

PROOF OF STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

1. Public Consultation Process

Public consultation process was undertaken through emails contact and the newspaper advertisements as shown in Figs. 1 – 4. The project was extensively advertised as follows:

- (i) Copy of the Public Notice that was published in the Market Watch Insert in Namibian Sun (Namibia English) Daily Newspaper dated Wednesday, 30th November 2022.
- (ii) Copy of the Public Notice that was published in the Market Watch Insert in Republikein (Afrikaans Newspaper) Daily Newspaper dated Wednesday, 30th November 2022.
- (iii) Copy of the Notice that was published in the Market Watch Insert in Allgemeine Zeitung (Namibia German) Daily Newspaper dated Wednesday, 30th November 2022
- (iv) Copy of the Public Notice that was published in the New Era (English) daily newspaper dated Friday, 16th of December 2022.

Public notices were published in the local newspapers dated Wednesday, 30th November 2022 and Friday, 16th December 2022 (Figs. 1 – 4). A stakeholder register was opened on the Wednesday, 30th December 2022 and a total of nineteen (19) stakeholders have been registered (Table 1).

Table 1: Stakeholder registered for the EPL 8155 opened on Wednesday, 30th November 2022.

EPL 8155 Stakeholder Register Opened on Wednesday, 30th November 2022	
Name	Affiliation
1. RD Ritter	Farm Woltemade 254
2. HM Ritter	Farm Graspan 249
3. Mr Hundertmark	Troye Farming CC
4. Mr York Ritter	Woodstock Farming CC
5. Mr Kelly Samson	Paditu Solar Agri Namibia CC
6.	
7. Miss E. Ritter	Farm Okatjitambi CC
8. Mr RM Ritter	Büffelsjag CC
9. Bianca King Wagyu	Farm Houmoed No. 376
10. Hellmut Förtsch	Farms Eureka and Siegerland
11. Mariska Kuschke,	Environmental Compliance Consultancy
12. Diaan Hoffman	
13. Stephanbezuidenhout,	
14. J A du Plessis	Farm Vredendal 257
15. Du Plessis Family Trust	Farm Kara No 269
16. Volker Dieckhoff	Farm La Paloma No.438 and representative of the Imkerhof Farmer's Association-Management
17. AK Burkhardt	Farm Winkelshutten No. 264 and Representative of the Burkhardt Family
18. Pierre Erasmus	Erasmus & Associates
19. Tanja Dahl	Representative of the Namibia Agricultural Union

2. Stakeholders and Public Discussions

The key central inputs and concern raised by the registered stakeholders especially the land owners, focused on the fact that they have not been connected by the Proponent prior to the submission of the application for the EPL 8155 and the issue of the ECC notification that was published in the local newspapers dated 30th November 2022 and 16th December 2022:

Our study covers environmental assessment work aimed at supporting the application for ECC for this specific EPL that will enable the minerals rights holder to undertake field-based exploration activities if potential prospective targets are delineated during the desktop study phase.

Access to private farmland to undertake field-based exploration activities by the Proponent (subsurface rights holder) may only be undertaken with the consent of the land owner (surface rights holder) and as may be agreed in the Access Agreement to be negotiated as may be applicable.

Issues and conditions that related to the Access Agreement to be negotiated and signed between the Proponent (subsurface mineral rights holder) and the land owner/s (surface land rights holder/s) are beyond the scope of our work and not part of the ECC application process.

If commercial minerals resources are discovered during the exploration process, which can take many years to achieve, the Proponent will need to prepare a feasibility study, obtain all the other applicable permits from various Ministries including a new EIA and EMP to obtain an ECC for mining operations, and sign an Access Agreement with the land owner/s (surface rights holder) in order to apply for Mining License (ML) and undertake mining operations.

The current EPL once granted, only allows the Proponent to undertake exploration aimed at collecting and assessing various data sets in order to determine the mineral prospectivity of the outlined license area (EPL 8155).

Based on the inputs provided, it seems that some of the land owners already assumed that the public notices that were published in the local newspapers were for a mining project. The Proponent has not yet started with the exploration activities and as such, it is impossible to start with mining activities on issue of the ECC for exploration. Multiple exploration phases will need to be undertaken that may or may not lead to a commercial discovery of minerals resources within the EPL 8155.

3. Stakeholders and Public Consolutions Recommendations

Overall, in meeting the need for continuous public / stakeholder consultation process, this EIA has recommended that the Proponent shall notify the land owners on the implementation of the proposed project once the ECC has been granted and negotiate access agreements as may be applicable.

Such communications shall be maintained throughout the lifecycle of the proposed exploration programme. This recommendation may be included as condition on the ECC to be issued.

As rate hikes continue

SA's residential property market shifts

The latest FNB Residential Property Barometer indicates that rising borrowing costs likely diverted some homeownership demand to rentals.

CARIN SMITH

Property data shows a shift in the local housing market as rising interest rates are impacting affordability and, therefore, forcing more prospective homeowners to opt for renting instead.

The South African Reserve Bank's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) increased the repo rate by a further 75 basis points to 7%. This is the seventh consecutive hike, and interest rates are now at their highest level since 2016. The prime rate is now 10.5%.

"The effects of these interest rate hikes usually only become evident a few months after consumers adjust to paying the higher debt instalments. However, we have already started to see signs that the property market activity is shifting," says Adrian Goslett, regional director and CEO of RE/MAX of Southern Africa.

"Over the last two months, our digital marketing agency has noted a rise in rental-related search terms and a decline in buying search terms. This points to a coming shift in the local housing market (as) affordability becomes an increasing concern for homeowners over time."

The latest FNB Residential Property Barometer indicates that rising borrowing costs likely diverted some homeownership demand to rentals. It shows the rental market has continued on a gradual recovery path. Rental vacancy rates have slowed from 13% during the pan-

demic to 7.9% in the third quarter of 2022. However, vacancy rates remain above the pre-pandemic average of 5.2% between 2017 and 2019.

Rental inflation increased by 2.8% year-on-year in the third quarter of 2022, up from what FNB calls "a trough" of 0.6% in the first quarter of 2021.

"The pace of rental recovery is still constrained by weak employment growth and a rising cost of living. While demand is improving, there is still excess supply in the market. This is reflected by the declining average real rental rate, as well as above-average vacancy rates," states the FNB barometer report.

Tourism

According to Samuel Seeff, chair of the Seeff Property Group, semigration and a return of tourism have also boosted rental demand.

Annual growth in the First National Bank (FNB) House Price Index moved marginally lower in October, averaging 3% from 3.3% in September. According to FNB, slower price growth reflects softer demand due to increased financial pressure on



PHOTO REUTERS



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Adrian Goslett
CEO: RE/MAX of Southern Africa

consumers, especially in the lower-price housing segments.

Seeff foresees that in 2023 the strongest residential property market is likely to be the Western Cape, boosted by semigration and a return of international buyers.

"We have already seen a notable uptick in sales above the R10 million to R15 million mark for the first time since 2017 in the Cape," says Seeff.

