# Osino Gold Exploration and Mining (Pty) Ltd EPL 6734

Final Updated Scoping and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) Report to Support the Application for Renewal of Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the Proposed Minerals Exploration Activities in the Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 6734, Otjiwarongo District, Otjozondjupa Region, Central Namibia



## PROPONENT, LISTED ACTIVITIES AND RELATED INFORMATION SUMMARY

#### NAME OF THE PROPONENT

Osino Gold Exploration and Mining (Pty) Ltd

#### **COMPETENT AUTHORITY**

Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME)

#### MEFT ECC REFERENCE APPLICATION No.

APP-00529

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#### PROJECT TITLE

Application for Renewal of Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the Proposed Exploration / Prospecting in the Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 6734, Otjiwarongo District, Otjozondjupa Region, Central Namibia

#### PROJECT LOCATION

Otjiwarongo District, Otjozondjupa Region, Central Namibia (Latitude: -20.674167, Longitude: 16.868889)

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL / PERMITTING DE-RISKING CONSULTANTS**

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## **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (EAP)**

Dr. Sindila Mwiya PhD, PG Cert, MPhil, BEng (Hons), Pr Eng

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## NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Osino Gold Exploration and Mining (Pty) Ltd ("Proponent") holds mineral rights under the Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) No. 6734. The EPL No. 6734 was granted on 14/02/2018 and will expire on 09/06/2023. The proponent intends to prospect / explore / search for base and rare metals, dimension stones industrial minerals and precious metals using techniques such as geological mapping, geophysical surveys, trenching, drilling and sampling and starting with the desktop studies, and if proves positive, followed by regional and local detailed field-based activities.

The Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No 6734 is situated in the Otjiwarongo District Otjozondjupa Region. The 56305.8869 Ha EPL area covers the following farms: Kahlenberg No.130, Laconia No. 141, Ohakaua No. 143, Onjombompapa No. 148, Okaharu Katiti No. 151, Ozondjache No. 152, Hohenfels No. 153, Ohakaua-Ost No. 154, Epsom No. 155, New Market No.156, Okateitei No. 157, Slagveld No.158, Ombujosondu No. 295, Imhoff No. 306, Highlands No. 311, Bergland No. 312, Graslaagte No. 313, Klipkop No. 314, Ozondjache Peak No. 315, Ozondjache Nord No. 316, Vlakplaats No. 325, Roberts No. 401, Lamont No. 405, Okahua No. 418, Tweekoppies No. 486, Tottenham-Oos No. 487 and Etekero No. 518.

This report has been prepared based on the previous Scoping and EMP Report that was completed in July 2018 as well as the environmental monitoring activities that have been undertaken since September 2019 in order to support the application for the renewal of the ECC that was issued on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018 and expired on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and need to be renewed.

The effect that the proposed / ongoing exploration and associated infrastructure such as access and campsite would have on the receiving environment would depend on the extent of the proposed / ongoing activities over the development area, management of the area and how the proposed mitigations are eventually implemented by the proponent. Avoiding sensitive habitats such as Ephemeral River channels, rock heads and mountainous terrains as well as track discipline (including not killing/poaching of fauna and unnecessarily cutting down of trees) must be adhered to and/or enforced at all times.

The effect that the proposed exploration and associated infrastructure would have on the fauna and flora would depend on the extent of the development, area of development, management of the area and how the proposed mitigations are eventually implemented by the Proponent. Access and maintenance routes would have the most impact on the surroundings although these would also be negligible if new accesses are constructed properly, avoided sensitive habitats such as Swartmodder Ephemeral River channel and track discipline (including no killing/poaching fauna along these routes) is adhered to and/or enforced.

The following is the summary of the likely environmental impacts of the proposed exploration / prospecting activities on the receiving environment (physical, biological and socioeconomic environments) without and with mitigations:

- (i) Initial desktop exploration activities: Overall likely negative impact on the receiving environment will be negligible with extremely unlikely probability of occurrence without mitigations. Overall significant impacts will be negligible as no field-based activities will be undertaken.
- (ii) Regional reconnaissance field-based activities: Overall likely negative impact on the receiving environment will be negligible with extremely unlikely probability of occurrence without mitigations. Overall significant impacts will be negligible. Some field-based activities will have localised low impacts with low probability of occurrence without mitigations and negligible with mitigations. Overall significant impacts will be negligible.
- (iii) Initial local field-based activities: Initial field-based activities will have localised low impacts with low probability of occurrence without mitigations and negligible with mitigations. Overall significant impacts will be negligible. All desktop related activities and laboratory assessments will have negligible impacts with extremely unlikely probability of occurrence without mitigations. Overall significant impacts will be negligible, and.

(iv) Detailed local field-based activities: Overall likely negative impact on the receiving environment will be high and localised impacts without mitigations and localised low impacts with mitigations. Overall significant impacts will be medium without mitigations and low with mitigations.

Current proposed main mineral exploration field-based activities covering mapping, geochemical sampling and drilling will have low localised impacts on the local receiving environment with low significant impacts. Based on the findings of this Environmental Assessment Study covering Environmental Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EMP), it's hereby recommended that the proposed exploration activities be issued with an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) with key conditions of adhering to all the provisions of the EMP, requirement and conditions of the Access Agreement and all applicable national regulations. Mitigation measures must be implemented as detailed in Section 6 (EMP) of this report. The Proponent shall obtain permission from the land owners (surface rights holders) before exercising their subsurface rights in all the farms covered by the EPL 6734.

If additional and more detailed boreholes drilling activities need to be undertaken, extensive environmental monitoring including groundwater monitoring must be undertaken. The groundwater monitoring should include water levels monitoring and sampling on a bi-annual basis, and that the affected landowners / farmers must have access to the results of the water monitoring analyses as part of the stakeholder disclosure requirements.

Once a viable project has been identified (economic resources are discovered) and separate field-based and site-specific Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) must be implemented as part of the prefeasibility and feasibility study with respect to the test mining or possible mining operations. The site-specific EIA and EMP shall cover the area identified to have potential economic minerals resources. The following specialist studies shall be undertaken as prat of the EIA and EMP for possible test mining or mining operations: Groundwater studies, flora, fauna, socioeconomic and others as may be identified / recommended by the stakeholders/ land owners/ Environmental Commissioner or specialists.

## 1. BACKGROUND

#### 1.1 Introduction

Osino Gold Exploration and Mining (Pty) Ltd ("Proponent") holds mineral rights under the Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) No. 6734. The EPL No. 6734 was granted on 14/02/2018 and will expire on 09/06/2023.

The proponent intends to prospect / explore / search for base and rare metals, dimension stones industrial minerals and precious metals using techniques such as geological mapping, geophysical surveys, trenching, drilling and sampling and starting with the desktop studies, and if proves positive, followed by regional and local detailed field-based activities.

## 1.2 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 Scoping and EMP Report has been prepared to support the application for the renewal of the ECC granted on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018 and expired on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and need to be renewed (Fig. 1.1).

## 1.3 Location, Site Description, Land Use and Infrastructure

## 1.3.1 Location and Site Description

The Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No 6734 is situated in the Otjiwarongo District Otjozondjupa Region (Figs. 1.2-1.4). The 56305.8869 Ha EPL area covers the following farms as shown in Fig. 1.4: Kahlenberg No.130, Laconia No. 141, Ohakaua No. 143, Onjombompapa No. 148, Okaharu Katiti No. 151, Ozondjache No. 152, Hohenfels No. 153, Ohakaua-Ost No. 154, Epsom No. 155, New Market No.156, Okateitei No. 157, Slagveld No.158, Ombujosondu No. 295, Imhoff No. 306, Highlands No. 311, Bergland No. 312, Graslaagte No. 313, Klipkop No. 314, Ozondjache Peak No. 315, Ozondjache Nord No. 316, Vlakplaats No. 325, Roberts No. 401, Lamont No. 405, Okahua No. 418, Tweekoppies No. 486, Tottenham-Oos No. 487 and Etekero No. 518.

#### 1.3.2 Current Land Uses

The general land use of the area is mainly dominated by agriculture (cattle and small stock framing) 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.



## MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

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13 September 2018

## OFFICE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSIONER

The Managing Director Osino Gold Exploration (Pty) Ltd P.O. Box 3489 Walvis Bay Namibia

Dear Sir or Madam,

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE FOR THE PROPOSED EXPLORATION / PROSPECTING IN THE EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) NO. 6734, OTJIWARONGO DISTRICT, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION

The Environmental Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan submitted are sufficient as they made provisions of the environmental management concerning the project's activities. From this perspective regular environmental monitoring and evaluations should be conducted. Targets for improvements should be established and monitored from time to time.

This Ministry reserves the right to attach further legislative and regulatory conditions during the operational phase of the project. From this perspective, I issue this clearance with the condition that all land owners may be notified at all times on the operations of the project.

On the basis of the above, this letter serves as an Environmental Clearance Certificate for the project to commence. However, this clearance letter does not in any way hold the Ministry of Environment and Tourism accountable for misleading information, nor any adverse effects that may arise from this project activity. Instead, full accountability rests with Osino Gold Exploration (Pty) Ltd and their consultants.

This environmental clearance is valid for a period of 3 (three) years, from the date of issue unless withdrawn by this office.

Yours sincerely,

Teofilus Nghitila
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSIONER

"Stop the poaching of our rhinos"

All official correspondence must be addressed to the Permanent Secretary

Figure 1.1: Copy of the ECC granted on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018 and expired on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and need to be renewed.

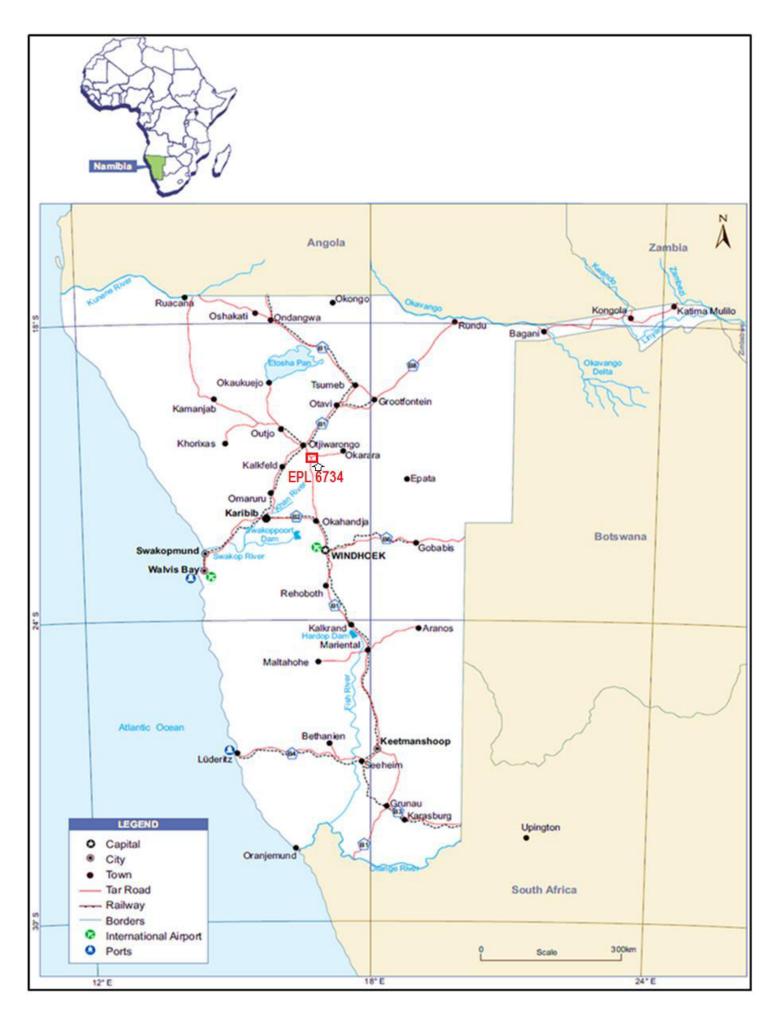


Figure 1.2: Regional location of the EPL 6734.

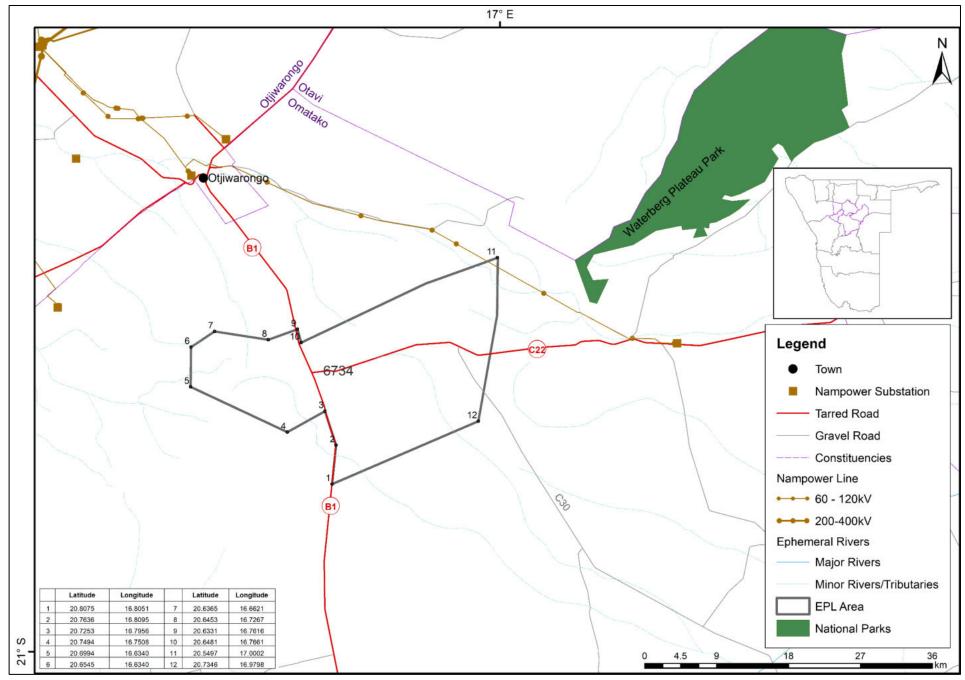


Figure 1.3: Detailed regional location of the EPL 6734

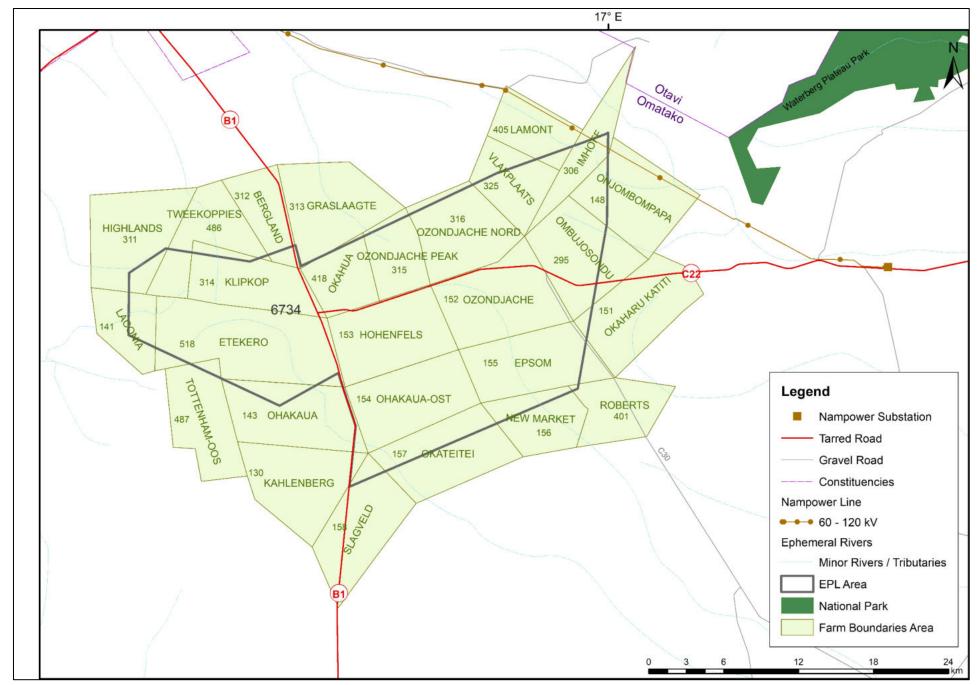


Figure 1.4: Farmlands covered by the EPL 6734 Area.

## 1.3.3 Supporting Infrastructure and Services

The EPL area is accessible through the B1 road linking Okahandja and Otjiwarongo, the C22 to Okakarara and C30 to Gobabis (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 Otjiwarongo is situated about 30 km to the north 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 town of 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 6734 Area.

## 1.4 Project Motivation

The EPL 6734 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 some limited 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 6734 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.

## 1.5 Approach, Alternatives, Key Issues and Methodology

## 1.5.1 Terms of Reference (ToR) and Approach

Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) was appointed by the Proponent to prepare this updated Scoping and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) based on the approved screening by the Environmental Commissioner in order to support the application for renewal of the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the EPL No. 6734 with respect to the ongoing and proposed exploration activities. The environmental assessment and management process reviewed the key components of 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 comprises this updated Scoping and EMP Report as per the provisions of the confirmation of screening notice 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 and the completed Application for Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will 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 Mining Commissioner in Ministry of Mines and Energy (the Competent Authority) for review and issue of the Record of Decision (RD).

The environmental assessment processes has been 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). This Scoping and EMP Report has been 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 PRO<br>ACTIVITIES   | CT ALTERNATIVES TO BE CONSIDERED   | KEY ISSUES EVALUATED AND ASSESSED WITH ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (EMP) / MITIGATION MEASURES DEVELOPED |
|--|--|--|
| activities in order identify   | A number of economic deposits are known to exist in different parts      | coexistence between proposed / ongoing exploration and other existing land uses such                       |
| potential target/s) (ii) Regional reconnaissance based activities such ma and sampling to identify with potential targets      | ing  | air, noise, water, dust etc.  Built Environment such as existing houses, roads,                            |
| (iii) Initial local field-based ac<br>such as widely spaced ma<br>sampling, surveying and po<br>drilling in order to determine | ties   Agriculture<br>ng,  <br>ible   (iii) Ecosystem Function (What the | Impacts on the Physical energy and water and other supporting infrastructure                               |
| viability of any delineated to<br>(iv) Detailed local field-<br>activities such very de  | ets sed (iv) Ecosystem Services.   | archaeological and Cultural impacts on the local societies and communities                                 |
| mapping, sampling, sun<br>and possible drilling in on<br>determine the feasibility of<br>delineated local target               | to (v) Ose values.   | Flora Fauna Impacts on Habitat   |
| (v) Prefeasibility and fea studies to be implemented site-specific area if the local based studies prove positive.             | n a   (VII)The No-Action Alternative                                     | the Biological Environment Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use            |

## 1.5.2 Environmental Assessment Process and Steps

The environmental assessment process adopted for this project took 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.

## 1.5.3 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.

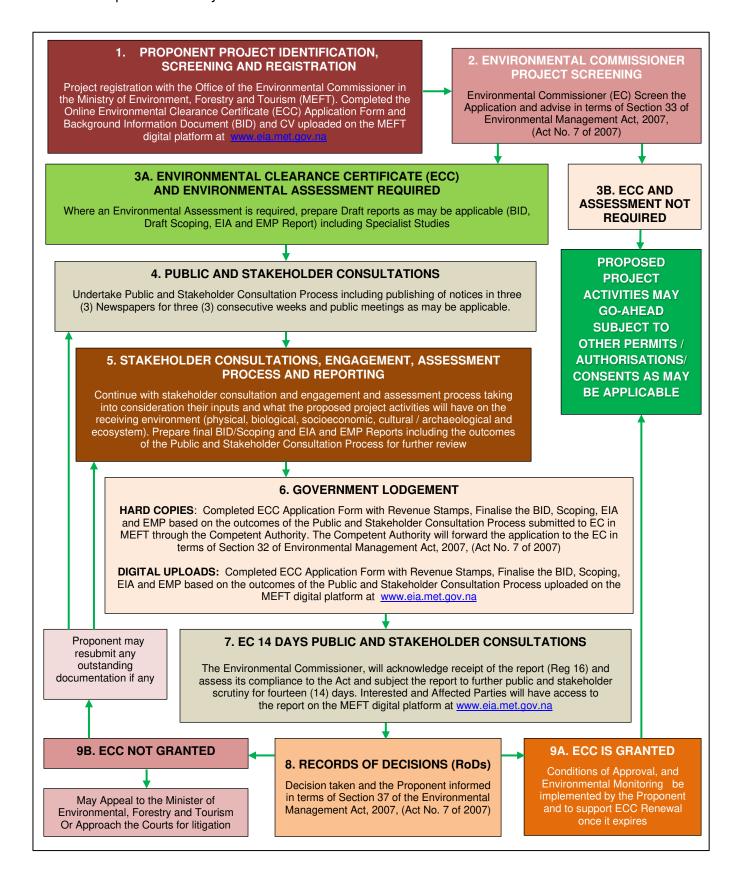


Figure 1.5: RBS Schematic presentation of Namibia's Environmental Assessment Procedure.

## 1.6 Structure of the Report

The following is the summary structure outline of this scoping and EMP report.

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

## 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE EXPLORATION

#### 2.1 General Overview

The overall aim of the proposed project activities (exploration / prospecting programme) is to search for potential economic minerals resources as licensed within the EPL area. The scope of the required field-based support and logistical activities will depend on the scale of proposed exploration activities to be undertaken.

The proposed exploration activities will be supported by existing tracks and campsites / farmstead as well as existing accommodation in in the area. In the absences of existing tracks, the field team will create such new tracks with the permission of the land owner/s and depending on the scale of exploration.

In the absences of existing suitable campsite / farmstead, temporary camp will be setup at suitable locations within the EPL area in line with the EMP provisions. The size of the exploration camp will be of very limited footprints during the exploration phase but may be expanded for the test mining and mine development phases in an event of a discovery of economic minerals resources.

## 2.2 Logistical Arrangements

Before any site visit, permission will be requested from the land owner/s and an access agreement could be negotiated with the land owner/s if the Proponent want to continue with further field-based activities such as detailed mapping, trenching or drilling activities as may be required.

It is the responsibility of the Proponent to negotiate access agreements with the land owners and to make sure that all security measures to protect the farmland and interests of the land owner/s are always observed and as may be agreed with the individual land owners.

Even if the mapping or drilling finds some indications of mineralisation, it takes many years (5 - 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 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 to be conducted before such a project can even be considered for review by the Government.

## 2.3 Initial Exploration (Desktop Work)

Initial desktop exploration activities (without field-work being conducted) lasting for up to six (6) months or more will include the following:

- (i) General evaluation of satellite, topographic, land tenure, accessibility, supporting infrastructures and socioeconomic environment data.
- (ii) Purchase and analysis of existing Government high resolution magnetics and radiometric geophysical data.
- (iii) Purchase and analysis of existing Government aerial hyperspectral, and.

(iv) Data interpretation and delineating of potential targets for future reconnaissance regional field-based activities for delineated targets.

## 2.4 Regional Reconnaissance Field-Based Exploration Activities

Regional reconnaissance field-based exploration activities lasting between six (6) months to year will involve the following:

- (i) Regional geological, geochemical, topographical and remote sensing mapping and data analysis.
- (ii) Regional geochemical sampling aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken.
- (iii) Regional geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken.
- (iv) Limited field-based support and logistical activities lasting between one (1) to two (2) days, and.
- (v) Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets for future detailed site-specific exploration if the results are positive and supports further exploration of the delineated targets.

## 2.5 Initial Local Field-Based Exploration Activities

Initial local field-based exploration activities lasting between 1-2 years will include the following:

- (i) Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during regional reconnaissance field activities.
- (ii) Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken.
- (iii) Ground geophysical survey (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above).
- (iv) Possible Trenching (Subject to the outcomes of i iii above).
- (v) Field-based support and logistical activities will be very limited focus on a site-specific area for a very short time (maximum five (5) days), and.
- (vi) Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets.

## 2.6 Detailed Local Field-Based Exploration Activities

Detailed local field-based exploration activities that can take many years will include the following:

- (i) Access preparation and related logistics to support activities.
- (ii) Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during the initial field-based activities.
- (iii) Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken.

(iv) Ground geophysical survey, trenching, drilling, and sampling (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above).

## 2.7 Prefeasibility and Feasibility Studies

The preparation of the prefeasibility and feasibility studies forms the final stages of the minerals exploration process and can take many years to complete and prove that a specific mineral deposit is viable for developing a mine.

A positive feasibility study outcome is required to support an application for a Mining License (ML). The following is summary of the activities that will form part of a prefeasibility and or feasibility study:

- (i) Detailed site-specific field-based support and logistical activities, surveys, detailed geological mapping.
- (ii) Detailed drilling and bulk sampling and testing for ore reserve calculations.
- (iii) Geotechnical studies for mine design.
- (iv) Mine planning and designs including all supporting infrastructures (water, energy, and access) and test mining activities.
- (v) EIA and EMP to support the ECC for mining operations, and.
- (vi) Preparation of feasibility report and application for Mining License if the feasibility study proves positive and supportive to develop a mining project.

## 3. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

#### 3.1 Overview

There are four sources of law in Namibia: (1) statutes (2) common law (3) customary law and (4) international law. These four kinds of law are explained in more detail in the other factsheets in this series. The constitution is the supreme law of Namibia. All other laws must be in line with it. The most important legislative instruments and associated permits\licenses\authorisations\concerts\ compliances applicable to the proposed exploration activities include: Minerals exploration and mining, environmental management, land rights, water, atmospheric pollution prevention and labour as well as other indirect laws linked to the accessory services of exploration and possible test mining operations.

## 3.2 Key Applicable Legislation

## 3.2.1 Minerals Exploration and Mining Legislation

The national legislation governing minerals prospecting and mining activities in Namibia fall within the authority of the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) as the Competent Authority (CA) responsible for granting authorisations. The Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act (No 33 of 1992) is the most important legal instrument governing minerals prospecting and mining activities in Namibia. A new Bill, to replace the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act (No 33 of 1992) is being prepared and puts more emphasis on good environmental management practices, local participation in the mining industry and promotes value addition as prescribed in the Minerals Policy of 2003. The Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act (No 33 of 1992) regulates reconnaissance, prospecting (exploration) and mining activities. The Mining Commissioner, appointed by the Minister, is responsible for implementing the provisions of this Act including reporting requirements, environmental obligations as well as the associated regulations such as the Health and Safety Regulations

## 3.2.2 Environmental Management Legislation

The Environmental Assessment (EA) process in Namibia is governed by the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations No. 30 of 2012 gazetted under the Environmental Management Act, (EMA), 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) in the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT). The objectives of the Act and the Regulations are, among others, to promote the sustainable management of the environment and the use of natural resources to provide for a process of assessment and control of activities which may have significant effects on the environment. The Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (is authorised to list activities which may only be undertaken if an environmental clearance certificate has been issued by the environmental commissioner, which activities include those relating to exploration and mining operations. In addition to the requirements for undertaking Environmental Assessment prior to the project implementation, the Environmental Management Act and the EIA Regulations also provide for obligations of a license holder to provide for project rehabilitation and closure plan. In the regulations, the definition of "rehabilitation and closure plan" is a plan which describes the process of rehabilitation of an activity at any stage of that activity up to and including closure stage.

## 3.2.3 Water Legislation

Water Act 54 of 1956 under the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) provides for the control, conservation and use of water for domestic, agricultural, urban and industrial purposes. In terms of Section 6, there is no right of ownership in public water and its control and use is regulated and provided for in the Act. In accordance with the Act, the proposed exploration must ensure that mechanisms are implemented to prevent water pollution. Certain permits will also be required to abstract groundwater as well as for "water works". The broad definition of water works will include the reservoir on site (as this is greater than 20,000m³), water treatment facilities and pipelines. Due to the water scarcity of the area, all water will be recycled (including domestic wastewater). The Act requires the license holder to have a wastewater discharge permit for discharge of effluent. The Water Act 54 of 1956 is due to be replaced by the Water Resources Management Act 24 of 2004 which is currently

being revised. The Water Resource Management Act 2004 provides for the management, development, protection, conservation and use of water resources.

## 3.2.4 Forest Regulations and Permit Requirements

All forms of trees and wood harvesting anywhere in Namibia, is governed by the Forest Act, 2001, (Act No. 12 of 2001), and its Regulations, 2015. The Act also governs activities which take place in classified forests, namely State Forests, Forestry Management Areas and Community Forests as well as nonclassified forest areas. This Act is administered by the Directorate of Forestry (DoF) in the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT).

## 3.2.5 Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Legislation

The Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Ordinance, 11 of 1976 falling under the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MHSS) provide for the prevention of the pollution of the atmosphere, and for matters incidental thereto. Part III of the Act sets out regulations pertaining to atmospheric pollution by smoke. While preventative measures for dust atmospheric pollution are outlined in Part IV and Part V outlines provisions for Atmospheric pollution by gases emitted by vehicles.

