ECC) (Reg. No. CC 2013/11401) has prepared this renewal report on behalf of the Proponent. This report has been authored by employees of ECC, who have no material interest in the outcome of this report, nor do any of the ECC team have any interest that could be reasonably regarded as being capable of affecting their independence in the preparation of this report. ECC is independent from the proponent and has no vested or financial interest in the project, except for fair remuneration for professional fees rendered based upon agreed commercial rates. Payment of these fees is in no way contingent on the results of this report or the assessment, or a record of decision issued by Government. No member or employee of ECC is, or is intending to be, a director, officer, or any other direct employee of Votorantim Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd. No member or employee of ECC has, or has had, any shareholding Votorantim Metals Namibia (Pty) Ltd.

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

Environmental Compliance Consultancy PO Box 91193, Klein Windhoek, Namibia Tel: +264 81 669 7608 Email: <u>info@eccenvironmental.com</u>



#### 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 6927.

The approved EMP for the existing environmental clearance certificate is audited 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 its EIA Regulations of 2012, exploration activities on EPL 6927 cannot be undertaken without a valid environmental clearance certificate. The exploration activities at EPL 6927 proposes to assess the viability of base and rare and precious minerals, namely copper that can be found in the EPL 6927 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 6927

The Proponent carries out low-impact exploration activities on EPL 6927 for base and rare metals, industrial minerals and precious metals in the Otjozondjupa Region. The Proponent wishes to continue with exploration activities on Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) 6927.

#### 2.1 RENEWAL ACTIVITIES

The proposed project is for the exploration of base, rare and precious metals and industrial minerals. As part of the proposed exploration project, the following activities are envisaged, which shall be further defined as the exploration program is refined:

- Arial or remote sensing
- Electromagnetic surveys
- Drilling
- Mineral sampling



# **3 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AUDIT**

#### 3.1 SITE INSPECTION

#### 3.1.1. Bi-annual monitoring

An environmental report is submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism biannually reporting on periods from January to June and July to December. These reports report on compliance with regards to the activities taking place on-site, roads or tracks made or used, accommodation structures and infrastructure erected, any rehabilitation done, and any incidents of conflict reported.

#### 3.1.2 Activities for the monitoring period

From July to December 2019 some 13 lines (15.6 km) were cleared for AMT and IP surveys on farm Neuwerk. The 1 m wide lines were cut for access on foot to lay out geophysical survey cables. Some 1136 small pits were dug for electrodes and closed after the survey.

From January to June 2020 the Proponent surveyed 33 lines (38.2 km) on the farms Neuwerk, Hartebeestpoort, Askevold and Ondjondjo using the AMT and IP survey methods. The 1 m wide lines were cut for access on foot to lay out geophysical survey cables. Some 2445 small pits were dug for electrodes and closed after the survey. Four diamond drill holes were drilled with a total meterage of 1163.19m. Another shallow (max. 20m deep) 88 RAB (rotary air blast) holes amounting to a total meterage of 696m were drilled.

From July to December 2020 the Proponent surveyed 25 lines (38.4 km) on the farms Neuwerk, Hartebeestpoort, Askevold and Ondjondjo, using the AMT and IP survey methods. The 1 m wide lines were cut for access on foot to lay out geophysical survey cables. Some 2379 small pits were dug for electrodes and closed after the survey. Some 908 soil sampling holes were dug, each measuring 20 cm by 20 cm and 20 cm deep, which were also closed after sampling. Eleven diamond drill holes were drilled with a total meterage of 4449.43 m and a max. depth of 566.81m between 2 July 2020 and 16 December 2020.

From January to June 2021 the Proponent cleared and surveyed 33 lines (34.8 km) on the farms Askevold, Naueis and Altona using the AMT survey method. Access lines were 1 m wide and were cut for access and for laying out survey cables. Some 4723 small pits were dug for electrodes and closed after the AMT and IP surveys. AMT and IP surveys along 29 lines were completed. Another 0.48 ha of bush-encroached land was cleared for drill access tracks and sites. On 18 June 2021 the Proponent began with diamond drilling of one hole with an end-of-hole depth of 140.66 m.



From June to December 2021 the Proponent cleared 1.48 ha of bush encroached areas for drill access tracks and drill-sites. While 3.1km (0.78 ha) areas) were cleared for drill access tracks, 0.7 ha were cleared for 14 drill-sites, allowing grass to re-grow naturally during the 2021-2022 rainy season.