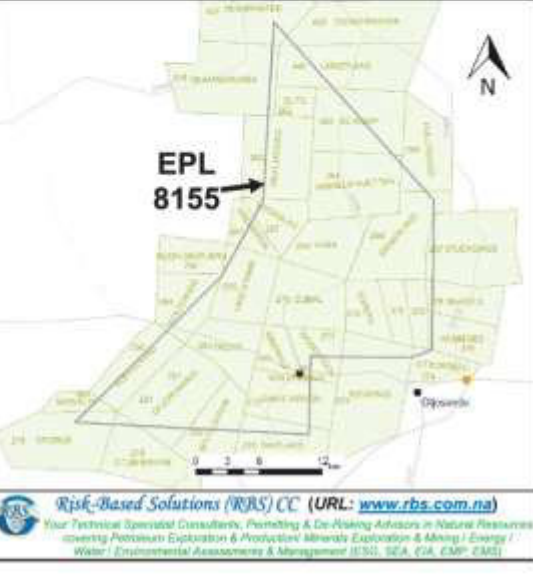
Given the increased affordability challenge due to the interest rate hikes, Lew Geffen Sotheby's International Realty CEO Yael Geffen, says first prize always is to hang on to your home.

"So, if you're battling with bond repayments, be proactive and speak to your financial institution. There isn't a bank in the world that wants to repossess a home if it can be avoided," says Geffen.

PUBLIC NOTICE
APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE BY HILMA JEREMIA FOR PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES IN THE EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE No. 8155, OKAHANDJA/ OTJIWARONGO DISTRICTS, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION

HILMA JEREMIA (the "PROPONENT") holds the preparedness to be granted mineral rights by the Mining Commissioner under the Exclusive Prospecting Licenses (EPL) No. 8155 with respect to base and rare metals, dimension stone, industrial minerals and precious metals groups. The physical EPL will only be granted by the Mining Commissioner if the Proponent obtains an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Environmental Commissioner. The EPL 8155 has a total area of 57435ha and falls within the commercial farmlands as indicated on the map. If the ECC is granted, the Proponent intends to conduct exploration / prospecting activities starting with desktop studies including the processing and interpretation of the existing airborne geophysical and other historical data sets, followed by regional field-based reconnaissance activities and if the results are positive, implement selected and local site-specific field-based activities using techniques such as geological mapping, geophysical surveys, trenching, drilling, and sampling for laboratory tests. The proposed prospecting activities are listed in the Environmental Management Act, 2007 (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the EIA Regulations 30 of 2012 and cannot be undertaken without an ECC. In fulfillment of these environmental requirements, the Proponent has appointed Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC as the Environmental / Permitting De-risking Consultants. Led by Dr Sindila Mwiya as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to prepare the Environmental Reports to support the application for ECC. Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) are hereby invited to register and submit written submissions with respect to the proposed prospecting activities. In terms of the provisions of the EIA Regulation 23 (1), an interested and / or affected party is required to disclose any direct business, financial, personal, or other interest which that party may have in the approval or refusal of the ECC application. A Background Information Document (BID) is available on request upon registration.

REGISTER BY EMAIL: smwiya@rbs.com.na
Dr Sindila Mwiya (EAP/Technical Permitting Advisor/Consultant)
CONSULTATION DURATION AND DEADLINE FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS IS: TUESDAY, 20th DECEMBER 2022



EU to propose boosting recycled content

The European Commission is set to announce this week proposals to reduce packaging waste to reduce packaging waste with new targets for recycled content in plastic drinks bottles and for the reuse of take-away cups and of packages used for online deliveries.

The revision of the EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive will seek to push towards an EU goal of ensuring all packaging is reusable or recyclable by 2030 and contributes towards reducing the bloc's carbon footprint to zero by 2050.

The proposal highlights that some 40% of plastics and 50% of paper consumed in the European Union is for packaging, according to a draft seen by Reuters, and that packaging

as a whole makes up 36% of municipal solid waste.

The proposal, which could still be changed, retains recycling targets of 65% by 2025 and 70% by 2030 from the directive's last update in 2018. However, it introduces new targets for recycled content in a variety of plastic packaging.

For 2030, these would be 30% for plastic drinks bottles and for contact sensitive packaging such as food wrapping made from polyethylene terephthalate (PET), 10% for contact sensitive packaging not made from PET and 35% for other plastic packaging.

By 2040, these would rise to 50% for contact sensitive packaging and

65% for other packaging, including drinks bottles. It also sets 2030 and 2040 targets for packaging reuse.

For take-away drinks cups they are respectively 20% and 80%, for beer and soft drinks containers 10% and 25% and for packaging used for non-food online deliveries 10% and 50%.

Companies using such packaging would have to set up or joint systems to ensure reuse.

The proposal, likely to be presented on Wednesday, will need approval from the European Parliament and the European Council, the group of the 27 EU governments, to enter law and will probably be subject to some revisions.



Figure 1 Copy of the Public Notice that was published in the Market Watch Insert in Namibian Sun (Namibia English) Daily Newspaper dated Wednesday, 30th November 2022.

❖ *As rate hikes continue*

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Property data shows a shift in the local housing market as rising interest rates are impacting affordability and, therefore, forcing more prospective homeowners to opt for renting instead.

The South African Reserve Bank's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) increased the repo rate by a further 75 basis points to 7%. This is the seventh consecutive hike, and interest rates are now at their highest level since 2016. The prime rate is now 10.5%.

"The effects of these interest rate hikes usually only become evident a few months after consumers adjust to paying the higher debt instalments. However, we have already started to see signs that the property market activity is shifting," says Adrian Goslett, regional director and CEO of RE/MAX of Southern Africa.

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demio to 7.8% in the third quarter of 2022. However, vacancy rates remain above the pre-pandemic average of 5.3% between 2017 and 2019.

Rental inflation increased by 2.8% year-on-year in the third quarter of 2022, up from what FNB calls "a trough" of 0.6% in the first quarter of 2021.

"The pace of rental recovery is still constrained by weak employment growth and a rising cost of living. While demand is improving, there is still excess supply in the market. This is reflected by the declining average real rental rate, as well as above-average vacancy rates," states the FNB barometer report.

Tourism

According to Samuel Seeff, chair of the Seeff Property Group, semigration and a return of tourism have also boosted rental demand.

Annual growth in the First National Bank (FNB) House Price Index moved marginally lower in October, averaging 3% from 3.1% in September. According to FNB, slower price growth reflects softer demand due to increased financial pressure on



PHOTO: REUTERS

consumers, especially in the lower-priced housing segments.

Seeff foresees that in 2023 the strongest residential property market is likely to be the Western Cape, boosted by semigration and a return of international buyers.

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Given the increased affordability challenge due to the interest rate hikes, Lew Geffen Sotheby's International Realty CEO Yael Geffen, says first prize always is to hang on to your home.

"So, if you're battling with bond repayments, be proactive and speak to your financial institution. There isn't a bank in the world that wants to repossess a home if it can be avoided," says Geffen. **-FIN24**



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The proposal highlights that some 40% of plastics and 50% of paper consumed in the European Union is for packaging, according to a draft seen by Reuters, and that packaging

as a whole makes up 26% of municipal solid waste.

The proposal, which could still be changed, retains recycling targets of 65% by 2025 and 70% by 2030 from the directive's last update in 2018. However, it introduces new targets for recycled content in a variety of plastic packaging.

