

APP-003881

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT
PLAN FOR THE 20 MW AUSSENKEJR ENERGY INVESTMENTS
PHOTOVOLTAIC PLANT IN AUSSENKEHR, //KARAS REGION**

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PUBLIC CONSULTATION
DOCUMENTATION**



Assessed by:



Assessed for:

**Aussenkjer Energy
Investments (Pty) Ltd**

May 2024

Proof of Public Participation

Appendix A. Authorities Consultation

Ministry of Mines and Energy



TEL.: (+264-61) 257411 ♦ FAX.: (+264) 88626368

CELL.: (+264-81) 1220082

PO BOX 11073 ♦ WINDHOEK ♦ NAMIBIA

E-Mail: info@thenamib.com

To: **The Executive Director
Ministry of Mines and Energy
6 Aviation Road
Private Bag 13297
Windhoek**



24 May 2024

Re: **Environmental Impact Assessment for the Construction and Operations of three Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr, //Karas Region**

Dear Sir / Madam

In terms of the Environmental Management Act (No 7 of 2007) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Government Notice No 30 of 2012), notice is hereby given that applications will be made with the Environmental Commissioner for the construction and operations of three photovoltaic power plants in Aussenkehr, //Karas Region. The projects are tabled below:

| Proponent | Project |
|---|--|
| Aussenkehr Solar Company (Pty) Ltd | Construction and Operation of the 50 MW Aussenkehr Solar Company Photovoltaic Plant in Aussenkehr, //Karas Region |
| Oryx Orange River Solarpark (Pty) Ltd | Construction and Operation of the 50 MW Oryx Orange River Solarpark Photovoltaic Plant in Aussenkehr, //Karas Region |
| Aussenkjer Energy Investments (Pty) Ltd | Construction and Operation of the 20 MW Aussenkjer Energy Investments Photovoltaic Plant in Aussenkehr, //Karas Region |

Attached to this letter is a background information document for each project, providing additional information about the proposed developments. The three plants will be located adjacent to each other and cover approximately 250 hectares. Each plant will be connected to an aboveground power line which is proposed to be linked to the National grid via the Aussenkehr Substation. Solar panels will be installed on mounting racks to form solar panel arrays. The direct current (DC) produced by the plants will be converted into alternating current (AC) by means of inverters. Construction will include land preparation, minor earthworks, installation of solar panels and linking with the Aussenkehr Substation as per NamPower requirements. Operations include on site security, daily maintenance, cleaning and repairs when required.

Geo Pollution Technologies (Pty) Ltd was appointed by the Proponent to conduct an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the construction and operations of the photovoltaic plant. As part of the assessment we notify interested and / or affected parties. You are hereby invited to share with Geo Pollution Technologies, any comments, issues or concerns related to the proposed project, for consideration in the Environmental Assessment.

Please forward your inputs to:

E-mail: solar@thenamib.com

Fax: 088-62-6368

Should you require any additional information please contact Geo Pollution Technologies at telephone 061-257411.

Thank you in advance.

Page 1 of 2

Directors:

P. Botha (B.Sc. Hon. Hydrogeology) (Managing)

Proof of Public Consultation Authorities



Public Participation Notification: Environmental Assessment Construction and Operation
of the 20 MW Aussenkjer Energy Investments Photovoltaic Plant in Aussenkehr,
//Karas Region

| Name & Surname | Organisation/Address | Privacy Block | |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------|--|
| K. Cloete | Noordkaper S. | | |
| CS Munchel | Naurupel | | |
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| | | | |

Geo Pollution Technologies
Aussenkjer Energy Investments (Pty) Ltd

December 2023

Proof of Communication with Nampower

From: [Privacy Block] <[Privacy Block]@nampower.com.na>
Date: 29 April 2024 at 20:15:25 CAT
To: [Privacy Block]@yahoo.com
Cc: [Privacy Block] <[Privacy Block]@nampower.com.na>, [Privacy Block] <[Privacy Block]@nampower.com.na>, [Privacy Block] <[Privacy Block]@nampower.com.na>

Subject: RE: Substation Connection

Dear Tironen

Connection is possible to both substation and it all depends on which voltage level is being connected to.

At Aussenkher SS:

1. If you connect on the 22kV side we have a 5MWp Solar PV plant on it and our new transformer is 30MVA, hence adding 20MW is okay. Using the lowest power factor as stipulate din the grid code and NamPower specifications, this is about 28MVA.
2. If you connect on the 132kV side, this is also possible
3. Both options does not require upgrades but just normal shallow connections

NB: Kindly note that, if this plan is for supplying loads in Namibia, then both the Electricity Control Board (ECB) and the MSB will give their approvals accordingly. However if this is for export into the SAPP market, the there is a moratorium on that of which licences to be only granted after 18 months from this month of April 2024 and the same applies for any grid integration studies.

Yours Sincerely


[Privacy Block]

The linked image cannot be displayed. The file may have been moved, renamed, or deleted. Verify that the link points to the correct file and location.















PO Box 2864, Windhoek, Namibia,
NamPower Control Building, 3 Goethe Street

Appendix B. Proof of Public Consultation

Notification sent out to IAPs

From Me 

To undisclosed-recipients: ; 20/11/2023, 4:24 pm

Bcc [redacted]@karasrc.gov.na , lenk [redacted]@orasecom.org , [redacted]@standardbank.com.na , [redacted]@namgrapes.com , m [redacted]@kharasog.gov.na , [redacted]@icloud.com , [redacted]@diekmannassociated.com , [redacted]@nachox@gmail.com , [redacted]@sanparks.org , [redacted] Mostert' , n [redacted]@outlook.com , [redacted]@kaapagri.com.na , norotshama@africaonline.com.na , s [redacted]@fnbnamibia.com.na 

Subject **Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 3**

Dear Interested and/or affected Party,

Environmental Impact Assessment for the Construction and Operations of Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr, || Karas Region

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act, No 7 of 2007 (Section 21 to 24 of Government Notice 4878 Regulation No. 30 of 2011), all interested and affected parties as well as commenting authorities are being notified about the intention to establish three solar plants in Aussenkehr. These plants are planned next to the existing one. Since three different companies are proposing the development, three different information pieces about them are attached. An additional map, depicting all three proposed plants, is also shared.