The main access road to Farm Neuwerk was gravelled as it had been severely washed out due to heavy rains. On this farm 0.7 Ha was cleared to make space for fourteen drill sites and tracks. These areas and tracks are now also available for productive use by the landowner.

Fourteen sumps with an area of 1.125 m<sup>3</sup> were dug for recycling water during drilling and were closed after drilling was completed.



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Figure 2 - A drill rig
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Figure 3 - A plastic linear - preparing sump



Exploration Activities on EPL 6927– Compliance Report



#### Figure 4 - Drill rig and sumps



#### Figure 5 - Drill crew campsite

#### 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 6927. 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 potential impacts) 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, fauna, and water resources; and use water and other 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.
- Ensure that an annual environmental audit is carried out by either MME or MEFT.
- Once exploration has ceased, any impacts shall be rehabilitated.

#### 3.4 ISSUES OF NON-COMPLIANCE

From July to December 2021 there were various complaints from landowners of litter and other types of pollution by contractors, movement of vehicles and equipment on access roads and tracks, various activities and actions by contactors and the proponent's staff and breach of contracts and agreements.

The proponent took various measures to resolves these issues such as verbal agreements after discussions, instructions to company staff to avoid conflicts and the proponent rectified its mistakes and undertook measures to avoid future wrongdoing.





#### Table 2 - Exploration EMP Audit

Activity	Potential Impacts	Management/Mitigation Measures	Compliance	Comments
Use of vehicles and equipment	<ul> <li>Hygiene and Safety</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Amenities (e.g., portable toilets) shall be provided and set up in a suitable location (if required).</li> </ul>	– Compliant	<ul> <li>The proponent will continue to ensure mitigation measures are in place as per the EMP.</li> </ul>
	– Emissions	<ul> <li>All vehicles and machinery/ equipment to be shut down or throttled back between periods of use</li> </ul>	– Compliant	<ul> <li>The proponent will continue to ensure mitigation measures are in place as per the EMP.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>The potential loss of oil and fuel causing ground contamination</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Refueling shall be undertaken in a designated area</li> <li>All stationary vehicles and machinery must have drip trays to collect leakages of lubricants and oil</li> </ul>	– Compliant	<ul> <li>The proponent will continue to ensure mitigation measures are in place as per the EMP.</li> </ul>
	– Water contamination	<ul> <li>In the event of pollution, polluted soils must be collected and disposed of at an approved site</li> <li>Water during drilling should be retained in a lined pond to prevent pollution, and</li> </ul>	– Compliant	<ul> <li>The proponent will continue to ensure mitigation measures are in place as per the EMP.</li> </ul>



	<ul> <li>- A 'good housekeeping' policy shall be</li> </ul>		
	adopted across the construction and		
	maintenance working area		
<ul> <li>Dust generation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Use existing access roads and tracks</li> </ul>	– Compliant	- The proponent will continue
8	where possible		to ensure mitigation
	<ul> <li>- Apply dust suppression methods such as</li> </ul>		measures are in place as per
	water spraying during drilling		the EMP.
	- operations		
	<ul> <li>- Restricted speeds (&lt;30km/h), and</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>- Specific activities that may generate dust</li> </ul>		
	and impact on residents shall be		
	<ul> <li>avoided during high wind events</li> </ul>		
- Noise generation	<ul> <li>Noise shall be minimised as much as</li> </ul>	– Compliant	- The proponent will continue
	possible during the exploration works		to ensure mitigation
	<ul> <li>No hammering of drill rods with steel</li> </ul>		measures are in place as per
	hammers in proximity to nearby farm		the EMP.
	– houses		
	<ul> <li>Drill equipment shall be suitably</li> </ul>		
	positioned to ensure that noisy		
	equipment is away from human receptors		
	<ul> <li>Noise suppression measures shall be</li> </ul>		
	applied if drilling occurs in locations that		
	may affect residents and during evening		
	periods		