For 2030, these would be 30% for plastic drinks bottles and for contact sensitive packaging such as food wrapping made from polyethylene terephthalate (PET), 10% for contact sensitive packaging not made from PET and 35% for other plastic packaging.

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Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC (URL: www.rbs.com.na)
Your Technical Specialist Consultants, Permitting & De-risking Advisors in Natural Resources (covering Petroleum Exploration & Production, Minerals Exploration & Mining), Energy / Water / Environmental Assessments & Management (M&M, SEA, EIA, EMP, S&B)

Figure 2: Copy of the Public Notice that was published in the Market Watch Insert in Republiek (Afrikaans Newspaper) Daily Newspaper dated Wednesday, 30th November 2022.

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EPL 8155

Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC (URL: www.rbs.com.na)
 Your Technical Specialist Consultants, Permitting & De-risking Advisors in Natural Resources
 covering Petroleum Exploration & Production, Minerals Exploration & Mining / Energy /
 Water / Environmental Assessments & Management (EIA, EIM, EMP, EMS)

Figure 3: Copy of the Public Notice that was published in the Market Watch Insert in Allgemeine Zeitung (Namibia German) Daily Newspaper dated Wednesday, 30th November 2022.

CLASSIFIEDS

Tel: (061) 208 0800/44, Fax: (061) 220 584
Email: classifieds@nepc.com.na

Employment	Employment	Employment	SPCA
Offered	Offered	Offered	Adopt-A-Pet

KLINGE KUPPE PRIVATE SCHOOL (Ongeveel)

Teachers required

Maths x 1
Physics x 1
Chemistry x 1
Biology x 1

(Secondary School Level)

+ B-Degree in Education or equivalent with teaching experience.

Please phone: 081 125 9952

LIBERTY HERITAGE SCHOOL TEACHING APPLICATIONS FOR 2023

Qualified Class Teacher for Grade 6 - 1 Post

- MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:**
- BED or Bachelor's Degree in Education.
 - Have a minimum of two years teaching experience
 - Well spoken and written English

SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING CERTIFIED DOCUMENTS:

- Written application
- Curriculum Vitae
- Certified copies of qualifications and academic results
- Copy of citizenship/residential status

PREFERENCES WILL BE GIVEN TO NAMIBIAN CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS

Enquiries: Ephraim Shikwambane P.O. Box 1138 Ongeveelwa Tel: 065 239671 081203108 081356329 E-mail: libertyheritage@yahoo.com Physical Address: Erf 4072, Vaalreio, Ongeveelwa

Closing Date - 23 December 2022

SOLD FAST DONE FASTER

Ms. KARINA

CALL US NOW: 064 81 853 4437

OKAHAO TALITHA TUTORIAL COLLEGE

1. Employment Opportunities for Grade 11 Teachers (2023)

English, Mathematics, Physical Sciences, Geography, Development Studies, Economics, Accounting, Computer Sciences, Agriculture, Biology, History and Business Studies, Entrepreneurship, Oshikwanyama and Oshikwanyama

REQUIREMENT IS:

- A three or four-year teaching qualification or a four-year degree relevant to teaching (BEd most appropriate)
- Sound experience in education in an added advantage
- Should be hard working and have the ability to learn more than two subjects
- Submit Hard Copies of certified copies of Qualifications, CV, ID, and application
- Two recent testimonials

2. Employment Opportunity for School Administrator (2022)

REQUIREMENT IS:

- Grade 12 + recognized Diplomat Certificate
- A minimum of three years relevant experience
- Basic knowledge of bookkeeping and general accounting principles and practices
- Excellent computer literacy with advanced MS Excel
- Organized, organized and knowledgeable about the administrative duties
- An experience of working with any Accounting Software will be an added advantage
- Excellent office communication skills, both verbal and written

Applicants should forward their CV's, Certified Copies of qualification and testimonials to the school address: Andriessla P. Andriessla P.O. BOX 831, Okahao, ON: Hard Delivery at the school offices in Okahao. Email address: okahao@talitha.co.na

DUE DATE: 30/12/2022

For more details, please contact the school No: 0817426267

Kelpau Plastic Manufacturing and Trading cc

is urgently looking for a

MACHINE OPERATOR

Requirements:

- Fluent Mandarin both in Spoken and writing, Fluent in spoken English
- 3+ years relevant working Experience on operating Zinc coating or Lip Channel manufacturing and its maintenance
- Basic computer skills
- Conduct of certificate from police station

Please send your CV to kelpaupm@gmail.com

Windhoek Institute of Technology Vacancies

The following vacancy has arisen in our Department of Engineering:

Lecturer in Electrical, Electronics & Telecommunications Engineering

Qualifications:

- Technician (ETD) City & Guilds
- Qualifications in Electrical and Electronics Engineering / Telecommunications Systems or Equivalent

*The applicant must have at least 7 years of teaching experience and be able to teach Microprocessors and Software Engineering. Industrial experience is a must and should also be a qualified Assessor

Apply to: recr.podm@gmail.com
Closing date: 16 December 2022

Property To Let

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CALL THE SPCA ON: 061 23845 98 0812244520

SPCA Windhoek FNB Account: 62247995933 Code: 203174

DBV SPCA Windhoek

Adopt a Pet

Open your heart to those in need. Give them a warm & loving home!

Mbappe's cutting message to Messi ahead of World Cup final

Kylian Mbappe will face Lionel Messi as France take on Argentina in the World Cup final, with the young superstar previously making it clear he is ready to take over from his PSG teammate as the world's best player.

Argentina vs France, Lionel Messi vs Kylian Mbappe. King vs heir to the throne. Scriptwriters could hardly have come up with a better World Cup final storyline.

The player widely regarded as the greatest of his generation will face the man expected to be the best of his generation in a mouth-watering battle for football's top prize on Sunday night in Qatar. And it promises to be a fascinating battle between the two Paris Saint-Germain teammates.

The game represents Messi's final chance of international immortality as he looks to win the trophy Mbappe won as a teenager in Russia four years ago.

It could also represent something of a symbolic changing of the guard as the 23-year-old looks to prove once and for all he is now the world's best.

And that is something Mbappe has never been frightened to admit he wants to achieve.

In fact, he has directly discussed his determination to lead the "new generation" in a cutting warning to Messi that his time at the top will soon come to an end.

