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PROJECT STATUS

Title	ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PROPOSED EXPLORATION OF BASE AND RARE METALS (COPPER ORE) ON EPL 7209 AT OTJIKONDAVIRONGO VILLAGE, SESFONTEIN CONSTITUENCY, KUNENE REGION.		
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ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome
Covid19	Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)
ESA	Environmental & Social Assessment
ECC	Environmental Clearance Certificate
ECO	Environmental Control Officer
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMA	Environmental Management Act
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
GIS	Geographic Information System
GN	Government Notice
GPS	Global Positioning System
HIV	Human Immuno-deficiency Virus
I&APs	Interested and Affected Parties
MAWLR	Ministry of Agriculture, Water & Land Reform
MEFT:DEA	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism: Department of Environmental Affairs
MHSS	Ministry of Health & Social Services
NHCN	National Heritage Council of Namibia
PR	Proponent's Representative
Reg.	Regulation
S	Section
TB	Tuberculosis

1. INTRODUCTION

Mining contributes to 25% of the country's income. It is the largest contributor to the Namibian economy. Namibia has various natural resources including diamonds, uranium, copper, gold, lead, tin, lithium, cadmium, zinc, salt and vanadium. Copper is by far the most abundant mineral commodity in Namibia. This is reflected not only by the fact that several copper mines are productive in the country at present: archaeological evidence in the form of ancient smelting sites proves the Namibian copper deposits have been exploited for many centuries. Radiocarbon dates suggest that copper was smelted in the Khomas Hochland as early as 1420, while pre-modern mining and metallurgical activities peaked during the seventeenth century (Kinahan and Vogel, 1982).

The proponent, **Sunset Investment CC** intends to mine Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones on EPL 7209 at Otjikondavirongo village, Sesfontein Constituency, Kunene Region. The Ministry of Trade and Industry regulates manufacturing, including mineral beneficiation, cement production, and semiprecious stone processing. Exploration at the moment focuses on base metals, diamond, gold, natural gas and uranium. This shows that the mining sector has great potential to grow and continue to development in the country.

The Government of Namibia recognises that the exploration and development of its mineral wealth could best be undertaken by the private sector. Government therefore focuses on creating an enabling environment through appropriate competitive policy and regulatory frameworks for the promotion of private sector investment coupled with the provision of national geo-scientific data bases essential for attracting competitive exploration and mining (Minerals Policy of Namibia, MME, 2013).

It is with this background that Sunset Investment CC has decided to explore for base and rare metals targeting copper ore for export purposes to international markets via the Walvis Bay Port and derive the monetary benefits associated with the extraction of these natural resources as he is a holder of the application for the EPL 7209 from the Ministry of Mines and Energy after following all the necessary procedures to satisfy the relevant Authorities enabling them to explore for the base and rare metals from the allocated portions.

The EMP will be a living document, developed in consultation with the proponent & investors, to be reviewed and updated after three years from the compiled biannual reports. More broadly, it will provide a blueprint for handling environmental issues related to copper exploration at the EPL 7209 at

Otjikondavirongo village, Sesfontein Constituency, Kunene Region of Namibia over the next 10 years, within the broader context of environmental and social sustainability.

1.1 Benefits and target population

Managing and mitigating environmental problems in the mining sector would yield economic benefits from improved human health and ecosystem functions in the Otjikondavirongo Village area where the EPL 7209 is situated. Health benefits will accrue from reduced exposure to environmental pollution and to the risk of accidents. The Project would also indirectly help improve worker health and safety conditions in existing and future mining enterprises, by strengthening the regulatory framework. The proponent, Sunset Investments CC has pledged that they will contribute to the educational & water infrastructure & services by building a block of classrooms and ablution facilities once the profits from the mining activities are realized as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility.

The proposed project will indirectly benefit the people of Namibia by removing a potential impediment to new private investments. The proposed project will improve the capacity of mandated national agencies to regulate exploration activities. It will strengthen the management and planning capacities of Sunset Investment CC, and of delegated authorizing agencies such as MEFT, and improve the skills of staff from these agencies to do strategic planning, monitoring, and to evaluate environmental issues and proposed mitigation measures. The Project would also help strengthen national capacity in environmental management through consultancies, studies and targeted training.

1.2 The main environmental issues related to exploration at the EPL 7209 at Otjikondavirongo Village are:

a) **Air Pollution**

The major environmental issue on the EPL 7209 is air pollution. Dust can severely affect the health of neighboring populations (especially respiratory problems) in Otjikondavirongo Village and adjacent villages.

b) **Soil Contamination**

Leaking hydrocarbons such as oil/diesel/ petrol during exploration activities can contaminate soil.

c) Water pollution

Several ephemeral rivers are found within the general surrounding areas. This makes the area susceptible to flooding in some areas during the rainy season. Runoff and leakage from existing waste rock dumps may pollute streams flowing out of the mine areas, causing widespread negative impacts downstream from the mines that extend as far as the Kunene River and affect wetlands and tributaries. The pollution has an impact on human health and ecological functions that is not fully determined. Lower water quality leads to increased water treatment costs. The pollution from the waste rock dumps needs to be contained and the sites rehabilitated. There are currently no visible surface water bodies to be considered with regard to the proposed exploration site, as there are no perennial water sources in the area. However, surface water impacts may be encountered during the operation phase, especially if excavation takes place within the rainy season.

The risk of contaminating such water sources can be increased by accidental spillage of oils and fuels and any other equipment used during operation. This risk is minimised by the fact that the extraction phase will be within the long dry season.

The main foreseen environmental problems at the EPL 7209 are deforestation, soil contamination, pollution, land dereliction, poor modern sanitation, unplanned makeshift homes around the mines and noxious weeds arising from eutrophication of any nearby water bodies by sewage effluent. The impact of pollution from exploration activities is compounded by the fact that nearly ninety per cent of the populations in Otjikondavirongo Village are nomadic pastoralists. This has resulted in concentrated demand for natural resources, such as grazing land, water, energy and food. Competing demands for water by livestock and households is already constraining the sustainable use of water resources. Exploration activities are known to generate air, water and land pollution and these have to be reduced and mitigated. Over dependence on firewood for fuel and wood to build temporary structures by households has been the main cause of deforestation at the Otjikondavirongo Village.

An EMP is one of the most important outputs of the EA process as it synthesises all of the proposed mitigation and monitoring actions, set to a timeline and with specific assigned responsibilities. This EMP details the mitigation and monitoring actions to be implemented during the following phases of these copper exploration activities:

-
- Exploration Phase – the period during which the proponent, having dealt with the necessary legislative and administrative arrangements, appoints a contractor to engage in the mining of Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones from the exploration site to be transported to the various smelters for commercial value addition & Walvis Bay port for export purposes;
 - Transportation Phase- the period during which the proponent transports the samples of Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones from the exploration site on EPL 7209 for further processing, testing and ultimately exported via Walvis Bay Port for international market.
 - Operation and Maintenance – the period during which the services infrastructure will be fully functional and maintained.

The decommissioning of these developments is not envisaged any time soon; however in the event that this should be considered some recommendations have been outlined in **Table 12**.

1.3 Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan

This EMP presents a summary of the various impacts as identified from the site visit at EPL 7209 at Otjikondavirongo Village and the mitigation measures that must be put in place at the Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones, EPL 7209 in order to reduce the negative impacts of the project on the environment. The proponent, Sunset Investment CC is encouraged to implement the recommendations raised herein. It must be noted that environmental management is an on-going process and must be continuously reviewed in order to review and correct other impacts that may arise and may not have been obvious at this preliminary stage of the project.

The EPL 7209 owned by Sunset Investment CC is currently at the initial stages of the project cycle, with exploration having being completed. **Table 1** outlines the Environmental Management Plan that must be implemented at the EPL 7209 site as the minerals are extracted and by Sunset Investment CC in order to promote environmental sustainability.

Table 1: Environmental Management Plan

Construction and mining phase				
Potential Impact	Possible Cause	Mitigation	Monitoring Agent	Time Frame
Physical				
Dust generation	-Grading & gravelling existing access roads -Site clearing for building workers compound, workshop and offices	-Avoid maintaining roads under strong winds -Selective clearing of vegetation -Minimise burning of cleared vegetation -Planting of trees around the mine	Roads Authority, MAWLR., MEFT:DEA	Daily. Weekly, Quarterly
Disturbance and Contamination of ground water	-Drilling of boreholes	-Engage experts in borehole drilling -Boreholes to be approved by MAWLR- Hydrology Department -Water to be put in settling ponds before discharge to the environment -Recycle as much water as possible	MAWLR	Once off
Biological				
Deforestation and Habitat loss	-Site construction -Noise from heavy equipment -Dust from exploration activities and site clearing	-Selective cutting down of trees -Re-vegetate cleared areas, where necessary -Machines to be fitted with sound silencers -Regular watering of the mine site to minimise dust	ECO;MAWLR, MEFT:DEA	Weekly, Quarterly
Injury or death of livestock	-Livestock falling in unprotected trenches -Livestock being run over by heavy vehicles	-Fence off the mine workings -No unauthorised entry should be allowed -Put danger warning signs -Barricade the whole project site with a perimeter fence	ECO; MAWLR, MEFT:DEA; MME	Once off
Fire hazard	-No fire guards in place -Haphazard workings -No explosive box in site	-Establish and maintain fire guards -Establish structures according to the Siting of Works plan approved by the Ministry of Mines & Energy	ECO;MEFT:DEA ; MME	Biannually

		-Engage the Regional Mining Engineer in the licensing of a proper magazine box		
Operational phase				
Physical				
Air and Noise Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Dust generated from blasting -Dust generated from ore movement activities like loading and transportation -Exhaust fumes from vehicles and other equipment -Noise from drilling and blasting -Noise from heavy vehicles and equipment engines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Undertake controlled blasting; -Set enough lead times between blasting and mining -Blasting to be done during the day; -Establish blasting times and erect signs to that effect. -The local community should be notified using the prescribed channels via the Chief of the Otjikaoko Traditional Authority and be aware of the blasting schedule and take all the necessary precautions to avoid the blast sites and also plan their daily activities with the full understanding of the blasting activities and exploration activities. -Workers to be equipped with ear muffs and inhalers; -Proper vehicle maintenance to reduce exhaust fumes and vehicles should be switched key off when not in operation to reduce noise pollution. -A 10km/hr speed limit should be observed within the vicinity of the EPL 7209. -Put speed warning signs around the mining area -Vehicles to be fitted with silencers -Regular watering of the mining area to suppress dust 	ECO;MEFT:DEA ; MME	Daily, weekly, quarterly.
Land degradation & loss of aesthetic value	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Oil and diesel spillages from vehicles and equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Regular servicing of vehicles -Selective land clearing i.e. clearing where necessary -Exploration activities to adhere to Minerals (Prospecting & 	ECO;MEFT:DEA ; Ministry of Mines & Energy(MME)	Daily, Weekly