General exploration activities	<ul> <li>Loss of access or access affected to the farm and farm areas, and</li> <li>Farm operations</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Residents shall be provided at least two weeks' notice of drilling operations within 1km of their property, and</li> <li>Continual engagement with residents shall be undertaken with the proponent.</li> <li>Access to farms and all farm areas shall always be made available, and</li> <li>Cattle water holes and feeding areas to remain unaffected.</li> </ul>	– Compliant	<ul> <li>The proponent will continue to ensure mitigation measures are in place as per the EMP.</li> </ul>
Vegetation clearance	- Alien species	<ul> <li>All project equipment arriving on site from an area outside of the project or coming from an area of known weed infestations (not present on the project site) should have an internal weed and seed inspection completed prior to equipment being used</li> <li>Ensure the potential introduction and spread of alien plants is prevented, and</li> <li>Ensure the correct removal of alien invasive vegetation and</li> <li>Prevent the establishment and spread of alien invasive plants.</li> </ul>	– Compliant	<ul> <li>The proponent will continue to ensure mitigation measures are in place as per the EMP.</li> </ul>
	- Dust generation	<ul><li>Apply speed restrictions, and</li><li>Avoid off road driving.</li></ul>	– Compliant	<ul> <li>The proponent will continue to ensure mitigation</li> </ul>



				measures are in place as per the EMP.
	<ul><li>Reduced soil</li><li>quality</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Use existing tracks where possible</li> <li>Refueling to occur in designated areas with drip trays, and</li> <li>Avoid natural drainage lines for exploration activities.</li> </ul>	– Compliant	<ul> <li>The proponent will continue to ensure mitigation measures are in place as per the EMP.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Injure or kill animals</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No driving off designated access routes (into the bush) / off-road driving</li> <li>No snares or catching of animals, no keeping or housing of pets for food, and</li> <li>No animals or birds may be collected, caught, consumed or removed from site by the Contractor or personnel on site.</li> </ul>	– Compliant	<ul> <li>The proponent will continue to ensure mitigation measures are in place as per the EMP.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Removal of vegetation – loss of flora and fauna, protected/important species</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Use existing tracks where possible</li> <li>Route new tracks around established and protected trees, and clumps of vegetation</li> <li>Identify rare, endangered, threatened and protected species.</li> <li>Demarcate and avoid cutting down, and clearly highlight to construction workers so that they are avoided, and</li> <li>Avoid natural drainage lines.</li> </ul>	– Compliant	<ul> <li>The proponent will continue to ensure mitigation measures are in place as per the EMP.</li> </ul>
Site and ground	<ul> <li>Heritage remains</li> </ul>	Discovery of unearthed archaeological remains to be uncovered, the following	– Compliant	<ul> <li>The proponent will continue to ensure mitigation</li> </ul>





preparation –	measures (chance find procedure) shall be	measures are in place as per
creation of	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	the EMP.
preparation - creation of access tracks and areas for setting up drill rigs	<ul> <li>measures (chance find procedure) shall be applied:</li> <li>Works to cease, area to be demarcated with appropriate tape by the site supervisor, and</li> <li>The Exploration Manager to be informed</li> <li>Exploration Manager to visit the site and determine whether work can proceed without damage to findings, mark exclusions boundary and</li> <li>Inform the Environmental Consultant with the GPS position, if possible.</li> <li>If works cannot proceed without damage to findings, the Exploration Manager to inform the Environmental Consultant for the archaeologist inspection and advice</li> <li>Environment Compliance Consultancy's Archaeologist will evaluate the significance of the remains and identify appropriate action, for example, record</li> </ul>	measures are in place as per the EMP.
	and remove; relocate or leave in situ (depending on the nature and value of the remains)	
	<ul> <li>Inform the police if the remains are human, and</li> </ul>	



		<ul> <li>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 directed.</li> </ul>		
Fuel handling and storage	<ul> <li>Loss of containment leading to ground or groundwater contamination</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Safe Delivery and handling:</li> <li>Training employees and Toolbox Talks</li> <li>Good housekeeping across site</li> <li>Fuel is handled with care</li> <li>Spill kits to be available for use during refueling, fuel delivery or use.</li> <li>Absorption material should be available. Where saw dust is used it should be cleaned up immediately and not left for long periods</li> <li>Any spill is to be reported to the Exploration Manager once containment has been achieved.</li> <li>Plant and equipment to be well maintained and serviced regularly, and</li> <li>In the field, use of hydrocarbons under 200 litres can be used for mobile refueling or servicing.</li> </ul>	– Compliant	<ul> <li>The proponent will continue to ensure mitigation measures are in place as per the EMP.</li> </ul>