Speaking in an interview with the *New York Times* in September, Mbappe said: "I think I'm about to win it [the Ballon d'Or]. - *The Mirror*

PUBLIC NOTICE APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE BY HILMA JEREMIA FOR PROPOSED MINERAL S PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES IN THE EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE No. 8155, OKAHANDJA/ O.TJIWARONGO DISTRICTS, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION

HILMA JEREMIA (the "PROPOSER") holds the preparedness to be granted mineral rights by the Mining Commissioner in the Ministry of Mines and Energy under the Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 8155 with respect to base and rare metals, dimension stone, industrial minerals and precious metals groups. The physical EPL will only be granted by the Mining Commissioner if the Proposer is granted an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) by the Environmental Commissioner in the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism. The EPL 8155 has a total area of 57435ha and falls within the commercial farmlands as indicated on the map. If the ECC is granted, the Proposer intends to conduct exploration / prospecting activities starting with desktop studies including the processing and interpretation of the existing airborne geophysical and other historical data sets, followed by regional field-based reconnaissance activities and if the results are positive, implement selected and local site-specific field-based activities using techniques such as geological mapping, geophysical surveys, trenching, drilling, and sampling for laboratory tests. The proposed prospecting activities are listed in the Environmental Management Act, 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the EIA Regulations 30 of 2012 and cannot be undertaken without an ECC. In fulfillment of these environmental requirements, the Proposer has appointed Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC as the Environmental / Permitting De-risking Consultants, led by Dr Sindila Mweya as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to prepare the Environmental Reports to support the application for ECC. Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) are hereby invited to register and submit written submissions with respect to the proposed prospecting activities, in terms of the provisions of the EIA Regulation 23 (1), an interested and / or affected party is required to disclose any direct business, financial, personal, or other interest which that party may have in the approval or refusal of the ECC application. A Background Information Document (BID) is available on request upon registration.

REGISTER BY EMAIL: smweya@rbs.com.na
Dr Sindila Mweya (EAP/Technical Permitting Advisor/Consultant)
CONSULTATION DURATION AND DEADLINE FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS IS: TUESDAY, 20th DECEMBER 2022

Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC (URL: www.rbs.com.na)
Four Technical Specialist Consultants, Permitting & De-Risking, Advisors in Natural Resources, assessing Permitting Evaluation & Production Mine's Exploration & Mining / Energy / Water / Environmental Assessment & Management (ECC, EIA, EMP, EMS)

Figure 4: Copy of the Public Notice that was published in the New Era (English) daily newspaper dated Friday, 16th December, 2022.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)
SHARED WITH ALL THE REGISTERED STAKEHOLDERS**

Hilma Jeremia

EPL 8155

Background Information Document (BID) to Support the
Application for a New Environmental Clearance
Certificate for the Proposed Prospecting / Exploration in
the Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 8155,
Okahandja/ Otjiwarongo Districts
Otjozondjupa Region, Central Namibia

November 2022

Hilma Jeremia
13 Feld Street
PO Box 3489
WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA

PROPONENT, LISTED ACTIVITIES AND RELATED INFORMATION SUMMARY

NAME OF THE PROPONENT

Hilma Jeremia

COMPETENT AUTHORITY

Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME)

MEFT ECC REFERENCE APPLICATION No.

APP-00510

ADDRESS OF THE PROPONENT AND CONTACT PERSON

13 Feld Street, P. O. Box 3489

WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA

CONTACT PERSON:

Fillemon Tuneeko

Supervisor: Health Safety Environment and Community (HSEC)

Email: ftuneeko@osinoresources.com

PROJECT TITLE

Application for Renewal of Environmental Clearance Certificate
(ECC) for the Proposed Exploration / Prospecting in the
Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 8155,

Okahandja/ Otjiwarongo Districts, Otjozondjupa Region, Central Namibia

PROJECT LOCATION

Okahandja/ Otjiwarongo Districts, Otjozondjupa Region, Central Namibia
(Latitude: -21.171944, Longitude: 17.790278)

ENVIRONMENTAL / PERMITTING DE-RISKING CONSULTANTS



Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC

10 Schützen Street, Sivieda House,
Windhoek Central Business District (CBD)
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ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (EAP)

Dr Sindila Mwiya

PhD, PG Cert, MPhil, BEng (Hons), Pr Eng

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1. BACKGROUND

Hilma Jeremia (“**Proponent**”) has applied for mineral rights under the Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 8155 with respect to base and rare metals, dimension stone, industrial minerals and precious metals groups (<http://portals.flexicadastre.com/Namibia>).

The physical license of the EPL 8155 will only be granted by the Mining Commissioner in the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) once the Proponent has obtained an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Environmental Commissioner in the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT).

Under an EPL 8155 regime, the Proponent is only authorised by the Ministry of Mines and Energy to conduct prospecting, not mining. Mining is undertaken under a separate authorisation called a Mining License (ML) which is only granted if an applicant has discovered and proved that the discovered minerals deposit is viable and can be developed into a profitable mine.

The Proponent intends to conduct prospecting activities and looking specifically at greenfield areas, historically not known to have minerals potential or no detailed exploration has taken place in some these areas. The Proponent has signed an Agreement with Osino Gold Exploration (Pty) Ltd that will fund the proposed prospecting programme.

2. Proposed Scope of Work

The Proponent intends to conduct exploration / prospecting activities starting with desktop studies including the processing and interpretation of the existing geophysical and other historical data sets, followed by regional field-based reconnaissance activities and if the results are positive, implement detailed site-specific field-based activities using techniques such as geological mapping, geophysical surveys, trenching, drilling, and sampling for laboratory tests. The following is the summary of the proposed minerals exploration activities:

- (i) Initial desktop exploration activities covering the review of existing information and all previous prospecting and exploration activities undertaken in the general area in order identify any potential target/s. This initial stage will also include the purchase and interpretation of the existing Government high resolution airborne geophysical data sets. No field-based visit or activities undertaken at this stage.
- (ii) Regional reconnaissance assessment covering field-based activities such as regional mapping and sampling to identify and verify potential targeted areas as delineated during the desktop stage (i) above. This stage is only undertaken if stage (i) has found some potential targets needing further investigation / verification. Alternatively, the licence may be abandoned / relinquished if no potential target is found.
- (iii) Initial local field-based activities such as widely spaced geological mapping, sampling, surveying and possible widely spaced trenching and drilling to test the viability of any delineated local target based on the regional data collected under (ii) above. The level or depth of investigation undertaken at this stage is subject to finding a viable / potential minerals deposit that need to be defined. Alternatively, the licence may be abandoned / relinquished if the identified target/s proves not viable, and.
- (iv) Detailed local field-based activities such as localised site-specific detailed geological mapping, trenching, bulk sampling, surveying, and detailed drilling to determine the feasibility of the delineated local targets. If the detailed exploration activities lead to positive results, the exploration data collected will then be put together into a prefeasibility report and if the prefeasibility results prove positive, a detailed feasibility study supported by detailed site-specific drilling, bulk sampling and laboratory testing / test mining will be undertaken on the identified site-specific area. A positive feasibility study will be required to support the application for a Mining License (ML) together with a new site-specific Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) with specialist site-specific studies such as local flora, fauna, socioeconomic, water, traffic, dust, and noise modelling and archaeology being undertaken to support the application for the new ECC for mining and minerals process operations (opening a mine).

Currently, there no minerals deposits or target known to exist within the EPL 8155 area and the Proponent intend to conduct prospecting activities as part of the search for economic minerals deposits based on the testing of the developed theoretical geological and minerals depositional models. There is no guarantee whatsoever that the proposed prospecting activities will find economic minerals resources that could led to the development of a mine.

To search for possible targets, the company will buy airborne geophysical data (magnetics and radiometric) held by the Ministry of Mines and Energy, and the data will be processed and using this information, the Proponent will look for possible targets. The targets will then be visited to see how the surface looks like if possible collect surface samples (Geochemical sampling) followed by further field-based assessments such as geological mapping to validating the airborne-based data delineated targets.