	-Land clearing for increased exploration activities	Mining Act, 1992 (Act No. 33 of 1992) -Avoid vehicle overloading		
Soil Erosion & Contamination of Surface Water	-Surface run off from mine waste water -Contamination due to oil and diesel spills -Dust from ore hauling and loading activities	-Recycling of water -Terrace the steep slopes to minimise surface run off -Oil and diesel spillages should be effectively contained by constantly checking the vehicles and machinery and those with leaks should be fitted with drip trays. -Implement procedures to minimise drop height between the tipper and front end loader.	ECO; MAWLR., MEFT:DEA; Ministry of Mines & Energy(MME)	Daily, Weekly
Biological/ Ecological				
Deforestation and loss of biodiversity	-Vegetation clearing for mining expansion -Dust settling on foliage	-Any expansion to be approved by the Mining Commissioner and the Regional Mining Engineer -Avoid indiscriminate cutting down of trees -Minimise dust emission -Establish vegetation perimeter around the mining area to trap dust	ECO; MAWLR, MEFT:DEA; Ministry of Mines & Energy(MME)	Daily, weekly, quarterly
Siltation of nearby stream and Disturbance of Aquatic Life	-Dust generated settling in the river (ephemeral) -Surface run off from mine site	-Minimise dust by watering the mine area -Encourage water recycling -Water sampling to test impurities	ECO; MAWLR, MEFT:DEA; Ministry of Mines & Energy(MME)	Daily, Weekly
Impact to ecosystem food chains	-Birds migration due to noise and dust from blasting and heavy equipment -Land clearing -Dissolved nutrients in water drawn from the mine	-Selective vegetation clearing -Mine water should be recycled -Establish water sampling points -Regular monitoring of water quality in nearby rivers	ECO; MAWLR, MEFT:DEA; Ministry of Mines & Energy(MME)	Quarterly
Socio-Economic				
Occupational health and safety hazards	-Poor sanitary conditions -Poor mechanisation of workings	-Construct proper toilets for workers -Provision of clean and safe water from a borehole	ECO; Ministry of Health & Social Services	Quarterly

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Lack of proper PPE -Dust related illnesses -High risk of STIs, HIV and AIDS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Adequate lighting and ventilation should be provided in the workings -Adequate PPE to be provided to all employees -No machine drilling shall be done dry as per Minerals (Prospecting & Mining) Act, 1992 (Act No. 33 of 1992). -Institute HIV& AIDS awareness programs at the mine -Condoms should be easily accessible at the mine -Provision of a fully equipped First Aid kit with no expired medication. 	(MHSS); Social Security Commission (SSC); Ministry of Mines & Energy(MME)	
Injury to people and animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Falling into unprotected mine workings -Dangers of flying rocks from blasting -Accidents due to poor OSH procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Establish a perimeter fence around the mine premises -No unauthorised entry into the mine -Barricade the mine workings -Establish blasting times and erect danger warning signs -Blasting to be carried out during the day. -Only primary blasting to be done. -Local community to be notified and aware of the blasting schedule and associated activities. -Implement proper OSH procedures in line with Minerals (Prospecting & Mining Act, 1992 (Act No. 33 of 1992). 	ECO; Ministry of Health & Social Services (MHSS); Ministry of Mines & Energy(MME); Social Security Commission (SSC)	Once off

1.4 Environmental & Social Monitoring Plan

An Environmental monitoring plan has been put in place to check on the effectiveness of the proposed Environmental Management Plan in dealing with the impacts identified in this study. Some of the environmental parameters that need to be monitored at the EPL 7209 are:

- a) Dissolved Metals and Metals in Sediments:- cadmium, arsenic, chromium, copper, iron, lead, mercury, nickel, silver and zinc
- b) Conductivity

- c) Total Suspended Solids
- d) pH
- e) Safety of workings
- f) Employee Health- **Covid19**, TB, asthma, lung cancer, hearing ability, sight, backbone
- g) Workers' insurance - Social Security Commission (SSC) contributions

Samples of water shall be drawn from sunk boreholes once operations are about to start, to determine the baseline composition of water with respect to dissolved heavy metals like cadmium, lead, copper, nickel, zinc, chromium, mercury, and arsenic. Quarterly samples must be drawn so as to determine how the results vary from the baseline studies. The same will be done for conductivity, total suspended solids and pH. Water drawn from boreholes at the mine shall be subjected to quarterly samples so as to determine the degree of leachates as well the pH and conductivity of water.

Quarterly medical checks should be done on employees who work in dusty areas and those that work with heavy machines and their records should be kept at the mine. Aspects to be checked are Covid19 antibody presents, tuberculosis, asthma, lung cancer, hearing ability and backache, among other issues. This will determine the effectiveness of the mine's Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) programmes.

Experience has shown that most small mines do not remit moneys they deduct from employees to SSC as per Social Security Act, 1994 (Act No. 34 of 1994), currently read with the Employees' Compensation Act, 1941 (Act No. 30 of 1941) as amended. Due to that, it is now necessary to monitor such mines and make sure that workers are insured against death or injury at work. Contributions must be remitted as and when they are required. Table 2 details the monitoring program that must be followed at the mine.

Table 2: Environmental Monitoring plan

Environmental Aspect	Method of Monitoring	Regulation Body/Org	Frequency
-Dissolved Metals/ Metals in Sediments (cadmium, arsenic, chromium, copper, iron, lead, mercury, silver and zinc) -Conductivity -pH -Total Suspended Solids	-Water sampling at a point in the nearby stream -Borehole water samples	-MAWLR -MEFT:DEA	Quarterly
Safety of Workings -gases, fumes, blasting equipment	-Monitoring before and after blasting	-ECO -Regional Mining Engineer -SSC	Twice daily

Employee Health -Covid19, TB, asthma, lung cancer, hearing ability, backbone	Medical checks	-ECO -MHSS, -SSC	Quarterly
Workers' insurance	Checking with NSSA	-SSC -Namibia Miners Federation	Monthly

1.5 Emergency Response Plan

The Emergency Response Plan is a set of measures that will be implemented, in response to emergency situations that could potentially occur during mining and mining-related activities. The Emergency Response plan addresses emergency response elements including identification of potential emergency scenarios, emergency response organisations and responsibilities, co-ordination with governmental emergency response organisations, emergency alarms and communication, emergency response procedures (including evacuation procedures), emergency response equipment, training and drills for the operation of all the proponent' s project facilities at all the EPL 7209.

1.5.1 Risk Assessment Methodology

For the purposes of this mining project, we will make use of the NOSA HIRA (Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment) methodology. The methodology comprises three parameters, namely:

(a) Severity

This is an evaluation of the worst conceivable SHE consequence of a hazard. An exponential weighting is used in order to reflect a bias towards the consideration of the severity of the consequences as opposed to frequency or exposure when evaluating a hazard. The criteria for rating severity are shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Severity Criteria

Weight Number	Hazard Description	Environment	Safety/ Health
16	CATASTROPHIC	Irreversible ecological damage	Multiple fatalities due to injury or occupational diseases
8	MAJOR	Reversible ecological damage with potential long term impact	Fatality or number of disabilities/ disabling diseases
4	MODERATE	Ecological disturbance, can be rehabilitated	Disabling injuries or occupational illness

2	MINOR	Short-term ecological impacts. Requires intervention	Minor injuries or exposure requiring medical attention
1	INSIGNIFICANT	Low impact, natural rehabilitation	First Aid treatment required

(b) Frequency /Probability

Frequency/ Probability are a linear evaluation of how often a hazard has resulted in a consequence (incident history). In the absence of incident history how often a hazard may result in a known consequence (established through industry standards and research and assumption if needed) may be used. The Frequency/ Probability criteria are shown in the Table 4.

Table 4: Frequency/ Probability Criteria

Weight Number	1	2	3	4	5
Evaluation Description	Rare	Infrequent	Frequent	Often	Consistent
Frequency	Less than once every 5 years	Every 1- 5 years	Multiple times per year	Monthly	Daily/weekly

(c) Exposure

Exposure is the percentage of a workforce exposed to a particular hazard and or the duration of the exposure. Its rating is shown in Table 5.

Table 5: Exposure Criteria

Weight Number	1	2	3	4	5
Evaluation Description	Minimal	Restricted	Local	Widespread	Extensive
Safety/ Health Exposure	A few of the workforce, minimal time	A few of the workforce, some of the time / some of the workforce minimal time	Some of the workforce, some of the time	Most of the workforce, some of the time or / some of the workforce, most of the time	Most of the workforce, most of the time
Environmental Exposure	Incident site	Localised	Plant wide	Immediate neighbours	Community exposure

NB: Risk is calculated as follows: **Risk= Severity × Frequency × Exposure**

Table 6: Emergency Response Plan

Risk	Contingency Plan
Fire hazard	-Fire extinguishers to be put in place -Workers training on use of extinguishers -Fire Brigade contact numbers to be clearly displayed -Emergency numbers to be given to every worker -Establish an Assembly point -Fire drills & Fireguards
Power generator failure	-Standby generator to be put in place -Standby fuel storage facility to be kept separately
Outbreak of infectious disease	-Isolate the infected person(s) -Take the person to hospital with a mine vehicle to be on site every time -Calling the ambulance & Emergence numbers to be given to every worker

2 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Sunset Investment CC, who is the proponent, is ultimately responsible for the implementation of the EMP, from the planning and design phase to the decommissioning phase (when these exploration activities are no longer financially viable). The proponent will delegate this responsibility as the project progresses through its life cycle. The delegated responsibility for the effective implementation of this EMP will rest on the following key individuals:

- Proponent's Representative;
- Environmental Control Officer; and
- Contractor (Sunset Investment CC).

2.1 PROPONENT'S REPRESENTATIVE

The proponent should assign the responsibility of managing all aspects of these exploration activities for all lifecycle phases (including all contracts for work outsourced) to a designated member of staff, referred to in this EMP as the Proponent's Representative (PR). The proponent may decide to assign this role to one person for the full duration of these exploration activities, or may assign a different PR to each of the lifecycle phases – i.e. one for the exploration phase, one for the transportation phase and one for the rehabilitation phase. The PR's responsibilities are as follows:

Table 7: Responsibilities of PR

Responsibility	Project Phase
Making sure that the necessary approvals and permissions laid out in Table 9 are obtained/adhered to	Throughout the lifecycle of this project.
Suspending/evicting individuals and/or equipment not complying with the EMP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copper ore mining • Transportation of Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones • Mine rehabilitation
Issuing fines for contravening EMP provisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copper ore mining • Transportation of Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones • Mine rehabilitation

2.2 ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL OFFICER

The PR should assign the responsibility of overseeing the implementation of the whole EMP on the ground during the mining & rehabilitation phases to a designated member of staff, referred to in this EMP as the Environmental Control Officer (ECO). The PR/ Sunset Investment CC may decide to assign this role to one person for all three activities, or may assign a different ECO for each activity. The ECO will have the following responsibilities during the mining, operation and rehabilitation phases of these developments:

- Management and facilitation of communication between the Proponent, PR, the contractors, and Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with regard to this EMP;

- Conducting regular inspections (recommended minimum frequency is once every six months) with respect to the implementation of this EMP (monitor and audit the implementation of the EMP);
- Assisting the Contractor in finding solutions with respect to matters pertaining to the implementation of this EMP;
- Advising the PR on the removal of person(s) and/or equipment not complying with the provisions of this EMP;
- Making recommendations to the PR with respect to the issuing of fines for contraventions of the EMP; and
- Undertaking an annual review of the EMP and recommending additions and/or changes to this document.

2.3 CONTRACTOR

Contractors appointed by the Proponent are automatically responsible for implementing all provisions contained within the relevant chapters of this EMP. Contractors will be responsible for the implementation of this EMP applicable to any work outsourced to subcontractors. **Table 10** applies to contractors appointed during the mining phase and **Table 11** to those appointed during the Mine rehabilitation phase. In order to ensure effective environmental management the aforementioned chapters should be included in the applicable contracts for outsourced construction, operation and maintenance work.

The tables in the following chapter (**Chapter 3**) detail the management measures associated with the roles and responsibilities that have been laid out in this chapter.