The notifications are being sent now, during harvesting season, which is when the most people are concentrated in the area and thereby increasing the public awareness of the project. However, the process will remain open for any further questions or queries about the proposed plants. Kindly note that the project team will also be in Aussenkehr the second week of December. The three environmental impact assessment reports will only be sent for public comment next year.

This information is free to share. If there is any additional party who wishes to be added to the distribution list, kindly please register as an IAP (Please take note that if you have received this email, you are already registered). Similarly, kindly please let us know if you do not want to receive any further information about the project.

Should you require any additional information, please contact Geo Pollution Technologies at telephone 061-257411 or Quzette Bosman as per contact details below.

Sincerely,

From Manfam [REDACTED]@africaonline.com.na > @

Reply Forward Archive Junk Delete More

To Me @

20/11/2023, 7:05 pm

Subject **Read: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 1**

Your message has been read.

Message details follow:

From: "Quzette Bosman" <quzette@thenamib.com>

To:

Date: Mon, 20 Nov 2023 07:20:38 -0700

Subject: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 1

From Nellis Holtzhausen <[REDACTED]@kaapagri.co.za> @

Reply Forward Archive Junk Delete More

To Me @

21/11/2023, 7:46 am

Subject **Read: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 1**

Your message

To: Nellis Holtzhausen

Subject: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 1

Sent: Monday, November 20, 2023 4:21:56 PM (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria

was read on Tuesday, November 21, 2023 7:45:54 AM (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria.

----- This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager. -----

Final-recipient: RFC822; [REDACTED]@kaapagri.co.za

Disposition: automatic-action/MDN-sent-automatically; displayed

<-MSEXch-Correlation-Key: pguALHETSUqCR6G1JeQzuw==

<-Display-Name: Nellis Holtzhausen

From: Sisamu, Calvin <[REDACTED]@nampower.com.na>

Reply Forward Archive Junk Delete More

To: Me

21/11/2023, 8:30 am

Subject: **Read: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 1**

This message is subject to the NamPower disclaimer pertaining to electronic communications.
To view the disclaimer visit: <https://www.nampower.com.na/Disclaimer.aspx>

From: Henner Diekmann

Reply Forward Archive Junk Delete More

To: Me

20/11/2023, 4:27 pm

Subject: **Read: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 2**

Your message

To: Henner Diekmann
Subject: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 2
Sent: Monday, November 20, 2023 2:23:17 PM (UTC+00:00) Monrovia, Reykjavik

was read on Monday, November 20, 2023 2:27:21 PM (UTC+00:00) Monrovia, Reykjavik.

Final-recipient: RFC[REDACTED]frontierfruit.com
Disposition: automatic-action/MDN-sent-automatically; displayed
X-MSEch-Correlation-Key: DXrqlyzsKk0cVaotTQrmbw==
Original-Message-ID: <d92cf9ca-0e56-4265-8ebd-e4a15b4e1ed5@thenamib.com>
X-Display-Name: Henner Diekmann

From [redacted]@iafrica.com.na 

To 'Quzette Bosman' <quzette@thenamib.com>  21/11/2023, 6:32 am

Subject **Read: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 2**

 Reply  Forward  Archive  Junk  Delete  More 

Your message

To: undisclosed-recipients:
Subject: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 2
Sent: 11/20/2023 4:23 PM

was read on 11/21/2023 6:31 AM.

Reporting-UA: iafrica.com.na; Microsoft Outlook 16.0
Final-Recipient: rfc822:[redacted]@iafrica.com.na
Original-Message-ID: <d92cf9ca-0e56-4265-8ebd-e4a15b4e1ed5@thenamib.com>
Disposition: manual-action/MDN-sent-manually; displayed

From 'Nicolene Mostert' 

To Me  20/11/2023, 6:01 pm

Subject **Read: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 3**

 Reply  Forward  Archive  Junk  Delete  More 

Your message

To: Nicolene Mostert
Subject: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 3
Sent: Monday, November 20, 2023 4:24:24 PM (UTC+02:00) Windhoek

was read on Monday, November 20, 2023 5:59:07 PM (UTC+02:00) Windhoek.

Final-recipient: RFC822; [redacted]@frontierfruit.com
Disposition: automatic-action/MDN-sent-automatically; displayed
X-MSEch-Correlation-Key: LCvAfFQL3UCe7VeHr5JLtw==
X-Display-Name: Nicolene Mostert

From Norotshama River Resort <norotshama@africaonline.com.na> @
To 'Quzette Bosman' <quzette@thenamib.com> @
Subject **Read: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 3**

Reply Forward Archive Junk Delete More

21/11/2023, 9:59 pm

Your message

To: undisclosed-recipients:
Subject: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 3
Sent: 2023/11/20 06:24

was read on 2023/11/21 11:59.

Reporting-UA: africaonline.com.na; Microsoft Outlook 16.0
Final-Recipient: rfc822;norotshama@africaonline.com.na
Original-Message-ID: <4e9846ae-12ae-4472-8e3f-62cae1ebb006@thenamib.com>
Disposition: manual-action/MDN-sent-automatically; displayed

From 'Stefnie Vermeulen' @
To Me @
Subject **Read: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 4**

Reply Forward Archive Junk Delete More









20/11/2023, 4:34 pm


Your message

To: Stefnie Vermeulen
Subject: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 4
Sent: Monday, November 20, 2023 4:25:34 PM (UTC+02:00) Windhoek

was read on Monday, November 20, 2023 4:32:57 PM (UTC+02:00) Windhoek.