Even if the mapping or drilling finds some indications of mineralisation, it takes many years (10 years or even more) to move an exploration / prospecting project to a mining stage and so many technical inputs including technology, markets, costs environmental liabilities and cost of services such water, roads and energy will need to form part of the project developmental stages, starting with the scoping, prefeasibility and then feasibility phases.

If a project is feasible, then the company will need to apply for a separate Mining License (ML) from the Government and a land owner agreement is required and mandatory before a Mining License is granted by the Mining Commissioner. A Mining License application requires separate detailed site-specific studies of the local area of interest to have been conducted as part of the feasibility study.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and specialist studies such as water, fauna, flora, dust, noise for mining operations as well as linear structures such as water, roads and powerline form part of the feasibility study are conducted before such a project can even be considered for review by the Government (MME).

3. Regulatory Requirements

The proposed prospecting activities are listed in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2012 and the Environmental Management Act, 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). The Proponent is required to have a valid ECC for the ongoing and proposed exploration activities.

In fulfilment of the environmental requirements, the Proponent appointed Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC as the Environmental Consultant and led by Dr Sindila Mwiya as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP). This Background Information Document (BID) has been prepared to support the application for the new ECC.

4. Location, Infrastructure and Services

4.1 Location and Land Use

The Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No 8155 is situated in the Otjiwarongo District Otjozondjupa Region (Figs. 1.1-1.4). The 57435 Ha EPL area covers the following farms as shown in Fig. 1.4: Buffelsjag No. 250, Otjoruharui No. 251, Otjoruharui No. 251, Spytfontein No. 252, Troye No. 253, Woltemade No. 254, Okatjitambi No. 255, Klein Okatjeru No. 256, Voorslag No. 257, Vredendal No. 257, Okatjandagi No. 260, Blits No. 262, De Hoop No. 263, Winkels Huetten No. 264, Hollywood No. 265, Otjekongo No. 267, Siegerland No. 268, Kara No. 269, Cubal No. 270, Van Zylsrus No. 271,

Woodstock No. 271, Swartkroon No. 272, Maitland No. 273, Otjosondu No. 274, Eendrag No. 374, Eureka No. 375, Skakels No. 376, Houmoed No. 376, Klaarwater No. 437, Donkerwater No. 439, Langplaas No. 440, Imkerhof No. 451, Okamandumba No. 515, George No. 215, Otjeherane No. 216, and Weiveld No. 261.

The general land use of the area is mainly dominated by agriculture (cattle and small stock farming) and privately owned Safari Game Farms / Game Hunting Farms and some farms have lodges facilities and services that support tourism in the region.

Game farms are also important conservation areas for endemic and protected flora and act as sanctuaries for endangered faunal species. Game farms offers visitors the opportunity to be close to nature with a variety of tailor-made tourism products such game viewing, trails and hunting activities. The summary of other land uses activities found in the general areas includes: tourism, conservation, prospecting and small-scale mining operations.

4.2 Infrastructure and Services

The EPL area is accessible through D2125, D2460, C30 and C31 (M0059) linking Okahandja, Otjosondu, and Okakarara (Figs. 1.2-1.4). In addition, a number of minor private farm roads and tracks are available within the EPL area for internal access. The town of Okakarara is about 70 km to the north-north west of the EPL area.

Otjiwarongo is situated about 140 km to the northwest of the EPL area. The proposed / ongoing exploration programme will not require major water and energy resources. Water requirements for exploration will be provided from the available local water resources supplied by private boreholes and NamWater local / regional water supply schemes.

Electricity needs will be supplied by generators and solar installations while diesel and petrol will be the main sources of fuels and readily available in the Towns of Okakarara and Otjiwarongo. In an event of a discovery of economic minerals resources, and the subsequent development of a mining project sources of the water and electricity supply will be provided by NamWater and NamPower respectively.

The assessment of the energy and water resources requirements for any possible mining operations will be evaluated in detail in the environmental assessment that will be undertaken as part of the feasibility study if economic resources are discovered within the EPL 8155 Area.

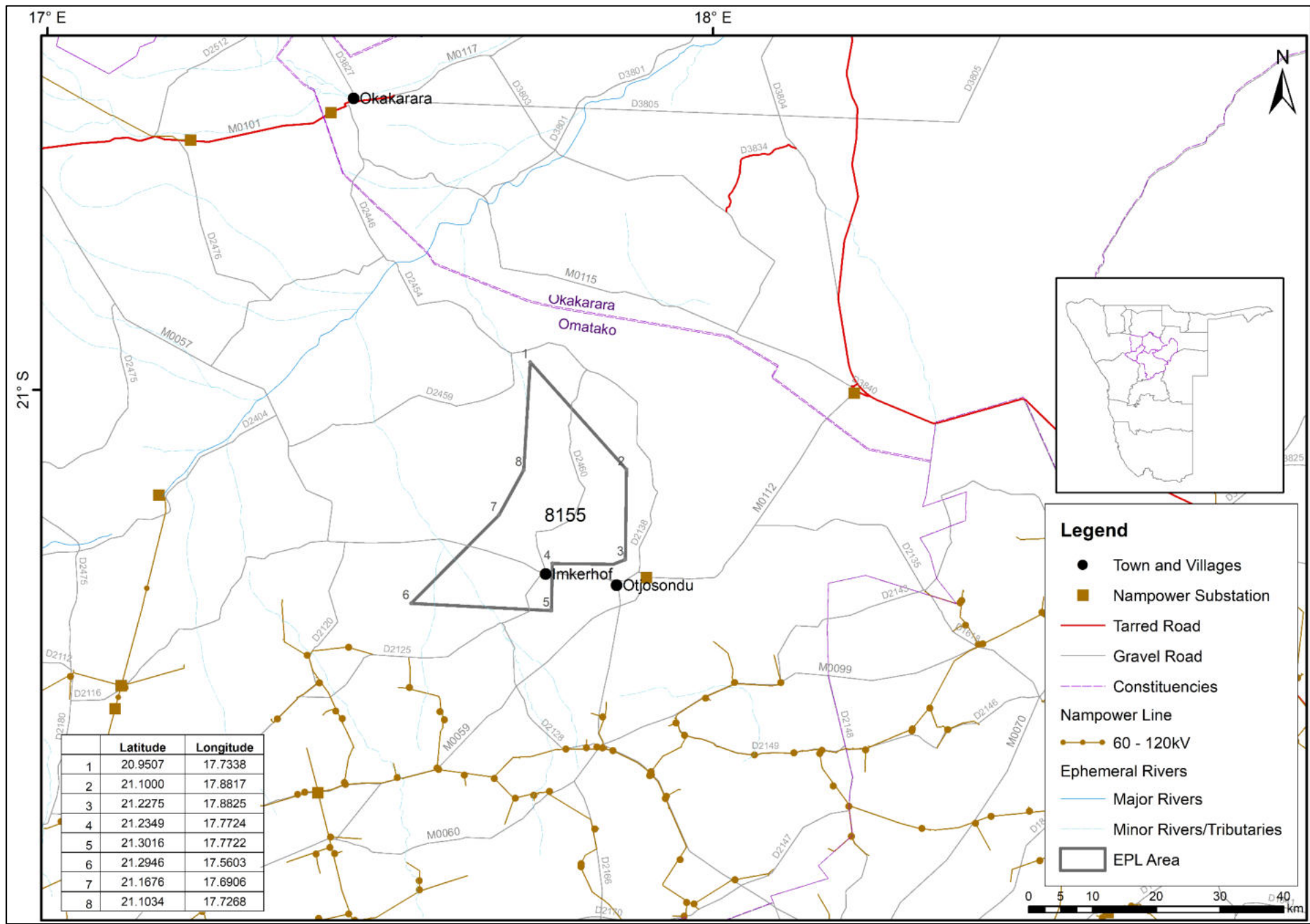


Figure 1.2: Detailed regional location of the EPL 8155.