2.4 Covid19 INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL MEASURES

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus i.e. severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The virus that causes COVID-19 is mainly transmitted through droplets generated when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or exhales. These droplets are too heavy to hang in the air, and quickly fall on floors or surfaces. You can be infected by breathing in the virus if you are within close proximity of someone who has COVID-19, or by touching a contaminated surface and then your eyes, nose or mouth.

Employers must implement a code of practice to manage and prevent the spread of COVID-19. This is to ensure that mine employees returning to work and any other persons at the mine site, are protected from transmission of the coronavirus at the workplace, whilst providing guidance to all stakeholders regarding their roles and responsibilities in the management of the virus. The regulations require mine operators to supply protective equipment, screen all people entering the mine, provide standby quarantine facilities before transferring infected persons to the state quarantine centres, identify those with pre-existing conditions and carry out routine disinfection.

They also have to keep mineworkers between one and two metres apart. Failure to enforce the rules would constitute a violation of the nationwide Covid19 regulations as stipulated by the Head of State and the relevant arms of government to curb the spread of the corona virus.

After arrival of employees at the mining site, employers should comply with the following:

- Infection prevention and control measures should be applied to all modes of transport for employees, screening areas and active work areas.

2.4.1 Education of workers should be given on:

Maintaining physical distancing. Ensure employees and staff keep a distance of at least 1-2 m when in contact with other people; where this is not possible, issue appropriate facemasks, as per the Guidance on PPE for COVID-19.

- Regular washing of hands with soap.
 - Regular sanitising of hands with alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) or other appropriate sanitisers.
 - Avoid touching your face areas (mouth, eyes and nose).
 - Avoid physical hand contact such as handshakes.
 - Avoid using other people's personal belongings such as stationery, cell phones and sharing food etc.
 - When coughing or sneezing do not use your hands, rather use a tissue/toilet paper or the inside of your elbow.
 - Use disposable tissues rather than a handkerchief; immediately dispose of these tissues in a closed bin and wash or sanitise your hands thereafter.
 - Avoid big crowds and travelling.
 - Avoid touching objects before sanitising, like steering wheels on machinery, toilet seats, tables and chairs.
 - Coach and teach family members.
 - Wearing and handling of appropriate PPE.
- a) Posters on Infection Prevention to be visible at designated areas of the exploration site (See **Figure 1** for a typical Covid19 information poster).

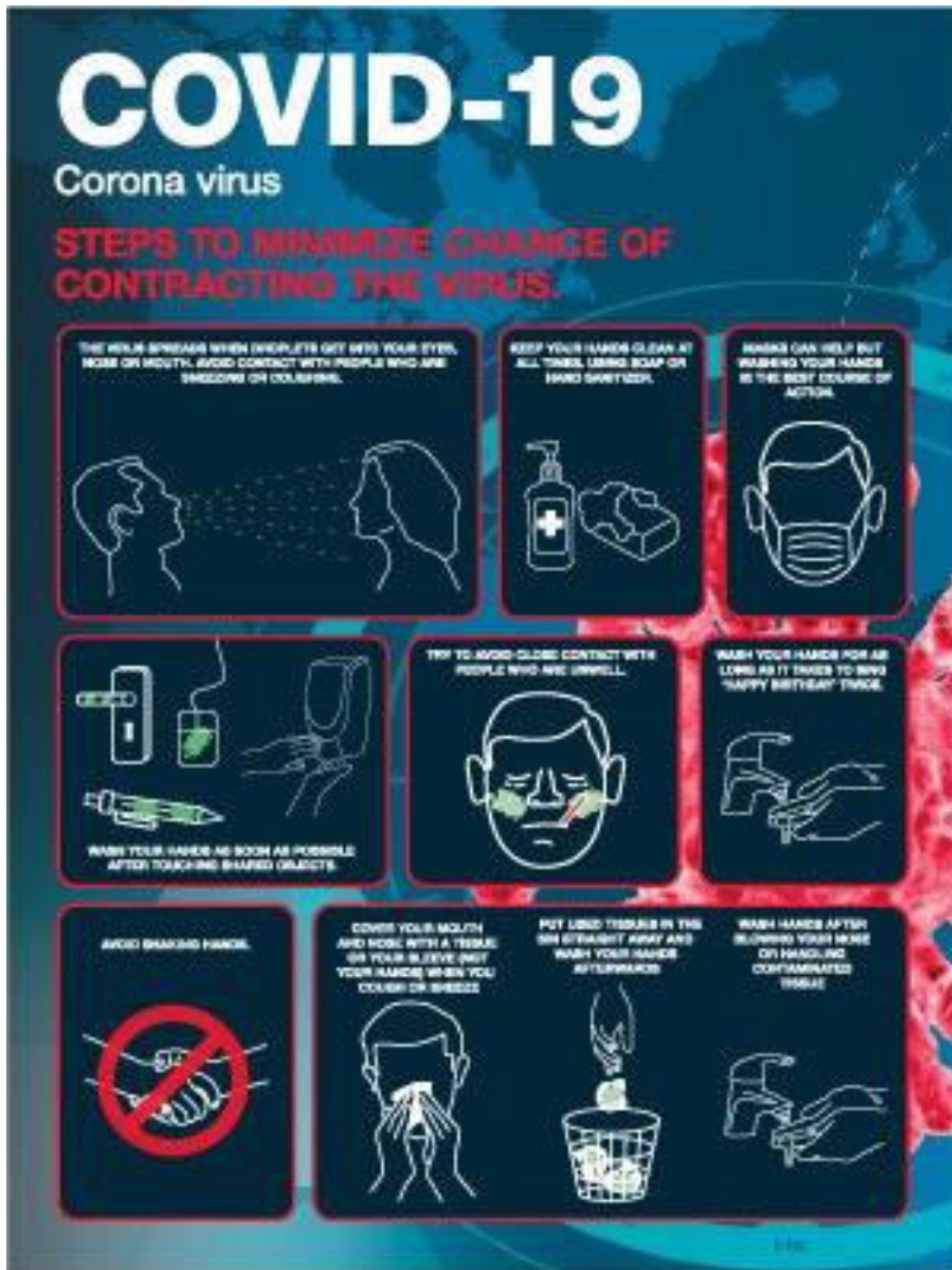


Figure 1: Typical COVID-19 information poster to be placed at designated areas at the mining sites.

- b) Sanitisers (as per World Health Organisation guidelines) should be made available at the entrance and exit points of all screening facilities, security entrances and all entrances and exits at the common areas at the mining camp, and at the starting points and end points of all places where close contact among workers is likely to occur, including in underground working places.
- c) Sanitisers (as per World Health Organisation guidelines) should be available in each consultation room and testing areas at the screening centre, and sanitisation should take place before and after every consultation.
- d) PPE is required for all staff, and PPE management programmes should be in place to ensure that PPE is worn correctly (including fit testing), replaced as necessary, stored correctly and disposed of safely.
- e) Employees not able to socially distance by 1 m should be provided with PPE as per the Guidance on PPE for COVID-19.
- f) Re-enforce compliance with the taking of chronic medication.

2.4.2 Screening and testing at the designated areas

Employers should comply with the following:

- a) Where there is company accommodation, initial pre-screening should be done at the residences, before getting to the work site. This is to isolate and quarantine any possible cases and suspects.
- b) At work, pre-screening of workers should be done before entering the facility (at the gate) either by nursing or security staff as per agreed-on protocol. This should include a temperature check.
- c) Employees with elevated temperatures should be referred directly to the isolation area for assessment by a Registered Nurse.
- d) Employees who do not have elevated temperatures should be referred to the site office for COVID-19 Risk Assessment and to complete a return to work medical (**Annexure B**).

2.5 Continuous Measures

Employers should comply with the following:

- a) Training of staff and employees.
- b) Continually re-enforcing of universal hygiene precautions.
- c) Enforce physical distancing in the workplace.
- d) Continue use of facemasks.
- e) Promotion of good hygiene practices.

The employer should allocate an appropriate person to monitor and document compliance with this EMP specifically for ensuring adherence to the Covid19 regulations as continually prescribed as the pandemic is monitored and as per WHO guidelines.

3.0 MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

The aim of the management actions in this chapter of the EMP is to avoid potential impacts where possible. Where impacts cannot be avoided, measures are provided to reduce the significance of these impacts.

The following tables provide the management actions recommended to manage the potential impacts rated in the scoping-level EA conducted for these activities. These management actions have been organised temporally according to project phase:

- Applicable legislation (**Table 9**);
- Copper ore mining Actions (**Table 10**);
- Mine rehabilitation Management Actions (**Table 11**); and
- Decommissioning phase management actions (**Table 12**).

The responsible persons from the proponents' team have assessed these commitments in detail and have committed to the specific management actions where indicated in the tables below.

3.1 ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

This EMP has been drafted with the acknowledgment of the following assumptions and limitations:

- This EMP has been drafted based on the scoping-level Environmental Assessment (EA) conducted for the EPL 7209. HEEC will not be held responsible for the potential consequences that may result from any alterations to the existing situation on the ground.
- It is assumed that mine labourers will be sourced mostly from the Otjikondavirongo Village & Sesfontein Constituency area and that migrant labourers (if applicable) will be housed in established accommodation facilities within the Otjikondavirongo Village.
- The engineering designs carried out for the mine upgrade & of the associated services infrastructure (roads, potable water, storm water, sewerage and electrical reticulations) will be informed by the engineers' plans and designs.

3.2 APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

Legal provisions that have relevance to various aspects of these developments are listed in **Table 9: Legal provisions relevant to the proposed development below**. The legal instrument, applicable corresponding provisions and project relevance details are provided.

3.2.1 Regulatory Framework for Environmental Management in the Mining Sector

The objective of the intended Environmental Management Plan (EMP) is thus needed in order to assess the potential social and environmental impacts associated with the intended exploration activities for Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones , on EPL 7209 at Otjikondavirongo village, Sesfontein Constituency, Kunene Region and also to formulate methods of rehabilitation of the exploration sites once they have been excavated for further processing.

The above is a listed activity in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Government Notice No. 30 of 2012). Dumps, including overburden dumps and tailings dams, are similarly regulated.

In terms of the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Government Notice No. 30 of 2012), the following listed activities in **Table 8** were triggered by the proposed project:

Table 8: List of triggered activities identified in the EIA Regulations which apply to the proposed project

Activity description and No(s):	Description of relevant Activity	The portion of the development as per the project description that relates to the applicable listed activity
Activity 3.1 (Mining and Quarrying Activities)	The construction of facilities for any process or activities which requires a licence, right or other form of authorisation, and the renewal of a licence, right or other form of authorisation, in terms of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining Act), 1992.	The proposed project includes the mining of Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones for export purposes/ further processing.
Activity 3.2 (Mining and Quarrying Activities)	Other forms of mining or extraction of any natural resources whether regulated by law or not.	The proposed project includes the mining of Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones for export purposes/ further processing.
Activity 3.3 (Mining and Quarrying Activities)	Resource extraction, manipulation, conservation and related activities.	The proposed project includes the mining of Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones for export purposes/ further processing.

The above activities will be discussed in more detail in this EMP. Healthy Earth Environmental Consultants CC (HEEC) undertook an independent site specific scoping Environmental & Social Assessment (ESA) in order to formulate detailed mitigation measures for the above activities on behalf of the proponent,

Sunset Investment CC. The competent authority is the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism: Department of Environmental Affairs (MEFT: DEA).

