

### Communication with I&APs, and Means of Consultation Employed

Regulation 21 of the EIA Regulations details the steps to be taken during a public consultation process and these have been used in guiding this process. Communication with I&APs with regards to the proposed development was facilitated through the following means and in this order:

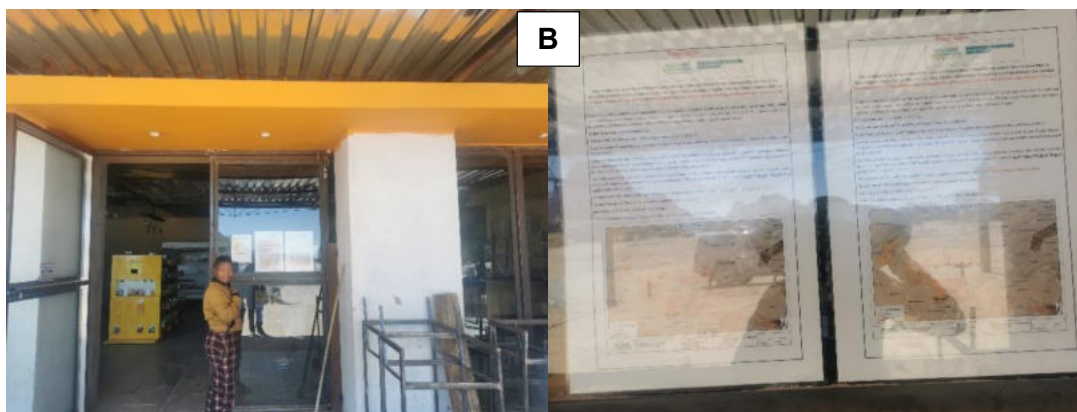
- A Background Information Document (BID) containing brief information about the proposed project was compiled and hand delivered to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) accompanying the ECC application, and uploaded on the MEFT (ECC) Portal for project registration and shared with registered Interested and Affected parties (I&APs).
- A Stakeholders' (I&AP) List was developed and updated as new I&APs register for the ESA.
- Project Environmental Assessment notices were published in The Namibia Media Holdings' *Market Watch* newspapers (*Allgemeine Zeitung, Die Republikein, and Namibian Sun*) dated 28 November 2022 and 05 December 2022 – attached hereto.
- Due to the fact that the EPL is located within the Gaingu Conservancy, a consultation meeting was held with the Gaingu Conservancy management on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2023 in Tubusis (see photos below). Another consultation meeting was held in Windhoek with the respective Head of the Traditional Authority for the area (Chief Gaseb) on the 01<sup>st</sup> of August 2023. The consultation meeting minutes for the two meetings were taken and attached hereto.



Consultation meeting with the Gaingu Conservancy management in Tubusis on 23 March 2023

- Two A3 size posters were pasted in Usakos and Great/Big Spitzkoppe Settlement (local supermarket) below.





A3 ESA Study Posters in Usako (A – Woermann Brock public notice board in Usakos and B – Local supermarket entrance in Big Spitzkoppe)

## Feedback and Issues raised by the Stakeholders (I&APs)

Issues were raised by I&APs (from the consultation meetings) and these issues have been recorded and incorporated in the ESA Report and EMP. The summary these few key issues are presented in the Table below.

### Summary of main issues and comments received throughout the consultation period

Aspect	Summary
Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)	The Proponent to implement CSR
Promotion of transparency in communication and continued engagement	Promote and maintain transparency before and during exploration by continuously engaging the Traditional Authority and Conservancy.
Employment of locals and surrounding communities	Employment of locals should be prioritized for jobs that can be done by them. These include general and casual jobs, where applicable.
Utilization of available local goods and services	Consider the use of local procurement of services and goods for the project activities to empower local businesses, where possible and applicable.
Ecological of the EPL area	The EPL is within a conservancy and thus wildlife needs to be protected while carrying out the activities.
Existence of mining claims	The need for EPL holders to co-exist with mining claim owners

The consultation period ran from the 28<sup>th</sup> of November 2022 to the 30<sup>th</sup> of December 2022 and then extended to end of March 2023 (pending consultation meetings. However, no comments were submitted to the Consultant. Given the remoteness of the EPL area, consultation meetings were held with the key stakeholders in Tubusis and Windhoek, whereby comments were made (as provided in the Table above).



## ❖ S&P hikes Eskom's outlook

Electricity pylons are seen in front of the cooling towers at the Lethabo Thermal Power Station, an Eskom coal-burning power station. PHOTOS REUTERS

# Fitch maintains South Africa's ratings

**South Africa has a favourable government debt structure, which is mostly in rand and with long maturities.**

**HELENA WASSERMAN**

The US credit rating agency Fitch maintained its view on South Africa, while S&P boosted its outlook on Eskom from "negative" to "stable". This is thanks to an expected transfer of some of Eskom's debt to government.