		- Fuel spills of greater than 200lts are to be		
		reported to the MME in terms of the		
		Petroleum Products and Energy Act, 1990		
		Storage:		
		<ul> <li>All tanks to be stored on a non-porous</li> </ul>		
		floor and bunded area		
		<ul> <li>Bund to be capable of storing at least</li> </ul>		
		110% of the volume of the tank		
		– All containers to be suitable for use and		
		not damaged		
		– Tanks are locked at all times, and		
		<ul> <li>Spill kits available at in suitable locations.</li> </ul>		
		Refueling:		
		<ul> <li>Drip trays to be used during refueling of</li> </ul>		
		vehicles and on a permeable flat surface		
		where possible, and		
		– Funnels should be available and used to		
		avoid spillage during decanting		
Generation of	– Nuisances (odours	<ul> <li>Training and Toolbox Talks</li> </ul>	– Compliant	- The proponent will continue
waste	and visual)	<ul> <li>Good housekeeping across site</li> </ul>		to ensure mitigation
	– Land use, and	<ul> <li>All working areas shall apply good</li> </ul>		measures are in place as per
	– Litter (nuisance and	housekeeping		the EMP.
	ecological risk).	<ul> <li>Implement the waste management</li> </ul>		
	,,,	hierarchy across site: Avoid, reuse, recycle,		
		then disposal through burning or landfill		
		1 0 1 0 1 10 10		



		<ul> <li>Waste shall be collected and shall be</li> </ul>		
		removed on a regular basis to avoid pests		
		and bad odours, and 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.		
Resource use	<ul> <li>Inefficient use of</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Use water effectively and efficiently</li> </ul>	– Compliant	- The proponent will continue
	water			to ensure mitigation
				measures are in place as per
				the EMP.
Job creation	– Employment	<ul> <li>Maximise local employment and local</li> </ul>	– Compliant	- The proponent will continue
	creation and skills	business opportunities		to ensure mitigation
	development	<ul> <li>Enhance the use of local labour and local</li> </ul>		measures are in place as per
	opportunities	skills as far as reasonably possible		the EMP.
	during the	<ul> <li>Ensure that goods and services are</li> </ul>		
	exploration phase.	sourced from the local and regional		
		economy as far as reasonably possible.		

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# 4 REHABILITATION

The proponent ensured that all impacts caused by them during exploration activities were rehabilitated should no further use of the land be required. When selecting sites for access roads and drill sites, priority was given to areas with little vegetation cover, while sparing medium to large trees in order to minimize the amount of vegetation cleared. Where possible access roads were cleared manually to prevent the loss of fertile topsoil and generation of irregularities in terrain by machinery.

Any products that were added to water and disposed on land were biodegradable and noncontaminating. All return tanks were closed, and top grease material was collected and deposited at the Otavi waste disposal site.

The recovery of vegetation will occur naturally and gradually, through seeds that are in the soil and should begin to regrow during the rainy season. Access tracks will be maintained for future exploration activities.

Holes that were dug for electrodes and soil samples were closed after the AMT, IP and soil surveys.



#### 1. Drill site: NANAND000016 from 16 June 2021 to 10 August 2021

Figure 6 - Drill rig at Drill-hole site: NANAND000016



BEFORE





Figure 7 - Drill site before drilling and after rehabilitation at Drill-hole site: NANAND000016

2. Drill site: NANAND000017 from 17 August 2021 to 28 August 2021



Figure 8 - Drill rig, sumps and water tank at Drill-hole site: NANAND000017

BEFORE



AFTER



Figure 9 – Drill site before drilling and after rehabilitation after drilling at Drill-hole site: NANAND000017



3. Drill site: NANAND000018 from 8 August 2021 to 10 September 2021





Figure 10 - Drill rig and sumps at Drill-hole site: NANAND000018

BEFORE

AFTER





Figure 11 – Drill site before drilling and after rehabilitation after drilling at Drill-hole site: NANAND000018



4. Drill site: NANAND000019 from 29 August 2021 to 19 September 2021



Figure 12 - Drill rig, sumps and water tanks at Drill-hole site: NANAND000019

**BEFORE** 

AFTER





- Figure 13 Drill site before drilling and after rehabilitation after drilling at Drill-hole site: NANAND000019
  - 5. Drill site: NANAND000020 from 11 September 2021 to 21 September 2021





Figure 14 - Drill rigs and sumps at Drill-hole site: NANAND000020



#### **BEFORE**







Figure 15 - Drill site before drilling and after rehabilitation after drilling at Drill-hole site: NANAND000020