There are multiple legal instruments that regulate and have a bearing on good environmental management in Namibia. **Table 9** below provides a summary of the legal instruments considered to be relevant to this development and the environmental assessment process.

Table 9: Legislation applicable for the establishment and mining of Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones on EPL 7209 at Otjikondavirongo village, Sesfontein Constituency, Kunene Region.

LEGISLATION/POLICIES	RELEVANT PROVISIONS	RELEVANCE TO PROJECT
The Constitution of the Republic of Namibia as Amended	Article 91 (c) provides for duty to guard against “the degradation and destruction of ecosystems and failure to protect the beauty and character of Namibia.” Article 95(l) deals with the “maintenance of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and biological diversity” and sustainable use of the country’s natural resources.	Sustainable development should be at the forefront of management of the intended exploration activities.
Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 (EMA)	Section 2 outlines the objective of the Act and the means to achieve that. Section 3 details the principles of Environmental Management	The management of this project should be informed by the EMA.
EIA Regulations GN 28, 29, and 30 of EMA (2012)	GN 29 Identifies and lists certain activities that cannot be undertaken without an environmental clearance certificate. GN 30 provides the regulations governing the environmental assessment (EA) process.	Activity 3.1 (Mining and Quarrying Activities) The construction of facilities for any process or activities which requires a licence, right or other form of authorisation, and the renewal of a licence, right or other form of authorisation, in

LEGISLATION/POLICIES	RELEVANT PROVISIONS	RELEVANCE TO PROJECT
		<p>terms of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining Act), 1992.</p> <p>Activity 3.2 (Mining and Quarrying Activities) Other forms of mining or extraction of any natural resources whether regulated by law or not.</p> <p>Activity 3.3 (Mining and Quarrying Activities) Resource extraction, manipulation, conservation and related activities.</p>
Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)	Article 1 lists the conservation of biological diversity amongst the objectives of the convention.	The exploration activities should consider the impact it will have on the biodiversity of the area.
Draft Procedures and Guidelines for conducting EIAs and compiling EMPs (2008)	Part 1, Stage 8 of the guidelines states that if a proposal is likely to affect people, certain guidelines should be considered by the proponent in the scoping process.	The ESA process should incorporate the aspects outlined in the guidelines.
Namibia Vision 2030	Vision 2030 states that the solitude, silence and natural beauty that many areas in Namibia provide are becoming sought after commodities and must be regarded as valuable natural assets.	Care should be taken that the exploration activities do not lead to the degradation of the natural beauty of the area.
Water Act No. 54 of 1956	Section 23(1) deals with the prohibition of pollution of underground and surface water bodies.	The pollution of water resources should be avoided during the exploration activities.
The Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) Policy on HIV & AIDS	MET has recently developed a policy on HIV and AIDS. In addition it has also initiated a programme aimed at mainstreaming HIV and gender issues into environmental impact assessments.	The proponent and its contractor have to adhere to the guidelines provided to manage the aspects of HIV/AIDS. Experience with similar projects has shown that a significant health risk is created

LEGISLATION/POLICIES	RELEVANT PROVISIONS	RELEVANCE TO PROJECT
		when migrant mine workers/labourers interact with local communities.
Labour Act No. 11 of 2007	Chapter 2 details the fundamental rights and protections. Chapter 3 deals with the basic conditions of employment.	Given the employment opportunities presented by the exploration activities, compliance with the law is essential.
Public and Environmental Health Act of 2015	This Act (GG 5740) provides a framework for a structured uniform public and environmental health system in Namibia. It covers notification, prevention and control of diseases and sexually-transmitted infections; maternal, ante-natal and neo-natal care; water and food supplies; infant nutrition; waste management; health nuisances; public and environmental health planning and reporting. It repeals the Public Health Act 36 of 1919 (SA GG 979).	The exploration activities are to comply with these legal requirements.
Nature Conservation Ordinance No. 4 of 1975	Chapter 6 provides for legislation regarding the protection of indigenous plants.	Indigenous and protected plants have to be managed within the legal confines.
Environmental Assessment Policy of Namibia (1995)	The Policy seeks to ensure that the environmental consequences of development projects and policies are considered, understood and incorporated into the planning process, and that the term ENVIRONMENT is broadly interpreted to include biophysical, social, economic, cultural, historical and political components.	This EMP considers this term of Environment.
Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act, 1992 (Act 33 1 of 1992)	To provide for the reconnaissance, prospecting and mining for, and disposal of, and the exercise of control over, minerals in Namibia; and to provide for matters	The intended activity involves the mining of Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and

LEGISLATION/POLICIES	RELEVANT PROVISIONS	RELEVANCE TO PROJECT
	<p>incidental thereto. “mineral” means any substance, whether in solid, liquid or gaseous form, occurring naturally in, on or under any land and having been formed by, or subjected to, a geological process, excluding -(c) subject to the provisions of subsection (2), soil, sand, clay, gravel or stone (other than rock material specified in Part 2 of Schedule 1) if they are bona fide required for purposes of - (i) agriculture, building works, fencing or road making; (ii) the manufacture of bricks and tiles;</p>	<p>Precious stones for export purposes/further processing.</p>
<p>Soil Conservation Act 6 of 1969 Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry</p>	<p>This Act covers the prevention and combating of soil erosion; the conservation, improvement and manner of use of the soil and vegetation; and the protection of water sources</p>	<p>Open pits left behind after mining should not be polluted or left un-rehabilitated.</p>

This EMP was formulated and compiled in accordance with the EIA Regulations.

3.3 PROJECT LOCATION

The proponent intends to explore for base and rare metals on the EPL 7209 at Otjikondavirongo Village, Sesfontein Constituency in Kunene Region. The proponent intends to explore for Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones on the EPL 7209 at Otjikondavirongo Village, Sesfontein Constituency in Kunene Region. The geographical coordinates of the EPL 7209 are 18° 44' 29" South, 13° 34' 02" East. To get to the EPL 7209 drive 850m off the C43 road from Opuwo into the D3705 road and continue for about 120km to arrive to destination at Otjikondavirongo. Refer to the locality map of Otjikondavirongo in **Figure 2**, **Figure 3** and **Figure 4** for the locality of the EPL 7209 for the Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones.

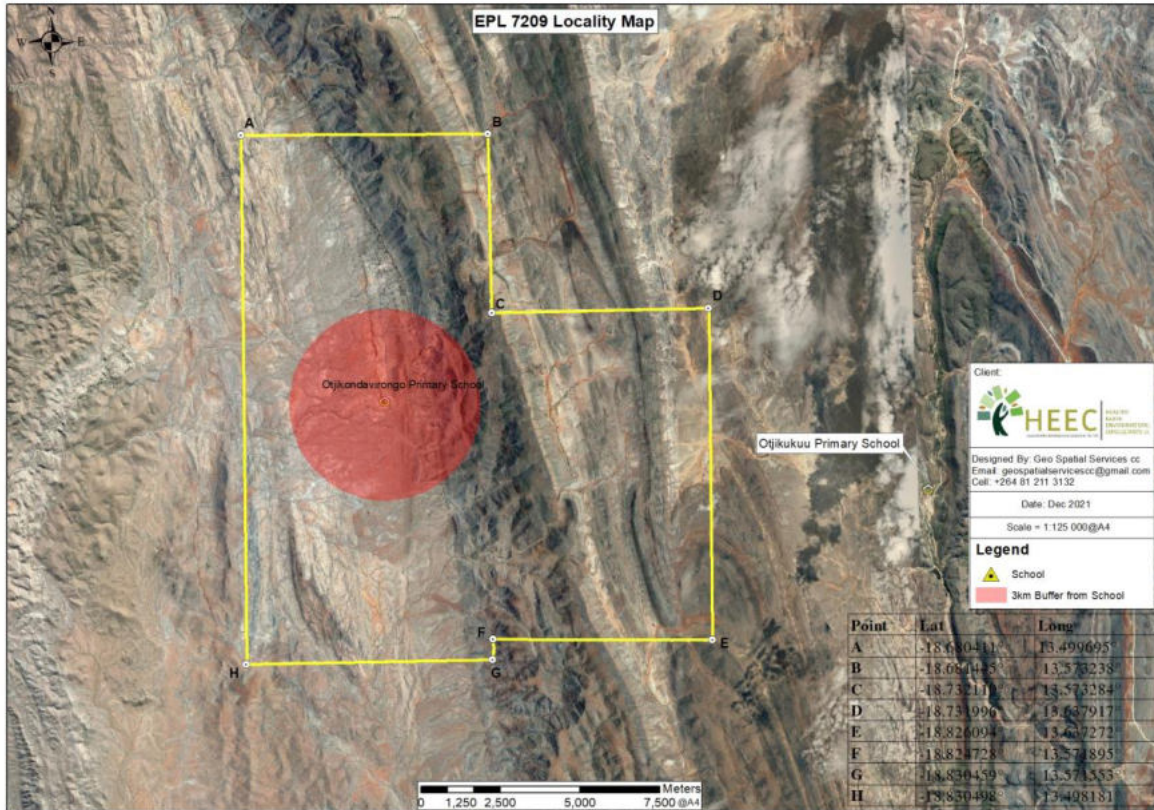


Figure 3: Locality of the prospective EPL 7209 site at Otjikondavirongo village (yellow polygon) and an imposed 3km mining buffer zone from the local school, Sesfontein Constituency, Kunene Region (HEEC, 2021)

EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE (EPL) 7209 AREA

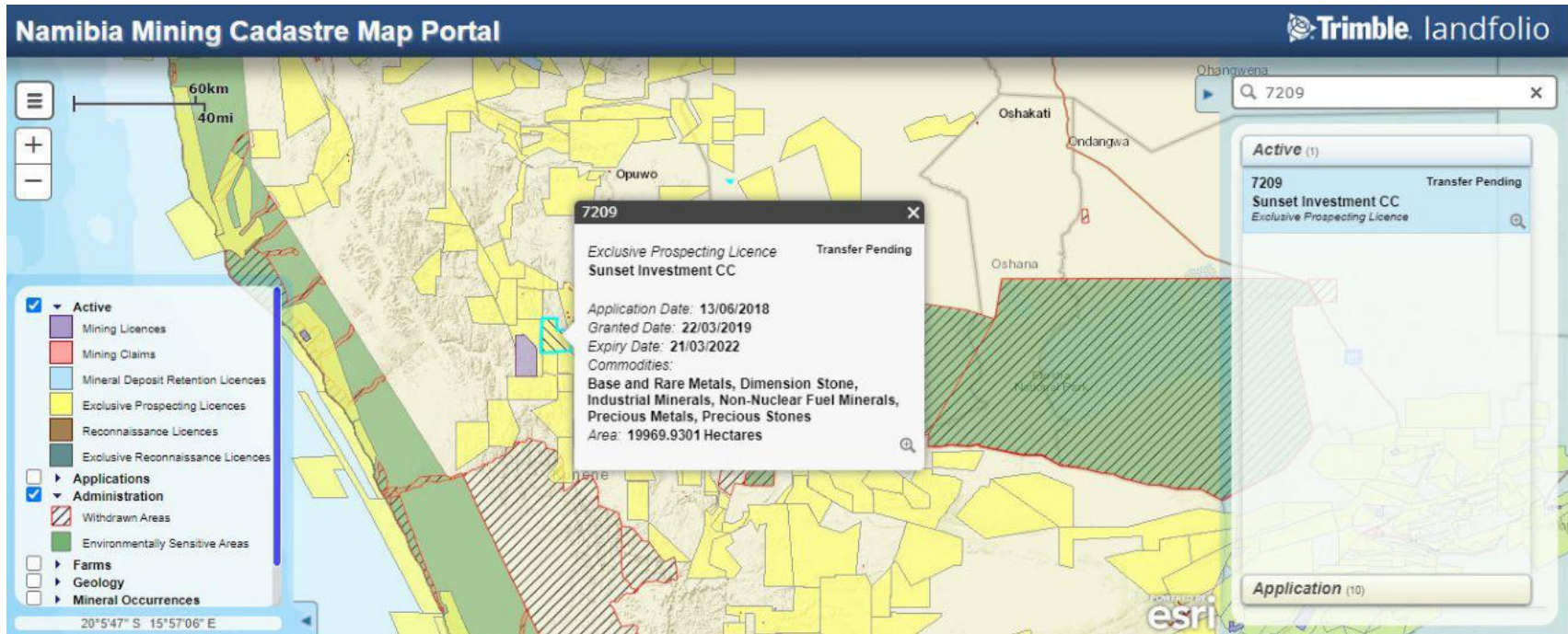


Figure 4: Locality map of the EPL 7209 (blue square) at Otjikondavirongo Village, Kunene Region (<http://portals.flexicadastre.com/Namibia/22012022>)

3.4 EXPLORATION PHASE

The proponent, Sunset Investments CC has pledged that they will contribute to the educational & water infrastructure & services by building a block of classrooms and ablution facilities once the profits from the mining activities are realized as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility. No mining activities are to be carried out within a 3km buffer zone from the Otjikondivarongo Primary School administration block as imposed. The PR should ensure that the management actions detailed in **Table 10**, below should be adhered to during the operation of the Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones exploration activities on EPL 7209.