## 3.2.6 Labour, Health and Safety Legislations

The Labour Act, 1992, Act No. 6 of 1992 as amended in the Labour Act, 2007 (Act No. 11 of 2007), falling under the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation (MLIREC) refers to severance allowances for employees on termination of a contract of employment in certain circumstances and health, safety, and welfare of employees. In terms of the Health Safety and Environment (HSE), the Labour Act, 2007 protects employees and every employer shall, among other things; provide a working environment that is safe, without risk to the health of employees, and that has adequate facilities and arrangements for the welfare of employees, provide and maintain plant, machinery and systems of work, and work processes, that are safe and without risk to the health of employees, and ensure that the use, handling, storage or transportation of hazardous materials or substances is safe and without risk to the health of employees. All hazardous substances shall have clear exposure limits and the employer shall provide medical surveillance, first-aid and emergency arrangements as fit for the operation.

## 3.2.7 Other Applicable National Legislations

Other Important legislative instruments applicable to the proposed exploration operations include the following (Table 3.1):

- Explosives Act 26 of 1956 (as amended in SA to April 1978) Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security (MHAISS).
- ❖ National Heritage Act 27 of 2004 Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture (MEAC).
- Petroleum Products and Energy Act 13 of 1990 Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME).
- ❖ Nature Conservation Ordinance, No. 4 of 1975 Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT).
- Forest Act 12 of 2001 Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT).
- Hazardous Substances Ordinance 14 of 1974 Ministry of Health and Social Services (MHSS), and.
- ❖ Public Health Act 36 of 1919 Ministry of Health and Social Services (MHSS).

Table 3.1 summarises the key selected legislations relevant applicable to the proposed exploration.

Table 3.1: Legislation relevant to the proposed exploration operations.

| LAW  | SUMMARY DESCRIPTION   |
|--|---|
| Constitution of the<br>Republic of Namibia,<br>1990  | The Constitution is the supreme law in Namibia, providing for the establishment of the main organs of state (the Executive, the Legislature, and the Judiciary) as well as guaranteeing various fundamental rights and freedoms. Provisions relating to the environment are contained in Chapter 11, article 95, which is entitled "promotion of the Welfare of the People". This article states that the Republic of Namibia shall — "actively promote and maintain the welfare of the people by adopting, inter alia, policies aimed at maintenance of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and biological diversity of Namibia and utilisation of living natural resources on a sustainable basis for all Namibians, both present and future. The Government shall provide measures against the dumping or recycling of foreign nuclear waste on Namibian territory."  |
| Minerals (Prospecting<br>and Mining) Act, 1992<br>Ministry of Mines<br>and Energy (MME)    | The Minerals Act governs minerals prospecting and mining. The Act provides for the reconnaissance, prospecting, and mining for, and disposal of, and the exercise of control over minerals in Namibia. and to provide for matters incidental thereto. A new Minerals Bills is currently under preparation.  |
| Environmental Management Act (2007) - Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) | The purpose of the Act is to give effect to Article 95(I) and 91(c) of the Namibian Constitution by establishing general principles for the management of the environment and natural resources. to promote the co-ordinated and integrated management of the environment. to give statutory effect to Namibia's Environmental Assessment Policy. to enable the Minister of Environment and Tourism to give effect to Namibia's obligations under international conventions. In terms of the legislation it will be possible to exercise control over certain listed development activities and activities within defined sensitive areas. The listed activities in sensitive areas require an Environmental Assessment to be completed before a decision to permit development can be taken. The legislation describes the circumstances requiring Environmental Assessments. Activities listed as per the provisions of the Act will require Environmental Assessment unless the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, in consultation with the relevant Competent Authority, determines otherwise and approves the exception. |
| Water Act 54 of 1956  Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land reform (MAWLR)               | This Act provides for the control, conservation and use of water for domestic, agricultural, urban, and industrial purposes. In terms of Section 6, there is no right of ownership in public water and its control and use is regulated and provided for in the Act. In accordance with the Act, the proposed project must ensure that mechanisms are implemented to prevent water pollution. Certain permits will also be required to abstract groundwater (already obtained) as well as for "water works". The broad definition of water works will include the reservoir on Site (as this is greater than 20,000m³), water treatment facilities and pipelines. Due to the water scarcity of the area, all water will be recycled (including domestic wastewater) and the Mine will be operated on a zero-discharge philosophy. It will, therefore, not be necessary to obtain permits for discharge of effluent.   |
|  | Section 23 of the Act requires environment rehabilitation after closure of the Mine, particularly, in this instance to obviate groundwater pollution and potential pollution resulting from run-off. This Act is due to be replaced by the Water Resources Management Act 24 of 2004.   |
| Forest Act 12 of 2001 - Minister of  | The Act provide for the establishment of a Forestry Council and the appointment of certain officials. to consolidate the laws relating to the management and use of forests and forest produce. to provide for the protection of the environment and the control and management of forest fires.  |
| Environment,<br>Forestry and<br>Tourism (MEFT)   | Under Part IV Protection of the environment, Section 22(1) of the Act, it is unlawful for any person to: cut, destroy, or remove:   |
| rounom (m.z. r)  | (a) any vegetation which is on a sand dune or drifting sand or in a gully unless the cutting, destruction or removal is done for the purpose of stabilising the sand or gully or  |
|  | (b) any living tree, bush or shrub growing within 100m of a river, stream, or watercourse.  |
|  | Should either of the above be unavoidable, it will be necessary to obtain a permit from the Ministry. Protected tree species as listed in the Regulations shall not be cut, destroyed, or removed.  |
| Hazardous Substance Ordinance 14 of 1974  Ministry of Health and Social Services           | Provisions for hazardous waste are amended in this act as it provides "for the control of substances which may cause injury or ill-health to or death of human beings by reason of their toxic, corrosive, irritant, strongly sensitizing or flammable nature or the generation of pressure thereby in certain circumstances. to provide for the prohibition and control of the importation, sale, use, operation, application, modification, disposal or dumping of such substance. and to provide for matters connected therewith"  |

## Table 3.1: Cont.

| Agricultural<br>(Commercial) Land<br>Reform Act, 1995, Act<br>No.6 of 1995 <i>Ministry</i><br>of Agriculture, Water<br>and Land Reform<br>(MAWLR)  | This Act provide for the acquisition of agricultural land by the State for the purposes of land reform and for the allocation of such land to Namibian citizens who do not own or otherwise have the use of any or of adequate agricultural land, and foremost to those Namibian citizens who have been socially, economically or educationally disadvantaged by past discriminatory laws or practices. to vest in the State a preferent right to purchase agricultural land for the purposes of the Act. to provide for the compulsory acquisition of certain agricultural land by the State for the purposes of the Act. to regulate the acquisition of agricultural land by foreign nationals. to establish a Lands Tribunal and determine its jurisdiction, and to provide for matters connected therewith. |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Explosives Act 26 of 1956 (as amended in SA to April 1978) - Ministry Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security (MHAISS)  | All explosive magazines are to be registered with the Ministry of Mines and Energy as accessory works. In addition, the magazines must be licensed as required by Section 22. The quantity of explosives and the way it is stored must be approved by an inspector. The inspector has powers to enter the premises at any time to conduct inspections regarding the nature of explosive, quantity and the way it is stored. At closure, all explosives are to be disposed of accordingly.   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Ordinance 11 of 1976.  Ministry of Health and Social Services (MHSS)  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| The Nature Conservation<br>Ordinance, Ordinance 4<br>of 1975,<br>Ministry of<br>Environment, Forestry<br>and Tourism (MEFT)  | During the Mine's activities, care must be taken to ensure that protected plant species and the eggs of protected and game bird species are not disturbed or destroyed. If such destruction or disturbance is inevitable, a permit must be obtained in this regard from the Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism. Should the Proponent operate a nursery to propagate indigenous plant species for rehabilitation purposes, a permit will be required. At this stage, however, it is envisaged that this type of activity will be contracted out to encourage small business development.  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Labour Act, 1992, Act No. 6 of 1992 as amended in the Labour Act, 2007 (Act No. 11 of 2007 Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation (MLIREC)   | The labour Act gives effect to the constitutional commitment of Article 95 (11), to promote and maintain the welfare of the people. This Act is aimed at establishing a comprehensive labour law for all employees. to entrench fundamental labour rights and protections. to regulate basic terms and conditions of employment. to ensure the health, safety and welfare of employees under which provisions are made in chapter 4. Chapter 5 of the act improvises on the protection of employees from unfair labour practice.  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Any consumer installation as envisaged in this Act must be licensed. Appropriate consumer installation certificate will need to be obtained from the Ministry for each fuel installation. The construction of the installation must be designed in such a manner as to prevent environmental contamination.   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Petroleum Products and Energy Act 13 of 1990  Ministry of Mines and  | Any certificate holder or other person in control of activities related to any petroleum product is obliged to report any major petroleum product spill (defined as a spill of more than 200ℓ per spill) to the Minister. Such person is also obliged to take all steps as may be necessary in accordance with good petroleum industry practices to clean up the spill. Should this obligation not be met, the Minister is empowered to take steps to clean up the spill and to recover the costs thereof from the person.  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>Energy (MME)</b> General conditions apply to all certificates issued. These include condition petroleum spills and the abandonment of the Site. The regulation further p the Minister may impose special conditions relating to the preparation and of environmental assessments and the safe disposal of petroleum products. |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| National Heritage Act 27 of<br>2004<br>Ministry of Education,<br>Arts and Culture (MEAC)   | will ensure that if any archaeological or paleontological objects, as described in the Act, are found during the implementation of the activities, such a find shall be reported to the Ministry immediately. If necessary, the relevant permits must be obtained before disturbing of  |  |  |  |  |  |

## 3.3 Key Regulators / Competent Authorities

Government agencies with permits responsibilities over the proposed project activities are shown in Tables 3.2 and 3.3. Table 3.3 shows the relevant permits / licenses required with respect to the proposed minerals exploration activities.

Table 3.2: Government agencies regulating environmental protection in Namibia.

| AUTHORITY   | TYPE OF AUTHORISATION  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Office of the<br>Environmental<br>Commissioner (OEC),<br>Ministry of Environment,<br>Forestry and Tourism | Issue of Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) based on the review of the Environmental Assessments (EA) Reports prepared in accordance with the Environmental Management Act (2007) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2012   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Directorate of Forestry<br>Ministry of Environment,<br>Forestry and Tourism                               | <ul> <li>Issues the following permits under the Forest Act (Act 12 of 2001) and the Regulations, 2015:</li> <li>A Harvesting Permit is required for any tree cutting and/or harvesting of wood in an area greater than 15 hectares per annum as stated under Section 22 (1), 23 (1), 24 (2and3) and 33 (1and2) of the Forest Act (Act 12 of 2001). The permit is issued by a Licensing officer, and stipulates conditions of the harvesting on the reverse side of the permit. Inspection of an area to be harvested is done before the permit is issued, and when an application for renewal is made every 3 months.</li> <li>A Transport Permit is required to convey any wood or wood products (e.g.,, droppers, planks, charcoal, and firewood). It is obtainable from any Forestry</li> <li>Office, and is valid for 7 days.</li> <li>An Export Permit is required to send any wood or wood products outside Namibia. It is obtainable from any Forestry Office, and is valid for 7 days.</li> <li>A Marketing permit is required to enable the producer to sell his/her products to any other party. The permit is valid for 3 months in commercial areas while in communal areas the permit is valid for 1 month only.</li> <li>The National Botanical Research Institute's (NBRI) mandate is to study the flora and vegetation of Namibia, to promote the understanding, conservation and sustainable use of Namibia's plants for the benefit of all.</li> </ul> |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ministry of Mines and<br>Energy (MME)   | Competent Authority overseeing all matters related to petroleum exploration and production activities in Namibia. MME is responsible for issuing of all types of Minerals Licenses / Authorisations.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ministry of Agriculture,<br>Water and Land Reform   | The Directorate of Resource Management within the Department of Water Affairs (DWA) at the MAWLR is currently the lead agency responsible for management of surface and groundwater utilisation through the issuing of abstraction permits and waste water disposal permits. DWA is also the Government agency responsible for water quality monitoring and reporting.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 3.3: Summary of the permit register applicable to the proposed minerals exploration activities.

| ACTIVITY  | APPLICABLE  | PERMITTING   | ASSESSMENT RESULTS  |  |  |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|
|   | LEGISLATION   | AUTHORITY  |   |  |  |
| Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL)                                     | Petroleum (Exploration<br>and Production) Act<br>1991 (Act 2 of 1991) As<br>Amended           | Ministry of Mines and<br>Energy (MME)                      | Issued by MME   |  |  |
| Environmental<br>Clearance Certificate<br>(ECC)                         | Environmental Management Act (2007) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2012 | Ministry of Environment,<br>Forestry and Tourism<br>(MEFT) | Proponent to Apply for ECC for mineral exploration activities   |  |  |
| Land rights covering<br>the proposed project<br>location                | hts covering  |  | Proposed exploration does not require any Lease Agreement. Access Agreements and Consents shall always be concluded with individual land owners as applicable   |  |  |
| Abstraction of water  Discharge of effluents                            | Water Resources<br>Management Act, 2004   | Ministry of Agriculture,<br>Water and Land Reform          | Freshwater Abstraction and Waste Water Discharge Permits to be Applied for once required.   |  |  |
| or construction of effluent facility                                    | (No. 284 of 2004).  | (MAWLR)  |   |  |  |
| Removal,<br>disturbances, or<br>destruction of bird<br>eggs             | Nature Conservation<br>Ordinance 4, 1975.   |  | No removals of protected species or mature trees anticipated during the early stages of exploration. Land clearance might be required during the trenching and drilling   |  |  |
| Removal, disturbance of protected plants.                               |   | Ministry of Environment,                                   | operation that might form part of<br>the prefeasibility and feasibility<br>stages and if economic<br>resources are discovered and   |  |  |
| Removal, harvesting, destruction of indigenous trees, bushes, or plants | Forest Act, 2001, Act<br>No. 12 of 2001 and<br>Regulations (2015)                             | Forestry and Tourism (MEFT)                                | the Proponent decide to apply for a Mining License. The creation of new access shall be undertaken with the consent of the land owners and the physical land clearance must always be done in line with the provisions of the Forest Act, 2001, Act No. 12 of 2001 and the Regulations 2015 |  |  |

## 3.4 International and Regional Treaties and Protocols

Article 144 of the Namibian Constitution provides for the enabling mechanism to ensure that all international treaties and protocols are ratified. All ratified treaties and protocols are enforceable within Namibia by the Namibian courts and these include the following:

- The Paris Agreement, 2016.
- Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992.
- Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, 1985.
- ❖ Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, 1987.

- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 1992.
- Kyoto Protocol on the Framework Convention on Climate Change, 1998.
- ❖ Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, 1989.
- World Heritage Convention, 1972.
- Convention to Combat Desertification, 1994. and
- Stockholm Convention of Persistent Organic Pollutants, 2001.
- Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Protocol on Mining, and.
- Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Protocol on Energy.

#### 3.5 Standards and Guidelines

Industrial effluent likely to be generated by the proposed activities must comply with provisions of the Government Gazette No 217 dated 5 April 1962 (Table 3.4) while the drinking water quality comparative guideline values are shown in Table 3.5. The only key missing components to the regulatory frameworks in Namibia are the standards, and guidelines with respect to gaseous, liquid, and solid emissions. However, in the absence of national gaseous, liquid, and solid emission limits for Namibia, the proposed project shall target the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) gaseous effluent emission level and liquid effluent emission levels (Table 3.6). Noise abatement measures must target to achieve either the levels shown in Table 3.7 or a maximum increase in background levels of 3 dB (A) at the nearest receptor location off-site (MIGA guidelines).

Table 3.4: R553 Regional Standards for Industrial Effluent, in Government Gazette No 217 dated 5 April 1962.

| Colour, odour and      | The effluent shall contain no substance in concentrations capable of producing |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| taste                  | colour, odour or taste   |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| pН                     | Between 5.5 and 9.5  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dissolved oxygen       | At least 75% saturation  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Typical faecal coli    | No typical faecal coli per 100 ml  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Temperature            | Not to exceed 35 °C  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chemical demand oxygen | Not to exceed 75 mg/l after applying a co                                      | prrection for chloride in the method    |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oxygen absorbed        | Not to exceed 10 mg/l  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total dissolved solids | The TDS shall not have been increased  | by more than 500 mg/l above that of the |  |  |  |  |  |
| (TDS)                  | intake water   |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Suspended solids       | Not to exceed 25 mg/l  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sodium (Na)            | The Na level shall not have been increased by more than 50 mg/l above that of  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        | the intake water   |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Soap, oil and grease   | Not to exceed 2.5 mg/l   |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        | Residual chlorine  | 0,1 mg/l as Cl                          |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        | Free and saline ammonia  | 10 mg/l as N                            |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        | Arsenic  | 0,5 mg/l as As                          |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        | Boron  | 1,0 mg/l as B                           |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        | Hexavalent Cr  | 0,05 mg/l as Cr                         |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other constituents     | Total chromium   | 0,5 mg/l as Cr                          |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        | Copper   | 1,0 mg/l as Cu                          |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        | Phenolic compounds   | 0,1 mg/l as phenol                      |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        | Lead   | 1,0 mg/l as Pb                          |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        | Cyanide and related compounds  | 0,5 mg/l as CN                          |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        | Sulphides 1,0 mg/l as S  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        | Fluorine   | 1,0 mg/l as F                           |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        | Zinc   | 5,0 mg/l as Zn                          |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 3.5: Comparison of selected guideline values for drinking water quality (after Department of Water Affairs, 2001).

| Param<br>and<br>Expression of | ł  | s              | WH<br>Guide<br>for Drir<br>Wat<br>Qualit<br>edition | lines<br>nking-<br>er<br>y 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>1993 | 1/03)<br>EEC                   | Dire<br>Ju<br>rela<br>in<br>cor | Council<br>ctive of 15<br>uly 1980<br>ating to the<br>quality<br>tended for<br>human<br>nsumption<br>0/778/EEC | Drin<br>Star<br>Healtl<br>Table | .S. EPA<br>king water<br>ndards and<br>h Advisories<br>December<br>1995 | drin<br>w                       | July                       | the evaluation of the consuman consum chemical, physological quality 1991 | of<br>ption<br>sical  |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------|---|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------|---|-----------------------|
|                               |  |                | Guide<br>Value                                      | (GV)   | Proposed<br>Parameter<br>Value | Level<br>(GL)                   | Admissible<br>Concentrati<br>on (MAC)  | Contar                          | aximum<br>minant Level<br>(MCL)   | Group A<br>Excellent<br>Quality | Group B<br>Good<br>Quality | Group C<br>Low<br>Health<br>Risk  | Group D<br>Unsuitable |
| Temperature                   | t os c   | °C             | R   | -<br><8.0  | -<br>C E to O E                | 12                              | 25<br>10   |                                 | -   | -<br>C O to O O                 | -<br>F F to O F            | 4.0 to 11.0   | 4 O to                |
| Hydrogen ion concentration    | pH, 25° C  | -              | n   | <0.0   | 6.5 to 9.5                     | 6.5 to<br>8.5                   | 10   |                                 | -   | 6.0 to 9.0                      | 5.5 to 9.5                 | 4.0 10 11.0   | <4.0 to<br>>11.0      |
| Electronic                    | EC, 25°  | mS/            |   | -  | 280                            | 45                              | -  |                                 | -   | 150                             | 300                        | 400   | >400                  |
| conductivity                  | C<br>TDS   | m m            | R   | 1000   | _                              | -                               | 1500   |                                 | -   | -                               |                            | _   |                       |
| Total dissolved solids        | 105  | mg/l           | n   | 1000   | -                              | -                               | 1500   |                                 | -   | -                               | -                          | -   | -                     |
| Total Hardness                | CaCO₃  | mg/l           |   | -  | -                              | -                               | -  |                                 | -   | 300                             | 650                        | 1300  | >1300                 |
| Aluminium                     | Al   | μg/l           | R   | 200  | 200                            | 50                              | 200  | S                               | 50-200  | 150                             | 500                        | 1000  | >1000                 |
| Ammonia                       | NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>                                   | mg/l           | R   | 1.5  | 0.5                            | 0.05                            | 0.5  |                                 | -   | 1.5                             | 2.5                        | 5.0   | >5.0                  |
| Antimony                      | N  | mg/l           | D   | 1.0  |                                | 0.04                            | 0.4  | _                               | -   | 1.0                             | 2.0                        | 4.0   | >4.0                  |
| Antimony<br>Arsenic           | Sb<br>As   | μ g/l<br>μ g/l | Р   | 5<br>10  | 3<br>10                        | -                               | 10<br>50   | C                               | 6<br>50   | 50<br>100                       | 100<br>300                 | 200<br>600  | >200<br>>600          |
| Barium                        | Ba   | μg/I<br>μg/I   | Р   | 700  | -                              | 100                             | - 50   | C                               | 2000  | 500                             | 1000                       | 2000  | >2000                 |
| Berylium                      | Ве   | μg/l           |   | -  | -                              | -                               | -  | C                               | 4   | 2                               | 5                          | 10  | >2000                 |
| Bismuth                       | Bi   | μg/l           |   | -  | -                              | -                               | -  | Ĭ                               | -   | 250                             | 500                        | 1000  | >1000                 |
| Boron                         | В  | μg/l           |   | 300  | 300                            | 1000                            | -  |                                 | -   | 500                             | 2000                       | 4000  | >4000                 |
| Bromate                       | BrO <sub>3</sub>   | μ g/l          |   | -  | 10                             | -                               | -  | Р                               | 10  | -                               | -                          | -   | -                     |
| Bromine                       | Br   | μg/l           |   | -  | -                              |                                 | -  |                                 | -   | 1000                            | 3000                       | 6000  | >6000                 |
| Cadmium                       | Cd   | μg/l           |   | 3  | 5                              | -                               | 5  | С                               | 5   | 10                              | 20                         | 40  | >40                   |
| Calcium                       | Ca   | mg/l           |   | -  | -                              | 100                             | -  |                                 | -   | 150                             | 200                        | 400   | >400                  |
|                               | CaCO₃  | mg/l           |   | -  | -                              | 250                             | -  |                                 | -   | 375                             | 500                        | 1000  | >1000                 |
| Cerium                        | Ce   | μg/l           | _   | -  | -                              | -                               | -  |                                 | -   | 1000                            | 2000                       | 4000  | >4000                 |
| Chloride                      | CI <sup>-</sup>  | mg/l           | R   | 250  | -                              | 25                              | -  | S                               | 250   | 250                             | 600                        | 1200  | >1200                 |
| Chromium<br>Cobalt            | Cr   | μg/l           | P   | 50   | 50<br>-                        | -                               | 50<br>-  | С                               | 100   | 100<br>250                      | 200<br>500                 | 400<br>1000   | >400<br>>1000         |
| Copper after 12               | Cu   | μg/l<br>μg/l   | Р   | 2000   | 2                              | 100                             | -  | С                               | -<br>TT##   | 500                             | 1000                       | 2000  | >2000                 |
| hours in pipe                 | Ou   | μg/l           |   | -  | -                              | 3000 <sup>1</sup>               | _  | S                               | 1000  | -                               | -                          | -   | -                     |
| Cyanide                       | CN-  | μg/l           |   | 70   | 50                             | -                               | 50   | C                               | 200   | 200                             | 300                        | 600   | >600                  |
| Fluoride                      | F.   | mg/l           |   | 1.5  | 1.5                            | -                               | at 8 to 12 °C:   | С                               | 4   | 1.5                             | 2.0                        | 3.0   | >3.0                  |
|                               |  | mg/l           |   | -  | -                              | -                               | 1.5<br>at 25 to 30   | P,S                             | 2   | -                               | -                          | -   | -                     |
| 0-14                          | ۸  |                |   |  | _                              |                                 | °C: 0.7  |                                 |   | 0                               |                            | 10  | 10                    |
| Gold<br>Hydrogen<br>sulphide  | Au<br>H₂S  | μ g/l<br>μ g/l | R   | 50   | -                              | -                               | undetectable   | !                               | -   | 100                             | 5<br>300                   | 10<br>600   | >10<br>>600           |
| lodine                        | I  | μg/l           |   | -  | -                              | -                               | -  |                                 | -   | 500                             | 1000                       | 2000  | >2000                 |
| Iron                          | Fe   | μg/l           | R   | 300  | 200                            | 50                              | 200  | S                               | 300   | 100                             | 1000                       | 2000  | >2000                 |
| Lead                          | Pb   | μg/l           |   | 10   | 10                             | -                               | 50   | С                               | TT#   | 50                              | 100                        | 200   | >200                  |
| Lithium                       | Li   | μg/l           |   | -  | -                              | -                               | -  |                                 | -   | 2500                            | 5000                       | 10000   | >10000                |
| Magnesium                     | Mg   | mg/l           |   | -  | -                              | 30                              | 50   |                                 | -   | 70                              | 100                        | 200   | >200                  |
| Manage                        | CaCO₃  | mg/l           | _   | -  | -                              | 7                               | 12   |                                 | -   | 290                             | 420                        | 840   | >840                  |
| Manganese                     | Mn   | μg/l           | Р   | 500  | 50<br>1                        | 20                              | 50<br>1  | S                               | 50  | 50<br>5                         | 1000                       | 2000  | >2000                 |
| Mercury<br>Molybdenum         | Hg<br>Mo   | μ g/l<br>μ g/l |   | 70   | -                              | -                               | -  | U                               | 2   | 50                              | 10<br>100                  | 20<br>200   | >20<br>>200           |
| Nickel                        | Ni   | μg/l           |   | 20   | 20                             | -                               | 50   |                                 | -   | 250                             | 500                        | 1000  | >1000                 |
| Nitrate*                      | NO <sub>3</sub> -  | mg/l           | Р   | 50   | 50                             | 25                              | 50   |                                 | 45  | 45                              | 90                         | 180   | >180                  |
|                               | N  | mg/l           |   | -  | -                              | 5                               | 11   | С                               | 10  | 10                              | 20                         | 40  | >40                   |
| Nitrite*                      | NO <sub>2</sub> -  | mg/l           |   | 3  | 0.1                            | -                               | 0.1  |                                 | 3   | -                               | -                          | -   | -                     |
|                               | N  | mg/l           |   | -  | -                              | -                               |  | С                               | 1   | -                               | -                          | -   | -                     |
| Oxygen,<br>dissolved          | O <sub>2</sub>   | %<br>sat.      |   | -  | 50                             | -                               | -  |                                 | -   | -                               | -                          | -   | -                     |
| Phosphorus                    | P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub><br>PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup> | μ g/l<br>μ g/l |   | -  | -                              | 400<br>300                      | 5000<br>3350   |                                 | -   | -                               | -                          | -   | -                     |
| Potassium                     | K  | mg/l           |   | -  | -                              | 10                              | 12   |                                 | -   | 200                             | 400                        | 800   | >800                  |
| Selenium                      | Se   | μ g/l          |   | 10   | 10                             |                                 | 10   | С                               | 50  | 20                              | 50                         | 100   | >100                  |
| Silver                        | Ag   | μg/l           |   | -  | -                              | -                               | 10   | S                               | 100   | 20                              | 50                         | 100   | >100                  |
| Sodium                        | Na   | mg/l           | R   | 200  | -                              | 20                              | 175  |                                 | -   | 100                             | 400                        | 800   | >800                  |
| Sulphate                      | SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>                                  | mg/l           | R   | 250  | 250                            | 25                              | 250  | S                               | 250   | 200                             | 600                        | 1200  | >1200                 |
| Tellurium                     | Te   | μg/l           |   | -  | -                              | -                               | -  | -                               | -   | 2                               | 5                          | 10<br>20  | >10                   |
| Thallium<br>Tin               | TI<br>Sn   | μg/l           |   | -  | -                              | -                               | -  | С                               | 2   | 5<br>100                        | 10<br>200                  | 400   | >20<br>>400           |
| Titanum                       | Ti   | μ g/l<br>μ g/l |   | -  | -                              | -                               | -  |                                 | -   | 100                             | 500                        | 1000  | >400                  |
| Tungsten                      | W  | μg/l           |   | -  | -                              | -                               | -  |                                 | -   | 100                             | 500                        | 1000  | >1000                 |
| Uranium                       | U  | μg/l           |   | -  | -                              | -                               | -  | Р                               | 20  | 1000                            | 4000                       | 8000  | >8000                 |
| Vanadium                      | V  | μg/l           |   | -  | -                              | -                               | -  |                                 | -   | 250                             | 500                        | 1000  | >1000                 |
| Zinc after 12 hours           | Zn   | μ g/l          | R   | 3000   | -                              | 100                             | -  | S                               | 5000  | 1000                            | 5000                       | 10000   | >10000                |
| in pipe                       |  | μ g/l          |   | -  | -                              | 5000                            | -  |                                 | -   | -                               | -                          | -   | -                     |
|                               |  |                | P: Prov   |  |                                |                                 |  |                                 | rrent. P: Propo   |                                 |                            |   |                       |
|                               | R: May give reason to complaints from consumers                |                |   |  |                                |                                 |  |                                 | f numeric MCL.<br>ed at action lev                                      |                                 | <u> </u>                   |   |                       |

Table 3.6: Liquid effluent emission levels (MIGA /IFC).

| Pollutant              | Max. Value |
|------------------------|------------|
| рН                     | 6-9        |
| Total suspended solids | 50 mg/l    |
| Total metals           | 10 mg/l    |
| Phosphorous (P)        | 5 mg/l     |
| Fluoride (F)           | 20 mg/l    |
| Cadmium (Cd)           | 0.1 mg/l   |

Table 3.7: Noise emission levels (MIGA /IFC).

|   | Maximum Allowable Leq (hourly), in dB(A) |                            |
|---|--|----------------------------|
| Receptor                                | Day time (07:00 – 22:00)                 | Night time (22:00 – 07:00) |
| Residential, institutional, educational | 55                                       | 45                         |
| Industrial, commercial                  | 70                                       | 70                         |

## 3.6 Recommendations on Permitting Requirements

It is hereby recommended that the Proponent must follow the provisions of all relevant national regulatory throughout the proposed project lifecycle and must obtain the following permits/ authorisations as maybe applicable / required as the proposed project develops:

- (i) Valid EPL as may be applicable from Department of Mines in the MME.
- (ii) Valid ECC from the Department of Environmental Affairs in the MEFT.
- (iii) The Proponent shall apply for a fresh water abstraction and waste water discharge permits from the Department of Water Affairs (DWA) in the MAWLR before drilling a water borehole and discharge wastewater into the environment respectively, and.
- (iv) All other permits as may be applicable for the proposed exploration operations.