Fitch said South Africa's finances are constrained by high and still rising government debt, weak growth and high inequality. But it also has a "favourable" government debt structure, which is mostly in rand (not foreign currencies) and with long maturities. In addition, the country has a "credible" monetary policy framework.

The agency noted "substantial recent over-performance on fiscal revenues and the government's strong efforts to control expenditure", which if successfully continued, could bring about debt stabilisation.

"However, at this stage we assume

**“We believe a full tariff award would be unaffordable for many customers, and either lead to lower sales volumes or a rise in bad debts.”**

**- S&P**

a substantial part of recent higher revenues to be temporary and see current public sector wage negotiations pointing to increased upward pressure on spending.”

Fitch doesn't expect load shedding will significantly improve next year and will ease only gradually in 2024.

South Africa's growth potential remains low and is a key credit weakness, Fitch said.

"There recently has been more progress on the government's reform agenda pushed by a focus on process bottlenecks under Operation Vulindlela, but full implementation



**South African President Cyril Ramaphosa.**

still takes a long time and reforms on the agenda are limited in ambition. There is also a risk that measures to improve transport infrastructure, a key part of the agenda, are merely offsetting an underlying deterioration, as worsening capacity issues amid rising demand have held back mining exports this year.”

Tax revenue has been surprisingly high, but Fitch expects it to fall back as profits in the mining sector nor-

malise. Fitch kept South Africa's long-term rating at 'BB-' with a "stable" outlook.

Also on Friday, US ratings agency S&P hiked its outlook on Eskom from "negative" to "stable", keeping its rating at "CCC+”.

**Eskom**

It noted that Eskom's operating performance is deteriorating and its costs are rising, with billions spent

on diesel for emergency power generation. Fitch says there are signs that load shedding could increase in coming months. However, government's plan to take on between one- and two-thirds of Eskom's debt would help stabilise its finances.

It warned, however, that the debt transfer plan is complex and not without risks.

In addition, the transfer won't address Eskom's other challenges, such as weak operational performance, overdue receivables from municipalities, and below-cost tariff increases. Eskom's cash flow will depend on its new tariffs for next year, which will be granted by the regulator, Nersa, next month. Eskom asked for a 33% increase in its tariffs.

"We believe a full tariff award would be unaffordable for many customers, and either lead to lower sales volumes or a rise in bad debts," S&P said.

S&P says it would lower its rating if bondholders receive less value than the original promise under the debt transfer plan.

A week ago, S&P kept South Africa's credit ratings unchanged. Its outlook remains "positive", meaning the next step could potentially be an upgrade.

-Fin24

**A CALL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & ENGAGEMENT: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING & EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) NO. 8241 LOCATED NORTHWEST OF OMARURU IN THE ERONGO REGION, NAMIBIA**

The public is hereby notified that an application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as required under the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The proposed exploration and associated works are listed activities in the EIA Regulations that cannot be undertaken without an ECC.

**Project Nature and Location:** The proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL-8241 which has a potential for commodities such as Base & Rare Metals, Dimension Stone, Industrial Minerals, and Precious Metals. The EPL is located about 10km northwest of Omaruru in the Erongo Region and covers an area of 19,726.1504 hectares (Ha).

**The Proponent:** Barbara Tjiroze  
**Environmental Consultant:** Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

The public is therefore invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to submit comments and or receive further information on the EIA process. The requests for registration as an I&APs and comments submission should be done **before or on Friday, 06 January 2023.**

**Public Consultation Meetings will be communicated to the registered I&APs.**

**Contact Person:** Ms. Fredrika Shagama  
**Email:** eias.public@serjaconsultants.com  
**Mobile No.:** +264 (0) 81 749 9223



**A CALL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & ENGAGEMENT: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING & EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) NO. 8521 LOCATED NORTHWEST OF USAKOS IN THE ERONGO REGION, NAMIBIA**

The public is hereby notified that an application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as required under the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The proposed exploration and associated works are listed activities in the EIA Regulations that cannot be undertaken without an ECC.

**Project Nature and Location:** The proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL-8521 which has a potential for commodities such as Base & Rare Metals, Dimension Stone, Industrial Minerals, and Precious Metals. The EPL is located about 35km northwest of Usakos in the Erongo Region and covers an area of 14,174.2723 hectares (Ha)

**The Proponent:** Haifo Mbaka Jr. Shilongo  
**Environmental Consultant:** Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

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**A CALL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & ENGAGEMENT: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING & EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) NO. 7603 LOCATED NORTHWEST OF USAKOS IN THE ERONGO REGION, NAMIBIA**

The public is hereby notified that an application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as required under the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The proposed exploration and associated works are listed activities in the EIA Regulations that cannot be undertaken without an ECC.