Table 10: Exploration Phase Management Actions

Aspect	Management Actions	Responsibility
Environmental Incidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ECO on site shall maintain a register of all environmental incidents occurring as a result of the activities associated with the project. Environmental incidents that shall be recorded include (but are not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Fires; ➤ Drowning; ➤ Accidents (e.g. traffic); ➤ Spills of hazardous materials, contaminating soil or water resources; ➤ Non-compliances with applicable legislation; and ➤ Non-compliances with this EMP. • Environmental incident reports shall include (as a minimum) a description of the incident, the actions taken to contain any damage to the environment, personnel, or the public, and the actions taken to repair / remediate any such damage. • Additional measures shall be prescribed that may be required to remediate damage resulting from the incident and / or to prevent similar incidents occurring in the future. 	ECO
Traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that road junctions have good sightlines. • Limit the type of vehicle (heavy trucks) allowed on site. 	ECO

Aspect	Management Actions	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adhere to the speed limit. If permissible, caution signs and 40 km/hr signs shall be placed at regulation distance from heavy vehicle crossing signs at the intersections of the access tracks and the C35 road. • Designate no-drive zones. • Implement traffic control measures where necessary by keeping a number plate register of all vehicles transporting ore samples at the exploration site and restricting access to authorised contractors. 	
<p>EPL 7209 exploration site area for base & rare metals (copper ore).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copper ore samples should be sourced from an EPL with a valid ECC. • The active site at EPL 7209 must be clearly demarcated by means of a perimeter stock-proof fence with a lockable gated entrance. • Exploration activities and resultant operations shall only take place within this demarcated area/claim. • A detailed photographic record of the demarcated EPL 7209 area, prior to any exploration activities, shall be taken. These records are to be kept by the Proponent and PR for reference purposes during the rehabilitation of the site. • There will be ‘No unauthorised access’ signs at the EPL 7209 gates until to restrict entry and/or harm to people not involved in the exploration activities. 	<p>ECO</p>
<p>EMP training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All workers at the site are to undergo EMP training that should include as a minimum the following: • Explanation of the importance of complying with the EMP. • Discussion of the potential environmental impacts of the intended Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones exploration and rehabilitation activities. • Employees’ roles and responsibilities, including emergency preparedness and response requirements. • Explanation of the mitigation measures that must be implemented when particular work groups carry out their respective activities. 	<p>ECO & Contractor</p>

Aspect	Management Actions	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The potential consequences of departure from specified operating procedures; and rewards for enhancing mitigation measures or avoiding negative environmental effects. 	
Fauna and Flora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent the destruction of protected tree species. Encourage the regrowth and regeneration of trees with exposed roots at the site. The excavation of the Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones should incorporate existing trees¹. The Contractor should compile a Tree Management Plan which should include the following as a minimum: Trees if not already accounted for in an existing Geographic Information System (GIS), should be surveyed, co-ordinates/location incorporated into the Contractor's GIS, marked with paint (or other means so as to be readily visible) and protected; Trees, which are impossible to conserve, need to be identified and their location recorded on a map; The Contractor should apply to the relevant authority (Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism) for a permit to remove these trees. A list should be compiled of all trees to be removed detailing the location of the tree, the species as well as which trees will be planted to replace these. The nursery where these trees will be sourced from should also be included; Each tree that is removed needs to be replaced with an indigenous tree species; Some of these trees can be obtained at the nearest forestry office or at a commercial nursery such as the Forestry office in Opuwo. Assistance can be sought from the nearest forestry office regarding nearby nurseries where additional trees may be bought and advice sought. Only a limited width +/- 5 m on the side of the access roads may be partially cleared of vegetation. 	ECO & Contractor

¹a "tree" is defined as an indigenous woody perennial plant with a trunk diameter ≥ 150 mm

Aspect	Management Actions	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workers are prohibited from collecting wood or other plant products on or near the EPL 7209 site. • No alien species may be planted on or within the existing site. • Prevent contractors from collecting wood and veld food such as amphibians, migrating birds, etc. during the mining phase. • Prevent contractors from fishing in the nearby ephemeral rivers or catching aquatic species. 	
Lay-down areas and materials camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable locations for the contractors lay-down areas and materials camp should be identified with the assistance of the PR and the following should be considered in selecting these sites: • The areas designated for the services infrastructure should be used as far as possible. • Second option should be degraded land. • Avoid sensitive areas (e.g. wetlands/rivers/drainage lines) 	ECO & Contractor
Hazardous waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All heavy duty vehicles and equipment on site should be provided with a drip tray. • All heavy duty delivery vehicles should be maintained regularly to prevent oil leakages. • Maintenance and washing of vehicles should take place only at a designated workshop area. • Spilled cement and/or concrete (wet or dry) should be treated as hazardous waste and disposed of by the end of each day in the appropriate hazardous waste containers. • All hazardous substances (e.g. fuel etc.) or chemicals should be stored in a specific location on an impermeable surface that is bunded - with a volume of 120 % of the largest single storage container or 25 % of the total storage containers, whichever is greater. 	ECO & Contractor
Surface and Ground Water Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is recommended that exploration takes place outside of the rainy season in order to limit erosion & flooding on site and surface water pollution. • No dumping of waste products of any kind in or in close proximity to surface water bodies. 	ECO & Contractor

Aspect	Management Actions	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy duty vehicles should be kept out of any surface water bodies and the movement of vehicles should be limited where possible to the existing access roads and tracks. • Contaminated runoff from the exploration sites should be prevented from entering the surface water bodies. • Workers should be given ablution facilities at the sites that are located at least 30 m away from any surface water and regularly serviced. • Washing of personnel or any equipment should not be allowed on site. 	
Topsoil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When excavations are carried out, topsoil² should be stockpiled in a demarcated area and used in profiling and rehabilitating of the depleted, open pits around the exploration site. • Stockpiled topsoil should be used to rehabilitate post-harvesting degraded areas and/or other nearby degraded areas within the Otjikondavirongo Village area in consultation with the Otjikaoko Traditional Authority represented by the Chief & Headman. 	ECO & Contractor
Soil Erosion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear the vegetation of the project area in phases during the exploration period in order to keep the soil more compacted as well as to limit overall disturbance to the area over time. • It is recommended that most exploration takes place outside of the rainy season in order to limit potential flooding and the run off of loose soil causing further erosion. • Appropriate erosion control structures must be put in place where soil may be prone to erosion. • Checks must be carried out at regular intervals to identify areas within the exploration site where erosion is occurring. Appropriate remedial actions are to be undertaken wherever erosion is evident. 	ECO & Contractor

² Topsoil is defined here as the top 150mm of surface material, which accounts for the seedbank.

Aspect	Management Actions	Responsibility
Rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upon completion of the exploration phase consultations should be held with the Traditional Authority & local community regarding the alternative uses of remaining excavated areas (if applicable) and to identify priority areas. • Sand/rubble at the site should be levelled so it can be reclaimed for other purposes once the exploration of Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones has ceased and rather than leaving the pits/trenches open which will pose a threat to people and animals in the area. • In the event that no post-operation uses are requested, all excavated/degraded areas need to be rehabilitated as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Excavated areas may only be backfilled with clean or inert fill. No material of hazardous nature (e.g. sand removed with an oil spill) may be dumped as backfill. ➤ Rehabilitated excavated areas need to match the contours of the existing landscape. ➤ The rehabilitated area should not be higher (or lower) than nearby drainage channels. This ensures the efficiency of re-vegetation and reduces the chances of potential erosion. ➤ Topsoil is to be spread across excavated areas evenly. ➤ Deep ripping of areas to be rehabilitated is required, not just simple scarification, so as to enable rip lines to hold water after heavy rainfall. ➤ Ripping should be done along slopes, not up and down a slope, which could lead to enhanced erosion. 	ECO & Contractor
HIV/AIDS, Covid 19 and TB awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Contractor should approach the Ministry of Health and Social Services to co-opt a health officer to facilitate HIV/AIDS and TB education programmes periodically on site during the project operation. 	ECO & Contractor

Aspect	Management Actions	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wellness program should be initiated to raise awareness on health issues, especially the impact of Covid19 & sexually transmitted diseases. • Provide free condoms in the workplace and to local community throughout project operation. • Facilitate access to Antiretroviral medication • Personnel should not overnight at the exploration site, but only the security personnel. • Encourage all employees and the community to be vaccinated against the Covid19 virus and continue following the stipulated WHO guidelines to prevent the spread of Covid19 especially regularly sanitising hands by providing water and soap at designated areas on the EPL 7209 site; maintaining social distancing and wearing of face masks when in close proximity to other people. 	
Road safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demarcate roads clearly. • Off-road driving should not be allowed. • All vehicles that transport materials to and from the site must be roadworthy. • Drivers that transport materials should have a valid driver's license and should adhere to all traffic rules. • Loads upon vehicles should be properly secured to avoid items falling off the vehicle. • Limit and control the number of access points to the exploration site. • The road leading to the EPL 7209 should be properly maintained so as to reduce dust emissions when heavy vehicles travel on them. 	ECO & Contractor
Safety around work sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excavations/pits should be left open for the shortest time possible. • Excavate short lengths of trenches and box areas for services or foundations in a manner that will not leave the trench unattended for more than 24 hours. • Demarcate excavated areas and topsoil stockpiles with danger tape. • Provide additional warning signage in active work areas of movement and in "no personnel" areas where workers are not active. 	ECO & Contractor