## 4. SUMMARY OF NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

## 4.1 Climate

Summer rainfall is brought by northeast winds, generally from October to April. The average rainfall varies considerably and ranges between 380 mm and 450 mm. The mean annual gross evaporation is between 3000 mm - 3200 mm. The numbers of rainfall events expressed as an annual average in days as determined from the regional data is 10-30 days. The sun shines for an annual average of 10 hours a day.

The annual mean temperature for Otjiwarongo area is around 24°C with the mean monthly temperatures ranging between 23°C to 14°C throughout the year. Based on regional data sets, temperatures at 08h00, 14h00 and 20h00 are estimated to be around 14°C, 24°C and 18°C respectively.

Sitrusdal weather station indicates an average wind speed ranging between 1.5 and 7 m/s. Seasonal variations in the wind fields are presented by the average wind data for January, April, July and October. An increase in the north to north-easterly winds during summer (January) and autumn (April) is likely.

## 4.2 Topography

The regional terrain around the EPL 6734 is rocky and rugged in nature with steep slopes characterising the mountainous sections whilst the foothills of the mountains are flat and gently undulating (Fig. 4.1). Within the EPL area, the drainage is dendritic in nature with ephemeral streams, often steeply incised, forming small early stage tributaries of the Omatako, Otusso, Okateta, Omatjene, Urundu Ephemerals Rivers systems.

## 4.3 Likely Fauna Diversity

## 4.3.1 Reptiles

According to Alexander and Marais (2007), Branch (1998), Branch (2008), Boycott and Bourquin 2000, Broadley (1983), Buys and Buys (1983), Cunningham (2006), Griffin (2003), Hebbard (n.d.), Marais (1992), Tolley and Burger (2007), endemic reptile species known and/or expected to occur in the general license area make up 35.1% of the reptiles from the general area and although not as high as endemism elsewhere for example the western escarpment areas of Namibia but still makes up a large portion of the reptiles.

Reptiles of greatest concern are probably the tortoises – Stigmochelys pardalis and Psammobates oculiferus which are often consumed by humans. Python anchietae and P. natalensis which are indiscriminately killed throughout their range and Varanus albigularis as well as the various Pachydactylus species geckos of which 80% are viewed as endemic.

Other important species would be the 3 Blind snakes (Rhinotyphlops species of which 2 species are endemic) and 2 Thread snakes (Leptotyphlops species of which 1 species is endemic) which could be associated with the sandier soils in the area.

## 4.3.2 Amphibians

According to Carruthers (2001), Channing (2001), Channing and Griffin (1993), Du Preez and Carruthers (2009), Passmore and Carruthers (1995), of the 9 species of amphibians are likely to occur in the general license area, 33.3% (3 species) are of conservation value with 2 species being endemic (Poyntonophrynus hoeschi and Phrynomantis annectens) (Griffin 1998b) and 1 species (Pyxicephalus adspersus) viewed as near threatened (Du Preez and Carruthers 2009). However, the area does not have unique amphibian habitat with potential habits being associated with the various ephemeral drainage lines within the license area.

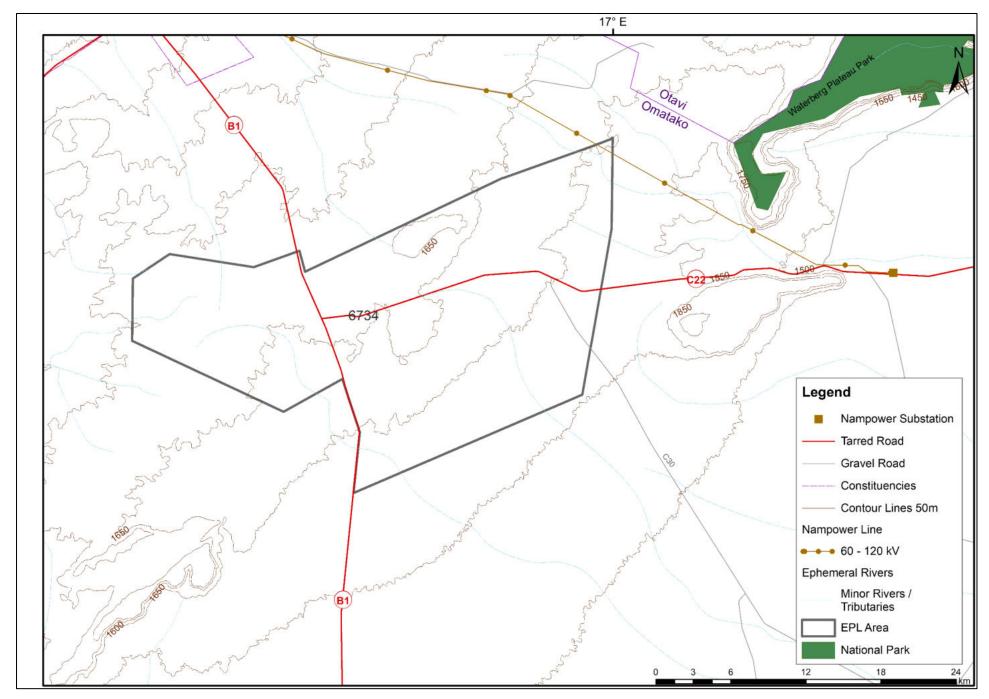


Figure 4.1: General topographic settings around the license area.

#### 4.3.3 Mammals

According to De Graaff (1981), Griffin and Coetzee (2005), Estes (1995), Joubert and Mostert (1975), Monadjem et al. (2010), Skinner and Smithers (1990), Skinner and Chimimba (2005), Stander and Hanssen (2003) and Taylor (2000), of the 84 species of mammals expected to occur in the general license area, 4.8% are endemic and 35.7% are classified under international conservation legislation. The most important groups are rodents (29.8% - 12% endemic), bats (26.2% - 4.5% endemic) and carnivores (20.2% - 5.9% endemic). According to De Graaff (1981), Griffin and Coetzee (2005), Estes (1995), Joubert and Mostert (1975), Monadjem et al. (2010), Skinner and Smithers (1990), Skinner and Chimimba (2005), Stander and Hanssen (2003) and Taylor (2000), the most important species from the general area are probably all those classified as near threatened (*Eidolon helvum*, *Hipposideros vittatus*, *Rhinolophus blasii*, *Hyaena brunnea* and *Panthera pardus*) and vulnerable (*Acinonyx jubatus* and *Felis nigripes*) by the IUCN (2014) and rare (*Cistugo seabrai*, *Atelerix frontalis angolae* and *Felis nigripes*) under Namibian legislation.

#### 4.3.4 Birds

The high proportion of endemics – 10 of the 14 endemics to Namibia (i.e. 71% of all endemics) – expected to occur in the general license area underscore the importance of this area. Furthermore 21.3% are classified as southern African endemics (or 6.3% of all the birds expected) and 78.7% are classified as southern African near-endemics (or 23.1% of all the birds expected). According to Brown et al. (1998), Brown et al. (2006), Hockey et al. (2006), Komen (n.d.), Maclean (1985), Simmons and Brown (In press) and Tarboton (2001), the most important "endemic" species known/expected to occur in the general area are viewed as Monteiro's Hornbill (*Tockus monteiri*), Damara Hornbill (*Tockus damarensis*), *Ammomanopsis grayi* (Gray's Lark), *Namibornis herero* (Herero Chat), *Eupodotis rueppellii* (Rüppell's Korhaan) and *Poicephalus rueppellii* (Rüppell's Parrot). The species listed by the IUCN (2014) as endangered are: (Ludwig's bustard and white-backed vulture), near threatened (kori bustard) and vulnerable (martial eagle and secretarybird) and are viewed as the most important.

#### 4.3.5 Sensitive Areas – Vertebrate Fauna

The following sensitive areas are of most concern at the proposed / ongoing development site:

- Omatako, Otusso, Okateta, Omatjene, Urundu Ephemerals Rivers Channels and Associated Drainage lines and Associated Drainage lines: Drainage lines, albeit ephemeral, are the lifelines in the drier parts of Namibia with a variety of vertebrate fauna attracted and/or associated with such features. Although not as important as perennial rivers, well vegetated ephemeral drainage lines are still viewed as important habitat for a variety of vertebrate fauna in the general area. It is recommended that development attempt to avoid these drainage lines as far as possible, and.
- (ii) Mountainous and rocky areas: Maybe biotic richness and endemism.

## 4.4 Likely Flora Diversity

#### 4.4.1 Trees/shrubs

It is estimated that at least 79-110 species of larger trees and shrubs (>1m) – Coats Palgrave 1983 [81 sp.], Curtis and Mannheimer 2005 [79 sp.], Mannheimer and Curtis 2009 [110 sp], Van Wyk and Van Wyk 1997 [60 sp.]), are found in the general area. The most important tree/shrub species occurring in the general area are probably *Cyphostemma bainesii* (endemic, NC), *Cyphostemma currorii* (NC), *Cyphostemma juttae* (endemic, NC), *Erythrina decora* (Forestry\*, endemic), *Heteromorpha papillosa* (endemic) and *Manuleopsis dinteri* (endemic species) (Craven, 1999. Curtis and Mannheimer, 2005 and Mannheimer and Curtis, 2009). The protected species are viewed as the most important tree/shrubs occurring in the area include: Acacia erioloba and *Boscia albitrunca*. However, these species are widespread throughout large parts of Namibia and are not exclusively associated with the ongoing / proposed development area, which minimises the overall effect on trees/shrubs.

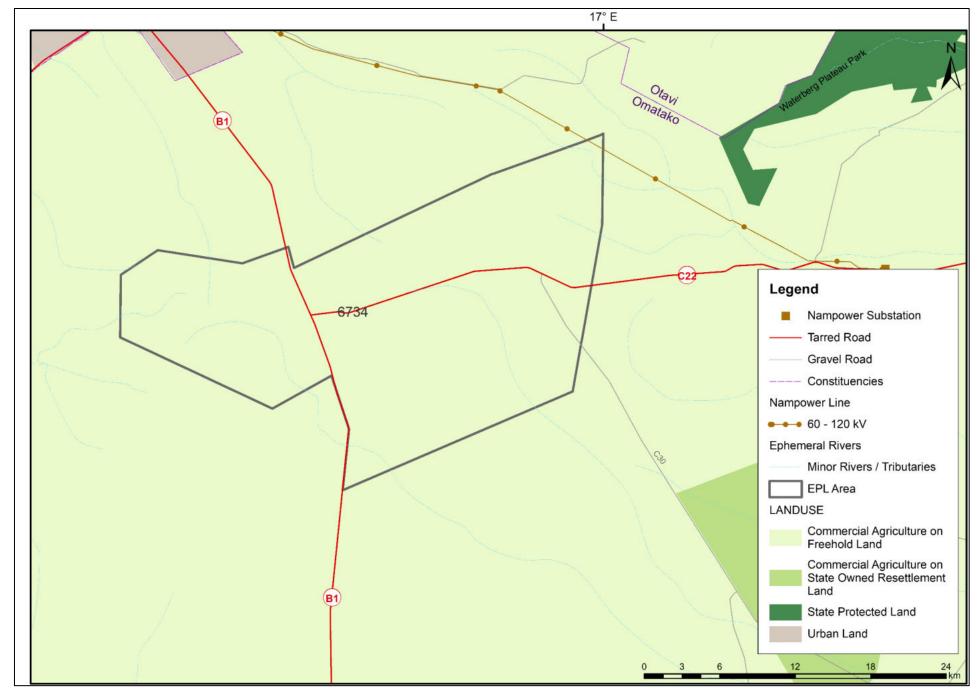


Figure 4.2: Overview of the local land use and ownership around the license area.

## 4.4.2 Grass

It is estimated that up to 111 grasses – 73 to 88 species – (Müller 2007 [88 sp.], Müller 1984 [73 sp.], Van Oudshoorn 1999 [73 sp.]) occur in the general area. The most important grass expected in the area is the endemic *Setaria finite* associated with ephemeral drainage lines. Although the season (end of dry and beginning of wet) made the identification of grasses difficult, none off the grasses are exclusively associated with the proposed / ongoing developments area nor protected species, which minimises the overall effect on grasses.

#### 4.4.3 Other

Aloe litoralis – scattered individuals – are viewed as another species of concern although occurs widespread throughout Namibia and not exclusively associated with the proposed / ongoing development area.

## 4.4.4 Protected Species / Sensitive Areas

The following are the key likely protected species / sensitive areas that maybe found within the EPL area:

- (i) Protected species: The protected tree species *Acacia erioloba, Albizia* **Omatako, Otusso, Okateta, Omatjene, Urundu Ephemerals Rivers Channels and Associated Drainage lines:** Drainage lines, albeit ephemeral, are the lifelines in the drier parts of Namibia with a variety of vertebrate fauna attracted and/or associated with such features. Although not as important as perennial rivers, well vegetated ephemeral drainage lines are still viewed as important habitat for a variety of vertebrate fauna in the general area. It is recommended that development attempt to avoid these drainage lines as far as possible, and.
- (ii) Carbonate Terrain / Mountainous and rocky areas: Maybe biotic richness and endemism.

## 4.5 Summary of the Socioeconomic Settings

## 4.5.1 Overview

The EPL 6734 and the surrounding areas are an important cattle, game and small stock (goats and sheep) farming areas (and consequently a source of employment). The EPL area falls within the long established private commercial farming communities.

## 4.5.2 Agriculture

In terms of agriculture, the carrying capacity for the general area is 10-20kg/ha (Mendelsohn et al. 2002) or 12-15LAU/ha (van der Merwe 1983) and the risk of farming is viewed as relatively high. Small stock and cattle farming are the dominant farming activity in the area with between 70-80% of stock farmed with being sheep and 20-30% goats and cattle, respectively (van der Merwe 1983). The stock density is estimated at <3sheep/km² (1.5% of total sheep in Namibia) and <1cattle/km² (1.3% of total cattle in Namiba) (van der Merwe 1983).

#### 4.5.3 Conservation and Tourism

The area does not fall within a Communal Conservancy with the closest being the Waterberg Plateau Park situated to the northeast of the EPL area. The general surrounding area is well known for tourism and game farming with unique natural landscapes and biodiversity.

## 4.5.4 Socioeconomic Summary

Social impacts at the exploration stage are likely to be minimal and tend to be positive in an event of a discovery of economic minerals resources. A clear understanding of these impacts may help communities understand and anticipate the effects of exploration. One of the major possible impacts of

the proposed / ongoing exploration activities include employment expectations and unrealistic expectations about the development of a mine and coexistence opportunity / conflicts associated with the current land uses (conservation and tourism operations). It's important for local communities to bear in mind that 99.9% of the exploration projects will not advance to a mine development.

## 4.6 Ground Components

## 4.6.1 Regional and Local Geology

The regional and local surficial geology comprises the Kalahari cover consisting of thin sand/silt/calcrete deposits (Fig. 4.3). Some of these deposits, such as the gravels, clays and calcretes, are also potential local materials that can be used in the various construction activities associated with different infrastructure development at various stages of the mine life cycle.

The regional and local solid geology of the EPL 6734 Area falls within the metasedimentary rocks of the Damara represented by the Kuiseb and Karibib Formations as well as sounding Damara Granites (Fig. 4.4, Geological Survey of Namibia, 1999 and Miller, 2008, 1992, 1983a and 1983b). Schists and quartzites, together of iron ore lenses form the lower units of the stratigraphy (Fig. 4.3).

According to Miller, (1992) it was deposited during successive phases of rifting, spreading, subduction and continental collision. Much of the basal succession (Nosib Group), laid down in or marginal to intracontinental rifts, consists of quartzite, arkose, conglomerate, phyllite, calc-silicate and subordinate limestone and evaporitic rocks. Local alkaline ignimbrite with associated subvolcanic intrusions range from 840 to 720 million years in age.

Widespread carbonate deposition followed and overlapped far beyond early rift shoulders (Kudis, Ugab and basal Khomas Subgroups). interbedded mica and graphitic schist, quartzite (some ferruginous), massflow deposits, iron-formation and local within-plate basic lava point to fairly variable depositional conditions south of a stable platform where only carbonates with very minor clastics occur (Otavi Group) (Geological Survey of Namibia, 1999 and Miller, 2008, 1992, 1983a and 1983b).

#### 4.6.2 Water

#### 4.6.2.1 Overview

The Kalahari cover consisting of thin sand/silt/calcrete deposits, hence they are not major source of water supply in the area (Fig. 4.5). According to the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, (2001) and the geology of the EPL area (Figs. 4.1 and 4.2), the EPL 6734 falls within an area with very limited economic groundwater water resources (aquifers). Water supply in the general area is from local groundwater resources (Department of Water Affairs, 2001).

For instance, the town of Otjiwarongo situated 30 km to the north of the EPL area is being supplied from groundwater resources associated with the carbonate terrain in the general area. The proposed / ongoing project activities (exploration programme) will utilise local groundwater resources. No site-specific hydrogeological specialist study, groundwater modelling or water sampling and testing activities have been undertaken for this Scoping and EMP study.

#### 4.6.2.2 Sources of Water Supply

The source of water supply for the proposed / ongoing exploration and in particular the proposed drilling of exploration boreholes if need arises to drill, will be from existing groundwater resources. The proponent must obtain permission from the land owner before using water from any existing local boreholes and infrastructures.

If there is a need to drilling a water borehole to support the proposed / ongoing exploration programme, the proponent must obtain permission from the land owner and Department of Water Affairs in the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR). In an event of discovery of economic

minerals resources, the sources of water supply for the mining related operations will be supplied from groundwater resources if proven to be available following a detailed hydrogeological and groundwater modelling study that must be undertaken as part of the EIA supporting the feasibility study.

Currently, potential available groundwater resources in the area will not be sufficient to support any new larger-scale mining related operation within the EPL 6734. However, according to Fig. 4.5, the southwestern part of the EPL area is covered by carbonates (calcrete, limestone and dolomites) that seems to have limited groundwater potential.

## 4.6.2.3 Water Vulnerability Assessments and Recommendations

Possible targets for vulnerable groundwater resources in this area are mainly fractured zones and faults that outcrop on the surface without impermeable infillings as well as solution holes associated with the carbonate terrain. Although the general area does not have economic water resources some parts of the EPL area has potential for groundwater occurrences associated with the porous terrain (Fig. 4.5).

The granite and the associated metamorphic rocks both have very poor primary and secondary porosity, permeability and all associated hydraulic properties. The overall water be vulnerability to pollution as a result of the proposed / ongoing exploration as well as other existing activities is moderate as shown in Fig. 4.2.

The general area has a number of Ephemeral River Channels which could be potential pathways for pollution migration especially during the rainy season from November to March. Discharge of liquid or solid wastes including waste water, chemical, fuels or oils into any public stream is prohibited and the proponent must implement the provisions of the EMP on water and waste management as detailed in Chapter 6 of this report.

It is hereby recommended that a detailed site-specific hydrogeological specialist study including groundwater modelling, water sampling and testing must be undertaken as part of the EIA and EMP that may be implemented to support the feasibility study for any viable mining project that may be development within the EPL area, if economic resources are discovered.

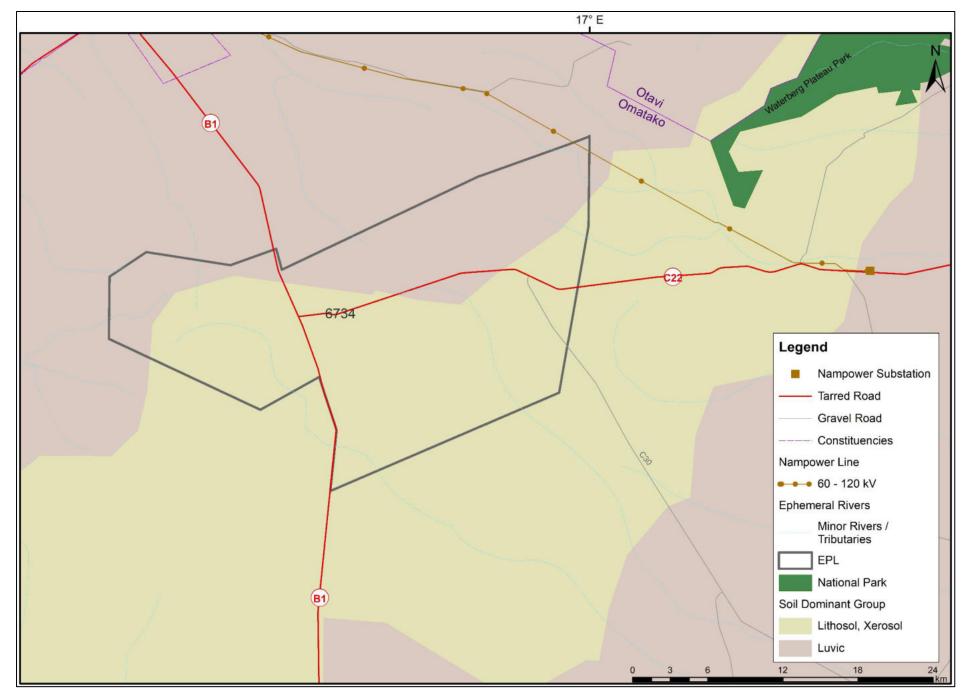


Figure 4.3: Surficial geology around the license area (Data Source: Geological survey of Namibia, 1999).

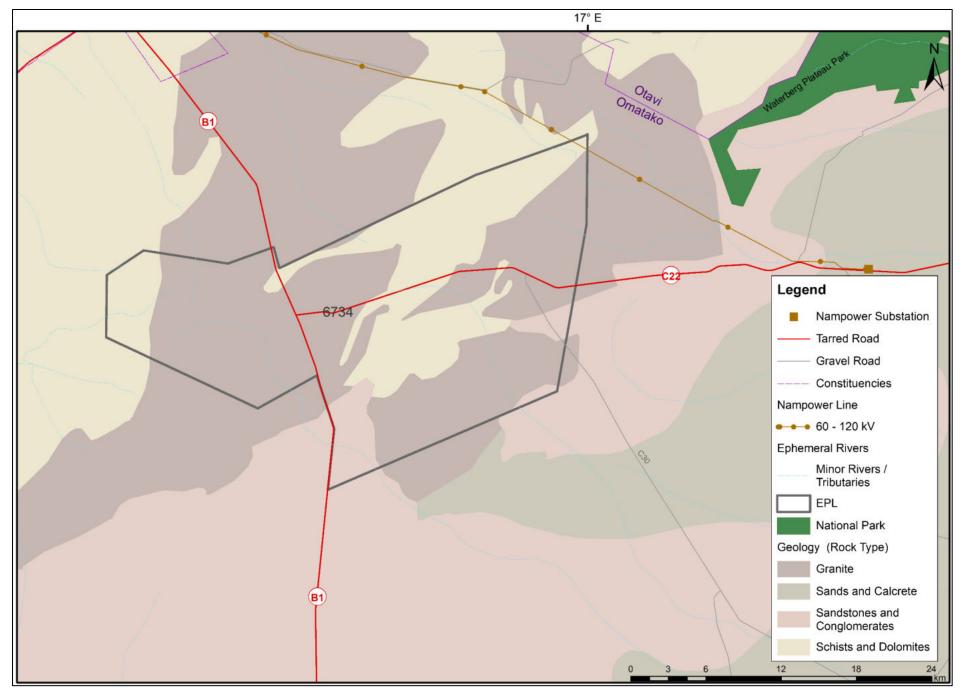


Figure 4.4: Solid geology around the license area (Data Source: Geological survey of Namibia, 1999).

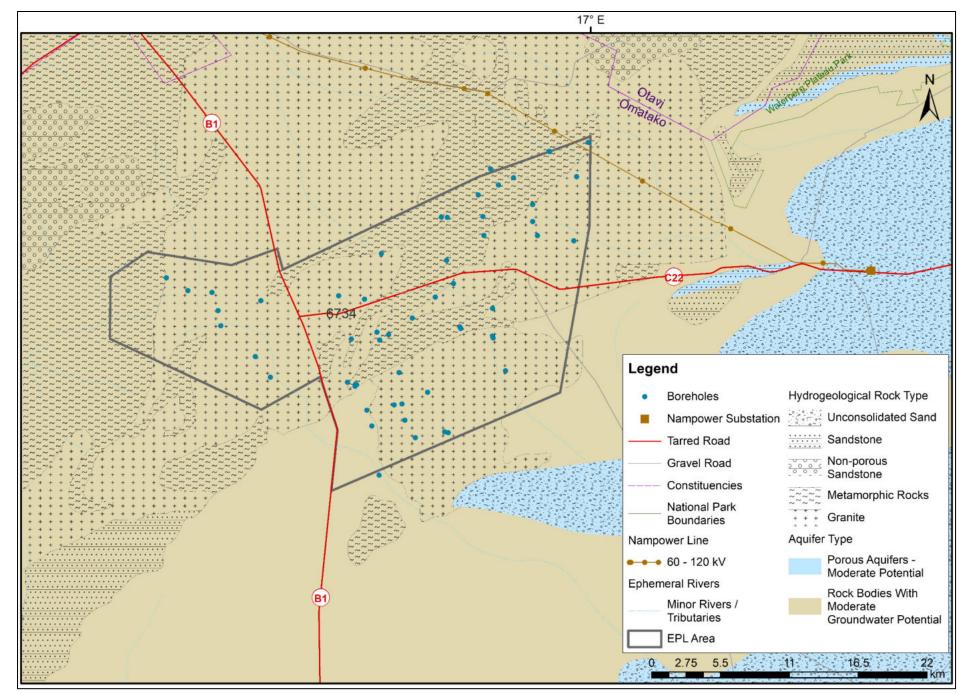


Figure 4.5: Regional hydrogeological settings around the license area (Data Source: Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, 2001).

# 4.7 Public Consultations and Engagement

#### 4.7.1 Overview

Public consultation and engagement process has been part of the environmental assessment process for this project. Public notices were published in the local newspapers during the months of June and July 2018 (Figs. 4.6 - 4.8).

Through the newspaper advertisements as shown in Figs. 4.6 - 4.8, the public were invited to submit written comments / inputs / objections with respect to the proposed / ongoing minerals exploration activities in the EPL 6667.

A stakeholder register was opened on the 26<sup>th</sup> July 2018. Despite telephonic inquiries with respect to contracts and employment opportunities, no written comments / inputs / objections were received during the two (2) months period from June – July 2018 that was dedicated for public consultations.

PUBLIC NOTICE BY GREEN BUILDING CONSTRUCTION (Pty) Ltd APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) FOR 5 km LONG POWERLINE FROM EVELINE DISTRIBUTION STATION (GOREANGAB) TO DAM WALL LOAD CENTRE, 132kV (OPERATED AT 56kV), WINDHOEK, KHOMAS REGION PUBLIC NOTICE BY RISK-BASED SOLUTIONS CC APPLICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) FOR THE EPL NO 6796, KATIMA MULILO DISTRICT ZAMBEZI REGION PUBLIC NOTICE BY KDN GEO CONSULTING CC (CAZLAY IESOURCES) APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) FOR THE EPL NO 6667, OPUWO DISTRICT KUNENE REGION Risk-Based Solution CC (the Proponent) holds mineral rights under the Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) No. 5798 granted on 160/42018 and will expire on 17/04/2021. The 75078 Ha EPL Area falls within the communal land (State land) and if field-based activities are required to be undertaken, the proponent will approach the land user right holders where there is exploration interest for permission to access the area and inspect the targeted locations and if proves positive, a long-term access agreement may be negotiated with the user rights holder and / or State as maybe applicable. No exploration targets have so far been identified in the EPL area. The proponent intends to prospect / explore / search for Base and Area Metals, industrial Minerals, Precious Metals and Precious Stones using techniques such as aerial and ground geophysical surveys, geological mapping, drilling and sampling and starting with the desktop studies and aerial data interpretation, and if proves positive, followed by regional and local detailed field-based activities. The proposed prospecting / exploration activities are listed in the Environmental Management Act (EMA), 2007 (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the Regulations and cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). The proponent is required to have undertaken Environmental Scoping and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the proposed prospecting activities in order to support the application for ECC. The application for ECC must be undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the EMA 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the Regulations. The interested & Affected Parties (I&AP) are breely invited to register and submit written comments / objections / inputs with respect to the proposed minerals exploration activities in the EPL No. 6796.