**Project Nature and Location:** The proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL-7603 which has a potential for commodities such as Base & Rare Metals, Dimension Stone, Industrial Minerals, Nuclear Fuel Minerals and Precious Metals. The EPL is located about 40km northwest of Usakos in the Erongo Region and covers an area of 16,685.635 hectares (Ha).

**The Proponent:** Dwyka Investment CC  
**Environmental Consultant:** Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

The public is therefore invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to submit comments and or receive further information on the EIA process. The requests for registration as an I&APs and comments submission should be done **before or on Friday, 06 January 2023.**

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# Sanlam, Absa creates SA's biggest black-owned asset manager

## Assets exceed R1 trillion

**Sanlam and Absa have formally combined their investment businesses a year after announcing the merger.**

**LONDIWE BUTHELEZI**

**S**anlam and Absa have officially combined their investment businesses to form South Africa's largest black-owned asset manager. The two companies announced in October 2021 that they were joining forces to create an asset management firm second only to Ninety One in terms of size.

The new company, to be born out of marrying Sanlam Investments and Absa Investments – which comprised Absa Asset Management, Absa Alter-

native Asset Management, Absa Fund Managers and Absa Multi-Management – will have assets of more than R1 trillion.

On Thursday, the two firms said they've now met all the conditions, allowing them to officially launch the new asset management venture, Sanlam Investment Holdings Proprietary Limited (SIH), on 1 December.

### GIANTS

The two combined all their investment management businesses in South Africa.

Absa Investments got a stake in SIH. Absa also entered into a 10-year distribution agreement with SIH. This means that the new asset management firm will use both Sanlam and distribution networks, thus reaching significantly more clients than they



ever could individually.

They also said that doing it as a team of two financial giants will help them bring a more holistic range of investment solutions to the market.

“Sanlam and Absa clients will gain from the enhanced investment offering. This partnership will allow

us to deliver investment solutions that sustain future generations,” said Sanlam Investment Group CEO, Carl Roothman.

He believes that the scale of SIH will position the group as the preferred investment solutions provider in South Africa.

- Fin24



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

## Nictus offers modern shopping experience for Tsumeb

Nictus Namibia, one of the country's largest and independent retailers has officially re-opened doors to its spacious and modern-looking Tsumeb branch, after months of setting up shop in short-term leased space. Nictus Tsumeb caught fire in late 2021 and major renovations had to be carried out on the branch's premises. Not only does the renovated store reveal Nictus' new brand identity but also stocks a wider range set to offer a one-stop shopping experience for Tsumeb residents and neighbouring towns. The shop now offers a variety of kids' furniture, kitchen items, and a wider range of small electrical appliances. It also sports a brand-new store in store for the well-known German brand Bosch. Nictus Holdings' managing director, Philippus Tromp, officiated the opening.

## Total takes next step to develop SA gas fields



PHOTO UNSPEASH/BEN WICKS

**PAUL BURKHARDT**

TotalEnergies has applied for environmental authorisation toward developing its gas discoveries offshore South Africa.

The move forms part of a production right application in Block 11B/12B,

which is available for public comment, according a draft scoping report published online.

### Future transition

Development of the block could potentially revive state-owned PetroSA's 45 000-barrel-a-day Mossel Bay gas-

to-liquids plant, which has run out of feedstock.

South Africa also plans to use the fuel to transition away from coal that's used to generate nearly all of the nation's electricity.

The production right area that is being applied for is smaller than the explora-

tion right area that the company previously held, according to the report.

TotalEnergies is the operator of the block with 45% of the rights, Qatar Petroleum holds 25%, CNR international 20%, and the remainder is held by the South African consortium Main Street.

- Fin24/Bloomberg

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**The Proponent:** Dwyka Investment CC

**Environmental Consultant:** Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

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**Email:** eas.public@serjaconsultants.com  
**Mobile No.:** +264 (0) 81 749 9223



**A CALL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & ENGAGEMENT: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING & EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) NO. 8521 LOCATED NORTHWEST OF USAKOS IN THE ERONGO REGION, NAMIBIA**

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**Project Nature and Location:** The proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL-8521 which has a potential for commodities such as Base & Rare Metals, Dimension Stone, Industrial Minerals, and Precious Metals. The EPL is located about 35km northwest of Usakos in the Erongo Region and covers an area of 14,174.2723 hectares (Ha)

**The Proponent:** Haifo Mbaka Jr. Shilongo

**Environmental Consultant:** Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

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**The Proponent:** Barbara Tjiroze

**Environmental Consultant:** Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

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**Public Consultation Meetings will be communicated to the registered I&APs.**