Aspect	Management Actions	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploration pits are to be fenced-off with stock-proof perimeter fencing. • Work areas must be set out and isolated with danger tape on a daily basis. • All materials and equipment are to be stored only within set out and demarcated work areas. • Only mine personnel authorised by Sunset Investment CC will be allowed within these work areas. • 2 fire extinguishers should be available at fuel storage areas. • Comply with all waste related management actions stated above in this table. 	
Ablutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate toilets should be available for men and women and should clearly be indicated as such. • Portable toilets (i.e. easily transportable) should be available at the exploration site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 1 toilet for every 15 females. ✓ 1 toilet for every 30 males. • Sewage needs to be removed on a regular basis to an approved (municipal) sewage disposal site. Alternatively, sewage may be pumped into sealable containers and stored until it can be removed. • Workers responsible for cleaning the toilets should be provided with latex gloves and masks. 	ECO & Contractor
Open fires	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No open fires may be made anywhere on the exploration site. 	ECO
General health and safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fully stocked first aid kit should permanently be available on-site as well as an adequately trained member of staff capable of administering first aid. • All workers should have access to the relevant personal protective equipment (overalls, hard toe boots, goggles, dust masks, sun hats heavy duty gloves etc.). • Sufficient potable water reserves should be available to workers at all times. • No person should be allowed to smoke close to fuel storage facilities or portable toilets (if toilets are chemical toilets – the chemicals are flammable). • No workers should be allowed to drink alcohol during work hours. 	ECO & Contractor

Aspect	Management Actions	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No workers should be allowed on the active site under EPL 7209 if under the influence of alcohol. 	
Dust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A watering truck should be used on gravel roads with the most heavy vehicle movement especially during dry and windy conditions. However, due consideration should be given to water restrictions during times of drought. The use of waterless dust suppression means (e.g. lignosulphonate products such as Dustex) should be considered. Cover any stockpiles with plastic to minimise windblown dust. Dust protection masks should be provided to workers if they complain about dust. During high wind conditions the contractor must make the decision to cease works until the wind has calmed down. 	ECO & Contractor
Noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work hours should be restricted to between 08h00 and 17h00 where excavation involving the use of heavy equipment, power tools and the movement of heavy vehicles is less than 500 m from residential areas. If an exception to this provision is required, all residents and business owners within the 500 m radius should be given 1 week's written notice. If workers are to be exposed to noise levels above 85dB for continuous extended periods of more than two hours, they are to be provided with ear muffs and allowed to take 10-15 minute breaks away from the noise source. 	ECO & Contractor
Recruitment of labourers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Contractor should compile a formal recruitment process including the following provisions as a minimum: Adhere to the legal provisions in the Labour Act No. 11 of 2007 for the recruitment of labour (target percentages for gender balance, optimal use of local labour and SME's, etc.). Recruitment should not take place at the exploration site. 	ECO & Contractor

Aspect	Management Actions	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that all sub-contractors are aware of recommended recruitment procedures and discourage any recruitment of labour outside these agreed upon procedures. • All contractors should give preference in terms of recruitment of sub-contractors and individual labourers to those who are qualified and from the project area and only then look to surrounding towns. • Clearly explain to all job-seekers the terms and conditions of their respective employment contracts (e.g. period of employment etc.) – make use of interpreters where necessary. 	
Communication plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Contractor or PR should draft a Communication Plan, which should outline as a minimum the following: • How Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), who require on-going communication for the duration of the operation period, will be identified and recorded and who will manage and update these records; • How these I&APs will be consulted on an on-going basis; • Make provision for grievance mechanisms – i.e. how concerns can be lodged/ recorded and how feedback will be delivered as well as further steps of arbitration in the event that feedback is deemed unsatisfactory. 	ECO & Contractor
General communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PR must appoint an ECO to liaise between the Contractor, I&APs and Sunset Investment CC's management. • The Contractor shall at every bi-monthly site meeting report on the status of the implementation of all provisions of the EMP. • The Contractor should implement the EMP awareness training as stipulated above in this table. • The Contractor must list the I&APs of the project and their contact details with whom on-going communication would be required for the duration of the contract. This list, together with the Communication Plan must be agreed upon and given to the PR before operation commences/resumes. 	ECO & Contractor

Aspect	Management Actions	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Communication Plan, once agreed upon by the Traditional Authority, shall be legally binding. • A copy of the EMP must be available at the site office and should be accessible to all I&APs. • Key representatives from the above mentioned list need to be invited to attend monthly site meetings to raise any concerns and issues regarding progress to rehabilitate the excavated areas and surrounding mines/ pits. • The Contractor should liaise with the proponent regarding all issues related to community consultation and negotiation before operation commences/resumes. • A procedure should be put in place to ensure that concerns raised have been followed-up and addressed. • All people on the I&APs list should be informed about the availability of the complaints register and associated grievance mechanisms in writing by the PR prior to the commencement of site activities. 	
Archaeology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should a heritage site or archaeological site be uncovered or discovered during the exploration phase of the project, a “chance find” procedure should be applied in the order they appear below: • If operating machinery or equipment stop work; • Demarcate the site with danger tape; • Determine GPS position if possible; • Report findings to the site foreman; • Report findings, site location and actions taken to superintendent; • Cease any works in immediate vicinity; • Visit find site and determine whether work can proceed without damage to findings; • Determine and demarcate exclusion boundary; • Site location and details to be added to a Geographic Information System (GIS) for field confirmation by archaeologist; • Inspect site and confirm addition to mining site GIS; 	ECO & Contractor

Aspect	Management Actions	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise the National Heritage Council (NHC) and request written permission to remove findings from work area; and • Recovery, packaging and labelling of findings for transfer to National Museum. • Should human remains be found, the following actions will be required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Apply the chance find procedure as described above; ➤ Schedule a field inspection with an archaeologist to confirm that remains are human; ➤ Advise and liaise with the NHC and Police; and ➤ Remains will be recovered and removed either to the National Museum or the National Forensic Laboratory. 	

3.5 REHABILITATION PHASE (Continuous)

The management actions included in **Table 11** below applies during the continuous rehabilitation phase of the exploration activities.

Table 11: Rehabilitation Phase Management actions

Environmental Feature	Management Actions	Responsibility
EMP training	All contractors appointed for the transportation of the Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones on EPL 7209 must ensure that all personnel are aware of necessary health, safety and environmental considerations applicable to their respective work.	ECO & Contractor
Monitoring	<p>The ECO should monitor the implementation of the EMP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ECO should regularly inspect the conditions around the exploration site before work starts; and • The ECO should inspect the exploration site at the end of the extraction period. 	ECO

Environmental Feature	Management Actions	Responsibility
Water and waste management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the infrastructure at the active exploration site is connected to the local drainage and wastewater reticulation. • Regular preventative maintenance should be carried out on the infrastructure to ensure that risks of overflows are minimised. • A no-go buffer area of at least 30 m should be allocated to any water bodies in the area. • No dumping of waste products of any kind in or in close proximity to any surface water bodies. • Sufficient weather and scavenger-proof bins (with lids, to prevent the escape of litter) shall be provided, and be easily accessible at all points where wastes are generated. • The site shall be kept clean and free of litter and no litter from the site shall be allowed to disperse to surrounding areas. • All personnel shall be instructed to dispose of all waste in the proper manner. • The Contractor shall identify and separate materials that can be reused or recycled to minimise waste e.g. metals, packaging and plastics, and provide separate marked bins for these items. • All materials (e.g. bags of cement) must be suitably stored and protected, so that they do not become damaged and unusable. • The Contractor shall be responsible for the regular disposal (at a suitable waste rock dumpsite) of all waste generated as a result of the exploration activities. • Contaminated runoff from the various operational activities should be prevented from entering any surface water bodies. 	ECO & Contractor

Environmental Feature	Management Actions	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that surface water accumulating on-site are channelled and captured through a proper storm water management system to be treated in an appropriate manner before disposal into the environment. • Disposal of waste from the EPL 7209 should be properly managed. • No waste may be burned on the exploration site. • The frequency of collections will be such that waste containment receptacles do not unduly accumulate or overflow. 	
Energy efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of solar energy should be encouraged to provide for general lighting and heating of water and buildings around the exploration sites. • The use of water saving initiatives should be incorporated within the workers' housing design in order to reduce water demand. 	Contractor

3.6 DECOMMISSIONING PHASE

With time if no financially viable mineral resources (copper ore) are discovered then the exploration phase will cease any further operations and cancel out the possibility of setting up a mine. This phase normally presents a complete new set of impacts to the environment that require serious attention of the exploration company and other local authorities. To that effect a well-planned exploration phase closure programme should be put in place.

It is recommended that in the event of ceasing of exploration activities, decommissioning be carried as per guidelines stated in relevant extracts of the Minerals (Prospecting & Mining) Act, 1992 (Act No. 33 of 1992). Rehabilitation must be taken as an on-going process to ensure that corrective measures are implemented on time. **Table 12** is a guideline to the decommissioning plan, whereby an active care exploration phase closure is going to be implemented.

Table 12: Decommissioning plan

Decommissioning Phase			
Possible Impact	Mitigation	Responsibility	Monitoring Agent
Physical/Biological -Land degradation & loss of aesthetic value	-Establish a vegetation cover as soon as possible (stabilization)	EPL HOLDER	-ECO -MEFT, -MAWLR

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Vegetate cleared area with indigenous trees -Fencing of the dangerous areas 		
-Injury to people and livestock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Complete filling up of the trenches -Barricade the old workings with concrete -Fencing of the dangerous areas 	EPL HOLDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ECO -MEFT, -MAWLR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Contaminated surface and underground water. -Soil pollution. -Acid water drainage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -clean up spills (chemicals, diesel and oil) -Water quality analysis. -Monitor soil and water quality for a specified time after closure. -Aquatic life monitoring 	EPL HOLDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ECO -MEFT, -MAWLR
Resurgence of hazardous chemicals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Treatment of hazardous chemicals (if any) -Neutralization -Precipitation, oxidation, reduction and acid/alkali hydrolysis 	EPL HOLDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ECO -MEFT, -MAWLR -MHSS
Accumulated solid waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Disposal of solid waste through source sorting, recycling, aerobic decomposition (composition), incineration or depositing in waste rock dumpsite and levelling of dumpsite to match the natural contours of the surrounding topography. 	EPL HOLDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ECO -MEFT, -MAWLR -MHSS
Loss of biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Eliminate environmental damage through reclamation. -Site restoration through regeneration of the forest. -Restore chemical, biological and physical stability of site. -Allow productive land use. 	EPL HOLDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ECO -MEFT, -MAWLR
Compacted soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Rehabilitate areas affected by excessive soil compaction and oil spillage 	EPL HOLDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ECO -MEFT, -MAWLR -MME
Social/Economic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Laying off workers -Loss of income -Drop in the standard of living 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Catering of welfare of laid off workers -Pension schemes -Creation of income generating projects for laid off workers -Secure alternative employment for workers 	EPL HOLDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ECO -SSC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Infrastructure may become derelict -Derelict building may detract from the value of surrounding properties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Return of community access to infrastructure -Educate locals on the utilization of the mining/exploration infrastructure. 	EPL HOLDER	Ministry of Works and Transport
-Possible outbreaks of diseases	Educate communities on dangers of Covid19, TB, HIV, STIs and waterborne diseases	EPL HOLDER	Ministry of Health & Social Services(MHSS)

Damaged roads	Repair damaged roads	EPL HOLDER	-Roads Authority
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In addition to the plan above, decommissioning should also be carried out as per the following guidelines:

- The Proponent/Owners and Managers of the exploration activities should be capable of implementing responsible environmental management practices. The preparation of environmental management plans will facilitate this process and is strongly encouraged.
- All exploration sites should be rehabilitated either progressively or at the end of the exploration phase if there is not going to be progression to the mining phase of viable resources. Each exploration site should be left in a safe well drained and maintenance-free state, blending in as much as possible with the surrounding landscape.
- The proponent or management of exploration activities should ensure that funds are available for progressive and final site (closure) rehabilitation.
- Unless otherwise approved (by an Inspector of mines) at exploration phase closure, all machinery structures and buildings should be removed from the site and concentrate slabs broken up and buried. The site should be ripped; top soiled (if available), fertilized and re-vegetated using indigenous plant species. Alternatively, if approved, certain structures can remain for the benefit of the next land user.
- Surface and ground waters should be effectively managed to prevent contamination by exploration activities.
- Effluent from exploration operations, i.e. tailings should be effectively contained and only released into the environment if the water quality satisfies the standards of the **Water Quality Guidelines (Annexure A)**.
- Measures to be taken to control noise and dust from mining/milling/hauling operations to ensure a comfortable and health working environment as specified in the **Labour Act No. 11 of 2007**.
- Measures should be taken to minimise excessive ground vibrations and air-blasts over pressure due to blasting. Peak particle velocities of 5 mm/sec and air-blasts over pressures of 120 dB (peak) should not be exceeded at the boundaries of the EPL 7209 area.
- The EPL holder should ensure that refuse is deposited in proper containers and disposed of responsibly. Fuel and oil spills should be effectively contained.
- Where practical, buildings, processing plant, stockpiles and dumps should be designed and located to reduce visual impact. Advantage should be taken of natural topography and existing vegetation and if this not a practical option, a screen of trees should be established.
- Measures should be taken to prevent or minimise soil erosion.
- As far as is practical, top soil should be stripped from all areas to be distributed after exploration activities and used immediately if possible or preserved for later rehabilitation.
- Areas disturbed by exploration activities should be re-vegetated as far as is practical using indigenous grass or tree species. However, on sites such as tailings/waste dumps, where it is important to establish a vegetative cover as soon as possible on difficult growing mediums, the use of fast growing exotic species is acceptable. Care should be taken to prevent the entry and spread of noxious plants.

-
- Diversion channels or ephemeral river course diversion should be constructed in accordance with sound engineering principles to ensure that soil erosion is minimised.
 - Cyanide, mercury, dynamite and other toxic materials should be transported stored and handled in a safe and acceptable manner. They should be stored in safe place, fenced to prevent entry of unauthorised persons. The EPL Holder/manager should ensure that toxic materials do not escape into the surrounding rivers/ground waters.
 - The EPL holder should strive to conserve local flora and fauna species and avoid unnecessary destruction of both.
 - Unique archaeological, historical, geological and scenic features should be protected at all mining and exploration sites.
 - Residents of Otjikondavirongo Village in the vicinity of the EPL 7209 area should not be subjected to excessive airborne emissions (including dust, gases and smokes), liquid effluent, noise, ground vibrations and air blast from exploration/haulage operations.
 - Unless otherwise approved, at the cessation of exploration activities, or earlier if practical, waste rock dumps should be stabilized by reducing the slope angle and re-vegetated. Topsoil should be used if practicable.
 - All shafts not being used should be securely capped/otherwise made safe to prevent the entry of persons/livestock/wild animals.
 - The final land use will dictate the amount of reshaping required on the pit faces. Where practical the slope of the steep faces should be reduced and benches top soiled (if available) to facilitate re-vegetation and blending with the surrounding landscape.
 - If practical quarry faces should be oriented to minimise their visual impact from public areas.
 - Dangerous excavations should be made safe to prevent entry of persons/stock.
 - In strip exploration activities, overburden material, which is adverse to plant growth, should be buried and every effort should be made to recover and store top soil from the exploration path for later rehabilitation.
 - In general exploration activities should not be carried out closer than 30 metres from the present course of any ephemeral river. In special circumstances, where it can be demonstrated that sedimentation can be mined, provided that present river banks remained undisturbed.
 - Rehabilitation activities should be carried out progressively to ensure that a minimum of ground is disturbed at any one time. A maximum of 2 hectares shall be un-rehabilitated at any one time unless otherwise approved.
 - The exploration and rehabilitation method should ensure each layer disturbed should be replaced to its original sequence at topsoil as its final layer. All disturbed areas should be progressively rehabilitated.
 - Air and water emissions from the exploration activities should be effectively treated before release to the environmental to ensure that they are of acceptable quality.
 - All exploration drill holes should be capped, plugged/filled in, either progressively or at the end of the program.
 - All drilling sites, trenches and pits should be rehabilitated (i.e. backfilled and re-vegetated) after the cessation of exploration.
 - Each site should be left in a clean and tidy condition with all refuse removed.
-

Exploration phase cessation can be planned for and should form part of an integrated land use strategy that involves the community. The decommissioning of the Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones exploration activities at the EPL 7209 site is envisaged in the future. Planned closure, in consultation with the community, provides the opportunity to develop alternative land uses through rehabilitation, and to use the remaining infrastructure for other economic purposes such as livestock farming. When the event occurs some recommendations have been outlined in **Table 13**.

Table 13: Decommissioning phase management actions

Environmental Feature	Management Actions
Deconstruction activity	Many of the mitigation measures prescribed for the exploration & rehabilitation activities (Table 10 & 11 above) would be applicable to some of the decommissioning activities. These should be adhered to where applicable.
Rehabilitation	In the event that decommissioning is deemed necessary, excavations need to be rehabilitated according to the management actions laid out in Table 10 & 11 above.

4.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The proposed exploration on EPL 7209 at Otjikondavirongo village, Sesfontein Constituency, Kunene Region will bring both positive and negative impacts. If implemented, the proposed of exploration phase will benefit and bring development to the surrounding communities in the area if viable deposits are discovered. Some major impacts of the project are expected during the operation phase. Vegetation will be cleared from the site, the existing ecosystems will be greatly affected. Heavy duty exploration vehicles and equipment will bring noise and oil spillages. Most of the projected impacts will be significant and hence the need for a comprehensive and strict environment management plan to be implemented along the entire project life span and decommissioning phases. Management of residual impacts also need to be monitored and mitigated to offset the footprint of the exploration activities on EPL 7209 for any of the following commodities found within the area: Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones. On the basis of the above preliminary analysis and taking cognizance of the fact that the proponent has proved financially and environmentally credible, it is our recommendation that the project be allowed to go on provided the mitigation measures suggested in this EMP are strictly adhered to as deemed necessary by MEFT:DEA.

It is anticipated that the environmental management plans outlined in this report will be enforced not only as a policy obligation but to benefit Sunset Investment CC and the surrounding community in the Otjikondavirongo Village. It should be noted that environmental management is still a

challenge to natural resource exploration projects hence it is imperative for them to be always monitored by the responsible authorities so as to achieve environmental protection. It is hoped that this EMP report will assist Sunset Investment CC towards reducing the negative impacts of this project for the benefit of the next land user.

In line with the above, it is recommended that Sunset Investment CC embark on the following:

- Appoint a qualified exploration manager in terms of Minerals (Prospecting & Mining) Act, 1992 (Act No. 33 of 1992).
- Solid Waste Disposal guidelines should be obtained for best practice at the MEFT: DEA.
- Establish all infrastructures as per a Siting of Works plan approved by the Ministry of Mines and Energy.
- Register the boreholes with Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform.
- Appoint an environmental consultant (HEEC) to perform environmental audits and prepare biannual reports about the project's progress
- Get inspection certificates from the Mining Commissioner as and when they are due
- Involve the Otjikondavirongo Village community and employ locals first.

The usual practice with EMPs is that they indicate how the proponent (Sunset Investment CC) will comply with established environmental and social standards. The set of proponent (Sunset Investment CC) and Counterpart EMPs (this document) will provide a good basis for addressing environmental and social issues at the exploration sites. However, they will not provide an adequate understanding of the impact of exploration activities on public health and ecosystem functions downstream from exploration activities, or provide an adequate basis for setting mitigation priorities. This will require biannual environmental compliance auditing by the consultants (HEEC) or additional work beyond the scope of the site specific exploration activities and Counterpart EMPs, or the cumulative Environmental Impact Assessments for the Base and Rare metals, Dimension stone, Industrial Minerals, Non-nuclear Fuel Minerals, Precious metals and Precious stones exploration activities that provided the original baseline.

ANNEXURE A: WATER QUALITY GUIDELINES

THE WATER ACT, 1956 (ACT 54 OF 1956) AND ITS REQUIREMENTS IN TERMS OF WATER SUPPLIES FOR DRINKING WATER AND FOR WASTE WATER TREATMENT AND DISCHARGE INTO THE ENVIRONMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

The provisions of the Water Act are intended, amongst other things, to promote the maximum beneficial use of the country's water supplies and to safeguard water supplies from avoidable pollution.

The drinking water guidelines are not standards as no publication in the Government Gazette of Namibia exists to that effect. However the Cabinet of the Transitional Government for National Unity adopted the existing South African Guidelines (461/85) and the guidelines took effect from 1 April 1988 under the signature of the then Secretary for Water Affairs.

The sections of the Water Act that relate to the discharge of industrial effluents are: -
Section 21(1) which states that

- The purification of waste water shall form an integral part of water usage and
- that purified effluents shall comply with the General Standard Quality restrictions as laid out in Government Gazette R553 of 5 April 1962 and
- Section 21(2) which further stipulate that this purified effluent be returned as close as possible to the point of abstraction of the original water.

Where a local authority has undertaken the duty of disposing of all effluents from an industrial process the provisions of Section 21(1) and 21(2) apply to the local authority and not the producer of the effluents. If there is difficulty in complying with these provisions then the applicant may apply for an exemption from the conditions in terms of Section 21(5) and 22(2) of the Water Act. The Permanent Secretary after consultation with the Minister may grant the issuance of a Waste Water Discharge Permit under Sections 21(5) and 22(2) subject to such conditions as he may deem fit to impose.

After independence, the Government of the Republic of Namibia decided that for the interim the existing guidelines will continue to be valid and to remain in use until a proper study has been conducted and new standards have been formulated (Article 140 of Act 1 of 1990).

2. GUIDELINES FOR THE EVALUATION OF DRINKING-WATER QUALITY FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION WITH REGARD TO CHEMICAL, PHYSICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL QUALITY

Water supplied for human consumption must comply with the officially approved guidelines for drinking-water quality. For practical reasons the approved guidelines have been divided into three basic groups of determinants, namely:

- Determinants with aesthetic / physical implications: TABLE 1.
- Inorganic determinants: TABLE 2.
- Bacteriological determinants: TABLE 3.

2.1 CLASSIFICATION OF WATER QUALITY

The concentration of and limits for the aesthetic, physical and inorganic determinants define the group into which water will be classified. See TABLES 1 and 2 for these limits. The water quality has been grouped into 4 quality classes:

- 2.1 Group A: Water with an excellent quality
- 2.2 Group B: Water with acceptable quality
- 2.3 Group C: Water with low health risk
- Group D: Water with a high health risk, or water unsuitable for human consumption.

Water should ideally be of excellent quality (Group A) or acceptable quality (Group B), however in practice many of the determinants may fall outside the limits for these groups.

If water is classified as having a low health risk (Group C), attention should be given to this problem, although the situation is often not critical as yet.

If water is classified as having a higher health risk (Group D), urgent and immediate attention should be given to this matter.

Since the limits are defined on the basis of average lifelong consumption, short-term exposure to determinants exceeding their limits is not necessarily critical, but in the case of toxic substances, such as cyanide, remedial measures should immediately be taken.

The overall quality group, into which water is classified, is determined by the determinant that complies the least with the guidelines for the quality of drinking water.