PEGISTER PS YEMAL: \*\*front@esk@thsc.com.na
DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION AND WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS IS: FRIDAY 13° JULY 2018 KDN Geo Consulting CC (Pending Transfer to Cazlay Resources) (the Proponent) holds mineral hights under the Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) No. 5657 granted on 19/02/2018 and will expire on 18/02/2011. The 96699 Ha EPL area falls within the communal land (State land) and if field-based activities are required to be undertaken, the proponent will approach the land user right holders where there is exploration interest for permission to access the area and inspect the targeted locations and if proves positive, a long-term access agreement may be negotiated with the user rights holder and / or State as maybe applicable. No exploration targets have so far been identified in the EPL area. The proponent intends to prospect / explore / search for Base and Rare Metals, industrial Minerals and Precious Metals using techniques such as aerial and ground geophysical surveys, geological mapping, trenching, drilling and sampling and starting with the desktop studies and if proves positive, followed by regional and local detailed field-based activities. The proposed prospecting / exploration activities are listed field-based activities. The proposed prospecting / exploration activities are listed field-based activities. The proposed prospecting / exploration activities are listed field-based activities. The proposed prospecting / exploration activities are listed field-based activities. The commental Management Plan (EMP) for the proposed prospecting activities in neder to support the application for ECC. The application for ECC must be undertaken without an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the proposed prospecting activities in neder to support the application for ECC must be undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the EMA 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the Regulations. The laterested & Affected Parties (I&AP) are hereby invited to register and submit written comments / objections / inputs with respect to the proposed minerals exploration activities in the EPL No. 6667. GPERATED AT 86kV), WINDHOEK, KHOMAS REGION

Green Building Construction (Pty) Ltd. (the developer) of the proposed Goreangab Vaterfront development project has been requested by the City of Windhoek to reroute the proposed new overhead powerfine around the southern-eastern, southern and western edges of the Goreangab Dam over a distance of 5 km from the Eveline Distribution Station (Goreangab) to the Dam Wall Load Centre, Goreangab area, Katutura, Windhoek. The proposed new overhead powerfine is designed at 132kV and to be operated at 68kV. The proposed powerfine project fails under listed activities that cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Centrace Certificate (ECC). In fulfilment of the environmental requirements, the developer has appointed Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC as the Environmental Consultants, led by Dr. Sindila Mwiya as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner to undertake the EIA and EMP in order to support the application for Environmental Clearance Certificate. The Environmental Assessment Process will be undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Management Act, 2007. (Act No. 7 of 2007.) All interested and affected parties (public) are hereby invited to register and submit written comments / objections / inputs with respect to the proposed rerouted overhead powerline. REGISTER BY EMAIL: frontdesk@rbs.com.na
DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION AND WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS IS:
FRIDAY 13th JULY 2018 xploration activities in the EPL No. 6667.

REGISTER BY EMAIL: frontdesk@vbs.com.na
DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION AND WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS IS:
FRIDAY 13th JULY 2018 ZAMBIA ZAMBIA NAMIBIA Ruacana Zambezi River Katima Mulilo NAMIBIA NAMIBIA **EPL** 6667 C35 EPL 6796 N To Rundu 20km FIR. Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC PUBLIC NOTICE BY PGS EXPLORATION (UK) LIMITED APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) FOR MULTICLENT 3D SEISMIC SURVEY FOR PETROLEUM EXPLORATION (OIL AND GAS) OVER THE AREA OF INTEREST (AOI), OFFSHORE SOUTHERN NAMIBIA PUBLIC NOTICE BY OSINO GOLD EXPLORATION (Pty) Ltd APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) FOR THE EPL NO 6734, CTJUWARONGO DISTRICT OTJOZONDJUPA REGION PUBLIC NOTICE BY OSINO GOLD EXPLORATION (Pty) Ltd
APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE
(ECC) FOR THE EPI. NO 6872, OTJUMARONGO DISTRICT
OTJOZONDJUPA REGION Osino Gold Exploration (Pty) Ltd (the Proponent) holds mineral rights under the Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) No. 6734 granted on 14/02/2018 and will expire on 13/02/2021. The 75/03/8 He EPL Area covers several commercial farmlands and when and if fleid-based activities are required to be undertakent, the proponent will approach the land owners where there is exploration interest for permission to access the area and inspect the targeted locations and if proves positive, a long-term access agreement may be negotiated with the land owner. No exploration targets have so far boon identified in the EPL ora. The proponent intends to prospect (explore / search for Base and Rare Metals, Dimension Stones Industrial Minerals and Prectous Metals using techniques such as geological mapping, geophysical surveys, trenching, drilling and sampling and starting with the desitop studies, and if proves positive, followed by regional and local detailed field-based activities. The proposed prospecting activities are listed in the Environmental Management Act, 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the Regulations and cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). In fulliment of the environmental requirements, the Proponent has appointed Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), to undertake the Scoprig and EMP in order to support the application for ECC. All Interested and Affected Particle (ISAP) are hereby invivated to register and submit wittion comments / objections / inputs with respect to the proposed minerals prospecting activities in the EPL No. 6734.

REGISTER RY EMAIL: frontest@briss.com.na

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION AND WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS IS: FRIOAY 13° JULY 2018 (AOI), OFFSHORE SOUTHERN NAMIBIA

PGS Exploration (UK) Limited ("PGS") (the "Proponent") intends to implement a multiclient 30 seismic survey for Petroleum (Oil and Ges) exploration over an Area of Interest (AOI) covering Blocks 2913A, 2914B, 2914A and 2913B (excluding Tripp Sea Mount), Orange Basin, Southern Offshore, Namibia. As part of the fulfiliment of the national environmental requirements and Impact Corporate responsibilities on issues related to Environmental Management, PGS has appointed Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) as the Environmental Consultants and led by Dr. Sindla Mwiya as the EAP to undertake the Environmental Assessment and apply for Environmental Clearance Certificate for the proposed multiclient 3D Seismic Survey operations. The Environmental Assessment process covering Scoping, EIA and EMP will be undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the EIA Regulations No. 30 of 2012, the Environmental Management Act, (EMA), 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007), PGS Corporate requirements, international standards and industry best practices. All Interested and Affected Parties ((&AP) are hereby invited to register and submit written inputs / objections with respect to the proposed 3D seismic survey. Osino Gold Exploration (Pty) Ltd (the Proponent) holds mineral rights under the Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) No. 8672 granted on 300/4/2018 and will expire on 280/4/2021. The 38887 Pia EPL area covers several commercial farmlands and when and if field-based activities are required to and will expire on 20/04/20/1. The 38887 Ha EPL area covers several commercial farmlands and when and if feld-based activities are required to be undertaken, the proponent will approach the land owners where there is exploration interest for permission to access the area and inspect the targeted locations and if proves positive, a long-term access agreement may be negotiated with the land owner. No exploration targets have so far been identified in the EPL area. The proponent intende to undertake prospecting for Base and Rare Metals, industrial Minerals and Precious Metals using techniques such as geological mapping, geophysical surveys, trenching, drilling and sampling and starting with the deaktop studies, followed by regional and local detailed field-based activities. The proposed prospecting activities are listed in the Environmental Management Act, 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the Regulations and cannot be undertaken without an Environmental requirements, the Proponent has appointed Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC as the Environmental Consultant and led by Dr. Sindila Mwiya as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake Sooping and EMP in order to support the application for ECC. All interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) are hereby invited to register and ubmit writton commental objections in jupto with respect to the propoced milierals prospecting activities in the EPL No. 6872.

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DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION AND WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS IS:
FRIDAY 13th JULY 2018 NAMIBIA 2715 Otjiwarongo C33 Waterber M63 To Outjo Park ( To Outjo C38 To Otavi DRANJ 28138 RSA Okakarara Otjiwarongo C22 EPL 6734 EPL сзр 6872 M63 **COVERING BLOCKS 2914B.** 2914A, 2913A AND 2913B To Okahandja (EXCLUDING TRIPP SEA MOUNT) To Omaruru For More Information Please Contact Dr. Sindita Mwiya (PhD, PG Cart, MPhil, BEng (Hons), Pr Eng) (EAP), Tel: 061-306058; Fax: 061-306059; Cell: 0811413229, Global Office at URL: www.rbs.com.na Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC

Figure 4.6: Copy of the full-page public notification that was published in the Namibian Newspaper dated Wednesday, 27th June 2018.

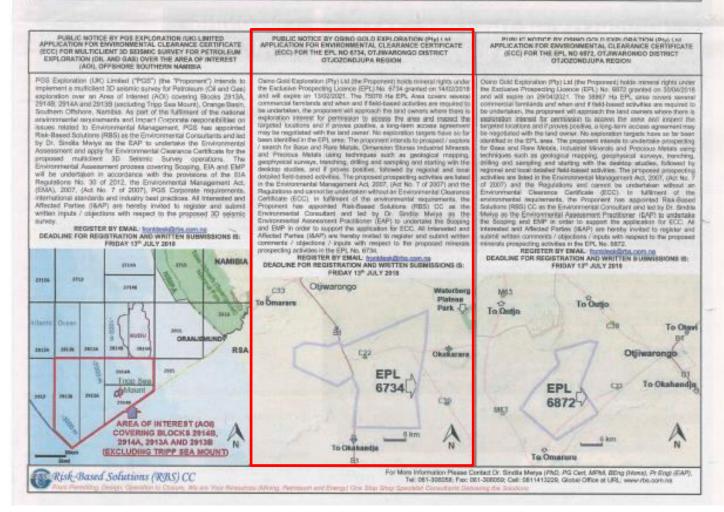


Figure 4.7: Copy of the full-page public notification that was published in the Windhoek Observer Newspaper dated Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

For More Information Please Contact Dr. Stedilla Mailya (PND, PG Cert, MPN), BEing (Plant), Tel: 051-309058, Fax: 061-309056; Celt 0611113228, Global Office at URL: www.rbs

Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC

PUBLIC NOTICE BY GREEN BUILDING CONSTRUCTION (Pty) Lid APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE ECCLORS SIGN LONG FORMERLING FROM EVELURE DISTRIBUTION STATION (DOWEANGAS) TO DAM WALL LONG CENTRE. 122N/ (OPERATED AT 66N/), WINDHOLK, KHOMAS REGION PUBLIC NOTICE BY RISK-BABED SOLUTIONS CC APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE SECCI FOR THE EPIL NO 6796, KATIMA MULLID DISTRICT ZAMBEZI REGION PUBLIC NOTICE BY KIDN GEO CONSULTING CC (CAZLAY ESCURCES) APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) FOR THE EFL. NO 68FT, OPLANO DISTRICT KUNENK REGION This -Same Solution CC (the Proporeint) holds miners ingles under the Solution Frage-diag Licence (EPL) No. 4795 granted on 10/14/2016 and in capie on 17/14/2021. The 1500 Ph to EPL Area lable where the communical later (State land) and it feel classes distribute and select the communical later (State land) and it feel classes distribute and select the communical later (State land) and it feel classes distribute and select the communication in the proposed will approach the land state significant where the language locations are feel approach. It is explained to the language location will be proposed by the proposed state of the State are region to the region of the selection of the State are region to the selection of the State are region application. Not suplication to proposed 1 explorer (search for EPL area, The proposed intents to proposed 1 explorer) sounds of Predicts States using behaviours to the selection of the States and series date interpretation, and if proven positive, followed by regional and soor distallating and states and series date interpretation and states interpretation, and if proven positive, followed by regional and soor distallating and states and the series of the series and series and the series of the series and the series of the series and series COPERATED AT 684W, WINDHOLK, NHOWAS REGION
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DEADLINE FOR RECORDANTION AND WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS IS:
FRIDAY 15" JULY 2018. ANGOLA ZAMBIA ZAMBIA NAMIBIA Roacan Zambezi Rivec Katima Mulillo NAMIBIA NAMIBIA **EPL 6667 EPL 6796** Opus Risk-Based Solutions (RBS) CC PUBLIC NOTICE BY DEINO COLD EXPLORATION (Phy) List APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) FOR THE EP. NO 6372, CTJAWARCINGO DISTRICT OTJOZONDJUPA REGION Deline Gold Exploration (Pty) List (the Proponent) holds mineral lights under the Exclusive Prospecting License (Pty). No. 88172 granted on 3004/2018 and will explice on 25814/2011. The 38807 Has ERV areas covered software and will explice on 25814/2011. The 38807 Has ERV areas covered commercial forminates and when well if bell-based activities are required to understoon, the proponent will opproach the land outside the land coveres where these is exploration, relevant for permission to account the west and support the trapeout may be registrated with the land outside proposed services and support for the registrated with the services of the services are registrated with the services and support for the services are registrated and the services are services deling and services are geological mapping, peophysical surveys, transition, followed and aftering with the desiring states, violes, followed relings and senseting and stating with the desiring actions, followed the proposed prospecting activities and senseting field-covered activities. The proposed prospecting activities are labeled to the following senset to stating the senseting senseting and senting with senset and senseting senseting and senting senseting se Osine Gold Exploration (Psyl Ltd the Proposent) holds mineral rights under the Eschanie Prospecting Lowine (EPL) his 6734 granted on 14002518 and nell aspire to 131025121. The 17008 He EPL Auc Comes devoted commercial formbands and when and if finishment activities are required to understand, the proposent will approach the late of these are required to understand, the proposent will approach for late one-order when there is explored to the end of (AOC OFFSHORE SOUTHERN MAINTEIN
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Figure 4.8: Copy of the full-page public notification that was published in the Confidente Newspaper dated Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

### 5. IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RESULTS

### 5.1 Impact Assessment Procedure

The Environmental Assessment process that has been undertaken with respect to the proposed exploration programme for the EPL No. 6734 has been conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations No. 30 of 2012 gazetted under the Environmental Management Act, (EMA), 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007).

# 5.2 Alternatives and Ecosystem Assessments

The following alternatives have been considered:

- (i) **EPL Location:** A number of potential economic minerals deposits are known to exist in the general area and linked to the regional geology of the EPL area. The Proponent intend to explore / prospect for all the licensed minerals groups likely to be associated with the regional and local geology. The minerals occurrences are site-specific and related to the regional and local geology of a specific area to which there are no alternatives sites to consider with respect to the license location. The only other alternative is the no-action option (no exploration activities are implemented in a specific area).
- (ii) The No-Action Alternative A comparative assessment of the environmental impacts of the 'no-action' alternative (a future in which the proposed exploration activities do not take place) has been undertake. An assessment of the environmental impacts of a future, in which the proposed exploration and possible discovery of economic minerals resources does not take place, may be good for the receiving environment because there will be no negative environmental impacts due to the proposed minerals exploration or possible mining operation that may take place in the EPL area.

The environmental benefits will include:

- No negative impacts as a result of no mineral exploration taking place, and.
- Potential future mining related negative environmental impact on the receiving environment.

However, it is important to understand that even if the proposed exploration activities do not take place, to which the likely negative environmental impacts are likely to be low and localised, the other current and future land uses such as agriculture and tourism will still have some negative impacts on the receiving environment. The likely negative environmental impacts of the other current and future land use that may still happen in the absence of the proposed minerals exploration activities includes:

- Land degradation due to drought and Climate Change.
- Overgrazing / over stocking beyond the land carrying capacity.
- Poor land management practices,
- Wildfires, and.
- Erosion and overgrazing.

Furthermore, it is important to understand what benefits might be lost if the proposed exploration activities do not take place. Key loses that may never be realised if the proposed project activities do not go-ahead include: Loss of potential added value to the unknown underground minerals resources that maybe found within the EPL No. 6734, socioeconomic benefits derived from current and future exploration, direct and indirect contracts and

- employment opportunities, export earnings, foreign direct investments, license rental fees, royalties, and various other taxes payable to the Government.
- (iii) Other Alternative Land Uses: The EPL area fall within the well-known commercial agricultural land uses area dominated by cattle, game, and small stock farming activities. The growing game farming is also making tourism a vital socioeconomic opportunity in the general area. Minerals exploration and mining activities are well known land use options in Namibia and the surrounding EPL area. Due to the limited scope of the proposed exploration and the implementation of the EMP, it is likely that the proposed exploration can coexist with the current and potential future land uses within the general area.
- (iv) Potential Land Use Conflicts: Considering the current land use practices (agriculture and tourism) as well as potential other land uses including minerals exploration, it is likely that potential economic derivatives from any positive exploration outcomes leading to the development of a mine in the general area can still co-exist with the existing and potential future land use options of the general area. However, much more detailed assessments of any likely visual and other socioeconomic impacts will need to be included in the EIA that must be undertaken as part of the prefeasibility and feasibility studies if economic minerals resources are discovered. The use of thematic mapping and delineation of various land use zones for specific uses such as agriculture, conservation, mining, or tourism etc, within the EPL area will greatly improve the multiple land use practices and promote coexistence for all the possible land use options.
- (v) Ecosystem Function (What the Ecosystem Does): Ecosystem functions such as wildlife habitats, carbon cycling or the trapping of nutrients and characterised by the physical, chemical, and biological processes or attributes that contribute to the self-maintenance of an ecosystem in this area are vital components of the receiving environment. However, the proposed exploration activities will not affect the ecosystem function due to the limited scope of the proposed activities because the ecosystem of this EPL area is part of the larger local and regional ecosystems which are all interlinked.
- (vi) Ecosystem Services: Food chain, harvesting of animals or plants, and the provision of clean water or scenic views are some of the local ecosystem services associated with the EPL area. However, the proposed exploration activities will not affect the ecosystem services due to the limited scope and area of coverage of the proposed activities because the ecosystem of this EPL area is part of the larger local and regional ecosystems which are all interlinked.
- (vii) **Use Values**: The EPL area has direct values for other land uses such as agriculture, conservation and tourism as well as indirect values which includes: Watching a television show about the general area and its wildlife, food chain linkages that sustains the complex life within this area and bequest value for future generations to enjoy. The proposed exploration activities will not destroy the current use values due to the limited scope of the proposed activities as well as the adherence to the provisions of the EMP as detailed in the EMP report, and.
- (viii) Non-Use or Passive Use: The EPL area has an existence value that is not linked to the direct use / benefits to current or future generations. The proposed exploration activities will not affect the ecosystem current or future none or passive uses due to the limited scope of the proposed activities that will leave much of the EPL area untouched because the ecosystem of this EPL area is part of the larger local and regional ecosystems which are all interlinked.

# 5.3 Key Issues Considered in the Assessment Process

### 5.3.1 Sources of Impacts (Proposed Project Activities)

The proposed exploration activities covering initial desktop exploration activities (no field-work undertaken, regional reconnaissance, initial local field-based activities, detailed local field-based

activities, prefeasibility and feasibility studies related activities are the key sources both negative and positive impacts on the receiving environment.

### 5.3.2 Summary of Receptors Likely to be Negative Impacted

Based on the findings of this report, the following is the summary of the key environmental receptors that are may be negatively impacted by the proposed activities:

- Physical environment: Water quality, physical infrastructure and resources, air quality, noise and dust, landscape and topography, soil quality and, Climate change influences.
- ❖ **Biological environment:** Habitat, protected areas and resources, flora, fauna, and ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-use or passive use, and.
- Socioeconomic, cultural and archaeological environment: Local, regional and national socioeconomic settings, commercial and subsistence agriculture, community protection areas tourism and recreation cultural, biological and archaeological resources.

# 5.4 Impact Assessment Methodology

### 5.4.1 Impact Definition

In this report, a natural and/or human environmental impact is defined as: "Change to the environment, whether adverse or beneficial, wholly or partially resulting from an organisation's environmental aspects." (ISO 14001).

All proposed project activities (routine and non-routine) were considered during the Scoping, EIA and EMP Phases in terms of their potential to:

- ❖ Interact with the existing environment (physical, biological and social elements), and.
- Breach relevant national legislation, relevant international legislation, standards and guidelines, and corporate environmental policy and management systems.

Where a project activity and receptor were considered to have the potential to interact, the impact has been defined and ranked according to its significance. Table 5.1 provides the definition of different categories of impacts identified and used in this report.

This report has assessed the potential impacts resulting from routine Project activities, assuming that the Project activities that may cause an impact that will occur but the impact itself will be dependent on the likelihood (Probability) (Table 5.1).

Correct control measures through the implementation of the EMP and monitoring thereof, often reduce any negative significant impacts on the receiving environment as the results of the project activities. The assessment therefore, has focussed on the measures aimed at preventing the occurrence of an impact as well as mitigation measures that may be employed.

Table 5.1: Definition of impact categories used in this report.

| Notice of             | Adverse         | Considered to represent an adverse change from the baseline, or to introduce a new undesirable factor.  |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---|
| Nature of<br>Impact   | Beneficial      | Considered to represent an improvement to the baseline or to introduce a new desirable factor.  |
|                       | Direct          | Results from a direct interaction between a planned or unplanned Project activity and the receiving environment.  |
| Type of               | Indirect        | Results from the Project but at a later time or at a removed distance or which may occur as a secondary effect of a direct impact.  |
| Impact                | Cumulative      | Results from (i) interactions between separate Project-related residual impacts. and (ii) interactions between Project-related residual impacts in combination with impacts from other projects and their associated activities. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time. |
|                       | Short-term      | Predicted to last only for a limited period but will cease on completion of the activity, or as a result of mitigation/reinstatement measures and natural recovery typically within a year of the project completion.   |
|                       | Medium-         | Predicted to last only for a medium period after the Project finishing, typically one to five years.  |
| Duration<br>of Impact | Long-term       | Continues over an extended period, typically more than five years after the Project's completion.   |
| oi iiiipact           | Permanent       | Occurs during the development of the Project and causes a permanent change in the affected receptor or resource that endures substantially beyond the Project lifetime.   |
|                       | Local           | Affects locally important environmental resources or is restricted to a single habitat/biotope, a single community.   |
|                       | Regional        | Affects nationally important environmental resources, or an area that is nationally important/protected or has macro-economic consequences.   |
|                       | National        | Affects nationally important environmental resources, or an area that is nationally important/protected or has macro-economic consequences.   |
| Scale of<br>Impact    | International   | Affects internationally important resources such as areas protected by international Conventions  |
|                       | Transboundary   | Impacts experienced in one country as a result of activities in another.  |
|                       | Negligible      | Possibility negligible  |
|                       | Improbable      | Possibility very low  |
| Probability           | Probable        | Distinct possibility  |
| ,                     | Highly Probable | Most likely   |
|                       | Definite        | Impact will occur regardless of preventive measures   |

#### 5.4.2 Knowledge-Based Impact Assessment Process

#### 5.4.2.1 Characterisation of the Impact Assessment Inputs Variables

The impact assessment process for the proposed minerals exploration took into consideration the interactions of the proposed activities with respect to the Knowledge-Based System Model Methodology (KBSMM) characterised climatic, environmental, and ground model datasets of the receiving environment (physical, biological, socioeconomic and ecosystem services and functions).

The influence assessment of the characterised components of the environment has been based on a Knowledge-Based System Model Methodology (KBSMM), a PhD research-based and industry tested / validated Artificial Intelligent (AI) framework developed by Dr Sindila Mwiya.

The KBSMM model inputs variables covered characterised climatic, environmental, and ground model datasets. Source-Pathway-Receptor risk assessment approach was used to determine or validate the influence (impact assessment), and ultimate likely harm that may be linked to the various phased activities of each of the various stages of the proposed minerals exploration implementation process (Fig. 5.1).

#### 5.4.2.2 Climatic Data Sets/Components Inputs

The climatic data sets that have been used in the regional and local site-specific assessment process comprised precipitation, temperature, evapotranspiration and wind data sets. The following is summary explanation of the roles that climatic data sets may have on the proposed minerals exploration implementation process (Fig. 5.1):

- Temperature: Temperature had a direct influence on the fluids that may influence the operation of the site by supporting evapotranspiration. It also has an influence on the planning, operation and implementation of the various project activities.
- ❖ Rainfall: Rainfall is one of the data sets used in the water balance assessments with respect to potential fluid production and flash flood occurrences. The data sets had some influence on mobilisation pollutants that may be associated with the proposed project activities.
- Evapotranspiration: This combined effect of evaporation and transpiration is important in water balance assessments with direct influences on the implementation of the various project activities, and.
- Wind Direction and Speed: The direction and speed of the prevailing winds may be critical to the site operations and determination of the optimum operational requirements. The data had a direct influence on the site operations including dust and noise management.

#### 5.4.2.3 Environmental Data Sets/Components Inputs

The regional or local environmental data sets used in this project comprise:

- Economic activities (Proposed minerals exploration) and coordination support available in the area or area.
- Types and amounts of waste likely to be generated.
- Likely contaminants from the activities.
- Ecological, habitats and ecosystems including fauna and flora.
- Community considerations such, land ownership, social, health and safety, and.
- Archaeological, cultural and political issues.

The following is summary explanation of the role of the environmental data sets may have on the proposed minerals exploration implementation process (Fig. 5.2):

- Economic activities and logistic support: The types of economic activities and logistical support services and infrastructure for the proposed activities are a key source of impact component of the environmental data sets in the determination of the likely impacts on the receptors, and.
- The likely Types and amount of waste: Understanding the characteristics of the liquid and solid waste streams be handled is vital in the evaluation of the hazard exposure in terms of the overall risk assessment to the receptors.

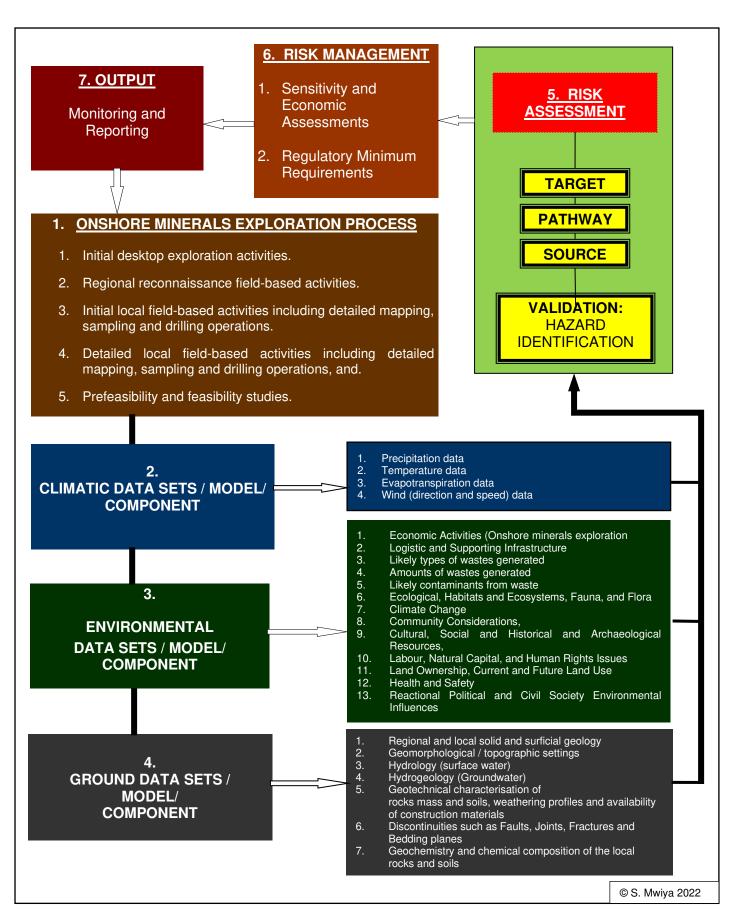


Figure 5.1: Detailed outline of the technical methodology based on a complete looped Knowledge-Based System Model Methodology (KBSMM) used in the impact assessment, risk assessment and determination of the monitoring and reporting strategy. The system model methodology has a built-in looping that allows for the evaluation of a phased onshore minerals exploration process project lifecycle.

- Likely contaminants: The state (solid, gas, liquid, or vapour) of any likely contaminants that may associated with the proposed phased onshore minerals exploration activities play a major role in the determination of the likely harm, mitigation, monitoring and reporting strategies.
- Ecological, habitats, ecosystems, fauna, flora, and local, regional or global Climate Change influences: At national, regional and local levels, there are a number of unique and protected habitats, ecosystems, fauna and flora and highly vital as they support other sectors of the national economy such as tourism, agriculture, food security and services. Understanding the likely level of sensitivity of the regional or local areas is highly important to the successful determination of the likely impacts and harm, development mitigation measures, monitoring and reporting strategy to be implemented for the proposed phased onshore minerals exploration process, and.
- Community considerations: Local community issues and acceptability of the proposed activities by the local community is of vital importance. Other key components of the community considerations include: Land ownership (State land / Communal or Private), land use, local social settings, labour, natural capital, human rights, public and workers health and safety, archaeological, cultural, political, and civil society influences.

As part of the data collection, evaluation, influence and risk assessment process of the proposed phased onshore minerals exploration, determination of the mitigation measures, monitoring and reporting strategies, specialist assessments conducted as part of the EIA process provided vital recommendations incorporated in this report.