Final-recipient: RFC822;grapealliancena.co.za
Disposition: automatic-action/MDN-sent-automatically; displayed
X-MSEch-Correlation-Key: SnWXAwQ4wUy0t6FzRMvm6A==
X-Display-Name: Stefnie Vermeulen

From [redacted] Visser <wwisser@silverlands.com>   Reply  Forward  Archive  Junk  Delete  More 

To Me  20/11/2023, 7:58 pm









Subject **Read: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 4**


Your message

To: Willem Visser
Subject: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 4
Sent: Monday, November 20, 2023 4:25:34 PM (UTC+02:00) Windhoek

was read on Monday, November 20, 2023 7:57:48 PM (UTC+02:00) Windhoek.

Final-recipient: RFC822; [redacted]@silverlands.com
Disposition: automatic-action/MDN-sent-automatically; displayed
X-MSExch-Correlation-Key: KBA0Ex3cxUWdX2Kcfvb02w==
X-Display-Name: Willem Visser

From Maria Endunde <[redacted]e@orvi.biz>   Reply  Forward  Archive  Junk  Delete  More 

To Me  20/11/2023, 4:26 pm

Subject **Read-Receipt: Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 1**

The message sent on November 20, 2023 at 4:21:56 PM GMT+02:00 to m.endunde@orvi.biz with subject "Notification - EIA - Photovoltaic Power Plants at Aussenkehr 1" has been displayed. This is no guarantee that the message has been read or understood.

Reporting-UA: 192.168.1.235; ZimbraModernWebClient - FF115 (Windows)/9.0.0_GA_4564
Original-Recipient: rfc822;m[redacted]@orvi.biz
Final-Recipient: rfc822;m[redacted]@orvi.biz
Original-Message-ID: <07cb0fdf-2483-4a08-a5c2-d50036777d68@thenamib.com>
Disposition: manual-action/MDN-sent-manually; displayed

Notified IAPs

| Name | Surname | Organization |
|-------------|----------------|---|
| A | Muhongo | //Karas Regional Council |
| Albert | Holtzhausen | Orange River Vineyard Investments |
| Albert | Calitz | AW Greenworks |
| Alfred | Ilukena | Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service |
| Andre | Brand | Navico - Farmers' |
| Andries | Kok | Namwater |
| Anne | Scott | African Conservation Services CC |
| Berendt | Both | //Karasburg West Constituency |
| Bodin | Vasiljevivic | Aussenkehr SPAR |
| Nellis | Holtzhausen | Kaap Agri |
| Calvin | Sisamu | Nampower - Power Systems Development |
| Charles | | Solar Grapes |
| Coleen | Manheimer | Vegetation Specislist |
| Durr | Bezuidenhout | Private |
| Elize | van Zyl | Solar Grapes |
| Furnmart | | Furnmart |
| Gerhard | v d Merwe | Town Planner |
| Hendrik | Prins | Ai- Ais/Richtersveld Transfrontier Park - SAN Parks |
| Henner | Dickmann | Frontier Grapes |
| J | Mashala | Karasburg West Constituency |
| Jadre | Fourie | Silverlands Vineyards |
| Jan | Mostert | Frontier Grapes |
| Jana | Joubert | GA Management |
| John | Kinahan | QRS / Quaternary Research Services |
| John | Akawa | Namwater |
| Jolanda | Kamburona | Namwater |
| Justin | Julius | NEC/Alcon (Existing Solar Plant) |
| Kakishi | Mufuka | ORIP |
| Kevin | Liddle | Silver Street Capital |
| Kobus | Bothma | Namibia Grape Company |
| Kondjeni | Nghitevelekwa | Nampower - Power Systems Development (PSD) BU |
| Lahya | Shitenga | Noordoewer Settlement Office |
| Lenka | Thamae | ORASECOM |
| Lerralie | Plaatjies | Standard Bank |
| Lize | de Jager | Namibia Grape Company |
| Lucia | Basson | //Karas Regional Council |
| Mr | Tirone | Alcon Solar Plant (Existing Solar Plant) |
| N | Mostert | Frontier Grapes |
| Nelimona | Ipinge | Namibian Environment and Wildlife Society |

| Name | Surname | Organization |
|-------------|----------------|---|
| Nick | de Goede | Ai- Ais/Richtersveld Transfrontier Park - SAN Parks - |
| Nicolene | Mostert | Manager Frontier |
| Oscar | Mwayanale | Mwayanale Trading Enterprise cc |
| Paul | Kotze | Private |
| R | Brand | Norothshama Owner |
| Salomé | Beukes | FNB |
| Simon | Akwenye | Agribusdev-DRIP Agribus Dev |
| Smut | Matengu | NamPower |
| Sonja | Loots | National Botanical Research Institute |
| Stefnie | Vermeulen | Grape Alliance |
| Sunia | de kock | Grape Alliance |
| Zelda | van Dyk | Karsten Boerdery |
| Theo | Shiyambi | Aussenkehr Community Committee |
| Wayne | Handley | Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism |
| Wilbard | Nashandi | Ministry of Industrialization, Trade and SME Development - Namibia Investment Centre |
| Willem | Visser | Silverlands |
| Willie | Vermeulen | karsten |
| | | //Karas Region - Governors Office |
| K | Cloete | Noordoewer Settlement Office |
| CS | Munalula | Nampol - Aussenkehr |
| I | Josephine | Private |