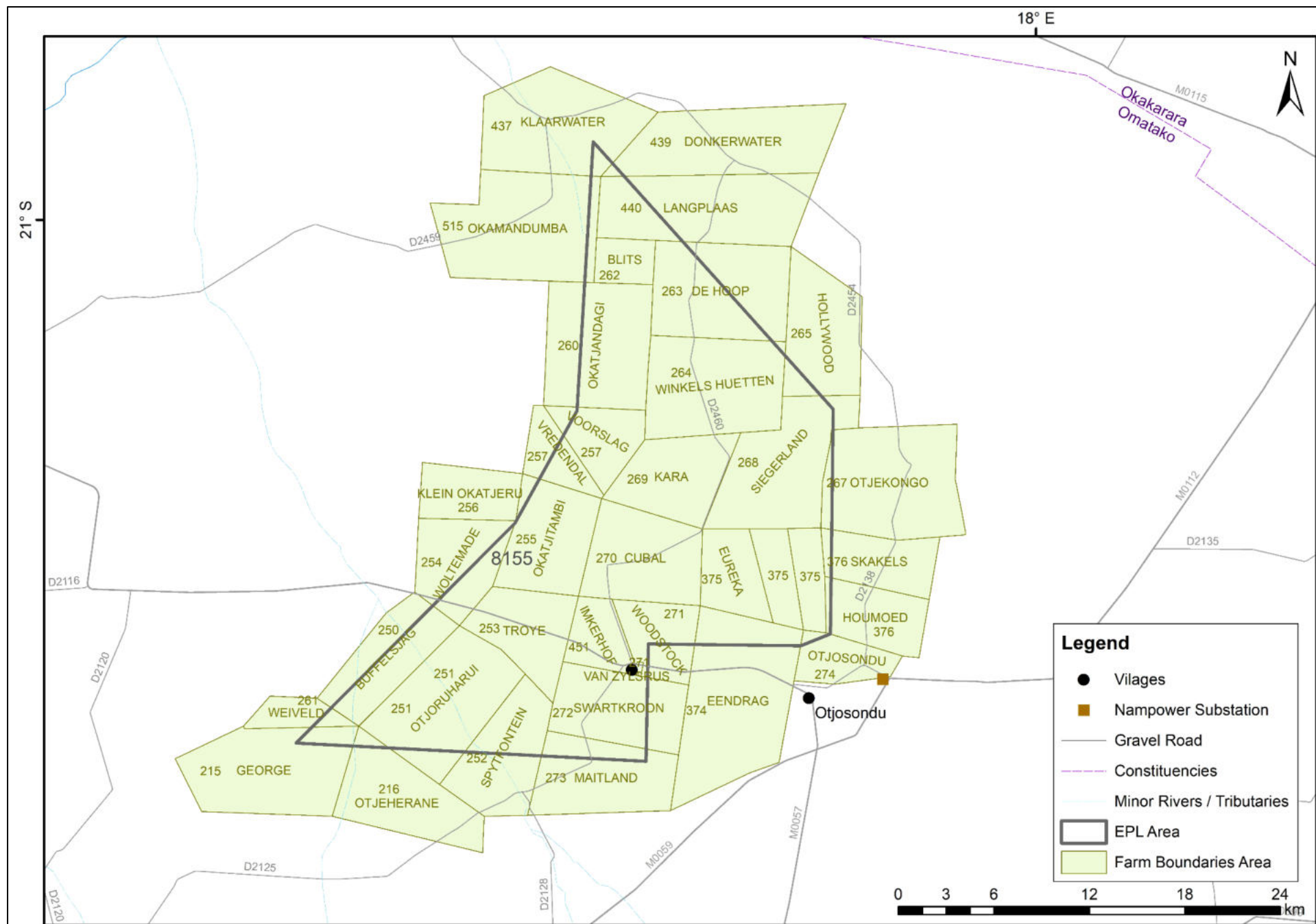


Figure 1.3: Farmlands covered by the EPL 8155 Area.