#### **5.4.2.4 Ground Data Sets/Components Inputs**

The ground data sets covered regional/local solid and surficial geology, geomorphological / topographic settings, hydrology (surface water), hydrogeology groundwater), geotechnical and geochemical characterisation of rocks and soils, weathering profiles and availability of construction materials, and discontinuities such as faults, joints, fractures, and bedding planes of the drilled sites (Fig. 5.1). The geology (solid and superficial) and water (surface and groundwater resources are all targets that may be influenced (impacted) by the various activities of the proposed phased minerals exploration process implementation. Other ground components which include the local terrain (geomorphology and topographic features), discontinuities, geotechnical as well as geochemical /mineralogy will aid the influence of sources in causing or minimising the impacts to be controlled through mitigations (Fig. 5.1). Regional/local solid and surficial geology, geomorphological and topographic settings also linked directly to the availability of local construction and operational materials in support of the proposed phased minerals exploration process project implementation lifecycle (Fig. 5.1).

#### 5.4.2.5 Source-Pathway-Receptor Risk Assessment, Harm and Monitoring

To evaluate the level of influence (impact), risk, and harm that the proposed onshore phased minerals exploration process implementation, the assessment process was focused on the sources, pathways, and targets / receptor chains (Fig. 5.2). It is important to note that in the absence of any of the interlinked three (3) components (sources, pathways, or targets/ receptor) there is no harm or risk to mitigate, monitor or manage (Figs. 5.2 and 5.3).

The risk source/s refers to knowledge - based identified potential hazards that may be present and can cause harm to the exposed target/s / receptors (Fig. 5.3). The risk pathway refers to the route direct or indirect though which the risk source/s may be transferred and exposed to a target/s of concern. The risk target/s or receptor/s refers to the destination (area point of exposure) at which the source/s may cause harm. The characterisation of source/s, pathway/s and target/s chain has been undertaken for climatic, environmental and ground model data components with respect to the proposed phased onshore minerals exploration process.

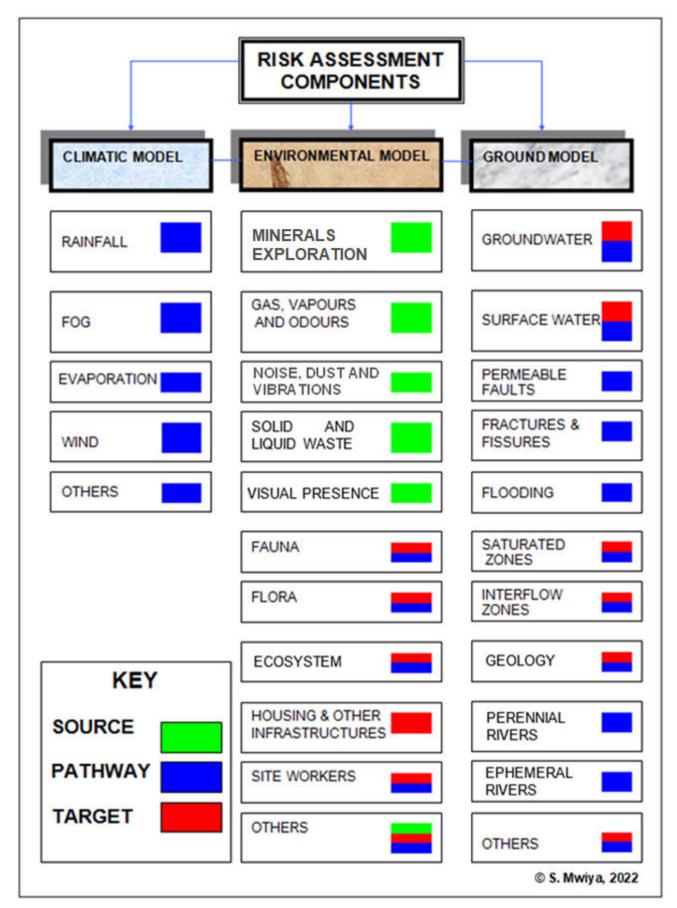


Figure 5.2: A Knowledge-Based System Model Methodology (KBSMM) source-pathways-target characterised interactive risk assessment system output field-based and tested / validated Artificial Intelligent (AI) framework windows for onshore phased minerals exploration process implementation project lifecycle.

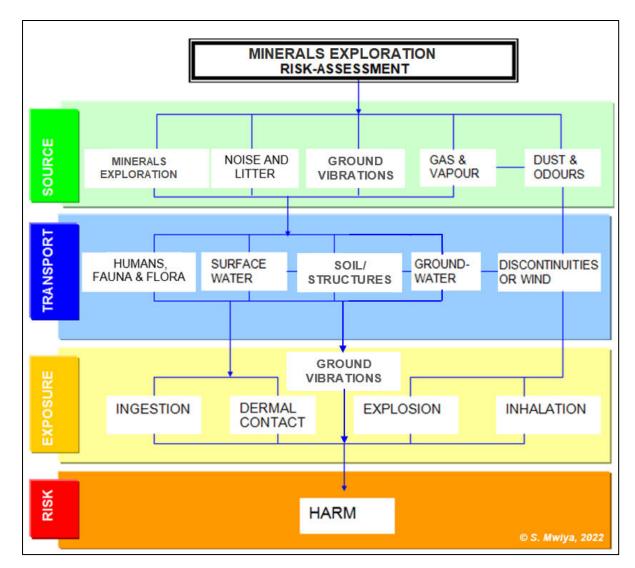


Figure 5.3: A Knowledge-Based System Model Methodology (KBSMM) characterised system output research-based and tested / validated Artificial Intelligent (AI) framework risk consequences (harm) pathways to the target/receptors windows for onshore phased minerals exploration process project implementation lifecycle.

#### 5.4.2.6 Individual Components Impact Assessment Criteria

Based on the Terms of Reference and individual components impact assessment outputs of the KBSMM for the proposed phased minerals exploration process and the lessons learned (created knowledge-base) from the previous phased minerals exploration processes operations undertaken and tested since 1999 when the KBSMM was developed, all key components of the receiving environment were identified and assessed with respect to the overall proposed activities and likely significant impacts on the receiving environment with the aim of developing appropriate mitigation measures as detailed in the EMP Report.

### 5.4.3 Overall Component and Significant Impact Assessment

#### **5.4.3.1 Overall Component Impact Assessment**

The overall component impact assessment and evaluation process has been undertaken by considering the activities of the proposed phased minerals exploration process operations as the overall source of impact (Figs. 5.1-5.3). As illustrated in Figs. 5.1-5.3, the receiving environment has been considered as the receptor / target that may be impacted positively or negatively by the activities of the proposed phased minerals exploration process. The characterised components of the receiving environment encompassed the following:

built environment – houses, roads, transport systems, buildings, infrastructure, etc.

- ❖ Biological Conditions: fauna, flora, habitats, and ecosystem services, function, use values and non-use etc., and.
- Socioeconomic Conditions: Social, economic, labour, gender, human rights, natural and social capital, archaeological, cultural resources, and cultural issues

In evaluating the individual degree of potential negative impacts, the following factors have been taken into consideration:

- ❖ Impact Severity: The severity of an impact is a function of a range of consideration, and.
- Likelihood of Occurrence (Probability): How likely is the impact to occur?

In evaluating the severity of potential negative environmental impacts, the following factors have been taken into consideration:

- Receptor/ Resource Characteristics: The nature, importance, and sensitivity to change of the receptors / target or resources that could be affected.
- Impact Magnitude: The magnitude of the change that is induced.
- Impact Duration: The time period over which the impact is expected to last.
- Impact Extent: The geographical extent of the induced change, and.
- Regulations, Standards and Guidelines: The status of the impact in relation to regulations (eg. discharge limits), standards (eg. environmental quality criteria) and guidelines.

The overall impact severity has been categorised using a subjective scale as shown in Table 5.2 for magnitude, Table 5.3 for duration and Table 5.4 for extent.

Table 5.2: Scored on a scale from 0 to 5 for impact magnitude.

| SCALE (-) o | r (+) | DESCRIPTION                    |
|-------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| 0           |       | no observable effect           |
| 1           |       | low effect                     |
| 2           |       | tolerable effect               |
| 3           |       | medium high effect             |
| 4           |       | high effect                    |
| 5           |       | very high effect (devastation) |

Table 5.3: Scored time over which the impact is expected to last.

| SCALE (-) o | r (+) | DESCRIPTION |
|-------------|-------|-------------|
| T           |       | Temporary   |
| Р           |       | Permanent   |

Table 5.4: Scored geographical extent of the induced change.

| SCALE (-) | or (+) | DESCRIPTION                            |
|-----------|--------|--|
| L         |        | limited impact on location             |
| 0         |        | impact of importance for municipality. |
| R         |        | impact of regional character           |
| N         |        | impact of national character           |
| М         |        | impact of cross-border character       |

The likelihood (probability) of the pre-identified events occurring has been ascribed using a qualitative scale of probability categories (in increasing order of likelihood) as shown in Table 5.5. Likelihood of an impact occurring is estimated on the basis of experience (existing knowledge-base) and/ or evidence that such an outcome has previously occurred. Impacts resulting from routine/planned events are classified under category (E).

Table 5.5: Summary of the qualitative scale of probability categories (in increasing order of likelihood).

| SCALE (-) | or (+) | DESCRIPTION   |
|-----------|--------|---|
| Α         |        | Extremely unlikely (e.g., never heard of in the industry)                               |
| В         |        | Unlikely (e.g., heard of in the industry but considered unlikely)                       |
| С         |        | Low likelihood (e.g., such incidents/impacts have occurred but are uncommon)            |
| D         |        | Medium likelihood (e.g., such incidents/impacts occur several times per year within the |
|           |        | industry)   |
| E         |        | High likelihood (e.g., such incidents/impacts occur several times per year at each      |
|           |        | location where such works are undertaken)   |

The overall individual components impact assessment with respect to the impact duration, geographical extent and probability of occurrence have been categorised using a semi quantitative approach as shown in Table 5.6 and the results are presented under Subsection 5.4.4.

#### 5.4.3.2 Overall Significant Impact Assessment

The determination of the significance of the negative impacts / key issues caused by the proposed phase minerals exploration activities as key sources of such impact has been based on the environmental baseline results such as the intensity and duration of the likely negative impact as assessed under individual components likely to be impacted.

The assessment focused on the existence of potential pathways, and the degree to which the proposed project activities are likely to result in unwanted consequences on the receptor, covering the receiving environment (natural, built, socioeconomic, flora, fauna, habitat, and ecosystem).

#### 5.4.4 Proposed Project Activities Summary of Impacts Results

The results of the impacts assessment and evaluation has adopted a matrix assessment framework linked to the KBSMM framework. Assessment results of the magnitude, duration, extent, and probability of the potential impacts due to the proposed project activities interacting with the receiving environment are presented in form of a matrix table as shown in Tables 5.6-5.9.

The overall severity of potential environmental impacts of the proposed project activities on the receiving environment will be of low magnitude (Table 5.6), temporally duration (Table 5.7), localised extent (Table 5.8) and low probability of occurrence (Table 5.9) due to the limited scope of the proposed activities and the use of step progression approach in advancing exploration.

The step progressional approach will allow the Proponent to evaluate the results of exploration success and the implementation of the next stage of exploration will be subject to the positive outcomes of previous activities as graded (Tables 5.6-5.9). It is important to note that the assessment of the likely impacts as shown in Tables 5.6 - 5.9, have been considered without the implementation of mitigation measures as detailed in EMP Report.

The need for implementation of the appropriate mitigation measures as presented in the EMP Report has been determined based on the results of the impact assessment (Tables 5.6 - 5.9) and the significant impacts as detailed in Tables 5.10 and 5.11.

Table 5.6: Results of the sensitivity assessment of the receptors (Physical, Socioeconomic and Biological environments) with respect to the proposed exploration / prospecting activities.

|    |                              |  | RECEPTOR SENSITIVITY   |               | ı                                     | PHYS<br>ENVIRO              | SICAL<br>ONMEN       | ΙΤ           |                           |         |                 | DLOGIC |       |  |  | CULT<br>ARCH           | URAL                      | GICAL                    |  |
|----|------------------------------|--|--|---------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------|-----------------|--------|-------|--|--|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| -  | CENICI                       | TIVITY RATIN   | G   CRITERIA   |               | S                                     |                             |                      |              |                           |         |                 |        |       |  |  |                        |                           |                          | <u> </u>   |
| 1  | 1                            | Negligible   |  |               | ırce                                  |                             |                      |              |                           |         |                 |        |       | use  |  |                        |                           |                          | ogica  |
| 8  | 2                            | Low  | The receptor or resource is tolerant of change without detriment to its character, is of low environmental or social value, or is of local importance.   |               | Resou                                 | d Dust                      | yhy                  |              | ences                     |         |                 |        |       | services,<br>r passive                       | ational<br>ings                          | ture                   | Areas                     |                          | haeolc   |
|    | 3                            | Medium   | The receptor or resource has low capacity to absorb change without fundamentally altering its present character, is of high environmental or social value, or is of national importance  | Water Quality | ture and                              | loise and                   | Topogra              | Soil Quality | nge Influ                 | Habitat | Protected Areas | Flora  | Fauna | s =  | regional and national oeconomic settings | al Agricul             | rotected                  | ourism and<br>Recreation | l and Arc  |
|    | 4                            | High   | The receptor or resource has moderate capacity to absorb change<br>without significantly altering its present character, has some environmental or<br>social value, or is of district/regional importance.   | Water         | nfrastruc                             | Air Quality, Noise and Dust | Landscape Topography | Soil         | Climate Change Influences | На      | Protect         | H.     | Fa    | Ecosystem functions,<br>values and non-Use c | al, region<br>cioecond                   | Commercial Agriculture | Community Protected Areas | Tourism<br>Recreat       | 3iologica<br>Resc                                    |
|    | 5                            | Very High  | The receptor or resource has little or no capacity to absorb change without fundamentally altering its present character, is of very high environmental or social value, or is of international importance.  |               | Physical infrastructure and Resources | Air 0                       | Га                   |              | Clin                      |         |                 |        |       | Ecosyst<br>values a                          | Local,<br>soci                           | ŏ                      | Com                       |                          | Cultural, Biological and Archaeological<br>Resources |
|    |                              |  | (i) General evaluation of satellite, topographic, land tenure, accessibility,  | 1             | 1                                     | 1                           | 1                    | 1            | 1                         | 1       | 1               | 1      | 1     | 1  | 1  | 1                      | 1                         | 1                        | 1  |
| ١. |                              |  | supporting infrastructures and socioeconomic environment data  (ii) Purchase and analysis of existing Government high resolution   | •             |                                       | •                           |                      |              | •                         | •       |                 |        | •     | -  | •  |                        |                           | <u> </u>                 | •  |
| 1. |                              | l Desktop<br>oration   | magnetics and radiometric geophysical data   | 1             | 1                                     | 1                           | 1                    | 1            | 1                         | 1       | 1               | 1      | 1     | 1  | 1  | 1                      | 1                         | 1                        | 1  |
|    | Activi                       |  | (iii) Purchase and analysis of existing Government aerial hyperspectral  | 1             | 1                                     | 1                           | 1                    | 1            | 1                         | 1       | 1               | 1      | 1     | 1  | 1  | 1                      | 1                         | 1                        | 1  |
|    |                              |  | <ul> <li>(iv) Data interpretation and delineating of potential targets for future<br/>reconnaissance regional field-based activities for delineated targets</li> </ul>   | 1             | 1                                     | 1                           | 1                    | 1            | 1                         | 1       | 1               | 1      | 1     | 1  | 1  | 1                      | 1                         | 1                        | 1  |
|    |                              |  | (i) Regional geological, geochemical, topographical and remote sensing mapping and data analysis   | 1             | 1                                     | 1                           | 1                    | 1            | 1                         | 1       | 1               | 1      | 1     | 1  | 1  | 1                      | 3                         | 3                        | 4  |
| 2. | Regional<br>Reconnaissan     |  | (ii) Regional geochemical sampling aimed at identifying possible<br>targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional<br>geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis<br>undertaken   | 1             | 1                                     | 1                           | 1                    | 1            | 1                         | 1       | 1               | 1      | 1     | 1  | 1  | 1                      | 3                         | 3                        | 4  |
|    | ce Field-Based<br>Activities | (iii) Regional geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted<br>based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological,<br>topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken | 1  | 1             | 1                                     | 1                           | 1                    | 1            | 1                         | 1       | 1               | 1      | 1     | 1  | 1  | 3                      | 3                         | 4                        |  |
|    |                              | <ul><li>(iv) Limited field-based support and logistical activities including<br/>exploration camp site lasting between one (1) to two (2) days</li></ul>   | 1  | 1             | 1                                     | 1                           | 1                    | 1            | 1                         | 1       | 1               | 1      | 1     | 1  | 1  | 3                      | 3                         | 4                        |  |
|    |                              |  | (v) Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the<br>results and delineating of potential targets for future detailed site-<br>specific exploration if the results are positive and supports further<br>exploration of the delineated targets | 1             | 1                                     | 1                           | 1                    | 1            | 1                         | 1       | 1               | 1      | 1     | 1  | 1  | 1                      | 3                         | 3                        | 4  |

Table 5.6: Cont.

|    |                                |                         |  | RECEPTOR SENSITIVITY  |             | ı                                     |                             | SICAL                | NT           |                           |         | _               | LOGI<br>IRONI | _                     |  |   | CUL <sup>-</sup><br>ARCH | TURAL                     | OGICAL                                  |                                  |
|----|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--|---|-------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------|--|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| F  | SENSI<br>1                     | TIVITY RATI             |  | CRITERIA  The receptor or resource is resistant to change or is of little environmental value.  | 9           | ources                                | +-                          |                      |              | 10                        |         |                 |               |                       | , use  |   |                          | Ŋ                         |   | logical                          |
| 1  | 2                              | Low                     |  | The receptor or resource is tolerant of change without detriment to its character, is of low environmental or social value, or is of local importance.  | 1           | Resc                                  | g Dus                       | aphy                 |              | ence                      |         | · ·             |               |                       | vices  | ationa<br>ings                                      | lture                    | l Area                    |   | chaeo                            |
|    | 3                              | Medium                  | ı  | The receptor or resource has low capacity to absorb change without fundamentally altering its present character, is of high environmental or social value, or is of national importance                     | er Quality  | Physical infrastructure and Resources | Air Quality, Noise and Dust | Landscape Topography | Soil Quality | Climate Change Influences | Habitat | Protected Areas | Flora         | Fauna                 | Ecosystem functions, services, values and non-Use or passive | Local, regional and national socioeconomic settings | Commercial Agriculture   | Community Protected Areas | Tourism and<br>Recreation               | al and Archaeological<br>sources |
|    | 4 High 5 Very High             |                         | The receptor or resource has moderate capacity to absorb change<br>without significantly altering its present character, has some environmental or<br>social value, or is of district/regional importance. | Water   | l infrastru | · Quality,                            | -andscap                    | Soil                 | mate Ch      | I                         | Protec  |                 | ш             | stem func<br>and non- | cal, region  | Sommerc   | mmunity                  | Tour                      | Cultural, Biological and A<br>Resources |                                  |
|    | 5                              | Very Hig                | h  | The receptor or resource has little or no capacity to absorb change without fundamentally altering its present character, is of very high environmental or social value, or is of international importance. |             | Physica                               | Air                         |                      |              | Ö                         |         |                 |               |                       | Ecosy,<br>values   | , Po  | J                        | 8                         |   | Cultural,                        |
|    |                                |                         | (i)  | Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during regional reconnaissance field activities  | 2           | 2                                     | 2                           | 2                    | 2            | 2                         | 2       | 2               | 2             | 2                     | 2  | 2   | 2                        | 3                         | 3                                       | 4                                |
|    |                                |                         | (ii)   | Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken   | 2           | 2                                     | 2                           | 2                    | 2            | 2                         | 2       | 2               | 2             | 2                     | 2  | 2   | 2                        | 3                         | 3                                       | 4                                |
| 3. | Initial                        |                         | (iii)  | Ground geophysical survey (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above)  | 2           | 2                                     | 2                           | 2                    | 2            | 2                         | 2       | 2               | 2             | 2                     | 2  | 2   | 2                        | 3                         | 3                                       | 4                                |
|    |                                | Based                   | (iv)   | Possible Trenching (Subject to the outcomes of i - iii above)   | 2           | 2                                     | 2                           | 2                    | 2            | 2                         | 2       | 2               | 2             | 2                     | 2  | 2   | 2                        | 3                         | 3                                       | 4                                |
|    | Activi                         | ities                   | (v)  | Field-based support and logistical activities will be very limited focus on a site-specific area for a very short time (maximum five (5) days)  | 2           | 2                                     | 2                           | 2                    | 2            | 2                         | 2       | 2               | 2             | 2                     | 2  | 2   | 2                        | 3                         | 3                                       | 4                                |
|    |                                |                         | (vi)   |   | 2           | 2                                     | 2                           | 2                    | 2            | 2                         | 2       | 2               | 2             | 2                     | 2  | 2   | 2                        | 3                         | 3                                       | 4                                |
|    |                                |                         | (i)  | Access preparation and related logistics to support activities  | 3           | 3                                     | 3                           | 3                    | 3            | 3                         | 3       | 3               | 3             | 3                     | 3  | 3   | 3                        | 3                         | 3                                       | 4                                |
| 4. | Detail                         | led Local               | (ii)   | Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during the initial field-based activities  | 2           | 2                                     | 2                           | 2                    | 2            | 2                         | 2       | 2               | 2             | 2                     | 2  | 2   | 2                        | 3                         | 3                                       | 4                                |
|    |                                | -Based<br>ities         | (iii)  | on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken   | 2           | 2                                     | 2                           | 2                    | 2            | 2                         | 2       | 2               | 2             | 2                     | 2  | 2   | 2                        | 3                         | 3                                       | 4                                |
|    | Activities                     |                         | (iv)   | the positive outcomes of i and ii above).   | 3           | 3                                     | 3                           | 3                    | 3            | 3                         | 3       | 3               | 3             | 3                     | 3  | 3   | 3                        | 3                         | 3                                       | 4                                |
|    |                                |                         | (i)  | Detailed site-specific field-based support and logistical activities, surveys, detailed geological mapping  | 3           | 3                                     | 3                           | 3                    | 3            | 3                         | 3       | 3               | 3             | 3                     | 3  | 3   | 3                        | 3                         | 3                                       | 4                                |
| 5. |                                | asibility<br>easibility | (ii)   | Detailed drilling and bulk sampling and testing for ore reserve calculations  | 3           | 3                                     | 3                           | 3                    | 3            | 3                         | 3       | 3               | 3             | 3                     | 3  | 3   | 3                        | 3                         | 3                                       | 4                                |
|    | and Feasibility -<br>Studies - |                         | (iii)  | Geotechnical studies for mine design  | 3           | 3                                     | 3                           | 3                    | 3            | 3                         | 3       | 3               | 3             | 3                     | 3  | 3   | 3                        | 3                         | 3                                       | 4                                |
|    | J.uul                          |                         | (iv)   | (water, energy and access) and test mining activities   | 1           | 1                                     | 1                           | 1                    | 1            | 1                         | 1       | 1               | 1             | 1                     | 1  | 1   | 1                        | 3                         | 3                                       | 4                                |
|    | <u></u>                        | (v)                     | EIA and EMP to support the ECC for mining operations   | 1   | 1           | 1                                     | 1                           | 1                    | 1            | 1                         | 1       | 1               | 1             | 1                     | 1  | 1   | 3                        | 3                         | 4                                       |                                  |
|    |                                |                         | (vi)   | Preparation of feasibility report and application for Mining License  | 1           | 1                                     | 1                           | 1                    | 1            | 1                         | 1       | 1               | 1             | 1                     | 1  | 1   | 1                        | 3                         | 3                                       | 4                                |

Table 5.7: Results of the scored time period (duration) over which the impact is expected to last.

|    |  | RECEPTOR SENSITIVITY   |               | E                                     | PHYS<br>NVIRC               | SICAL<br>ONMEN       | ΙΤ           |                           |         |                 | LOGIC<br>IRONN |       |  |   | CUL1<br>ARCH           | ΓURAL                     | GICAL                     |  |
|----|--|--|---------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------|-----------------|----------------|-------|--|---|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
|    |  | SCALE DESCRIPTION  T Temporary  Permanent  | Water Quality | Physical infrastructure and Resources | Air Quality, Noise and Dust | Landscape Topography | Soil Quality | Climate Change Influences | Habitat | Protected Areas | Flora          | Fauna | Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use | Local, regional and national socioeconomic settings | Commercial Agriculture | Community Protected Areas | Tourism and<br>Recreation | Cultural, Biological and Archaeological<br>Resources |
|    |  | General evaluation of satellite, topographic, land tenure, accessibility, supporting infrastructures and socioeconomic environment data  | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т       | Т               | Т              | Т     | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | Т  |
| 1. | Initial Desktop<br>Exploration             | Purchase and analysis of existing Government high resolution magnetics and radiometric geophysical data  | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т       | Т               | Т              | Т     | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | Т  |
|    | Activities                                 | (iii) Purchase and analysis of existing Government aerial hyperspectral  | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т       | T               | Т              | Т     | T  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | T                         | Т  |
|    | , 1041711100                               | <ul> <li>(iv) Data interpretation and delineating of potential targets for future<br/>reconnaissance regional field-based activities for delineated targets</li> </ul>   | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т       | Т               | Т              | Т     | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | Т  |
|    |  | Regional geological, geochemical, topographical and remote sensing mapping and data analysis   | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т       | Т               | Т              | Т     | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | Р  |
| 2. | Regional<br>Reconnaissan<br>ce Field-Based | (ii) Regional geochemical sampling aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken  | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | T                    | Т            | Т                         | Т       | Т               | Т              | T     | T  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | Р  |
|    | Activities                                 | (iii) Regional geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken   | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т       | Т               | Т              | Т     | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | Р  |
|    |  | (iv) Limited field-based support and logistical activities including exploration camp site lasting between one (1) to two (2) days   | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т       | Т               | Т              | Т     | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | Р  |
|    |  | (v) Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets for future detailed site-specific exploration if the results are positive and supports further exploration of the delineated targets  Output  Description: | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т       | Т               | Т              | Т     | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | Р  |

Table 5.7: Cont.

|    |   |  | DURATION OF IMPACT   |               | E                                     |                             | SICAL                | ΙΤ           |                           |          |                 | LOGI  |        |  |   | CULT<br>ARCH           | URAL                      | GICAL                     |  |
|----|---|--|--|---------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|----------|-----------------|-------|--------|--|---|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
|    |   | _  | SCALE DESCRIPTION Temporary Permanent  | Water Quality | Physical infrastructure and Resources | Air Quality, Noise and Dust | Landscape Topography | Soil Quality | Climate Change Influences | Habitat  | Protected Areas | Flora | Fauna  | Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use | Local, regional and national socioeconomic settings | Commercial Agriculture | Community Protected Areas | Tourism and<br>Recreation | Cultural, Biological and Archaeological<br>Resources |
|    |   | (i)  | Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during regional reconnaissance field activities | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т        | Т               | Т     | Т      | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | Р  |
|    |   | (ii)   | Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken    | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т        | Т               | Т     | Т      | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | Р  |
| 3. | Initial Local   | (iii)  | Ground geophysical survey (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and   | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т        | Т               | Т     | Т      | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | Р  |
|    | Field-Based   | (iv)   | ii above) Possible Trenching (Subject to the outcomes of i - iii above)  | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т        | Т               | Т     | Т      | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | P  |
|    | Activities  | (v)  | Field-based support and logistical activities will be very limited focus on  | T             | T                                     | T                           | Т                    | Т            | T                         | T        | T               | T     | Т      | T  | T   | Т                      | T                         | Т                         | P  |
|    |   | (vi)   | a site-specific area for a very short time (maximum five (5) days)  Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the | т             | ·                                     |                             | -                    |              |                           | -        | -               | _     | ·<br>- | -  |   | ·<br>-                 |                           |                           | P  |
|    |   | , ,  | results and delineating of potential targets   | '             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т        | Т               | Т     | ı      | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | ·  |
|    |   | (i)<br>(ii)  | Access preparation and related logistics to support activities  Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the     | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т        | Т               | Т     | Т      | T  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | P  |
| 4. | Detailed Local  | ( )  | target/s delineated during the initial field-based activities  | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т        | Т               | Т     | Т      | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         |  |
|    | Field-Based   | (iii)  | Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken    | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т        | Т               | Т     | Т      | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | Р  |
|    | Activities  | (iv)   | Ground geophysical survey, trenching, drilling and sampling (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above).                          | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т        | Т               | Т     | Т      | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | Р  |
|    |   | (i)  | Detailed site-specific field-based support and logistical activities, surveys, detailed geological mapping                                 | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т        | Т               | Т     | Т      | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | Р  |
| 5. | Prefeasibility  | (ii)   | Detailed drilling and bulk sampling and testing for ore reserve  | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т        | Т               | Т     | т      | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         | Т                         | Р  |
|    | and Feasibility                                       | (iii)  | calculations Geotechnical studies for mine design  | '<br>T        | т<br>Т                                | T                           |                      | '<br>Т       |                           | <u>'</u> | -<br>-          | T     | _<br>  | <u>'</u><br>Т  | <u> </u>  | '<br>T                 | <u>'</u>                  | <u>'</u>                  | P  |
|    | Studies   | (iv)   | Mine planning and designs including all supporting infrastructures   | <u> </u>      | <u> </u>                              |                             |                      | -            |                           | _        |                 | -     | _      | -  | _   |                        | _                         |                           | P  |
|    | (water, energy and access) and test mining activities |  | T  | Т             | Т                                     | Т                           | Т                    | Т            | Т                         | Т        | Т               | Γ     | Т      | Т  | Т   | Т                      | Т                         |                           |  |
|    |   | <ul><li>(v) EIA and EMP to support the ECC for mining operations</li><li>(vi) Preparation of feasibility report and application for Mining License</li></ul> |  |               |                                       | T                           | T                    | T            | T                         | T        | T               | T     | T      | T  | T   | T                      | T                         | T                         | Р  |
|    |   | (VI)   | Preparation of feasibility report and application for Mining License   |               | I                                     | I                           | I                    |              |                           |          | l               |       | l      |  |   |                        |                           | 1                         | Р  |