| IAP Details | Comment / Concern | Response |
|--|--|---|
| Kevin Liddle Notification meeting 15/12/2023as well as Email 21/11/2023 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. My understanding is that the 120mw of solar cannot be accommodated by the current Nampower infrastructure. If this is indeed the case then to what extent do you, in this study, consider upgrades to substations, transmission lines, etc. 2. Will the installation have any impact on the existing Nampower users. As Nampower is the sole provider of utility electricity in the valley I think it is fair to consider if there are any negative effects for all stakeholders in the valley. This may include things such as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a)The ability to obtain netmetering licences b)The ability for other land owners to supply the network c) Risk of more power cuts due to maintenance, installation, etc. d)Technical effects (e.g. harmonics) | <p><i>Response:</i> Cumulative considerations have taken note of two additional sola plants planned for the area. These plants have not been approved by the ECB or Nampower, unlike this application for the 20MW plaant. NamPower have indicated that the Aussenkehr Substation will be able to accommodate the additional capacity Construction of the line and connection to the Aussenkehr Substation should not result in any power delays for the agriculture sector or cause any restriction in other producers supplying electricity to the grid. However, the existing solar plant will be affected during the upgrading of the line, this is addressed in Section Error! Reference source not found. of the report.</p> |
| Kobus Botma Notification meeting 15/12/2023 | During the construction of the existing solar plant, dust created during earthworks and general construction activities resulted in a problem for our operations (table grape production). During that time, the developers erected shade netting and employed dust mitigation measures. We would kindly request that consideration to dust management be included in the assessment. | <p><i>Response:</i> Dust mitigation measures have been included in Section Error! Reference source not found. of the report.</p> |
| Ann and Mike Scott Email 22/11/2023 | Thanks for the feedback on this interesting project. All the best! | Noted |
| Lipinge Ndelimona Email 22/11/2023 | Thank you The Information is well-received | Noted |

Press Notice: Namibian Sun 20 and 27 November 2023

N\$500k tender sparks tribal rift in Kavango West

• TRIBALISM CLAIMS RUBBISHED BY REGIONAL GOVERNOR

Kavango West governor Sirikka Ausiku said her decision to intervene and cancel a tender awarded to a non-regional company was centred on the principles of inclusivity and promoting deliberate and equitable national development.

BY NYA KAMBOWE/
IRKANCHI NANGOLO
SINDU

Kavango West governor Sirikka Ausiku's decision to intervene and cancel a tender awarded to a company not from the region has ignited a tribal storm. She took issue with the fact that Tateeya Investment, a company owned by well-known businessman Kemind Ekandjo, was selected to organise National Malaria Day, scheduled for 10 November in Nkurenkuru. The event was eventually called off.

Ausiku, in several letters addressed to health minister Kalumbi Shangula, expressed her dissatisfaction with the tender award process, stating that local entrepreneurs were overlooked and that it was unfair for them not to benefit.

Explain to the public

She questioned how the regional leadership would justify awarding a tender worth N\$479 785 to a single company that is not from the region. "It is unfortunate and disappointing that none of the entrepreneurs from the region were accorded the opportunity to participate," she argued in a letter dated 25 October.

"The experience of the region during the hosting of national events like Public Service Day and Heroes Day, local entrepreneurs were given an opportunity to render their services, and only the services that could not be procured locally were sourced from outside the region.

"It is also a concern to award one company an amount of N\$479 789, and it would be difficult for the regional leadership to explain this to the public," she noted.

"Honourable minister, unemployment is a reality in all 14 regions; hence, whenever there is an opportunity for a region to host a national event, resources must benefit the region where the event is taking place. Therefore, the region is requesting for an urgent intervention from your esteemed office."

In an attempt to resolve the situation and clarify that the

process was fair, with Tateeya providing goods and services not available locally while chairs and catering were handled by locals, it seems the ministry yielded to Ausiku's concerns, resulting in the indefinite postponement of the event.

Criticism

While some applauded Ausiku's intervention as heroic, others criticised her for emphasising the aspect of the regional origin of Tateeya Investment's owner rather than addressing potential corruption in the tender award process.

"Are we now saying that Kavango entrepreneurs who have business interests in other regions must be sidelined as well? Instead of encouraging

local businesses to be on the lookout for tenders and apply, she is making it seem as if her local entrepreneurs should not face competition," a source argued.

"Kavango West has become a region where non-Kavangos, especially those that do not hail from her region, are being mistreated, and the name of the governor is always in the mix.

"There was also an issue with the recent Swapo Party rally where the catering company that got the tender was from Rundu - can you imagine? That region is becoming unbearable for non-Kavango West inhabitants. If this is not stopped, it will become a problem in the long run."

Matter of principle

However, Ausiku, when contacted for comment, rubbished tribalism claims.

"The reaction on this matter is not tribally motivated, but a matter of principle and out of courtesy," Ausiku argued.

"The company under discussion has previously rendered services in the region, includ-



UNTRUE: Kavango West governor, Sirikka Ausiku. PHOTO: KENYA KAMBOWE

ing at the Nkurenkuru Expo. Further, many entrepreneurs not from the Kavango West Region are awarded construction projects in the region.

"Out of courtesy, it is expected that when offices, ministries and agencies host events in any region, the region, especially at the regional council level, must be informed of such events and be involved in the preparations.

"It is about sensitivity towards inclusivity to promote deliberate and equitable national development. Kavango West is among the poorest regions, and this is at the heart of this matter, not the alleged tribalism."

nya@sun27.com



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SUNSET NEWS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS OF PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER PLANTS AT AUSSENKJER (KARAS REGION)

Geo Pollution Technologies (Pty) Ltd was appointed by Aussenkjer Solar Company (Pty) Ltd, Gys George River Solarpark (Pty) Ltd and Aussenkjer Energy Investments (Pty) Ltd to undertake environmental assessments for photovoltaic power plants in Aussenkjer in the Karas Region. Additional and location information about the photovoltaic power plants, located adjacent to each other, can be obtained at: <http://www.theenvironment.com.na/geopolution/>

The environmental assessments will be conducted according to the Environmental Management Act of 2007 and its regulations as published in 2012.

The three plants will be located adjacent to each other and cover approximately 300 hectares (100 ha each). Each plant will be connected to an aboveground power line which will be linked to the National grid via the Aussenkjer Substation. Construction will include land preparation, minor earthworks, installation of solar panels and linking with the Aussenkjer Substation. Operators include on site security, daily maintenance and repairs when required.