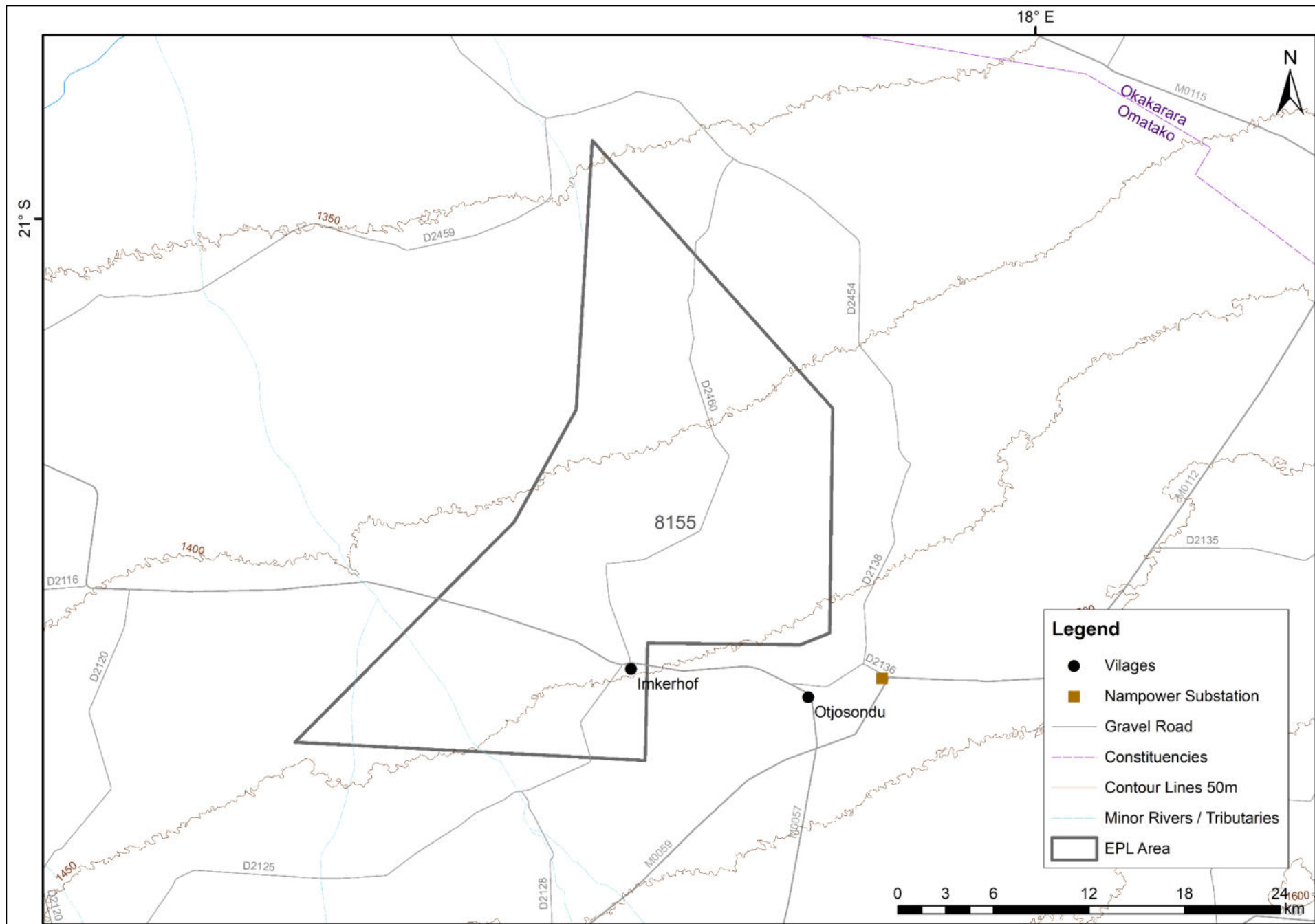


Figure 1.4: Detailed topographic setting of the EPL 8155 and local supporting infrastructure.

5. Project Motivation

The EPL 8155 falls within the central Damara Belt which is regarded one of the highly prospective areas for base and rare metals, dimension stones industrial minerals and precious metals in Namibia. Gold and other metals are known to be associated with some of the specific Damara type of rocks likely to be found within the EPL area.

The proposed / ongoing exploration activities has very limited to no socioeconomic benefits which are mainly centred around the payment of the annual license rental fees to the Central Government through the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) and value addition to the potential underground mineral resources in the area which otherwise would not have been known if the exploration in the EPL 8155 did not take place.

The potential discovery of additional economic minerals resources and the development of new mining project in the area will have much greater and positive socioeconomic benefits to the local and regional communities as well as Namibia as a whole.

Additional socioeconomic benefits will also be realised at regional and national levels in terms of capital investments, value addition opportunities, license rental fees, royalty taxes payable to Government, direct and indirect contracts and employment opportunities, export earnings, foreign direct investments and various taxes payable to the Government.

6. Approach, Alternatives, Key Issues and Methodology

6.1 Terms of Reference (ToR) and Approach

Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) was appointed by the Proponent to prepare updated Scoping and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) or Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) Reports subject to the approval by the Environmental Commissioner in order to support the Application for renewal of the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the EPL No. 8155 with respect to the ongoing and proposed exploration activities.

The EIA process will review the receiving environmental settings (physical, biological, socioeconomic and ecosystem services, function, use values and non-use) with respect to the ongoing and proposed exploration activities, identified the impacts and then assessed the likely impacts (positive and negative) on the receiving environment (Table 1.1).

The key deliverable shall comprise updated Scoping and EMP Report or separate updated EIA and EMP Reports as per the provisions of the confirmation of screening notice to be send to the Proponent by the Environmental Commissioner through email in terms of the assessment procedures (Section 35 (1)(a)(b) of the Environmental Management Act, No 7 of 2007).

The updated environmental report/s and the completed Application for Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) shall be submitted to the client (Proponent) and the Office of the Environmental Commissioner, Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry (DEAF), Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) through the Ministry of Mines and Energy (the Competent Authority) for review and final decision.

The environmental assessment processes shall be performed with reasonable skill, care and diligence in accordance with professional standards and practices existing at the date of performance of the assessment and that the guidelines, methods and techniques that have been applied are all in conformity to the national regulatory requirements, process and specifications in Namibia as required by Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME), Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) and the client (Proponent). The environmental reports shall be prepared in line with the January 2015 MEFT Environmental Assessment Reporting Guideline.

Table 1.1: Summary of the proposed / ongoing activities, alternatives and key issues considered during the Environmental Assessment (EA) process covering Scoping, EIA and EMP Processes.

PROPOSED / ONGOING PROJECT ACTIVITIES	ALTERNATIVES TO BE CONSIDERED	KEY ISSUES TO BE EVALUATED AND ASSESSED WITH MITIGATION MEASURES DEVELOPED FOR SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS	
(i) Initial desktop exploration activities (review of existing information and all previous activities in order identify any potential target/s) (ii) Regional reconnaissance field-based activities such mapping and sampling to identify areas with potential targets (iii) Initial local field-based activities such as widely spaced mapping, sampling, surveying and possible drilling in order to determine the viability of any delineated targets (iv) Detailed local field-based activities such very detailed mapping, sampling, surveying and possible drilling in order to determine the feasibility of any delineated local target (v) Prefeasibility and feasibility studies to be implemented on a site-specific area if the local field-based studies prove positive	(i) Location for Minerals Occurrence: A number of economic deposits are known to exist in different parts of Namibia and some have been explored by different companies over the years. (ii) Other Alternative Land Uses: Game Farming, Tourism and Agriculture (iii) Ecosystem Function (What the Ecosystem Does. (iv) Ecosystem Services. (v) Use Values. (vi) Non-Use, or Passive Use. (vii) The No-Action Alternative	Potential land use conflicts / opportunities for coexistence between proposed / ongoing exploration and other existing land uses such as conservation, tourism and agriculture	
			Impacts on the Physical Environment
		Built Environment such as existing houses, roads, transport systems, Buildings, energy and water and other supporting infrastructure	
		Socioeconomic, archaeological and Cultural impacts on the local societies and communities	
		Impacts on the Biological Environment	Flora
			Fauna
			Habitat
Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use			

6.2 Environmental Assessment Process and Steps

The environmental assessment process adopted for this project shall take into considerations the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2012 and the Environmental Management Act (EMA), 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) as outlined in Fig. 1.5 and covering the following stages / steps.

- (i) Project screening process (**Undertaken in October 2022**).
- (ii) Preparation of the Background Information Document (BID) (**Undertaken in November 2022**).
- (iii) Preparation of the Public Notice to be published in the local newspapers as part of required public consultation process (**Undertaken in November 2022**).
- (iv) Opened the Stakeholder register (**Undertaken in November 2022**).
- (v) Publication of the public notice in the local newspapers inviting Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to participate in the environmental assessment booked for the months of **November and December 2022**.

- (vi) Preparation of the Draft EIA/ Scoping and EMP Reports for client review, public and stakeholder inputs (**November and December 2022**).
- (vii) Comments and inputs from the client and I&APs consultations used to finalise the EIA / Scoping and EMP Reports (**December 2022**).
- (viii) The final EIA/ Scoping and EMP reports to be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner in MEFT through the MME (Competent Authority) in fulfilment of all the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations No. 30 of 2012 and the Environmental Management Act, (EMA), 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) for application of the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the proposed project (**January 2023**).
- (ix) Following the submission of the application for ECC to the Environmental Commissioner, the public and stakeholders who are interested or affected by the proposed project will have additional **fourteen (14) days** to submit comments / inputs about the proposed project activities direct to the Environmental Commissioner when the application will be made available for additional comments / inputs by the Environmental Commissioner (**January / February 2023**), and.
- (x) Wait for the Records or Decisions (RDs) from the Environmental Commissioner (**From February 2023**).