Table 5.8: Results of the scored geographical extent of the induced change.

|    |   | G     | EOGRAPHICAL EXTENT OF IMPACT   |               | E                                     | PHYS<br>ENVIRO              | SICAL<br>ONMEN       | IT           |                           |         |                 | LOGIC |       |  |   | CUL1                   | DECON<br>TURAL<br>AEOLO<br>IRONN | AND GICAL                 |  |
|----|---|-------|--|---------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------|-----------------|-------|-------|--|---|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
|    | L<br>O<br>R<br>N  | ALE   | DESCRIPTION  limited impact on location  impact of importance for municipality  impact of regional character  impact of national character  impact of cross-border character                                 | Water Quality | Physical infrastructure and Resources | Air Quality, Noise and Dust | Landscape Topography | Soil Quality | Climate Change Influences | Habitat | Protected Areas | Flora | Fauna | Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use | Local, regional and national socioeconomic settings | Commercial Agriculture | Community Protected Areas        | Tourism and<br>Recreation | Cultural, Biological and Archaeological<br>Resources |
|    |   | (i)   | General evaluation of satellite, topographic, land tenure, accessibility, supporting infrastructures and socioeconomic environment data  | L             | L                                     | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L     | L     | L  | L   | L                      | L                                | L                         | L  |
| 1. | Initial Deskto<br>Exploration   | (ii)  | Purchase and analysis of existing Government high resolution magnetics and radiometric geophysical data  | L             | L                                     | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L     | L     | L  | L   | L                      | L                                | L                         | L  |
|    | Activities  | (iii) | ,  | L             | L                                     | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L     | L     | L  | L   | L                      | L                                | L                         | L  |
|    |   | (iv)  | Data interpretation and delineating of potential targets for future reconnaissance regional field-based activities for delineated targets  | L             | L                                     | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L     | L     | L  | L   | L                      | L                                | L                         | L  |
|    |   | (i)   | Regional geological, geochemical, topographical and remote sensing mapping and data analysis   | L             | L                                     | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L     | L     | L  | L   | L                      | L                                | L                         | N  |
| 2. | mapping and data analysis  (ii) Regional geochemical sampling aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis   |       | L  | L             | L                                     | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L     | L     | L  | L   | L                      | L                                | N                         |  |
|    | ce Field-Based –<br>Activities  |       | Regional geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken | L             | L                                     | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L     | L     | L  | L   | L                      | L                                | L                         | N  |
|    |   | (iv)  | Limited field-based support and logistical activities including exploration camp site lasting between one (1) to two (2) days  | L             | L                                     | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L     | L     | L  | L   | L                      | L                                | L                         | N  |
|    | exploration camp site lasting between one (1) to two (2) days  (v) Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets for future detailed site-specific exploration if the results are positive and supports further exploration of the delineated targets |       | L  | L             | L                                     | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L     | L     | L  | L   | L                      | L                                | N                         |  |

Table 5.8: Conti.

|    |                                | GEC     | OGRAPHICAL EXTENT OF IMPACT  |               | E  |                             | SICAL<br>ONMEN       | IT           |                           |         |                 | LOGI(<br>IRONN |       |  |   | CUL1<br>ARCH           | ΓURAL                     | OGICAL                    |  |
|----|--------------------------------|---------|--|---------------|--|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------|-----------------|----------------|-------|--|---|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
|    | L<br>O<br>R<br>N               |         | DESCRIPTION  limited impact on location impact of importance for municipality impact of regional character impact of national character impact of cross-border character | Water Quality | Physical infrastructure and<br>Resources | Air Quality, Noise and Dust | Landscape Topography | Soil Quality | Climate Change Influences | Habitat | Protected Areas | Flora          | Fauna | Ecosystem functions, services, use values and non-Use or passive use | Local, regional and national socioeconomic settings | Commercial Agriculture | Community Protected Areas | Tourism and<br>Recreation | Cultural, Biological and<br>Archaeological Resources |
|    |                                | (i) L   | ocal geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the arget/s delineated during regional reconnaissance field activities                                 | L             | L  | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L              | L     | L  | L   | L                      | 0                         | R                         | N  |
|    |                                | (ii) L  | ocal geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken                                   | L             | L  | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L              | L     | L  | L   | L                      | 0                         | R                         | N  |
| 3. | Initial Local                  | (iii) G | Ground geophysical survey (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and above)  | L             | L  | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L              | L     | L  | L   | L                      | 0                         | R                         | N  |
|    | Field-Based                    | (iv) P  | Possible Trenching (Subject to the outcomes of i - iii above)  | L             | L  | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L              | L     | L  | L   | L                      | 0                         | R                         | N  |
|    | Activities                     |         | Field-based support and logistical activities will be very limited focus on a site-specific area for a very short time (maximum five (5) days)                           | L             | L  | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L              | L     | L  | L   | L                      | 0                         | R                         | N  |
|    |                                | (vi) L  | aboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the esults and delineating of potential targets  | L             | L  | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L              | L     | L  | L   | L                      | 0                         | R                         | N  |
|    |                                |         | Access preparation and related logistics to support activities   | L             | L  | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L              | L     | L  | L   | L                      | 0                         | R                         | N  |
| 4. | Detailed Local                 | (ii) L  | ocal geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the arget/s delineated during the initial field-based activities                                       | L             | L  | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L              | L     | L  | L   | L                      | 0                         | R                         | N  |
|    | Field-Based<br>Activities      | (iii) L | ocal geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken                                   | L             | L  | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L              | L     | L  | L   | L                      | 0                         | R                         | N  |
|    | ACHVILLES                      | (iv) G  | Ground geophysical survey, trenching, drilling and sampling (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above).  | L             | L  | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L              | L     | L  | L   | L                      | 0                         | R                         | N  |
|    |                                | (i) D   | Detailed site-specific field-based support and logistical activities, surveys, detailed geological mapping   | L             | L  | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L              | L     | L  | L   | L                      | 0                         | R                         | N  |
| 5. | Prefeasibility and Feasibility | (ii) D  | Detailed drilling and bulk sampling and testing for ore reserve alculations  | L             | L  | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L              | L     | L  | L   | L                      | 0                         | R                         | N  |
|    | Studies                        |         | Geotechnical studies for mine design   | L             | L  | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L              | L     | L  | L   | L                      | 0                         | R                         | N  |
|    | Judies                         | (iv) N  | Aline planning and designs including all supporting infrastructures water, energy and access) and test mining activities   | L             | L  | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L              | L     | L  | L   | L                      | 0                         | R                         | N  |
| 1  | -                              | (v) E   | EIA and EMP to support the ECC for mining operations   | L             | L  | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L              | L     | L  | L   | L                      | 0                         | R                         | N  |
|    |                                | (vi) P  | Preparation of feasibility report and application for Mining License   | L             | L  | L                           | L                    | L            | L                         | L       | L               | L              | L     | L  | L   | L                      | 0                         | R                         | N  |

Table 5.9: Results of the qualitative scale of probability occurrence.

|    |  | B Unlikely (e.g. heard of in the industry but considered unlikely)  C Low likelihood (egg such incidents/impacts have occurred but ar uncommon)  Medium likelihood (e.g. such incidents/impacts occur severatimes per year within the industry)  E High likelihood (e.g. such incidents/impacts occurs several time per year at each location where such works are undertaken)  (i) General evaluation of satellite, topographic, land tenure, access supporting infrastructures and socioeconomic environment data purchase and analysis of existing Government high resonance and ana |  |            |                         |                             | SICAL<br>DNMEN       | IT           |                           |         |                 | LOGIO<br>IRONN |       |  |  | CUL1                   | ΓURAL                     | GICAL                     |  |
|----|--|--|--|------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------|-----------------|----------------|-------|--|--|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| ì  | 14785 C. 1752  |  |  |            | Resources               |                             |                      |              |                           |         |                 |                |       | nse<br>use                                   |  |                        |                           |                           | gical                                      |
|    |  |  | The second secon |            | nos                     | ust                         | >                    |              | Ses                       |         |                 |                |       |  | nal<br>s   | Φ.                     | eas                       |                           | oloe                                       |
|    | Α  |  | Extremely unlikely (e.g. never heard of in the industry)   |            | Re L                    | др                          | aph                  |              | ouer                      |         | S               |                |       | services,<br>r passive                       | atio<br>ting                                       | ıltur                  | Ā                         |                           | chae                                       |
|    | В  |  | Unlikely (e.g. heard of in the industry but considered unlikely)   | ality      | and                     | an                          | ogr                  | iξ           | Infl                      |         | rea             |                |       | σ×   | nd n<br>set  | Iricu                  | ctec                      | pu u                      | A Arc                                      |
|    | С  |  | Low likelihood (egg such incidents/impacts have occurred but are uncommon)   | er Quality | acture                  | Noise                       | эе Тор               | Soil Quality | lange                     | Habitat | Protected Areas | Flora          | Fauna | functions<br>non-Use                         | onal ar<br>nomic                                   | oial Ag                | Prote                     | Tourism and<br>Recreation | al and<br>source                           |
|    | D  |  | Medium likelihood (e.g. such incidents/impacts occur several times per year within the industry)   | Water      | nfrastrı                | Air Quality, Noise and Dust | Landscape Topography | Soi          | Climate Change Influences | _       | Prote           |                | _     | tem fun<br>and non                           | ical, regional and national socioeconomic settings | Commercial Agriculture | Community Protected Areas | Tou                       | Biological and Archaeological<br>Resources |
|    | E  |  | High likelihood (e.g. such incidents/impacts occurs several times per year at each location where such works are undertaken)   |            | Physical infrastructure | Air G                       | Lar                  |              | Clin                      |         |                 |                |       | Ecosystem functions,<br>values and non-Use α | Local,<br>socie                                    | ပိ                     | Comi                      |                           | Cultural, B                                |
|    |  |  | 30.00  |            | Phy                     |                             |                      |              |                           |         |                 |                |       | Ec   |  |                        |                           |                           | Cult                                       |
|    |  | (i)  | General evaluation of satellite, topographic, land tenure, accessibility, supporting infrastructures and socioeconomic environment data  | Α          | Α                       | Α                           | Α                    | Α            | Α                         | Α       | Α               | Α              | Α     | Α  | Α  | Α                      | Α                         | Α                         | Е  |
| 1. | Initial Desktop<br>Exploration                             |  | magnetics and radiometric geophysical data   | Α          | Α                       | Α                           | Α                    | Α            | Α                         | Α       | Α               | Α              | Α     | Α  | Α  | Α                      | Α                         | Α                         | Е  |
|    | Activities   | (iii)  | Purchase and analysis of existing Government aerial hyperspectral  | Α          | Α                       | Α                           | Α                    | Α            | Α                         | Α       | Α               | Α              | Α     | Α  | Α  | Α                      | Α                         | Α                         | E  |
|    |  | (iv)   | Data interpretation and delineating of potential targets for future reconnaissance regional field-based activities for delineated targets  | Α          | Α                       | Α                           | Α                    | Α            | Α                         | Α       | Α               | Α              | Α     | Α  | Α  | Α                      | Α                         | Α                         | Е  |
|    |  | (i)  | Regional geological, geochemical, topographical and remote sensing mapping and data analysis   | Α          | Α                       | Α                           | Α                    | Α            | Α                         | Α       | Α               | Α              | Α     | Α  | Α  | Α                      | D                         | D                         | Е  |
| 2. | . Regional<br>Reconnaissan<br>ce Field-Based<br>Activities | (ii)   | Regional geochemical sampling aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken   | Α          | Α                       | Α                           | Α                    | Α            | А                         | Α       | Α               | Α              | Α     | Α  | Α  | Α                      | D                         | D                         | E  |
|    |  | (iii)  | Regional geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the initial exploration and regional geological, topographical and remote sensing mapping and analysis undertaken   | Α          | Α                       | А                           | Α                    | Α            | А                         | Α       | Α               | Α              | Α     | Α  | Α  | Α                      | D                         | D                         | E  |
|    |  | (iv)   | Limited field-based support and logistical activities including exploration camp site lasting between one (1) to two (2) days  | Α          | Α                       | Α                           | Α                    | Α            | Α                         | Α       | Α               | Α              | Α     | Α  | Α  | Α                      | D                         | D                         | Е  |
|    |  | (v)  | Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets for future detailed site-specific exploration if the results are positive and supports further exploration of the delineated targets   | Α          | Α                       | Α                           | Α                    | Α            | Α                         | Α       | Α               | А              | Α     | Α  | Α  | Α                      | D                         | D                         | Е  |

Table 5.9: Cont.

|    | IMPACT PROBABILITY OCCURRENCE  |       |  |          | PHYSICAL<br>ENVIRONMENT     |                      |              |                           |         |                 | BIOLOGICAL<br>ENVIRONMENT |       |  |   |                        | SOCIOECONOMIC,<br>CULTURAL AND<br>ARCHAEOLOGICAL<br>ENVIRONMENT |                           |                             |   |
|----|--|-------|--|----------|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------|--|---|------------------------|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Ì  | SCALE  |       | DESCRIPTION  |          | and Resources               |                      |              |                           |         |                 |                           |       |  | esn<br>nse  |                        |   |                           |                             | gical                                   |
|    | A  |       | Extremely unlikely (e.g. never heard of in the industry)   |          | sour                        | st                   |              |                           | Se      |                 |                           |       |  | s, u<br>/e u  | lal .                  |   | as                        |                             | olo                                     |
|    | B Unlikely (e.g. heard of in the industry but considered unlikely)  C Low likelihood (egg such incidents/impacts have occurred but are uncommon)  D Medium likelihood (e.g. such incidents/impacts occur several times per year within the industry) |       |  | Be       | 10 K                        | thdt)                |              | enc                       |         | Protected Areas |                           |       | vice   | atior<br>ings                                       | ılture                 | Are   |                           | hae                         |   |
|    |  |       | Quality  | ure and  | oise and                    | Fopogra              | Soil Quality | Climate Change Influences | Habitat |                 | Flora                     | na    | Ecosystem functions, services, values and non-Use or passive | Local, regional and national socioeconomic settings | Commercial Agriculture | Community Protected Areas                                       | Tourism and<br>Recreation | and Archaeological<br>urces |   |
|    |  |       | Water (  | astructi | Air Quality, Noise and Dust | Landscape Topography | Soil G       |                           |         |                 | 표                         | Fauna |  |   | nercial                | ınity Pr  | Tourisi<br>Recre          | ogical                      |   |
|    | E  |       | High likelihood (e.g. such incidents/impacts occurs several times per year at each location where such works are undertaken)                   |          | Physical infrastructure     | Air Qua              | Land         |                           | Climate |                 | Δ.                        |       |  | Ecosystem<br>values and                             | Local, r<br>socio      | Comi  | Commu                     |                             | Cultural, Biological and A<br>Resources |
| -  |  | (i)   | Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the   | Α        | A                           | Α                    | Α            | Α                         | Α       | Α               | Α                         | Α     | Α  | Α   | Α                      | Α   | D                         | D                           | E                                       |
|    | Initial Local<br>Field-Based<br>Activities   | (ii)  | target/s delineated during regional reconnaissance field activities  Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based     |          |                             |                      |              |                           |         |                 |                           |       |  |   |                        |   |                           |                             | Е                                       |
|    |  | (11)  | on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken  | В        | В                           | В                    | В            | В                         | В       | В               | В                         | В     | В  | В   | В                      | В   | D                         | D                           | _                                       |
| 3. |  | (iii) | Ground geophysical survey (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above)   | В        | В                           | В                    | В            | В                         | В       | В               | В                         | В     | В  | В   | В                      | В   | D                         | D                           | Е                                       |
|    |  | (iv)  | Possible Trenching (Subject to the outcomes of i - iii above)  | В        | В                           | В                    | В            | В                         | В       | В               | В                         | В     | В  | В   | В                      | В   | D                         | D                           | Е                                       |
|    |  | (v)   | Field-based support and logistical activities will be very limited focus on a site-specific area for a very short time (maximum five (5) days) | В        | В                           | В                    | В            | В                         | В       | В               | В                         | В     | В  | В   | В                      | В   | D                         | D                           | Е                                       |
|    |  | (vi)  | Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets                            | Α        | Α                           | Α                    | Α            | Α                         | Α       | Α               | Α                         | Α     | Α  | Α   | Α                      | Α   | D                         | D                           | Е                                       |
|    |  | (i)   | Access preparation and related logistics to support activities   | С        | С                           | С                    | С            | С                         | С       | С               | С                         | С     | С  | С   | С                      | С   | D                         | D                           | Е                                       |
| 4. | Detailed Local   | (ii)  | Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during the initial field-based activities           | С        | С                           | С                    | С            | С                         | С       | С               | С                         | С     | С  | С   | С                      | С   | D                         | D                           | Е                                       |
|    | Field-Based<br>Activities  | (iii) | Local geological mapping aimed at identifying possible targeted based on the results of the regional geological and analysis undertaken        | С        | С                           | С                    | С            | С                         | С       | С               | С                         | С     | С  | С   | С                      | С   | D                         | D                           | Е                                       |
|    |  | (iv)  | Ground geophysical survey, trenching, drilling and sampling (Subject to the positive outcomes of i and ii above).                              | С        | С                           | С                    | С            | С                         | С       | С               | С                         | С     | С  | С   | С                      | С   | D                         | D                           | Е                                       |
|    |  | (i)   | Detailed site-specific field-based support and logistical activities, surveys, detailed geological mapping                                     | С        | С                           | С                    | С            | С                         | С       | С               | С                         | С     | С  | С   | С                      | С   | D                         | D                           | Е                                       |
| 5. | Prefeasibility and Feasibility   | (ii)  | Detailed drilling and bulk sampling and testing for ore reserve calculations   | С        | С                           | С                    | С            | С                         | С       | С               | С                         | С     | С  | С   | С                      | С   | D                         | D                           | Е                                       |
| 1  | Studies  | (iii) | Geotechnical studies for mine design   | С        | С                           | С                    | С            | С                         | С       | С               | С                         | С     | С  | С   | С                      | С   | D                         | D                           | Е                                       |
|    |  | (iv)  | Mine planning and designs including all supporting infrastructures (water, energy and access) and test mining activities                       | С        | С                           | С                    | С            | С                         | С       | С               | С                         | С     | С  | С   | С                      | С   | D                         | D                           | Е                                       |
|    |  | (v)   | EIA and EMP to support the ECC for mining operations   | Α        | Α                           | Α                    | Α            | Α                         | Α       | Α               | Α                         | Α     | Α  | Α   | Α                      | Α   | D                         | D                           | E                                       |
|    |  | (vi)  | Preparation of feasibility report and application for Mining License   | Α        | Α                           | Α                    | Α            | Α                         | Α       | Α               | Α                         | Α     | Α  | Α   | Α                      | Α   | D                         | D                           | E                                       |

### 5.5 Evaluation of Significant Impacts

#### 5.5.1 Overview

The significance of each impact has been determined by assessing the impact severity against the likelihood (probability) of the impact occurring as summarised in the impact significance assessment matrix provided in Table 5.10.

### 5.5.2 Significance Criteria

Significance criteria for negative/adverse impacts (i.e., relative ranking of importance) are defined in Table 5.10. It is important to note that impacts have been considered without the implementation of mitigation measures. The need for appropriate mitigation measures as presented in the EMP report has been determined based on the basis of the impact assessment presented in this report.

Table 5.10: Scored impact significance criteria.

| IMPACT<br>SEVERITY                             | RECEPTOR CHARACTERISTICS (SENSITIVITY) |                |                |                 |                |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Magnitude,<br>Duration, Extent,<br>Probability | Very High (5)                          | High<br>(4)    | Medium (3)     | Low (2)         | Negligible (1) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Very High (5)                                  | Major [5/5]                            | Major [4/5[    | Moderate [3/5] | Moderate [2 /5] | Minor 1/5      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| High (4)                                       | Major [5/4]                            | Major [4/4]    | Moderate [3/4] | Moderate [2/4]  | Minor [1/4]    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Medium (3)                                     | Major [5/3]                            | Moderate [4/3] | Moderate [3/3] | Minor [2/3]     | None [1/3]     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Low (2)  | Moderate [5/2]                         | Moderate [4/2] | Minor [3/2]    | None [2/2]      | None [1/2]     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Negligible (1)                                 | Minor [5/1]                            | Minor [4/1]    | None [3/1]     | None [2/1]      | None [1/1]     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

### 5.5.3 Assessment Likely Significant Impacts

The assessment of significant impacts depended upon the degree to which the proposed project activities are likely to results in unwanted consequences on the receptor covering physical and biological environments (Table 5.11). Overall, the assessment of significant impacts has focused on the ecosystem-based approach that considers potential impacts to the ecosystem. The main key sources of impacts that have been used in the determination of significant impacts posed by the proposed minerals exploration comprised activities. Each of the main areas of impact have been identified and assessed as follows:

- ❖ Positive Impacts are classified under a single category. they are then evaluated qualitatively with a view to their enhancement, if practical.
- Negligible or Low Impacts will require little or no additional management or mitigation measures (on the basis that the magnitude of the impact is sufficiently small, or that the receptor is of low sensitivity).
- Medium or High Impacts require the adoption of management or mitigation measures.
- High Impacts always require further management or mitigation measures to limit or reduce the impact to an acceptable level.

Overall, the results of the significant impact assessment matrix for the proposed minerals exploration activities on the physical and biological environments are shown in Tables 5.11.

Table 5.11: Significant impact assessment matrix for the proposed exploration activities.

|    | SIGNIFICANT IMPACT   |  |  |                               |   | PHYSICAL<br>ENVIRONMENT             |                                     |         |                                       | BIOLOGICAL<br>ENVIRONMENT   |                      |       |   |                | SOCIOECONOMIC,<br>CULTURAL AND<br>ARCHAEOLOGICAL<br>ENVIRONMENT |        |                           |                         |                              |                        |                           |            |  |
|----|--|--|--|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-------|---|----------------|---|--------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------|--|
|    | IMPACT RECEPTOR CHARACTERISTICS (SENSITIVITY) SEVERITY   |  |  |                               |   | Irces                               |                                     |         |                                       |                             |                      |       |   |                | nse<br>use  |        |                           |                         |                              | gical                  |                           |            |  |
|    |  | /ery Hiç   | jh (5)   | High(4)                       | Medium (3)  | Low (2)                             | Negligible (1)                      | Quality | Physical infrastructure and Resources | Air Quality, Noise and Dust | Landscape Topography | ality | Climate Change Influences                 | #              | Areas   |        | T.                        | services,<br>or passive | and national<br>nic settings | Commercial Agriculture | Community Protected Areas | and<br>ion | Cultural, Biological and Archaeological<br>Resources |
|    | Very High (5) Major [5/5] Major [4/5[ Moderate [3/5] Moderate [2 /5] Minor 1/5   |  | ier Qu   | ucture                        | Nois  | эе То                               | Soil Quality                        | ıange   | Habitat                               | Protected Areas             | Flora                | Fauna | Ecosystem functions, values and non-Use c | , regional and | cial A  | , Prot | Tourism and<br>Recreation | sal an<br>ssourc        |                              |                        |                           |            |  |
|    | High (4)   | Major [  | 5/4]   | Major [4/4]                   | Moderate [3/4]                                    | Moderate [2/4]                      | Minor[1/4]                          | Water   | frastr                                | uality                      | dsca                 | S     | ate Cł                                    | _              | Prote   |        |                           | m fur<br>Id noi         | , regi                       | nmer                   | nunity                    | Tot        | ologik<br>Re   |
|    | Medium (3)   | Major [  | 5/3]   | Moderate[4/3]                 | Moderate[3/3]                                     | Minor[2/3]                          | None[1/3]                           |         | al in                                 | ۸ir ۵                       | Lan                  |       | Clima                                     |                |   |        |                           | syste<br>es an          | Local,<br>soci               | Cor                    | omn                       |            | al, Bi   |
|    | and the second s | Moderate   | No. of Contract of | Moderate[4/2]                 | Minor[3/2]  | None[2/2]                           | None[1/2]                           |         | hysic                                 | `                           |                      |       |   |                |   |        |                           | Ecos<br>value           | 7                            |                        | 0                         |            | ultura   |
| 3  | Negligible (1)         Minor [5/1]         Minor [4/1]         None [3/1]         None [2/1]         None [1/1]  |  |  | ₾                             |   |                                     |                                     |         |                                       |                             |                      |       |   |                |   |        |                           | Ō                       |                              |                        |                           |            |  |
|    |  |  |  |                               | f satellite, topogratures and socioe              |                                     |                                     | 1/1     | 1/1                                   | 1/1                         | 1/1                  | 1/1   | 1/1                                       | 1/1            | 1/1   | 1/1    | 1/1                       | 1/1                     | 1/1                          | 1/1                    | 1/1                       | 1/1        | 1/1  |
| 1. | Initial Desktop  | (ii) Purchase and analysis of existing Government high resolution magnetics and radiometric geophysical data |  |                               |   | 1/1                                 | 1/1                                 | 1/1     | 1/1                                   | 1/1                         | 1/1                  | 1/1   | 1/1                                       | 1/1            | 1/1   | 1/1    | 1/1                       | 1/1                     | 1/1                          | 1/1                    | 1/1                       |            |  |
|    | Exploration<br>Activities  |  |  |                               | sis of existing Go                                |                                     | hyperspectral                       | 1/1     | 1/1                                   | 1/1                         | 1/1                  | 1/1   | 1/1                                       | 1/1            | 1/1   | 1/1    | 1/1                       | 1/1                     | 1/1                          | 1/1                    | 1/1                       | 1/1        | 1/1  |
|    | Activities   |  |  |                               | and delineating                                   |                                     |                                     | 1/1     | 1/1                                   | 1/1                         | 1/1                  | 1/1   | 1/1                                       | 1/1            | 1/1   | 1/1    | 1/1                       | 1/1                     | 1/1                          | 1/1                    | 1/1                       | 1/1        | 1/1  |
|    |  | (i)  | reconnaissance regional field-based activities for delineated targets (i) Regional geological, geochemical, topographical and remote sensing   |                               |   |                                     | 1/1                                 | 1/1     | 1/1                                   | 1/1                         | 1/1                  | 1/1   | 1/1                                       | 1/1            | 1/1   | 1/1    | 1/1                       | 1/1                     | 1/1                          | 1/1                    | 1/1                       | 4/4        |  |
|    |  |  |  | ng and data ar                | nalysis<br>ical sampling a                        | imed at ident                       | tifving possible                    | 1/1     | 1/ 1                                  | 1/1                         | 1/1                  | 17.1  | 1/ 1                                      | 1/1            | 1/1   | 171    | 1/1                       | 1/ 1                    | '''                          | 1/ 1                   | 1/ 1                      | .,,        | 7/ 7   |
| 2. | Regional<br>Reconnaissan<br>ce Field-Based   |  | targete  | ed based on the               | he results of the hical and remote                | initial exploration                 | on and regional                     | 1/1     | 1/1                                   | 1/1                         | 1/1                  | 1/1   | 1/1                                       | 1/1            | 1/1   | 1/1    | 1/1                       | 1/1                     | 1/1                          | 1/1                    | 1/1                       | 1/1        | 4/4  |
|    | Activities   | . ,  | based<br>topogr  | on the results aphical and re | mapping aimed of the initial explomate sensing ma | oration and regi<br>apping and anal | onal geological,<br>ysis undertaken | 1/1     | 1/1                                   | 1/1                         | 1/1                  | 1/1   | 1/1                                       | 1/1            | 1/1   | 1/1    | 1/1                       | 1/1                     | 1/1                          | 1/1                    | 1/1                       | 1/1        | 4/4  |
|    |  |  |  |                               | support and<br>e lasting betweer                  |                                     |                                     | 1/1     | 1/1                                   | 1/1                         | 1/1                  | 1/1   | 1/1                                       | 1/1            | 1/1   | 1/1    | 1/1                       | 1/1                     | 1/1                          | 1/1                    | 1/1                       | 1/1        | 4/4  |
|    | exploration camp site lasting between one (1) to two (2) days  (v) Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets for future detailed site-specific exploration if the results are positive and supports further exploration of the delineated targets  |  |  |                               | 1/1   | 1/1                                 | 1/1                                 | 1/1     | 1/1                                   | 1/1                         | 1/1                  | 1/1   | 1/1                                       | 1/1            | 1/1   | 1/1    | 1/1                       | 1/1                     | 1/1                          | 4/4                    |                           |            |  |