All interested and affected parties are invited to register with the environmental consultant. By registering you are provided with the opportunity to share any comments, issues or concerns related to the projects, for consideration in the environmental assessments. Additional information can be requested from: Geo Pollution Technologies.

Quante Boeman
Geo Pollution Technologies
Tel: +264-81-257411
Fax: +264-8662936
E-Mail: edlan@thenamib.com

GEO POLLUTION TECHNOLOGIES

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Entries Close 29 Nov 2023 | T's & C's Apply

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NEWS IN SHORT

Traffic division receives 22 new vehicles

A fleet of 22 new vehicles were handed over to the traffic law enforcement division of the Namibian Police ahead of the festive season.

The handover was done by the police and the Road Fund Administration (RFA).

It also included five speed cameras, breath alcohol testing devices and a trailer fitted with speakers and branding.

Namibian Police Inspector-General Joseph Shikongo said, during the 2023/2024 financial year, the police were allocated N\$92.7 million to procure a new fleet.

Therefore, 113 vehicles, three boats and two trailers were procured using both the police budget and financial assistance from the RFA.

"To date, 40 vehicles and two trailers have been delivered by the suppliers, while 73 vehicles and the three boats are expected in due course."

Shikongo said out of the 40 vehicles received, 21 are Toyota Hilux single cab bakkies for the traffic directorate, procured with RFAs assistance. Meanwhile, 16 Toyota Hilux single cab bakkies, one Toyota Hilux double cab bakkie, two Toyota Corolla sedans and two livestock-transporting trailers were acquired with the police budget.

— ELLAHE SWIT

Live cattle exports decline

On a month-on-month basis, live cattle exports saw a 27.8% decline from the 13 899 heads exported in September to 10 033 exported in October.

According to the Meat Board's Market Watch, live exports are 36% lower than a year ago and 41.94% lower than the five-year average.

Live exports were dominated by South African feedlots and abattoirs (99.9%) as destinations, with Botswana accounting for only 0.1% during October.

Export abattoirs experienced a decline of 41.04% on a month-to-month basis.

"Since May, there has been an almost 50% increase in the number of cattle slaughtered at export abattoirs, compared to previous years."

The Meat Board said the number of cattle slaughtered year-to-date is 40.69% more than what was slaughtered at export abattoirs last year.

"This shift in marketing could be due to the shift in the number of cattle slaughtered at B and C class abattoirs being absorbed by export abattoirs."

— ELLAHE SWIT



PHOTO FILE

WORKERS URGED TO IMPROVE SERVICE DELIVERY

Unpaid overtime sparks revolt at fisheries ministry

The fisheries ministry's top administrator has urged workers to solve matters internally instead of running to unions, politicians and the media.

STAFF REPORTER
WALVIS BAY

Fisheries workers, some of whom are integral to the country's fight against illegal fishing in Namibian waters, have threatened to down tools if their outstanding overtime claims are not settled.

The situation has now seemingly pitted the ministry's top bosses against the workers, with the latter claiming their concerns are not being taken seriously.

It is understood that overtime for fisheries observers and inspectors has been outstanding for more than four months, leaving workers no choice but to consider stopping overtime work, subsequently giving private fishing companies leeway to do as they please during their fishing expeditions without watchdogs on their vessels.

Workers have also accused the ministry's leadership of going the

extra mile to please fishing industry players while failing to sort out in-house operational matters that are central to the ministry's mandate.

Waiting for a crisis

Meanwhile, fishing industry activists have cautioned that the situation could lead to the depletion of fish stocks because inspectors and observers are not out at sea to control and monitor fishing activities.

"Now we only work limited hours although we usually worked shifts. We do not exceed our hours because you do not get compensated for it. We repeatedly told the ministry to solve the overtime problems by paying us on time."

"Imagine not paying workers' overtime for four months and you expect them to deliver," one of the workers, who chose to remain anonymous, lamented.

Another worker said: "The ministry is not serious when it comes to the well-being of its workers and



INTERNAL MATTER: Fisheries ministry executive director Annelie Haijphens. PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

its mandate to protect the country's marine resources because they always wait for a crisis before they act. Our overtime is always left hanging until we threaten to go on strike; only then is it attended to."

Not scared

Namibian Sun spoke to the workers last week after a meeting with the ministry's executive director, Annelie Haijphens, where the overtime matter was discussed in-depth.

According to ministerial insiders, Haijphens took a hard-line stance and blasted employees for turning to their unions and the media in a bid to solve the matter.

"Your overtime is there on my desk, see what your union will do

to me. You guys are going to newspapers and [Popular Democratic Movement leader McHenry] Venema about this issue," she allegedly quipped during the meeting.

She apparently added: "How can you talk [about] in-house things outside? You will see, go tell your union, I am not scared of your union."

Haijphens read the riot act to the workers and urged them to improve on the delivery of customer service and overall discipline.

Her visit coincided with the launch of the ministry's customer service charter at the Walvis Bay office.

Haijphens did not respond to calls and messages on the matter.



DILAPIDATED NORTHERN QUARANTINE FACILITY BLAMED FOR POOR MEAT QUALITY

FALLING APART: A quarantine facility servicing the Kunene, Omasati, Oshana regions is in a dilapidated state. PHOTO: FILE

ELLAHE SWIT
WINDHOEK

A lack of animal quarantine services has been highlighted in a petition to the National Assembly.

A dilapidated quarantine facility, which serves the Kunene, Omasati and Oshana regions, was raised in the petition by Lisha Empowerment and Development, calling on the National Assembly to address the urgent need to revive the market in Namibia's northern communal areas (NCAs).

It was tabled by Speaker Peter Katjivivi and was discussed last week at a public hearing by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Economics and Public Administration.

According to the petition, the animal quarantine services for Kunene, Omasati and Oshana fall under the directorate of veterinary services.

It said the Eloolo abattoir at Okahakati and the Outapi abattoir were created to provide sustainable market access for slaughter livestock procured from farmers in these regions.