6.3 Assumptions and Limitations

The following assumptions and limitations underpin the approach adopted, overall outcomes and recommendations for this study:

- ❖ The proposed exploration activities as well as all the plans, maps, EPL Boundary / coordinates and appropriate data sets received from the Proponent, project partners, regulators, Competent Authorities and specialist assessments are assumed to be current and valid at the time of conducting the studies and compilation of this environmental report.
- ❖ The impact assessment outcomes, mitigation measures and recommendations provided in this report are valid for the entire duration of the proposed exploration / prospecting activities.
- ❖ A precautionary approach has been adopted in instances where baseline information was insufficient or unavailable or site-specific locations of the proposed project activities is not yet available, and.
- ❖ Mandatory timeframes as provided for in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations No. 30 of 2012 and the Environmental Management Act, (EMA), 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) have been observed and will apply to the review and decision of this report by the Competent Authority and the Environmental Commissioner.

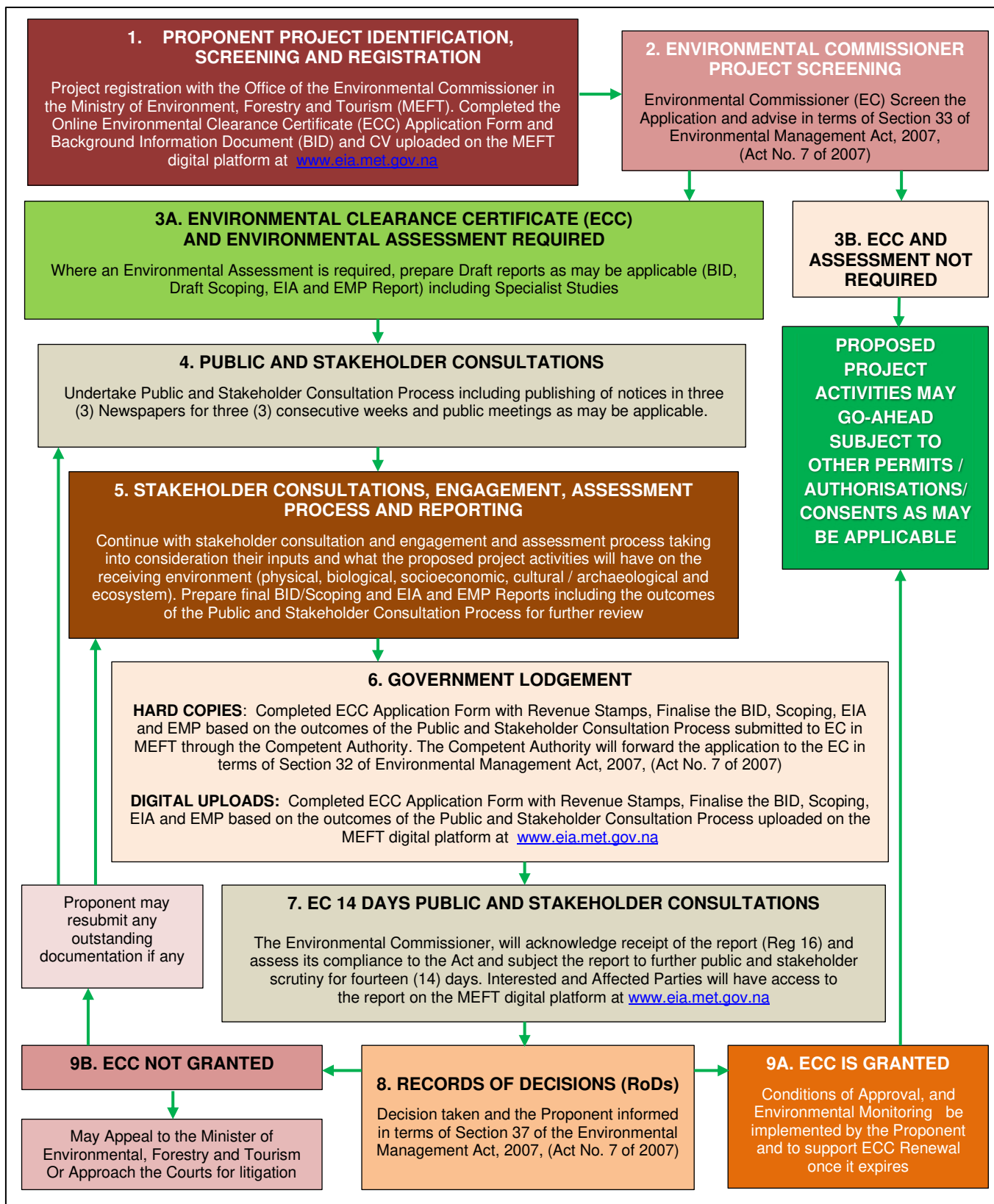


Figure 1.5: RBS Schematic presentation of Namibia's Environmental Assessment Procedure.

7. Structure of the Environmental Report/s

7.1 Overview

The structure of the environmental report/s will be subject to the provisions of the confirmation of screening notice to be send to the Proponent by the Environmental Commissioner through email on

registration of the project on the MEFT Portal using this BID in terms of the assessment procedures (Section 35 (1)(a)(b) of the Environmental Management Act, No 7 of 2007).

7.2 Scoping and EMP Report

The following is the summary structure outline of the scoping and EMP Report:

1. **Section 1: Background** covering the proposed project location with available infrastructure and services.
2. **Section 2: Project Description** covering the summary of the proposed project exploration activities.
3. **Section 3: Regulatory Framework** covering the proposed exploration with respect to relevant legislation, regulations and permitting requirements.
4. **Section 4: Receiving Environment** covering physical, biological and socioeconomic environments of the proposed project area.
5. **Section 5: Impact Assessment** covering the likely positive and negative impacts the proposed project activities are likely to have on the receiving environment.
6. **Section 6: Environmental Management Plan (EMP)** describing the detailed mitigation measures with respect to the identified likely impacts.
7. **Section 7: Conclusions and Recommendations-** Summary of the findings and way forward.
8. **Section 8: Annexes**

7.3 EIA and EMP Reports

The following is the summary structure outline of the EIA Report:

1. **Section 1: Background** covering the proposed project location with available infrastructure and services.
2. **Section 2: Project Description** covering the summary of the proposed project exploration activities.
3. **Section 3: Regulatory Framework** covering the proposed exploration with respect to relevant legislation, regulations and permitting requirements.
4. **Section 4: Receiving Environment** covering physical, biological and socioeconomic environments of the proposed project area.
5. **Section 5: Impact Assessment** covering the likely positive and negative impacts the proposed project activities are likely to have on the receiving environment.
6. **Section 6: Conclusions and Recommendations-** Summary of the findings and way forward.
7. **Section 7: Annexes**

The following is the summary structure outline of the EMP Report:

1. **Section 1:** Background outlining the summary of the EIA Results
2. **Section 2:** Objectives of the EMP
3. **Section 3:** EMP Mitigation Measures covering hierarchy of mitigation measures implementation and mitigation measures implementation
4. **Section 4:** Rehabilitation Commitments and monitoring
5. **Section 5:** Conclusion and Recommendation