Table 5.11: Cont.

|    | SENSITIVITY  |  |   |   | PHYSICAL<br>ENVIRONMENT |                     |              |                                       |                         | BIOLOGICAL<br>ENVIRONMENT |       |                           |                         |                                     | SOCIOECONOMIC,<br>CULTURAL AND<br>ARCHAEOLOGICAL<br>ENVIRONMENT |                     |                           |                              |                        |             |            |  |
|----|--|--|---|---|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|------------|--|
|    | IMPACT<br>SEVERITY   | RECEPTOR CHARACTERISTICS (SENSITIVITY)   |   |   |                         |                     | seo          |                                       |                         |                           |       |                           |                         |                                     |   | esn                 |                           |                              |                        |             | gical      |  |
|    |  | Very High (5)  | High(4)   | Medium (3)                                  | Low (2)                 | Negligible (1)      | Quality      | Physical infrastructure and Resources | Quality, Noise and Dust | Topography                | ulity | Climate Change Influences | =                       | Protected Areas                     |   | a                   | , services,<br>or passive | and national<br>iic settings | Commercial Agriculture | ected Areas | and<br>ion | Cultural, Biological and Archaeological<br>Resources |
|    | Very High (5)         Major [5/5]         Major [4/5[         Moderate [3/5]         Moderate [2 /5]         Minor 1/5         So to the property of the property  |  | er Qu   | ucture                                      | , Nois                  | pe To               | Soil Quality | hange                                 | Habitat                 | cted A                    | Flora | Fauna                     | functions,<br>non-Use o | Local, regional an<br>socioeconomic | rcial A   | Community Protected | Tourism and<br>Recreation | sal an                       |                        |             |            |  |
|    | High (4)   | Major [5/4]  | Major [4/4]   | Moderate [3/4]                              | Moderate [2/4]          | Minor[1/4]          | Water        | frastr                                | uality                  | andscape                  | S     | Ite Cl                    |                         | Prote                               |   |                     |                           | , regi                       | nmer                   | Junit       | Tol        | ologic   |
|    | Medium (3)   | Major [5/3]  | Moderate[4/3]   | Moderate[3/3]                               | Minor[2/3]              | None[1/3]           |              | al in                                 | Ϋ́                      | Lan                       |       | Clima                     |                         |                                     |   |                     | Ecosystem values and      | ocal                         | So                     | omn         |            | , Bi   |
|    | and the second of the second o | Moderate [5/2  | ] Moderate[4/2]   | Minor[3/2]                                  | None[2/2]               | None[1/2]           |              | hysic                                 | 4                       |                           |       |                           |                         |                                     |   |                     | Ecosys<br>values          | _                            |                        |             |            | ıltura   |
|    | Negligible (1)   | Minor [5/1]  | Minor [4/1]   | None [3/1]                                  | None [2/1]              | None [1/1]          |              | 颪                                     |                         |                           |       |                           |                         |                                     |   |                     | _ /                       |                              |                        |             |            | σ  |
|    |  |  |   | ampling aimed at<br>uring regional rec      |                         |                     | 1/1          | 1/1                                   | 1/1                     | 1/1                       | 1/1   | 1/1                       | 1/1                     | 1/1                                 | 1/1   | 1/1                 | 1/1                       | 1/1                          | 1/1                    | 1/1         | 1/1        | 4/4  |
|    | Initial Local<br>Field-Based<br>Activities   | (ii) Local   | l geological map  | ping aimed at ide                           | ntifying possible       | e targeted based    | 1/1          | 1/1                                   | 1/1                     | 1/1                       | 1/1   | 1/1                       | 1/1                     | 1/1                                 | 1/1   | 1/1                 | 1/1                       | 1/1                          | 1/1                    | 1/1         | 1/1        | 4/4  |
| 3. |  | (iii) Grou   | nd geophysical s  | survey (Subject to                          |                         |                     | 2\2          | 2\2                                   | 2\2                     | 2\2                       | 2\2   | 2\2                       | 2\2                     | 2\2                                 | 2\2   | 2\2                 | 2\2                       | 2\2                          | 2\2                    | 2\2         | 2\2        | 4/4  |
|    |  | ii above) (iv) Possible Trenching (Subject to the outcomes of i - iii above)                                     |   |   | 2\2                     | 2\2                 | 2\2          | 2\2                                   | 2\2                     | 2\2                       | 2\2   | 2\2                       | 2\2                     | 2\2                                 | 2\2   | 2\2                 | 2\2                       | 2\2                          | 2\2                    | 4/4         |            |  |
|    |  | (v) Field-based support and logistical activities will be very limited focus on                                  |   |   |                         | 2\2                 | 2\2          | 2\2                                   | 2\2                     | 2\2                       | 2\2   | 2\2                       | 2\2                     | 2\2                                 | 2\2   | 2\2                 | 2\2                       | 2\2                          | 2\2                    | 2\2         | 4/4        |  |
|    |  |  | a site-specific area for a very short time (maximum five (5) days)  (vi) Laboratory analysis of the samples collected and interpretation of the                             |   |                         |                     | 1/1          | 1/1                                   | 1/1                     | 1/1                       | 1/1   | 1/1                       | 1/1                     | 1/1                                 | 1/1   | 1/1                 | 1/1                       | 1/1                          | 1/1                    | 1/1         | 1/1        | 4/4  |
|    |  | results and delineating of potential targets  (i) Access preparation and related legistics to support activities |   |   |                         | 2\2                 | 2\2          | 2\2                                   | 2\2                     | 2\2                       | 2\2   | 2/2                       | 2/2                     | 2/9                                 | 2/2   | 2/9                 | 2\2                       | 2\2                          | 3\3                    | 3\3         | 4/4        |  |
|    |  | (ii) Local   | <ul> <li>(i) Access preparation and related logistics to support activities</li> <li>(ii) Local geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the</li> </ul> |   |                         | ospectivity of the  | 2\2          | 2\2                                   | 2\2                     | 2\2                       | 2\2   | 2\2                       | 3/2                     | 3/2                                 | 3/2   | 3/2                 | 3/2                       | 2\2                          | 2\2                    | 3\3         | 3\3        | 4/4  |
| 4. | Detailed Local Field-Based   |  |   | uring the initial fiel<br>ping aimed at ide |                         |                     |              |                                       |                         |                           |       |                           | 0)2                     | 0/2                                 | <u> </u>  |                     | 0/2                       |                              |                        | 3\3         | 3\3        |  |
|    | Activities   | on th  | e results of the r  | egional geologica                           | al and analysis ι       | undertaken          | 2\2          | 2\2                                   | 2\2                     | 2\2                       | 2\2   | 2\2                       | 2\2                     | 2\2                                 | 2\2   | 2\2                 | 2\2                       | 2\2                          | 2\2                    |             |            | 4/4  |
|    |  | the p  | ositive outcomes  | survey, trenching,<br>s of i and ii above   | e).                     |                     | 2\2          | 2\2                                   | 2\2                     | 2\2                       | 2\2   | 2\2                       | 3/2                     | 3/2                                 | 3/2   | 3/2                 | 3/2                       | 2\2                          | 2\2                    | 3/3         | 3\3        | 4/4  |
|    |  |  |   | c field-based su                            | pport and log           | istical activities, | 2\2          | 2\2                                   | 2\2                     | 2\2                       | 2\2   | 2\2                       | 2\2                     | 2\2                                 | 2\2   | 2\2                 | 2\2                       | 2\2                          | 2\2                    | 3/3         | 3/3        | 4/4  |
| 5. | Prefeasibility   | (ii) Detai   | surveys, detailed geological mapping  Detailed drilling and bulk sampling and testing for ore reserve calculations  |   |                         |                     | 3/3          | 3/3                                   | 3/3                     | 3/3                       | 3/3   | 3/3                       | 3/3                     | 3/3                                 | 3/3   | 3/3                 | 3/3                       | 3/3                          | 3/3                    | 3\3         | 3\3        | 4/4  |
|    | and Feasibility Studies  |  | echnical studies  | for mine design                             |                         |                     | 2\2          | 2\2                                   | 2\2                     | 2\2                       | 2\2   | 2\2                       | 2\2                     | 2\2                                 | 2\2   | 2\2                 | 2\2                       | 2\2                          | 2\2                    | 3\3         | 3\3        | 4/4  |
|    | Studies  | (iv) Mine  | planning and  | designs including                           |                         | g infrastructures   | 3/3          | 3/3                                   | 3/3                     | 3/3                       | 3/3   | 3/3                       | 3/3                     | 3/3                                 | 3/3   | 3/3                 | 3/3                       | 3/3                          | 3/3                    | 3\3         | 3/3        | 4/4  |
|    |  |  |   | ort the ECC for n                           |                         | IS                  | 1/1          | 1/1                                   | 1/1                     | 1/1                       | 1/1   | 1/1                       | 1/1                     | 1/1                                 | 1/1   | 1/1                 | 1/1                       | 1/1                          | 1/1                    | 3\3         | 3\3        | 4/4  |
|    | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·  |  |   |   | 1/1                     | 1/1                 | 1/1          | 1/1                                   | 1/1                     | 1/1                       | 1/1   | 1/1                       | 1/1                     | 1/1                                 | 1/1   | 1/1                 | 1/1                       | 3\3                          | 3\3                    | 4/4         |            |  |

### 5.6 Assessment of Overall Impacts

### 5.6.1 Summary of the Results of the Impact Assessment

In accordance with Tables 5.6 - 5.11, the following is the summary of the overall likely negative and significant impacts of the proposed exploration activities on the receiving environment (physical, biological and socioeconomic environments) without:

- (i) Initial desktop exploration activities: Overall likely negative impact on the receiving environment will be negligible with extremely unlikely probability of occurrence without mitigations. Overall significant impacts will be negligible [1/1] (Table 5.11). Except for the socioeconomic components which carry a (+), the rest of the likely impacts are negative (-).
- (ii) Regional reconnaissance field-based activities: Overall likely negative impact on the receiving environment will be negligible with extremely unlikely probability of occurrence without mitigations. Overall significant impacts will be negligible [1/1]. Some field-based activities will have localised low impacts with low probability of occurrence without mitigations and negligible with mitigations. Overall significant impacts will be negligible [1/1] (Table 5.11). Except for the socioeconomic components which carry a (+), all the other likely impacts are negative (-).
- (iii) Initial local field-based activities: Initial field-based activities will have localised low impacts with low probability of occurrence without mitigations and negligible with mitigations. Overall significant impacts will be negligible [2/2]. All desktop related activities and laboratory assessments will have negligible impacts with extremely unlikely probability of occurrence without mitigations. Overall significant impacts will be negligible [2/2] (Table 5.11). Except for the socioeconomic components which carry a (+), all the other likely impacts are negative (-). Cultural, biological, and archaeological resources will have high significant negative impacts [4/4].
- (iv) Detailed local field-based activities: Overall likely negative impact on the receiving environment will be high and localised impacts without mitigations and localised low impacts with mitigations. Overall significant impacts will be medium [2/2] without mitigations and low with mitigations (Table 5.11). Except for the socioeconomic components which carry a (+), all the other likely impacts are negative (-). Tourism and recreation will have medium significant negative impacts [3\3], and cultural, biological, and archaeological resources will have high significant negative impacts [4/4]. and.
- (v) Prefeasibility and feasibility studies to be implemented on a site-specific area if the local field-based studies prove positive: Overall likely negative impact on the receiving environment will be high and localised impacts without mitigations and localised medium impacts with mitigations. Overall significant impacts will be medium [3/3] without mitigations and low with mitigations for bulk sampling, test mining and field logistics (Table 5.11). Except for the socioeconomic components which carry a (+), all the other likely impacts are negative (-). Tourism and recreation will have medium significant negative impacts [3\3], and cultural, biological, and archaeological resources will have high significant negative impacts [4/4].

### 6. THE EMP

### 6.1 Summary of the EMP Objectives

The Environmental Management Plan (EMP) provides a detailed plan of action required in the implementation of the mitigation measures for minimising and maximising the identified negative and positive impacts respectively. The EMP gives commitments including financial and human resources provisions for effective management of the likely environmental liabilities during and after the exploration. Regular assessments and evaluation of the environmental liabilities during the exploration will need to be undertaken and will ensure adequate provision of the necessary resources towards good environmental management at various stages of the project development.

## 6.2 Implementation of the EMP

### 6.2.1 Roles and Responsibilities

Management of the environmental elements that may be affected by the different activities of the proposed / ongoing exploration is an important element of the proposed / ongoing exploration activities. The EMP also identifies the activity groups / environmental elements, the aspects / targets, the indicators, the schedule for implementation and who should be responsible for the management to prevent major impacts that the different exploration activities may have on the receiving environment (physical and biological environments).

### 6.2.2 Proponent's Representative (PR) / Project Manager (PM)

The proponent is to appoint a **Proponent's Representative (PR)** / **Project Manager (PM)** with the following responsibilities with respect to the EMP implementation:

- Act as the site project manager and implementing agent.
- ❖ Ensure that the proponent's responsibilities are executed in compliance with the relevant legislation.
- Ensure that all the necessary environmental authorizations and permits have been obtained.
- Assist the exploration contractor/s in finding environmentally responsible solutions to challenges that may arise.
- Should the PR be of the opinion that a serious threat to, or impact on the environment may be caused by the exploration activities, he/she may stop work. the proponent must be informed of the reasons for the stoppage as soon as possible.
- The PR has the authority to issue fines for transgressions of basic conduct rules and/or contravention of the EMP.
- ❖ Should the Contractor or his/her employees fail to show adequate consideration for the environmental aspects related to the EMP, the PR can have person(s) and/or equipment removed from the site or work suspended until the matter is remedied.
- ❖ Maintain open and direct lines of communication between the landowners and proponent, as well as any other identified Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with regards to environmental matters, and.
- Attend regular site meetings and inspections as may be required for the proposed / ongoing exploration programme.

### 6.2.3 Project Health, Safety and Environment (Project HSE)

The proponent is to appoint a Project Health, Safety and Environment (Project HSE) with the following responsibilities with respect to the EMP implementation:

- Assist the PR in ensuring that the necessary environmental authorizations and permits have been obtained.
- Assist the PR and Contractor in finding environmentally responsible solutions to challenges that may arise.
- Conduct environmental monitoring as per EMP requirements.
- Carry out regular site inspections (on average once per week) of all exploration areas with regards to compliance with the EMP. report any non-compliance(s) to the PR as soon as possible.
- Organize for an independent internal audit on the implementation of and compliance to the EMP to be carried out half way through each field-based exploration activity. audit reports to be submitted to the PR.
- Continuously review the EMP and recommend additions and/or changes to the EMP document.
- Monitor the Contractor's environmental awareness training for all new personnel coming onto site.
- Keep records of all activities related to environmental control and monitoring. the latter to include photographic records of the exploration activities, rehabilitation process, and a register of all major incidents, and.
- Attend regular site meetings.

#### 6.2.4 Contractors and Subcontractors

The responsibilities of the **Contractors and Subcontractors** that may be appointed by the proponent to undertake certain field-based activities of the proposed / ongoing exploration programme include:

- Comply with the relevant legislation and the EMP provision.
- Preparation and submission to the proponent through the Project HSE of the following Management Plans:
  - Environmental Awareness Training and Inductions.
  - o Emergency Preparedness and Response.
  - Waste Management, and.
  - Health and Safety.
- Ensure adequate environmental awareness training for senior site personnel.
- Environmental awareness presentations (inductions) to be given to all site personnel prior to work commencement. the Project HSE is to provide the course content and the following topics, at least but not limited to, should be covered:
  - The importance of complying with the EMP provisions.
  - Roles and Responsibilities, including emergency preparedness.

- o Basic Rules of Conduct (Do's and Don'ts).
- EMP: aspects, impacts and mitigation.
- Fines for Failure to Adhere to the EMP, and.
- Health and Safety Requirements.
- Record keeping of all environmental awareness training and induction presentations, and.
- ❖ Attend regular site meetings and environmental inspections.

## 6.3 Specific Mitigation Measures

### 6.3.1 Hierarchy of Mitigation Measures Implementation

A hierarchy of methods for mitigating significant adverse effects has been adopted in order of preference and as follows:

- (i) Enhancement, e.g., provision of new habitats.
- (ii) Avoidance, e.g., sensitive design to avoid effects on ecological receptors.
- (iii) Reduction, e.g., limitation of effects on receptors through design changes, and.
- (iv) Compensation, e.g., community benefits.

### 6.3.2 Mitigation Measures Implementation

The Environmental Management Plan (EMP) provides a detailed plan of action required in the implementation of the mitigation measures for minimising and maximising the identified negative and positive impacts respectively. The EMP also provides the management actions with roles and responsibilities requirements for implementation of environmental management strategies by the proponent through the Contractors and Subcontractors who will be undertaking the exploration activities. The EMP gives commitments including financial and human resources provisions for effective management of the likely environmental liabilities during and after the implementation of the proposed / ongoing exploration programme.

Based on the findings of the Scoping work, Table 6.1 - 6.18 provides the detailed specific mitigations measures to be implemented by the proponent with respect to the proposed / ongoing exploration programme activities and in particular for the field-based exploration activities. The following is the summary of the key areas of the migration measures provided in Tables 61-6.18:

- 1. Project planning and implementation.
- 2. Implementation of the EMP.
- 3. Public and stakeholder relations.
- 4. Measures to enhance positive socioeconomic impacts.
- 5. Environmental awareness briefing and training.
- 6. Erection of supporting exploration infrastructure.
- 7. Use of existing access roads, tracks and general vehicle movements.

- 8. Mitigation measures for preventing flora destruction.
- 9. Mitigation measures for preventing faunal destruction.
- 10. Mitigation measures to be implemented with respect to the exploration camps and exploration sites.
- 11. Mitigation measures for surface and groundwater protection as well as general water usage.
- 12. Mitigation measures to minimise negative socioeconomic impacts.
- 13. Mitigation measures to minimise health and safety impacts.
- 14. Mitigation measures to minimise visual impacts.
- 15. Mitigation measures to minimise vibration, noise and air quality.
- 16. Mitigation measures for waste (solid and liquid) management.
- 17. Rehabilitation plan, and.
- 18. Environmental data collection.

Table 6.1: Project planning and implementation.

| OBJECTIVES  | INDICATOR  | SCHEDULE   | RESPONSIBILITY   |
|---|--|--|--|
| Establish a strong environmental awareness protocol from project implementation to final closure in order to ensure the least possible impact to the environment. | 2. Appointment of a senior and experienced persons as Proponent's Representative (PR), Project Manager (PM) and Project HSE to assume responsibility for environmental issues. | <ol> <li>Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>Initial local field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>Detailed local field-based activities such as local geological mapping, geochemical mapping and sampling, trenching and drilling of closely spaced boreholes and bulk sampling.</li> <li>Prefeasibility and feasibility studies.</li> </ol> | <ul> <li>(i) Proponent's Representative (PR)</li> <li>(ii) Project Manager (PM)</li> <li>(iii) Project HSE</li> <li>(iv) Contractor</li> <li>(v) Subcontractors</li> </ul> |

Table 6.2: Implementation of the EMP.

| OBJECTIVES   | INDICATOR   | SCHEDULE   | RESPONSIBILITY  |
|--|---|--|---|
| <ol> <li>Define roles and responsibilities in terms of the EMP. To make all personnel, contractors and subcontractors aware of these roles and responsibilities to ensure compliance with the EMP provisions.</li> <li>Implement environmental management that is preventative and proactive.</li> <li>Establish the resources, skills, etc. required for effective environmental management.</li> </ol> | <ol> <li>Senior staff and senior contractors are aware of, and practice the EMP requirements. These persons shall be expected to know and understand the objectives of the EMP and will, by example, encourage suitable environmentally friendly behaviour to be adopted during the exploration</li> <li>Recognition will be given to appropriate environmentally acceptable behaviour.</li> <li>Inappropriate behaviour will be corrected. An explanation to why the behaviour is unacceptable must be given, and, if necessary, the person will be disciplined. e.g. fees set out for non-compliance</li> </ol> | <ul> <li>(i) Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>(ii) Initial local field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>(iii) Detailed local field-based activities such as local geological mapping, geochemical mapping and sampling, trenching and drilling of closely spaced boreholes and bulk sampling.</li> <li>(iv) Prefeasibility and feasibility studies.</li> </ul> | Representative (PR) (ii) Project Manager (PM) (iii) Project HSE (iv) Contractor |

Table 6.3: Public and stakeholders relations.

| OBJECTIVES  | MITIGATION MEASURES     | SCHEDULE   | RESPONSIBILITY  |
|---|-------------------------|--|---|
| Maintain sound relationships<br>with the other land users/<br>land owner/s and other<br>stakeholders / public | 2 Pormission to utilise | <ol> <li>Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>Initial local field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>Detailed local field-based activities such as local geological mapping, geochemical mapping and sampling, trenching and drilling of closely spaced boreholes and bulk sampling.</li> <li>Prefeasibility and feasibility studies.</li> </ol> | (ii) Project Manager (PM) (iii) Project HSE (iv) Contractor |

Table 6.4: Measures to enhance positive socioeconomic impacts.

| OBJECTIVES   | MITIGATION MEASURES   | SCHEDULE  | RESPONSIBILITY   |
|--|---|---|--|
| Measures to enhance positive socioeconomic impacts in order to:  1. Avoid exacerbating the influx of unemployed people to the area.  2. Develop a standardised recruitment method for subcontractor and field workers. | <ol> <li>Stipulate a preference for local contractors in its tender policy. Preference to local contractors should still be based on competitive business principles and salaries and payment to local service providers should still be competitive.</li> <li>Develop a database of local businesses that qualify as potential service providers and invite them to the tender process.</li> <li>Scrutinise tender proposals to ensure that minimum wages were included in the costing.</li> <li>Stipulate that local resident should be employed for temporary unskilled/skilled and where possible in permanent unskilled/skilled positions as they would reinvest in the local economy.</li> <li>Must ensure that potential employees are from the area, they need submit proof of having lived in the area for a minimum of 5 years.</li> <li>Must ensure that contractors adhere to Namibian Affirmative Action, Labour and Social Security, Health and Safety laws. This could be accomplished with a contractual requirement stipulating that monthly proof should be submitted indicating payment of minimum wages to workers, against their ID numbers, payment of social security and submission of affirmative action data.</li> <li>Encouraged to cater for the needs of employees to increase the spending of wages locally.</li> </ol> | <ul> <li>(i) Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>(ii) Initial local field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>(iii) Detailed local field-based activities such as local geological mapping, geochemical mapping and sampling, trenching and drilling of closely spaced boreholes and bulk sampling.</li> <li>(iv) Prefeasibility and feasibility</li> </ul> | (i) Proponent's Representative (PR) (ii) Project Manager (PM) (iii) Project HSE (iv) Contractor (v) Subcontractors |

Table 6.5: Environmental awareness briefing and training.

| OBJECTIVES   | MITIGATION MEASURES  | SCHEDULE  | RESPONSIBILITY   |
|--|--|---|--|
| Implement environmental awareness briefing / training for individuals who visit, or work, on site. | <ol> <li>Every senior/supervisory member of the team shall familiarise themselves with the contents of the EMP. They shall understand their roles and responsibilities with regard to personnel and project compliance with the EMP.</li> <li>Subject to agreement of the parties, the Environmental Coordinator will hold an Environmental Awareness Briefing meeting, which shall be attended by all contractors before the start of the mineral exploration activities.</li> <li>Briefings on the EMP and Environmental Policy shall discuss the potential dangers to the environment of the following activities: public relations, littering, off-road driving, waste management, poaching and</li> </ol> | <ul> <li>(i) Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>(ii) Initial local field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>(iii) Detailed local field-based activities such as local geological mapping, geochemical mapping and sampling, trenching and drilling of closely spaced boreholes and</li> </ul> | (i) Proponent's Representative (PR) (ii) Project Manager (PM) (iii) Project HSE (iv) Contractor (v) Subcontractors |
|  | plant theft etc. The need to preserve soil, conserve water and implement water saving measures shall be presented.   | bulk sampling. (iv) Prefeasibility and feasibility studies.   | (v) Subcontractors   |
|  | <ol> <li>Individuals can be questioned on the Environmental Philosophy and<br/>EMP and can recall contents.</li> </ol>   |   |  |

Table 6.6: Erection of supporting exploration infrastructure.

| OBJECTIVES   | MITIGATION MEASURES   | SCHEDULE   | RESPONSIBILITY   |
|--|---|--|--|
| <ol> <li>Get Environmental Clearance before implementation</li> <li>Establishment of the supporting exploration infrastructure done on an area with the least disturbance to the environment and within the non-sensitive areas</li> </ol> | <ol> <li>Documented Environmental Clearance from MET.</li> <li>All on site exploration infrastructure (e.g. water tanks, sewage tanks, waste disposal) are not situated on environmental sensitive area and have disturbed as less as possible.</li> <li>No littering.</li> </ol> | and sampling activities.  (iii) Detailed local field-based activities such as local geological mapping, geochemical mapping and sampling, trenching and drilling | <ul> <li>(i) Proponent's Representative (PR)</li> <li>(ii) Project Manager (PM)</li> <li>(iii) Project HSE</li> <li>(iv) Contractor</li> <li>(v) Subcontractors</li> </ul> |

Table 6.7: Use of existing access roads, tracks and general vehicle movements.

| OBJECTIVES  | MITIGATION MEASURES   | SCHEDULE   | RESPONSIBILITY   |
|---|---|--|--|
| <ol> <li>Plan a road/track network that considers the environmental sensitivity of the area and a long-term tourism potential, and which is constructed in a technically and environmentally sound manner.</li> <li>Stick to the recommended track and sensitivity management zones.</li> </ol> | <ol> <li>Avoid unnecessary affecting areas viewed as important habitat         <ul> <li>i.e. Ephemeral River and its network of tributaries of ephemeral rivers. rocky outcrops. clumps of protected tree species.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Make use of existing tracks/roads as much as possible throughout the area.</li> <li>Do not drive randomly throughout the area (could cause mortalities to vertebrate fauna and unique flora. accidental fires. erosion related problems, etc.).</li> <li>Avoid off-road driving at night as these increases mortalities of nocturnal species.</li> <li>Implement and maintain off-road track discipline with maximum speed limits (e.g.30km/h) as this would result in fewer faunal mortalities and limit dust pollution.</li> <li>Use of "3-point-turns" rather than "U-turns".</li> <li>Where tracks have to be made to potential exploration sites off the main routes, the routes should be selected causing minimal damage to the environment – e.g. use the same tracks. cross drainage lines at right angles. avoid placing tracks within drainage lines. avoid collateral damage (i.e. select routes that do not require the unnecessary removal of trees/shrubs, especially protected species).</li> <li>Leave vehicles on tracks and walk to point of interest, when possible.</li> <li>Rehabilitate all new tracks created.</li> </ol> | <ul> <li>(i) Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>(ii) Initial local field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>(iii) Detailed local field-based activities such as local geological mapping, geochemical mapping and sampling, trenching and drilling of closely spaced boreholes and bulk sampling.</li> <li>(iv) Prefeasibility and feasibility studies.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>(i) Proponent's Representative (PR)</li> <li>(ii) Project Manager (PM)</li> <li>(iii) Project HSE</li> <li>(iv) Contractor</li> <li>(v) Subcontractors</li> </ul> |

Table 6.8: Mitigation measures for preventing flora and ecosystem destruction and promotion of conservation.

| OBJECTIVES   | MITIGATION MEASURES  | SCHEDULE  | RESPONSIBILITY   |
|--|--|---|--|
| Prevent flora and ecosystem destruction and promote conservation | <ol> <li>Limit the development and avoid rocky outcrops throughout the entire area.</li> <li>Avoid development and associated infrastructure in sensitive areas – e.g. Ephemeral River, in/close to drainage lines, cliffs, boulder and rocky outcrops in the area, etc. This would minimise the negative effect on the local environment especially unique features serving as habitat to various species.</li> <li>Avoid placing access routes (roads and tracks) trough sensitive areas – e.g. over rocky outcrops/ridges and along drainage lines. This would minimise the effect on localised potentially sensitive habitats in the area.</li> <li>Avoid driving randomly through the area (i.e. "track discipline"), but rather stick to permanently placed roads/tracks – especially during the detailed field-based exploration phase. This would minimise the effect on localised potentially sensitive habitats in the area.</li> <li>Stick to speed limits of maximum 30km/h as this would result in less dust pollution which could affect certain flora – e.g. lichen species. Speed humps could also be used to ensure the speed limit.</li> <li>Remove unique and sensitive flora (e.g. all Aloe sp.) before commencing with the development activities and relocate to a less sensitive/disturbed site if possible.</li> <li>Prevent and discourage the collecting of firewood as dead wood has an important ecological role – especially during the development phase(s). Such collecting of firewood, especially for economic reasons, often leads to abuses – e.g. chopping down of live and/or protected tree species such a Acacia erioloba which is a good quality wood.</li> <li>Attempt to avoid the removal of bigger trees during the development phase(s) – especially with the development of access routes – as these serve as habitat for a myriad of fauna.</li> <li>Prevent and discourage fires – especially during the development phase(s) – as this could easily cause runaway veld fires causing problems (e.g. loss of grazing and domestic stock mo</li></ol> | (i) Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping and sampling activities. (ii) Initial local field-based mapping and sampling activities. (iii) Detailed local field-based activities such as local geological mapping, geochemical mapping and sampling, trenching and drilling of closely spaced boreholes and bulk sampling. (iv) Prefeasibility and feasibility studies. | (i) Proponent's Representative (PR) (ii) Project Manager (PM) (iii) Project HSE (iv) Contractor (v) Subcontractors |