"To date, however, resident livestock farmers residing in such regions are no longer able to sustainably sell their livestock as quarantine facility and abattoirs, under the watch of the agriculture ministry, collapsed simultaneous-

ly 12 years ago."

One borehole, no electricity

The petition said for over a decade, the Omutambo Maowe quarantine facility has been unable to provide effective service due to dilapidated infrastructure.

Meanwhile, of the 13 boreholes previously installed at the facility, only one was functioning as of September 2022, it said.

The petition further noted that in July 2022, the facility was without electricity and employees at the site said that the previously installed generator had been broken for eight years.

Furthermore, livestock holding camps on the 24 000 hectare farm were without fencing at numerous places.

Interventions

A sustainable market for livestock in Namibia's NCAs requires distinct interventions, it said. These are effective quarantine services to allow procurement of healthy meat products, effective abattoirs to ensure that animal slaughter and meat value chain processing continues, and an effective programme that seeks to attain genetic improvement of local livestock as a strategic long-term investment.

Apart from making animals disease-free, no efforts have been made

to improve the quality of abattoir-boned slaughter livestock, the petition read.

"This explains why over the years the local abattoirs continued to receive poor-quality animals, resulting in poor-quality meat products and no sustainable markets."

According to the petition, a formal submission was made by the Super Group of Companies to rent the land the quarantine facility is on and carry out necessary renovations. It also offered to finance the resumption of livestock procurement, to produce 100 stud bulls per year and have these distributed to farmers for free as a long-term investment for genetic improvement, as well as to build a school and clinic.

This submission was reportedly ignored for three years and when Lisha followed up, the ministry declined the offer.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS OF PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER PLANTS AT AUSSENKJER, (KARAS REGION)

Geo Pollution Technologies (Pty) Ltd was appointed by Aussenkjer Solar Company (Pty) Ltd, Oryx Orange River Solarpark (Pty) Ltd and Aussenkjer Energy Investments (Pty) Ltd to undertake environmental assessments for photovoltaic power plants in Aussekler in the //Karas Region. Additional and location information about the photovoltaic power plants, located adjacent to each other, can be obtained at: <http://www.freshair.com/namibia/aussekler.html>

The environmental assessments will be conducted according to the Environmental Management Act of 2007 and its regulations as published in 2012.

The three plants will be located adjacent to each other and cover approximately 300 hectares (100 ha each). Each plant will be connected to an aboveground power line which will be linked to the National grid via the Aussekler Substation. Construction will include land preparation, minor earthworks, installation of solar panels and linking with the Aussekler Substation. Operators include on-site security, daily maintenance and repairs when required.

All interested and affected parties are invited to register with the environmental consultant. By registering you are provided with the opportunity to share any comments, issues or concerns related to the projects, for consideration in the environmental assessments. Additional information can be requested from Geo Pollution Technologies.

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Press Notice: Republiekin 20 and 27 November 2023

4 NUUS
Republiekin
Maandag 20 November 2023

Verkragter se vonnis verkort

› Kristien Kruger

'n Man wat tot 12 jaar tronkstraf gevonnies is op 'n klag van verkragting en diefstal, se vonnis is met twee jaar verkort nadat hy 'n aansoek om appellê by die hofhof in Windhoek ingedien het.

Moses Musongo is in November 2022 skuldig bevind nadat 'n vrou aangevoer het dat hy haar verkrag en haar seloon gesteel het. Die streekhof op Rundu het hom tot 10 jaar tronkstraf gevonnies vir die verkragtingsklag en twee jaar vir diefstal.

Musongo se appellêansoek was teen sy vonnisoplegging en skuldigevindings op beide klagte. Die hof het egter beslis dat steps die appellê teen die diefstal klag kan slaag.

Die klagster het getuig sy het haar foon in haar onderkroes gehou toe sy en Musongo 'n kroeg saam verlaat het. Haar foon het egter verdwyn nadat hy haar getrek en seksuele omgang met haar gehad het. Die Musongo, wat homself verteenwoordig het, het tydens kruisverhoor gevra oor die foon uitgetrek het, het sy bloot gesê: "Jy is die een wat my uitgetrek het. Jy moet weet waar jy dit gesit het."

Regter Dinnah Usiku het op grond hiervan beslis sy was nie wêre waar haar foon was nie.

"Sy het blint aangehoem aangesien hy haar uitgetrek het, moes hy haar foon weggesteek het. Dit was nie die appellant [Musongo] se bedoeling om haar te beroof nie," het Usiku se uitspraak.

Usiku het dus bevestig dat die vonnis van twee jaar tronkstraf ten opsigte van die diefstal klag, tersyde gestel word.

VERKRAGTING
Die vonnis vir die verkragting bly egter onveranderd.

Musongo het aangevoer hy en die klagster het konsensuele seks gehad. Hy het gesê die hof se beslissing dat die staat 'n redelike twyfel bewyse gehad het dat hy haar verkrag het, was verkeerd.

Dinnah Usiku
REGTER

"Nadat al die bewyse oorweeg is, is hierdie hof oortuig van die appellant se skuld ten opsigte van die verkragtingsklag."

Hy het in die appellêansoek verder aangevoer dat die hof nie die teenstrydigheid in haar getuienis in ag geneem het nie. Hy het beweer die vonnis van tien jaar tronkstraf het hom geskok.

"Nadat al die bewyse oorweeg is, is hierdie hof oortuig van die appellant se skuld ten opsigte van die verkragtingsklag. Die vonnis wat in terme van die klag opgelê is, wek nie 'n gevoel van skok nie, veral met inagneming van die ernst van die misdad en die belang van die samelewing," het die hof beslis.

Usiku het verder beslis dat die getuienis tot die teendeel – dat die seksuele omgang konsensueel was – hoogs onwaarskynlik is.