TABLE 1: DETERMINANTS WITH AESTHETIC / PHYSICAL IMPLICATIONS

DETERMINANTS	UNITS*	LIMITS FOR GROUPS			
		A	B	C	D**
Colour	mg/l Pt***	20			
Conductivity	mS/m !at 25 °C	150	300	400	400
Total hardness	mg/l CaCO ₃	300	650	1300	1300
Turbidity	N.T.U****	1	5	10	10
Chloride	mg/l Cl	250	600	1200	1200
Chlorine (free)	mg/l Cl	0,1- 5,0	0,1 – 5,0	0,1 – 5,0	5,0
Fluoride	mg/l F	1,5	2,0	3,0	3,0
Sulphate	mg/l SO ₄	200	600	1200	1200
Copper	µg/l Cu	500	1000	2000	2000
Nitrate	mg/l N	10	20	40	40
Hydrogen Sulphide	µg/l H ₂ S	100	300	600	600
Iron	µg/l Fe	100	1000	2000	2000
Manganese	µg/l Mn	50	1000	2000	2000
Zink	mg/l Zn	1	5	10	10
pH****	pH-unit	6,0 – 9,0	5,5 – 9,5	4,0 – 11,0	4,0 – 11,0

- * In this and all following tables "l" (lower case L in ARIAL) is used to denote dm³ or litre
2.2 All values greater than the figure indicated.
2.2 Pt = Platinum Units
3.0 Nephelometric Turbidity Units
**** The pH limits of each group exclude the limits of the previous group

TABLE 2: INORGANIC DETERMINANTS

DETERMINANTS	UNITS	LIMITS FOR GROUPS			
		A	B	C	D*
Aluminium	µg/l Al	150	500	1000	1000
Ammonia	mg/l N	1	2	4	4
Antimony	µg/l Sb	50	100	200	200
Arsenic	µg/l As	100	300	600	600
Barium	µg/l Ba	500	1000	2000	2000
Beryllium	µg/l Be	2	5	10	10
Bismuth	µg/l Bi	250	500	1000	1000
Boron	µg/l B	500	2000	4000	4000
Bromine	µg/l Br	1000	3000	6000	6000
Cadmium	µg/l Cd	10	20	40	40
Calcium	mg/l Ca	150	200	400	400
Calcium	mg/l CaCO ₃	375	500	1000	1000
Cerium	µg/l Ce	1000	2000	4000	4000
Chromium	µg/l Cr	100	200	400	400
Cobalt	µg/l Co	250	500	1000	1000
Cyanide (free)	µg/l CN	200	300	600	600
Gold	µg/l Au	2	5	10	10
Iodine	µg/l I	500	1000	2000	2000
Lead	µg/l Pb	50	100	200	200
Lithium	µg/l Li	2500	5000	10000	10000
Magnesium	mg/l Mg	70	100	200	200
Magnesium	mg/l CaCO ₃	290	420	840	840
Mercury	µg/l Hg	5	10	20	20
Molybdenum	µg/l Mo	50	100	200	200
Nickel	µg/l Ni	250	500	1000	1000
Phosphate	mg/l P	1	See note below	See note below	See note below
Potassium	mg/l K	200	400	800	800
Selenium	µg/l Se	20	50	100	100
Silver	µg/l Ag	20	50	100	100
Sodium	mg/l Na	100	400	800	800
Tellurium	µg/l Te	2	5	10	10
Thallium	µg/l Tl	5	10	20	20
Tin	µg/l Sn	100	200	400	400
Titanium	µg/l Ti	100	500	1000	1000
Tungsten	µg/l W	100	500	1000	1000
Uranium	µg/l U	1000	4000	8000	8000
Vanadium	µg/l V	250	500	1000	1000

3.2 All values greater than the figure indicated.

Note FOR Table 2 on phosphate: Phosphates are not toxic and essential for all life-forms. Natural water will, however, seldom contain phosphate; it is generally seen as an indicator of pollution and is usually accompanied by other pollutants. Wherever drinking water is combined with or consists wholly of reclaimed or recycled water, it may be expected to contain phosphate. The general guideline for a concentration level to be aimed at is 1 mg/l as P. But in many cases this may be difficult to achieve technically. For this reason the Department will allow a phosphate concentration level of up to 5 mg/l as P in water intended for human consumption. Please refer also to the “Note on Phosphate” under Section 3: General Standards for Waste/Effluent.

2.2 BACTERIOLOGICAL DETERMINANTS

The bacteriological quality of drinking water is also divided into four groups, namely:

- Group A: Water which is bacteriological very safe;
- Group B: Water which is bacteriological still suitable for human consumption;
- Group C: Water which is bacteriological risk for human consumption, which requires immediate action for rectification;
- Group D: Water, which is bacteriological unsuitable for human consumption.

TABLE 3: BACTERIOLOGICAL DETERMINANTS

DETERMINANTS	LIMITS FOR GROUPS			
	A**	B**	C	D*
Standard plate counts per 1 ml	100	1000	10000	10000
Total coliform counts per 100 ml	0	10	100	100
Faecal coliform counts per 100 ml	0	5	50	50
E. coli counts per 100 ml	0	0	10	10

* All values greater than the figure indicated.

** In 95% of the samples.

NB If the guidelines in group A are exceeded, a follow-up sample should be analysed as soon as possible.

2.3 FREQUENCY FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF DRINKING-WATER SUPPLIES

The recommended frequency for bacteriological analysis of drinking water is given in Table 4.

TABLE 4: FREQUENCY FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

POPULATION SERVED	MINIMUM FREQUENCY OF SAMPLING
More than 100 000	Twice a week
50 000 – 100 000	Once a week
10 000 – 50 000	Once a month
Minimum analysis	Once every three months

3 GENERAL STANDARDS FOR WASTE / EFFLUENT WATER DISCHARGE INTO THE ENVIRONMENT

All applications in terms of Section 21(5) and 22(2), for compliance with the requirements of Section 21(1) and 21(2) of the Water Act (Act 54 of 1956) that purified water shall comply with the General Standard as laid out in Government Gazette Regulation R553 of 5 April 1962.

TABLE 5 GENERAL STANDARDS FOR ARTICLE 21 PERMITS (EFFLUENTS)

DETERMINANTS	MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE LEVELS
Arsenic	0,5 mg/l as As
Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD)	no value given
Boron	1,0 mg/l as B
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)	75 mg / l as O
Chlorine, residual	0,1 mg/l as Cl ₂
Chromium, hexavalent	50 Ng/l as Cr(VI)
Chromium, total	500 Ng/l as Cr
Copper	1,0 mg/l as Cu
Cyanide	500 Ng/l as CN
Oxygen, Dissolved (DO)	at least 75% saturation**
Detergents, Surfactants, Tensides	0,5 mg/l as MBAS – See also Note 2
Fats, Oil & Grease (FOG)	2,5 mg/l (!gravimetric method)
Fluoride	1,0 mg/l as F
Free & Saline Ammonia	10 mg/l as N
Lead	1,0 mg/l as Pb
Oxygen, Absorbed (OA)	10 mg / l as O*
pH	5,5 – 9,5
Phenolic Compounds	100 Ng/l as phenol
Phosphate	1,0 mg/l as P - See also Note 1
Sodium	not more than 90 mg/l Na more than influent
Sulphide	1,0 mg/l as S
Temperature	35°C
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	not more than 500 mg / l more than influent
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	25 mg/l
Typical faecal Coli.	no typical coli should be counted per 100 ml
Zinc	5,0 mg/l as Zn

* Also known as Permanganate Value (or PV).

** In Windhoek the saturation level is at approx. 9 mg/l O₂.

Note (1) on phosphate: Phosphates are not toxic and essential for all life forms. Natural water will seldom contain phosphate; it is generally seen as an indicator of pollution and is usually accompanied by other pollutants. Wherever drinking water is combined with or consists wholly of reclaimed or recycled water, it may be expected to contain phosphate. There is no general guideline for phosphate contained in the Regulation 553. But generally it is assumed that eutrophication or algal bloom in dams is promoted by nutrient concentrations as low as 0,01 mg/l as P; generally a phosphate concentration limit for dams of 0,1 mg/l is recommended. All water that is consumed and subsequently discharged, will eventually end up in rivers, dams or groundwater – that is why for potable water, a concentration level of 1 mg/l as P is aimed at.

But, again, in many cases of waste and effluent treatment, this may be difficult to achieve technically, or the required waste and effluent treatment infrastructure is not available; as the required infrastructure is sophisticated and expensive. The current situation calls for a compromise and for this reason, this Department will judge each application individually on its merits and allow, in certain cases, a phosphate concentration level of up to 15 mg/l as P in any effluent or waste stream to be discharged into the environment. This regulation is subject to be reviewed every two years, calculated from the date of approval of this document.

Note (2) on detergents, surfactants and ten sides: The MBAS (or methylene blue active substances) – test does not encompass all surface active compounds currently, commercially available. The limit given is therefore only a guideline. Many of the cleaning agents are toxic to biological life-forms in rivers and dams.

It should be taken into consideration that some commercial products interfere with the effective removal of oil, fat and grease by grease and fat traps, by breaking up such long-chain molecules into shorter ones. These cleaning agents thus effectively allow such components to pass through the traps and land into sections of a treatment plant further down the line and interfere with the process there.

Many cleaning agents contain very powerful disinfectants, and/or biocides. Such substances may interact with biological treatment processes. They may reduce the effectiveness of such treatment or ‘kill’ it completely, if they land in septic tanks, biofilters or even activate-sludge plants. Their activity may be attenuated by dilution.

4. AUTHORIZATION

Herewith, the Guidelines for the Evaluation of Drinking Water for Human Consumption with regard to Chemical, Physical and Bacteriological Quality, as well as the General Standards for Article 21* Permits, amended for detergents, surfactants, ten sides, as well as phosphates, are confirmed and remain in force until further notice.

Issued under my hand with the authority vested in my office, within the Ministry for Agriculture, Water and Rural Development,

PERMANENT SECRETARY
Dr V Shivute

WINDHOEK,

DATE STAMP

ANNEXURE B: COVID-19 RISK ASSESSMENT FORM (AS AMENDED PERIODICALLY BASED ON DEVELOPING MEDICAL INFORMATION)

Return to Work Medical Screening

Surname:		First Name:		Company Number	
Date Of Birth:		Occupation:		Department:	
Date Employed:		Date Discharged:		Length Of Service:	

1.

	Vital Data			
2.	Blood Pressure			mmHg
	Pulse			Bpm
	Temperature			°C
	HGT (for known diabetics)			mmol/L
3.	Have you ever had a serious occupational accident or an occupational disease?		Yes	No
	Describe			
	Chronic Disease		Yes	No
	Hypertension			

4.	Diabetes		
	Epilepsy		
	Asthma		
	TB		
	Psycho-social problems **		
	If yes and symptomatic, or any vital signs out of normal limits, refer to the medical centre		
	** If yes, refer to the medical centre for referral for EAP		
5.	Do you take <u>any</u> medication (List Below)	Yes	No

	Symptom Check	Yes	No
	Fever		
	Cough		
6.	Sore Throat		
	Shortness of breath		
	Any contact with person diagnosed with COVID—19		
	If any symptoms are present refer the employee to the isolation area		
	Status (Tick appropriate box)		
7.	Fit to work		
	Refer to medical centre		
	Refer to isolation area		

I hereby declare that all the information furnished above is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct and that no information has been omitted or withheld.

Signature of employee: _____

Assessed by: _____