Table 6.9: Mitigation measures for preventing faunal and ecosystem destruction and promotion of conservation.

| OBJECTIVES  | MITIGATION MEASURES   | SCHEDULE  | RESPONSIBILITY   |
|---|---|---|--|
| Prevent faunal and ecosystem destruction and promote conservation | <ol> <li>Limit the development and avoid rocky outcrops throughout the entire area.</li> <li>Avoid development &amp; associated infrastructure in sensitive areas – e.g. in/close to drainage lines, cliffs, boulder and rocky outcrops in the area, etc. This would minimise the negative effect on the local environment especially unique features serving as habitat to various species.</li> <li>Avoid placing access routes (roads &amp; tracks) trough sensitive areas – e.g. over rocky outcrops/ridges and along drainage lines. This would minimise the effect on localised potentially sensitive habitats in the area.</li> <li>Avoid driving randomly through the area (i.e. "track discipline"), but rather stick to permanently placed roads/tracks – especially during the detailed field-based exploration phase. This would minimise the effect on localised potentially sensitive habitats in the area.</li> <li>Stick to speed limits of maximum 30km/h as this would result in fewer faunal road mortalities. Speed humps could also be used to ensure the speed limit.</li> <li>Remove (e.g. capture) unique fauna and sensitive fauna before commencing with the development activities and relocate to a less sensitive/disturbed site if possible.</li> <li>Prevent and discourage the setting of snares (poaching), illegal collecting of veld foods (e.g. tortoises, etc.), indiscriminate killing of perceived dangerous species (e.g. snakes, etc.) and collecting of wood as this would diminish and negatively affect the local fauna – especially during the development phase(s).</li> <li>Attempt to avoid the removal of bigger trees during the development phase(s) – especially with the development of access routes – as these serve as habitat for a myriad of fauna.</li> <li>Prevent and discourage fires – especially during the development phase(s) – as this could easily cause runaway veld fires affecting the local fauna, but also causing problems (e.g. loss of grazing &amp; domestic stock mortalities, etc.) for the neighbouring farmers.</li></ol> | (i) Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping and sampling activities. (ii) Initial local field-based mapping and sampling activities. (iii) Detailed local field-based activities such as local geological mapping, geochemical mapping and sampling, trenching and drilling of closely spaced boreholes and bulk sampling. (iv) Prefeasibility and feasibility studies. | (i) Proponent's Representative (PR) (ii) Project Manager (PM) (iii) Project HSE (iv) Contractor (v) Subcontractors |

Table 6.10: Mitigation measures to be implemented with respect to the exploration camps and exploration sites.

| OBJECTIVES  | MITIGATION MEASURES  | SCHEDULE  | RESPONSIBILITY   |
|---|--|---|--|
| Promotion of conservation through preservation of flora, fauna and ecosystem around the exploration camps and exploration sites | <ol> <li>Select camp sites and other temporary lay over sites with care – i.e. avoid important habitats.</li> <li>Use portable toilets to avoid faecal pollution around camp and exploration sites.</li> <li>Initiate a suitable and appropriate refuse removal policy as littering could result in certain animals becoming accustomed to humans and associated activity and result in typical problem animal scenarios – e.g. baboon, black-backed jackal, etc</li> <li>Avoid and/or limit the use of lights during nocturnal exploration activities as this could influence and/or affect various nocturnal species – e.g. bats and owls, etc. Use focused lighting for least effect.</li> <li>Prevent the killing of species viewed as dangerous – e.g. various snakes – when on site.</li> <li>Prevent the setting of snares for ungulates (i.e. poaching) or collection of veld foods (e.g. tortoises) and unique plants (e.g. various Aloe and Lithop) or any form of illegal hunting activities.</li> <li>Avoid introducing dogs and cats as pets to camp sites as these can cause significant mortalities to local fauna (cats) and even stock losses (dogs).</li> <li>Remove and relocate slow moving vertebrate fauna (e.g. tortoises, chameleon, snakes, etc.) to suitable habitat elsewhere on property.</li> <li>Avoid the removal and/or damaging of protected flora potentially occurring in the general area – e.g. various Aloe, Commiphora and Lithop species.</li> <li>Avoid introducing ornamental plants, especially potential invasive alien species, as part of the landscaping of the camp site, etc., but rather use localised indigenous species, should landscaping be attempted, which would also require less maintenance (e.g. water).</li> <li>Remove all invasive alien species on site, especially Prosopis sp., which is already becoming a major ecological problem along various water courses throughout Central Namibia. This would not only indicate environmental commitment, but actively contribute to a better landscape.</li>     &lt;</ol> | (i) Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping and sampling activities. (ii) Initial local field-based mapping and sampling activities. (iii) Detailed local field-based activities such as local geological mapping, geochemical mapping and sampling, trenching and drilling of closely spaced boreholes and bulk sampling. (iv) Prefeasibility and feasibility studies. | (i) Proponent's Representative (PR) (ii) Project Manager (PM) (iii) Project HSE (iv) Contractor (v) Subcontractors |

Table 6.11: Mitigation measures for surface and groundwater protection as well as general water usage.

| OBJECTIVES   | MITIGATION MEASURES  | SCHEDULE  | RESPONSIBILITY   |
|--|--|---|--|
| Effective management / protection of surface and groundwater resources and general water resources usage | <ol> <li>Always use as little water as possible. Reduce, reuse and re-cycle water where possible.</li> <li>All leaking pipes / taps must be repaired immediately they are noticed.</li> <li>Never leave taps running. Close taps after you have finished using them.</li> <li>Never allow any hazardous substance to soak into the soil.</li> <li>Immediately tell your Contractor or Environmental Control Officer / Site Manager when you spill, or notice any hazardous substance being spilled during the field-based exploration activities or around the camp site.</li> <li>Report to your Contractor or Environmental Control Officer / Site Manager when you notice any container, which may hold a hazardous substance, overflow, leak or drip.</li> <li>Immediately report to your Contractor or Environmental Control Officer / Site Manager when you notice overflowing problems or unhygienic conditions at the ablution facilities.</li> <li>No washing of vehicles, equipment and machinery, containers and other surfaces.</li> <li>Limit the operation to a specific site and avoid sensitive areas and in particular the Ephemeral River Channel. This would sacrifice the actual area for other adjacent Ephemeral River areas and thus minimise any likely negative effect on water resources.</li> <li>Disposal of wastewater into any public stream is prohibited.</li> <li>The Proponent must obtain permission of the land owners before utilising any water resources or any associated infrastructure.</li> <li>If there is a need to drilling a water borehole to support the exploration programme the proponent (Proponent) must obtain permission form the land owner and Department of Water Affairs in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. In an event of discovery of economic minerals resources, the sources of water supply for the mining related operations will be supplied by NamWater.</li> <li>If there are any further (larger scale) exploration/drilling activities and/or mining activities to follow from the initia</li></ol> | (i) Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping and sampling activities. (ii) Initial local field-based mapping and sampling activities. (iii) Detailed local field-based activities such as local geological mapping, geochemical mapping and sampling, trenching and drilling of closely spaced boreholes and bulk sampling. (iv) Prefeasibility and feasibility studies. | (i) Proponent's Representative (PR) (ii) Project Manager (PM) (iii) Project HSE (iv) Contractor (v) Subcontractors |

Table 6.12: Mitigation measures to minimise negative socioeconomic impacts.

| OBJECTIVES  | MITIGATION MEASURES  | SCHEDULE  | RESPONSIBILITY   |
|---|--|---|--|
| Effective management of socioeconomic benefits of the proposed / ongoing project activities | <ol> <li>The employment of local residents and local companies should be a priority. To ensure that potential employees are from the area, they need submit proof of having lived in the area for a minimum of 5 years.</li> <li>Providing information such as the number and types of jobs available, availability of accommodation facilities and rental costs and living expenses, could make potential job seekers wary of moving to the area.</li> <li>Addressing unrealistic expectations about large numbers of jobs would be created.</li> <li>Exploration camp if required should be established in close consultation with the land owners.</li> <li>Exploration camp should consider provision of basic services.</li> <li>When a contract of an employee is terminated or not renewed, contractor should transport the employee out of the area to their hometown within two days of their contract coming to an end.</li> <li>Tender documents could stipulate that contractor have HIV/Aids workplace policies and programmes in place and proof of implementation should be submitted with invoicing.</li> <li>Develop strategies in coordination with local health officers and NGO's to protect the local communities, especially young girls.</li> <li>Contract companies could submit a code of conduct, stipulating disciplinary actions where employees are guilty of criminal activities in and around the vicinity of the EPL. Disciplinary actions should be in accordance with Namibian legislation.</li> <li>Contract companies could implement a no-tolerance policy regarding the use of alcohol and workers should submit to a breathalyser test upon reporting for duty daily.</li> <li>Request that the Roads Authority erect warning signs of heavy exploration vehicles on affected public roads.</li> <li>Ensure that drivers adhere to speed limits and that speed limits are strictly enforced.</li> <li>Ensure that vehicles are road worthy and drivers are qualified.</li> <li>Train drivers in potential safety issues.</li> &lt;</ol> | (i) Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping and sampling activities. (ii) Initial local field-based mapping and sampling activities. (iii) Detailed local field-based activities such as local geological mapping, geochemical mapping and sampling, trenching and drilling of closely spaced boreholes and bulk sampling. (iv) Prefeasibility and feasibility studies. | (i) Proponent's Representative (PR) (ii) Project Manager (PM) (iii) Project HSE (iv) Contractor (v) Subcontractors |

Table 6.13: Mitigation measures to minimise health and safety impacts.

| OBJECTIVES   | MITIGATION MEASURES   | SCHEDULE   | RESPONSIBILITY   |
|--|---|--|--|
| Promotion of health and safe working environment in line with national Labour Laws | <ol> <li>Physical hazards: Follow national and international regulatory and guidelines provisions, use of correct Personal Proactive Clothing at all times, training programme, as well as the implementation of a fall protection program in accordance with the Labour Act.</li> <li>Some of the public access management measures that may be considered in an event of vandalism occurring are:         <ul> <li>All exploration equipment must be in good working condition and services accordingly.</li> <li>Control access to the exploration site through using gates on the access road(s) if required.</li> <li>The entire site, must be fenced off, the type of fencing to be used would, however, be dependent on the impact on the visual resources and/or cost, and.</li> <li>Notice or information boards relating to public safety hazards and emergency contact details to be put up at the gate(s) to the exploration area.</li> </ul> </li> <li>There is a comprehensive First Aid Kit on site and that suitable anti-histamine for bee stings / snake bites should be available.</li> <li>Rubber gloves are used in case of an accident to reduce the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS.</li> <li>All individuals have received instructions concerning the dangers of dehydration or hyperthermia. Encourage all to drink plenty of clean water not directly from the surface water bodies.</li> <li>No person under the influence of alcohol or drugs is allowed to work on site.</li> <li>The Exploration Manager ensures compliance with the requirements of the relevant Namibian Labour, Mining and Health and Safety Regulations.</li> <li>Dangerous or protected / sensitive areas are clearly marked and access to these areas is controlled or restricted.</li> <li>Due care must be taken when driving any vehicles on any roads particularly the gravel roads. ALL Drivers must drive with their headlights switched on when travelling on the gravel roads (day and night).</li> <li>Persons</li></ol> | <ul> <li>(i) Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>(ii) Initial local field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>(iii) Detailed local field-based activities such as local geological mapping, geochemical mapping and sampling, trenching and drilling of closely spaced boreholes and bulk sampling.</li> <li>(iv) Prefeasibility and feasibility studies.</li> </ul> | (i) Proponent's Representative (PR) (ii) Project Manager (PM) (iii) Project HSE (iv) Contractor (v) Subcontractors |

Table 6.14: Mitigation measures to minimise visual impacts.

| OBJECTIVES  | MITIGATION MEASURES   | SCHEDULE  | RESPONSIBILITY  |
|---|---|---|---|
|   | <ol> <li>Consider the landscape character and the visual impacts of the<br/>exploration area including camp site from all relevant viewing<br/>angles, particularly from public roads.</li> </ol> | (i) Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping and sampling activities.  |   |
| Preserve the landscape character in the development of supporting infrastructure and choice of visual screening | 2. Use vegetation screening where applicable. Do not cut down vegetation unnecessary around the site and use it for site screening.   | , ,   | (i) Proponent's Representative (PR) (ii) Project Manager (PM) (iii) Project HSE |
|   | 3. Avoid the use of very high fencing.  | activities such as local geological mapping,                              | (iv) Contractor<br>(v) Subcontractors   |
|   | 4. Minimise access roads and no off-road that could result in land scarring is allowed.   | geochemical mapping<br>and sampling, trenching<br>and drilling of closely |   |
|   | 5. Minimise the presence of secondary structures: remove inoperative support structures.  | spaced boreholes and bulk sampling.  (iv) Prefeasibility and              |   |
|   | 6. Remove all infrastructure and reclaim, or rehabilitate the project site after exploration activities are completed.  | feasibility studies.  |   |

Table 6.15: Mitigation measures to minimise vibration, noise and air quality.

| OBJECTIVES   | MITIGATION MEASURES   | SCHEDULE  | RESPONSIBILITY   |
|--|---|---|--|
| Promote of effective management of vehicle movement, drilling and blasting operations and use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in mitigating air quality and vibrations impacts in line with national laws | <ol> <li>Limit vehicle movements and adhere to the speed of 60 km/h.</li> <li>Vehicles and all equipment must be properly serviced to minimise noise pollution.</li> <li>Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to minimise Occupational Health Safety impacts dues to noise pollution around the site.</li> <li>National or international acoustic design standards must be followed.</li> <li>Drilling and blasting operations can major sources of vibration, noise and dust and where required the following mitigation measure shall be implemented.</li> <li>Drilling and blasting operations shall only be done by a qualified person who must at all times adhere to the required blasting protocol.</li> <li>Prior warning shall be given to all persons, neighbor and visitors before the blasting takes place.</li> <li>Careful planning and timing of the blast program to minimise the size of the charge.</li> <li>Where practicable, use of explosive products with lower detonation velocities, but noting that this would require more explosives to achieve the same blast result.</li> <li>Use of detonating caps with built-in time delays, as this effectively reduces each detonation into a series of small explosions.</li> <li>Use of a procedure ("decking the charge") which subdivides the charge in one blast hole into a series of smaller explosions, with drill patterns restricted to a minimum separation from any other loaded hole.</li> <li>Over-drilling the holes to ensure fracturing of the rock.</li> <li>Staggering the detonation for each blast hole in order to spread the explosive's total overpressure over time.</li> <li>Matching, to the extent possible, the energy needed in the "work effort" of the borehole to the rock mass to minimise excess energy vented into the receiving environment.</li> </ol> | <ul> <li>(i) Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping activities.</li> <li>(ii) Initial local field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>(iii) Detailed local field-based activities such as local geological mapping, geochemical mapping and sampling, trenching and drilling of closely spaced boreholes and bulk sampling.</li> <li>(iv) Prefeasibility and feasibility studies.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>(i) Proponent's Representative (PR)</li> <li>(ii) Project Manager (PM)</li> <li>(iii) Project HSE</li> <li>(iv) Contractor</li> <li>(v) Subcontractors</li> </ul> |

Table 6.16: Mitigation measures for waste (solid and liquid) management.

| OBJECTIVES   | MITIGATION MEASURES  | SCHEDULE   | RESPONSIBILITY   |
|--|--|--|--|
| Promotion of effective waste (solid and liquid) management through the adoption of sound and hierarchical approach to waste management, which would include waste minimisation, re-use, recovery, recycling, treatment, and proper disposal. | <ol> <li>Burial of waste on anywhere within the EPL area is not allowed and all generated solid waste must be disposed at the at an approved municipal waste disposal site.</li> <li>Toilet and ablution facilities must be provided on site and should not be located close to Ephemeral Rivers or visible discontinuities (fractures, joints or faults).</li> <li>Provide site information on the difference between the two main types of waste, namely:         <ul> <li>General Waste. and</li> <li>Hazardous Waste.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Sealed containers, bins, drums or bags for the different types of wastes must be provided. Never dispose of hazardous waste in the bins or skips intended for general waste.</li> <li>All solid and liquid wastes generated from the proposed / ongoing project activities shall be reduced, reused, or recycled to the maximum extent practicable.</li> <li>Trash may not be burned or buried, except at approved sites under controlled conditions in accordance with the municipal regulations.</li> <li>Never overfill any waste container, drum, bin or bag. Inform your Contractor or the Environmental Control Officer / Site Manager if the containers, drums, bins or skips are nearly full.</li> <li>Never litter or throwaway any waste on the site, in the field or along any road. No illegal dumping.</li> <li>Littering is prohibited.</li> <li>Latrines and French drains built &gt;100m from watercourses or pans to avoid pollution of primary and secondary aquifers.</li> <li>Chemical toilets or suitable waste water management system shall be provided on site and around the camp as may be required.</li> </ol> | <ul> <li>(i) Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>(ii) Initial local field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>(iii) Detailed local field-based activities such as local geological mapping, geochemical mapping and sampling, trenching and drilling of closely spaced boreholes and bulk sampling.</li> <li>(iv) Prefeasibility and feasibility studies.</li> </ul> | (i) Proponent's Representative (PR) (ii) Project Manager (PM) (iii) Project HSE (iv) Contractor (v) Subcontractors |

Table 6.17: Rehabilitation plan.

| OBJECTIVES  | MITIGATION MEASURES   | SCHEDULE   | RESPONSIBILITY   |
|---|---|--|--|
| Contributions toward environmental preservation and sustainability through rehabilitation of disturbed areas such as exploration sites and remove all unwanted part of the fixtures and restore the sites to close an approximation of the pristine state as is technically, financially and reasonably possible. | <ul> <li>Litter from the site has been taken to the appropriate disposal site.</li> <li>Debris, scrap metal, etc is removed before moving to a new site or closure of the mine.</li> <li>Water tanks are dismantled and removed if not need for after use.</li> <li>Tracks on site and the access road are rehabilitated by smoothing the 'middle mannetjie' (middle ridge between the tracks) and raking the surface.</li> <li>The following should be undertaken at all disturbed areas that require further rehabilitation:</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>(i) Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>(ii) Initial local field-based mapping and sampling activities.</li> <li>(iii) Detailed local field-based activities such as local geological mapping, geochemical mapping and sampling, trenching and drilling of closely spaced boreholes and bulk sampling.</li> <li>(iv) Prefeasibility and feasibility studies.</li> </ul> | (i) Proponent's Representative (PR) (ii) Project Manager (PM) (iii) Project HSE (iv) Contractor (v) Subcontractors |

Table 6.18: Environmental data collection.

| OBJECTIVES  | MITIGATION MEASURES  |   | SCHEDULE  | RESPONSIBILITY   |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| OBJECTIVES  1. Collect data that will add value to environmental monitoring and reporting to the regulators  2. Collect data that will add to the general scientific and geographic knowledge of the environment in which the exploration process takes place.  3. Acknowledged that the required | <ul> <li>MITIGATION MEASURES</li> <li>Environmental Monitoring Report Compiled and submitted by the Environmental Coordinator to the regulators</li> <li>The following types of information should be gathered:         <ul> <li>Fauna. What tracks or signs of animal activity have been seen? (Photographs and GPS recording) What animals, birds etc were identified? Alternatively provide a description and/ or photo if unidentified.</li> <li>Unusual weather conditions, e.g., records of the prevailing wind direction and the direction from which storm events come. Was there fog or rain, frost overnight or intense heat? Preferably have a thermometer and rain gauge on site.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | (i)<br>(ii)<br>(iii)  | Regional reconnaissance field-based mapping and sampling activities. Initial local field-based mapping and sampling activities. | (i) Proponent's Representative (PR) (ii) Project Manager (PM) (iii) Project HSE (iv) Contractor (v) Subcontractors |
| skills and knowledge to collect all the suggested data may not be available within the mine /exploration team, however, as much data as is practical should be collected.   | <ul> <li>Vegetation. Record trees, shrubs, grass, etc. that are found in the vicinity along each of the profiles. Some plants do only occur after rainfall and might not have been seen for decades.</li> <li>Any archaeological, cultural or historical sites that may be found. GPS coordinates, photograph and plot the position on a 1: 50 000 maps.</li> <li>other including surface water, spring, large scale geological features etc</li> </ul>  | and sampling, trenching and drilling of closely spaced boreholes and bulk sampling.  (iv) Prefeasibility and feasibility studies. |   |  |

## 6.4 Monitoring of the Environmental Performance

#### 6.4.1 Overview

The monitoring of the environmental performances for the proposed / ongoing exploration project can be divided into two (2) parts and these are:

- (i) Routine / ongoing daily monitoring activities to be undertaken by the Project HSE Officer with the support of the external specialist consultants as maybe required, and.
- (ii) Preparation of annual Environmental Monitoring Report and Environmental Closure covering all activities related to the Environmental Management Plan during exploration / prospecting stages and at closure of the proposed / ongoing exploration to be undertaken by the Project HSE Officer with the support of the external specialist consultants as maybe required.

The proponent will be required to report regularly (twice in a year or as the case maybe) to the Environmental Commissioner in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET), the environmental performances as part of the ongoing environmental monitoring programme. Environmental monitoring programme is part of the EMP performances assessments and will need to be compiled and submitted as determined by the Environmental Commissioner.

The process of undertaking appropriate monitoring as per specific topic (such as fauna and flora) and tracking performances against the objectives and documenting all environmental activities is part of internal and external auditing to be coordinated by the Project HSE Officer.

The second part of the monitoring of the EMP performance will require a report outlining all the activities related to effectiveness of the EMP at the end of the planned mineral exploration to be undertaken by the Project HSE Officer with the support of the external specialist consultants as maybe required. The objective will be to ensure that corrective actions are reviewed and steps are taken to ensure compliance for future EIA and EMP implementation.

The report shall outline the status of the environment and any likely environmental liability after the completion of the proposed / ongoing project activities. The report shall be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism and will represent the final closure and fulfilment of the conditions of the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) issued by the Environmental Commissioner and the conditions of the Pro-Forma Environmental Contract signed by the Proponent, Environmental Commissioner and the Mining Commissioner.

# 7. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

### 7.1 Conclusions

Osino Gold Exploration and Mining (Pty) Ltd (**the Proponent**) intends to continue undertaking exploration activities in the Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) No. 6734, with special focus on base and rare metals, dimension stones industrial minerals and precious metals. The exploration activities to be undertaken as assessed in this environmental assessment are as follows:

- (i) Initial desktop exploration activities.
- (ii) Regional reconnaissance field-based activities.
- (iii) Initial local field-based activities including detailed mapping, sampling and drilling operations.
- (iv) Detailed local field-based activities including detailed mapping, sampling and drilling operations, and.
- (v) Prefeasibility and feasibility studies including possible test mining.

The overall severity of potential environmental impacts of the proposed / ongoing project activities on the receiving environment (physical, biological, socioeconomic environments and ecosystem functions, services, use and non-use values or passive uses) will be of low magnitude, temporally duration, localised extent and low probability of occurrence.

Mitigation measures must be implemented as detailed in Section 6 (EMP) of this report. The proponent must obtain permission of the land owners (surface rights holders) before exercising their subsurface rights in all the farms covered by the EPL 6734.

#### 7.2 Recommendations

It's hereby recommended that the proposed / ongoing exploration activities be issued with an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). The proponent shall take into consideration the following key requirements for implementing the proposed exploration programme:

- (i) Mitigation measures must be implemented as detailed in Section 6 (EMP) of this Scoping and EMP report.
- (ii) The proponent negotiates an Access Agreement with the land owner/s.
- (iii) The Proponent shall adhere to all the provisions of the EMP and conditions of the Access Agreement to be entered between the proponent and the land owner/s in line with all applicable national regulations.
- (iv) Before entering any private property such as a private farm, the proponent must give advance notices and obtain access permission from the land owners at all times, and.
- (v) Where possible, and if water is found during the detailed exploration boreholes drilling operations, the proponent shall support other land uses in the area in terms of access to freshwater supply for both human consumption, wildlife and agricultural support as may be requested by the local community / land owners/s. The abstraction of the groundwater resources shall include water levels monitoring, sampling and quality testing on a bi-annual basis, and that the affected landowners must have access to the results of the water monitoring analyses as part of the ongoing stakeholder disclosure requirements on shared water resources as maybe applicable.

The proponent must take all the necessary steps to implement all the recommendations of the EMP for the successful implementation and completion of the proposed / ongoing exploration programme

covering the EPL 6734. Recommended actions to be implemented by the proponent as part of the management of the likely impacts through implementations of the EMP are:

- (i) The proponent must implement precautionary measures / approach to environmental management. Once a viable and potential economic resource have been identified, the proponent must develop and implement a separate EIA and EMP inclusive of the specialist studies such as fauna and flora to be undertaken by specialist consultants as part of the feasibility study stage.
- (ii) Before detailed site-specific exploration activities such as extensive drilling operations and access routes are selected, the Project HSE Officer with the support of the external specialist consultants as maybe required, should consider the flora, fauna and archaeological sensitivity of the area and commission a field survey in advance of any site development as may be required based on the assessment undertaken.
- (iii) The Project HSE Officer shall lead, implement and promote environmental culture through awareness raising of the workforce, contractors and sub-contractors in the field during the whole duration of the proposed / ongoing exploration period.
- (iv) The proponent to provide all the necessary support including human and financial resources, for the implementation of the proposed / ongoing mitigations and effective environmental management during the planned exploration activities for the EPL 6734.
- (v) Project HSE Officer with the support of the external specialist consultants as maybe required to develop a simplified environmental induction and awareness programme for all the workforce, contractors and sub-contractors.
- (vi) Where contracted service providers are likely to cause environmental impacts, these will need to be identified and contract agreements need to be developed with costing provisions for environmental liabilities.
- (vii) Implement monitoring of the actions and management strategies developed during the mineral exploration process. Final Environmental Monitoring report shall be prepared by the Project HSE Officer with the support of the external specialist consultants as maybe required to be submitted to the regulators and to mark the closure of the proposed / ongoing mineral exploration, and.
- (viii) Develop and implement a monitoring programme that will fit into the overall company's Environmental Management Systems (EMS) as well as for any future EIA for possible mining projects.

## 7.3 Summary ToR for Test Mining and Mining Stages

In an even that economic minerals resources are discovered within the EPL 6734 area and could lead to the development of mining project, a new Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for mining will be required. The ECC being supported by this Scoping and EMP report only covers the exploration phase. A separate field-based and site-specific Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) reports supported by specialist studies as maybe applicable must be prepared in order to support the application for the new ECC for mining operations.

The EIA and EMP studies shall form part of the prefeasibility and feasibility study with respect to the test mining or possible mining operations. The site-specific EIA and EMP shall cover the area identified to have potential economic minerals resources as well as all areas to be used for infrastructural support areas such as pit / shaft area/s, waste rock, tailings dump, access, office blocks, water and energy infrastructure support areas (water, energy and road / access). In addition to the Terms of Reference (ToR) to be developed during the Environmental Scoping study phase for the test mining / mining stages, the following field-based and site-specific specialist studies shall be undertaken as prat of the

EIA and EMP for possible test mining or mining operations in an event of a discovery of economic minerals resources and possible development of a mining project:

- (i) Groundwater studies including modelling as maybe applicable.
- (ii) Field-based flora and fauna diversity.
- (iii) Noise and Sound modelling linked to engineering studies.
- (iv) Socioeconomic assessment, and.
- (v) Others as may be identified / recommended by the stakeholders/ land owners/ Environmental Commissioner or specialists.

The aims and objectives of the Environmental Assessment (EA) covering EIA and EMP to be implemented as part of the feasibility study if variable resources are discovered are:

- (i) To assess all the likely positive and negative short- and long-term impacts on the receiving environment (physical, biological and socioeconomic environments) at local (EPL Area), regional, national (Namibia) and Global levels using appropriate assessment guidelines, methods and techniques covering the complete project lifecycle. The EIA and EMP to be undertaken 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 shall conform to the national regulatory requirements, process and specifications in Namibia and in particular as required by the Ministry of Mines and Energy, Ministry of Environment and Tourism and Ministry of Agriculture, Water Affairs and Forestry, and.
- (ii) The development of appropriate mitigation measures that will enhance the positive impacts and reduce the likely negative influences of the negative impacts identified or anticipated. Such mitigation measures shall be contained in a detailed EMP report covering the entire project lifecycle.

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