Die hofhof in Windhoek. FOTO: ANGET

Otijkoto maak reg vir werksverliese

›› **Werkers kry** berading, ekstra opleiding

Bedrywighede by die myn se verwerkingsaanleg sal waarskynlik nog tot 2031 voortduur soos laegraaderts wat op die myn geberg word, deur die meule gesit sal word.



John Roos, B2Gold Namibia se streekbestuurder. FOTO: ANGET GRAG

Auguste Graig

Die bestuur van B2Gold se Otijkoto-goudmyn beplan om na die eerste kwartaal van 2024 tot sowat 'n derde van sy bykans 1000 werknemers af te lê.



'n Verdere drastiese vermindering in werkgelentheids sal in 2025 volg, wanneer mynbaai in die oopgroefmyn heeltemal opgekosk mag word. Bedrywighede in die ondergrondse Wulfskag-uitbreiding word verwaag om ook in 2026 tot 'n einde te loop.

Otijkoto se algemene bestuurder, Eric Barnard, het verlore week hieroor uitgebrei gerolende 'n mediatelefoonheid waar top-B2Gold-beamptes, soos Bill Lytle, senior afdelingspresident en hoof-rydrysbeheer, uit Kanada Namibië-besok het.

B2Gold Namibia se raadvoorsitter, dr. Lukie Hangala, het gesê daar is amper nie meer goederde by die myn om te ontgin nie.

Dit kom egter nie as 'n verrassing nie, aangesien B2Gold reeds aangekondig het dat voorbereidings reeds getref word om die myn uiteindeelik te sluit.

Bedrywighede by die verwerkingsaanleg sal waarskynlik nog tot 2031 voortduur soos laegraaderts wat op die myn geberg word, deur die meule gesit sal word, volgens Barnard.

Hangala se toespraak het afskop met die eerste goudproduksie in Februarie 2018. Kommerisie produksie is egter eers in April 2014 bereik, beei by uit.

jaar by ons, wat in 'n mynbedryf merkbaar is. Tog moet ons ook dink en besef die myn moet eindig sluit. G beskerm die nalatens vir almal wat vir so 'n sonderlike ondernem soos B2Gold Namib werk."

Dit is hoekom die my se menslike hulpbr departement reeds 'n berading begin het. 'n werknemsvoorbeere vir die lewe nadie sluit van die myn, voeg by?

Opleiding oor finansiële getuierheid wat verskaf aan werknem wat met groot skuld-gesondeheidsambas deurs is uitgekro, 'n v standplein is stampen en lede van elke portu groep kry ondersteun sê by.

Verder word uitgebre opleiding gebied, as hulpen toeleas om we nemers se vaardigheid versterk, voeg by.

Die myn is ook 'n vuller op die gebied van sonking in te span van die Otijkoto-sonkraga leg, wat reeds in 13% v

die myn kragbeho tes voorle jaar word- aanleg u gebore tot me g a w a (MWE) en sal tot 3 v van die m en aanleg kragtoev "groen" me

het Roos gesê.

Die Otijkoto-myn s ook 'n voorbeeld in ter van deurligende bea rings en voorbereid om die omgewing te re hiltener, asook die v sening van voosdel in gran en inhomsoe pla van naburige kommsiële plase en 'n natu reserwaat wat B2G gowstig het.

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The environmental assessments will be conducted according to the Environmental Management Act of 2007 and its regulations as published in 2012.

The three plants will be located adjacent to each other and cover approximately 300 hectares (150 ha each). Each plant will be connected to an aboveground power line which will be linked to the National grid via the Aussenkjer Substation. Construction will include land preparation, minor earthworks, installation of solar panels and linking with the Aussenkjer Substation. Operations include on site security, daily maintenance and repairs when required.

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Skandeer die QR-kode

» **Bouwerk vorder** by Daures

‘Groen’ dorpie blom in die woestyn

Duitsland se ministerie van onderwys en navorsing het 'n bedrag van 12,1 miljoen euro - of sowat N\$220 miljoen - geskenk om die eerste fase van die reuse-ontwikkeling te finansier.

Angetto Graig

Mintens 50 km vanaf die naaste nedersetting, in die hart van die bloedige warm Tsaibewaringsgebied onder die Daure Damas Tradisionele Owerheid se jurisdiksie val, 'n nuwe "groen" dorpie beëindig in vorm aan te neem. Die Daures Groen Hydrogen Village word spelelik in die middel van die woestyn gebou weens die sterk winder wat voortdurend in dié omgewing oerle oop vlaktes waai.

Jerome Namusoh is die jong uitvoerende hoof van die konsortium en 'n stigterlid van Enerense Energy Namibia, wat 90% van die ambisieuse ontwikkeling besit. Die tradisionele owerheid besit 7,5% van die projek, en die Tsaibewaringsgebied het 'n aandeel van 2,5%. In ennootskap met die Wehenskaglike Konsentrum vir Klimaatveranderinge Aangapbare Grondbestuur in suider-Afrika (SASSCAL) en deur die verhouding tussen die Namibiese en huiwe regering het Duitsland se ministerie van onderwys en navorsing 'n bedrag van 12,1 miljoen euro - of sowat N\$220 miljoen - geskenk om die eerste fase van die reuse-ontwikkeling te finansier.

Volgens Namusoh is sowat 66% van die bouwerk reeds voltooi, met 'n tweede 130 meter lange meta-biologiese foring wat opgerig is, en 'n bouwerk aan kweekstelsels met drupbesproeiingstelsels wat reeds 5% voor skedule is en die vestiging van die elektrolyseerder wat energie van die son gebruik om water in sy loms te verdeel en waterstof te skep) wat reeds 6% voor skedule is. Verder vorder die 162



Groot kweekhuise met drupbesproeiingstelsels word gebou vir topgehalte landbouproduksie. FOTO ANGETTO GRAIG

werknemers op die booperseel van sowat 300 hektaar - uit die projekgebied wat altesaam 1 500 hektaar beslaan - vinnig met die opstel van laboratoriums, 12 behuisingseenhede, sewe boorgatdamme, 'n sonkrag-aanleg van 0,88 megawatt (MW), 0,1 MW se winturbinas, en 'n elektrolyseerder-aanleg van 0,25 MW sowel as 'n tru-osmose-fasiliteit om jaarliks 18 ton groen waterstof uit die brakboorwater te produseer. Daarmee sal 100 ton ammoniak per jaar vervaardig word, en uiteindelik sal die eerste ammoniak-voorraad vir kunsmaas teen volgende jaar daar vervaardig word.