6. Drill site: NANAND000021 from 23 September to 2 October 2021





Figure 16 - Drill rig and sumps at site: NANAND000021

AFTER



**BEFORE** 



Figure 17 - Drill site before drilling and after rehabilitation after drilling and capped hole at Drill-hole site: NANAND000021





- 7. Drill site: NANAND000022 from 24 August 2021 to 14 September 2021

Figure 18 - Drill rig at site: NANAND000022



Figure 19 - Drill site before drilling and after rehabilitation after drilling at Drill-hole site: NANAND000022



8. Drill site NANAND000023 from 15 September 2021 to 27 September 2021







AFTER





Figure 21 - Drill site before drilling and after rehabilitation after drilling at Drill-hole site: NANAND000023

9. Drill site NANAND000024 from 28 October 2021 to 30 October 2021



Figure 22 - Drill rig and sumps at site: NANAND000024



#### BEFORE

AFTER



Figure 23 - Drill site before drilling and after rehabilitation after drilling at Drill-hole site: NANAND000024

10. Drill site NANAND000025 from 24 October 2021 to 27 October 2021





Figure 24 - Drill rig and diesel trailer from site: NANAND000025





Figure 25 - Drill site before drilling and after rehabilitation after drilling at Drill-hole site: NANAND000025



11. Drill site NANAND000026 from 1 November 2021 to 14 November 2021



Figure 26 - Drill rig and sumps at site: NANAND000026



Figure 27 - Drill site before drilling and after rehabilitation after drilling at Drill-hole site: NANAND000026

12. Drill site NANAND000027 from 1 November 2021 to 11 November 2021



Figure 28 - Drill rig and sumps









Figure 29 - Drill site before drilling and after rehabilitation after drilling at Drill-hole site: NANAND000027

13. Access Road Rehabilitation



Figure 30 - Access roads before rehabilitation



Figure 31 - Current rehabilitation of access roads



# **5** CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

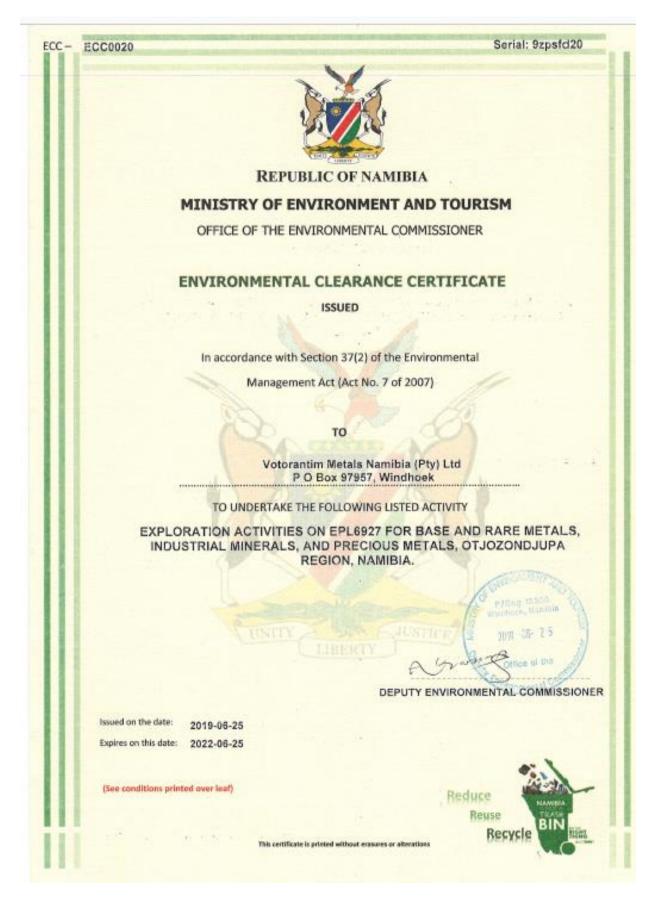
All proposed activities shall be carried out in compliance with the relevant requirements and conditions of the granted licence in accordance with the approved EMP. It is recommended that the Proponent continue to adhere to all environmental legislation and company standards to ensure that best practical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



#### APPENDIX A: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN



#### **APPENDIX B - ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE**





**APPENDIX C – BI-ANNUAL REPORTS**