Tussen 2024 en 2027 moet kunsmaasproduksie drasties toeneem wanneer 6,7 MW se sonkrag, 5,1 MW se windkrag en die elektrolyseerder se kapasiteit van 5 MW ingespan sal word om 602 ton waterstof, 3 500 ton ammoniak en 35 000 ton ammoniumsulfaat op 'n jaarlikse basis te vervaardig. Daarna, tussen 2029 en 2032, is die plan om die kapasiteit na 420 MW se sonkrag en 590 MW se windkrag te verhoog om die elektrolyseerder van 420 MW te dryf en sodanig 121 000 ton waterstof en 352 000 ton ammoniak per jaar te kan produseer. N4 2032 beoog die projek om sy sonkragkapasiteit tot 840 MW te verhoog, 1,18

gigawatt (GW) se windkrag op te wek en 'n elektrolyseerder van 840 MW in werking te stel om 240 000 ton waterstof en 700 000 ton groen ammoniak vir uitvoerdoelendes te vervaardig.

Die eerste fase sal aanvanklik tot 70 kubieke meter (m³) water per dag, en later 50 m³ per dag vereis, wat deur die boorgate voorsien sal word. Slegs drie van die sewe boorgate is voldoende vir die doel. Terselfdertyd vorder die ontwerp van die dorpie 'n finale beleggingsbesluit nader te bring, winddata word gemaak en ammoniakproduksie en die opwekking van hernubare energie word opgestoot om produksiekoste teen 2030 mededingend in die streek en die internasionale mark te maak.

Die aanvanklike elektrolyseerder sal na verwagting teen Februarie volgende jaar in gebruik geneem word en die hele aanleg behoort teen Junie 2024 operasioneel te wees, hevi Namusoh uit.

Die hoofman van die Daure Iman Tradisionele Owerheid, Zacharias Seibeh, se die reuseprojek vorder goed en hy het 'n beroep op alle Namibiërs gedoen om die ontwikkeling te ondersteun. Hy se dit bied 'n nuwe geleentheid in groen waterstof wat, indien dit suksesvol uitgevoer word, 'n groot voorsprong vir alle Namibiërs sal wees. Indien die projek misluk sal dit vir alle Namibiërs 'n mislukkings wees, voer hy aan.

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Gesondheidstenders op ys lê bedryf lam

Jeremia Seibe

Ná die kansellasie van die omstrede "kondoomtender" het die ministerie van gesondheid en maatskaplike dienste deur die Sentrale Verkoepingsraad van Namibië (CPBN) 'n nuwe tender vir ses maande ter waarde van N\$67,5 miljoen geadvertiseer.

Die tender sal egter na verwagting eers aanstaande jaar toegeken word. Die gesondheidsminister, dr. Kalumbi Shangula, het in die parlement erken sy ministerie staar omskeerhede en bekortings van mediese voorraad soos handskoene in die gesig.

Die situasie word vererger deur tenders wat op ys geplaas is en 'n beperkte N\$25 miljoen vir direkte aankope. Dit toon die agtergrond van 'n jaarlikse vooruitskatting vir 'n vraag ter waarde van sowat N\$1,7 miljard.

"Soms sake fans staan, is die aanduidings dat geen langtermyn-tender nog vanjaar deur die CPBN gefinaliseer gaan word nie. Geen langtermyn-kontrakte sal in plek wees nie en tydelike maatreëls sal gevolglik voortduur. Dit plaas ons in 'n baie moeilike situasie. Ons het 'n baie groot land en baie hospitale en klinieke waar daar 'n vraag na die voorraad is," het Shangula gesê.

In Augustus 2021 het die ministerie die omstrede "kondoomtender" wat uit 419 items bestaan het, aan die CPBN voorgelê. Ná beweerde ongelykheid het politiek, insluitend parlementslede, gevra die tender moet gekanselleer word.

Ten spyte van 'n gevolglike biessproes in Junie vanjaar waarvan 83 tendersaars deelgeneem het, het die CPBN se optrede en hersieningsproses

gelei tot die kansellasie van die tender vir die verskaffing van mediese voorraad vir 'n tydperk van twee jaar.

'n Nuwe tender vir 'n tydperk van ses maande wat na raming sowat N\$67,5 miljoen behoel is nou onderweg, met die moontlikheid dat kontrakte eers in Januarie 2024 toegeken sal word.

Die ministerie se tender vir die verskaffing van algemene farmaseutiese produkte wat oor 'n tydperk van twee jaar sou strek en in Augustus 2021 ingedien is, staan nou ook verdragings in die finaliseringsproses in die gesig omdat een van die bidders, die bekende sarkoma Shapwa Kanyama - aan wie die kondoomtender ook toegeken is - die toekenningsproses by die CPBN se hersieningspaneel uitdaag.

'n Hoërhof-interdik van Oktober het intussen die implementering van die hersieningspaneel se bevel verbied, hangende 'n hersieningsproses deur die hof.

Shangula se die impak van die openbare verkoepingswet is duidelik en veroorsaak uitgerekte en tydrowende prosesse vir aankope wat lei tot nood-aankope vir farmaseutiese produkte.

"Dit is duidelik dat die implementering van die wet 'n beduidende invloed gehad het op die beskikbaarheid van medisyne in Namibië het 'n uitgerekte en langdragende proses geword."

"Dit het die ministerie geëis om hom te wend tot baie duur nood-aankope en die uitkoop van die nodige items."

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