**Contact Person:** Ms. Fredrika Shagama  
**Email:** eas.public@serjaconsultants.com  
**Mobile No.:** +264 (0) 81 749 9223





Date: 23 March 2023

## CONSULTATION MEETING MINUTES FOR THE:

### **ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT (ESA) STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING AND EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSES (EPLs) NO. 8521 & 7603 LOCATED NORTHWEST OF USAKOS IN THE ERONGO REGION, NAMIBIA**

**The Project Proponent:** Haifo Mbaka Shilongo (EPL-8521) and Dwyka Investment cc (EPL-7603)

**Date:** Thursday, 23 March 2023

**Time:** 10h30

**Venue:** Tubusis Community Hall, Erongo Region

The Meeting was attended by nine (9) people ([Please refer to the attached attendance register](#)).

- **One Environmental consultant** from Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC
- **One representative for the EPLs (8521 and 7603)**
- **Seven (7) representatives from the #Gaingu Conservancy** as shown on the photos in Figure 1 below (as the two EPLs fall within the #Gaingu Conservancy).



*Figure 1: The consultation meeting in progress at the Community Hall in Tubusis (23 March 2023)*

#### 1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING

The meeting was opened by Mr. Anthony Mr. Jantjies (the Chairperson of the #Gaingu Conservancy) who welcomed everyone and requested all the attendees to introduce themselves. After introductions, Mr. Jantjies handed over the chair to Ms. Fredrika Shagama (the Environmental Assessment Practitioner / Consultant from Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants cc) who thanked the Conservancy management committee



representatives for making time to attend the meeting. She briefly explained the meeting agenda of the meeting in accordance with the Public Consultation's Section 21 to 24 of the 2012 EIA Regulations: Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007.

The Environmental Consultant circulated the consultation meeting attendance for signature as proof of consultation to be appended to the ESA Report. Printed copies of the Background Information Documents (BIDs) were also distributed to the attendees for self-reading so that they could raise their concerns, and submit comments after.

## **2. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION**

Ms. Shagama presented the agenda of the meeting which included the following main points:

### **2.1 Explanation of what an ESA is, its Process and the Public Role in the Process**

Ms. Shagama explained the ESA process and that the proposed prospecting and exploration works is one of the listed that cannot be undertaken without an environmental clearance certificate (ECC) from the Environmental Commissioner, and that the consultation meeting is one of the requirements to the EIA study process to apply for the ECCs for the two EPLs (8521 and 7603). She also indicated that EPL-7603 was under the previous system whereby the ESA Study would be done after the EPL is granted (which is only done now). However, EPL-8521 is under the new system whereby an ESA Study needs to be done and ECC granted before EPL exploration rights can be considered for approval, i.e., before the EPL rights are granted to the Proponent.

### **2.2 Brief Description of the Project**

A brief description of the planned project activities was presented as per the provided BIDs copy. Ms. Shagama reiterated that it is important to understand that the proposed activities and ECCs applied for are not for mining activities but prospecting and exploration only. This is also because the Proponent cannot mine on EPLs as mining can only be done once the exploration activities yield positive (economic feasible) results, of which the Proponent will need to apply for a Mining License (ML). The ML will be subject to another separate detailed EIA Study with specialists and apply for ECCs for mining activities.

### **2.3 Presentation of Potential Project Impacts**

To ensure transparency and that the attendees understand both sides of the proposed project activities, Ms. Shagama also presented the potential pre-identified potential positive and negative environmental impacts anticipated from the proposed prospecting and exploration activities.

### **2.4 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)**

Upon presentation of the ESA/EIA process, project activities, and anticipated impacts, the meeting attendees were afforded an opportunity to ask questions and/or raise concerns with regards to the proposed project activities.

The key comments and concerns raised in the meeting were noted for consideration and inclusion in the ESA Report. These recorded comments and concerns are presented in **Table 1**.

**Table 1: Issues, suggestions and comments received during the Consultation Meeting on 23 March 2023 in Tubusis**

No.	Name of the speaker/commentor	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
1.	Mr. Neville Hendricks (#Gaingu Conservancy Manager)	What will happen to the small-scale miners who are making a living from the mining claims found within EPLs?	<b>Mr. Ndili Malima (Mr. NM) – Proponents' representative:</b> In most cases the mining claims have been there before the EPLs and have equal rights to operating in the area. Therefore, we will need to work together.
2.		What are the targeted commodities within the EPLs, since there is a list of these under the applications?	<b>Mr. NM:</b> The primary targets are dimension stone and industrial minerals.
3.		There was a Chinese company mining granite in the area but they just left. Do you know why perhaps?	<b>Mr. NM:</b> I cannot tell for sure but I think it could be due to the drop in market price of the commodity because mining is mainly driven by market demands.
4.		Has rehabilitation of disturbed areas been considered especially to limit the impact on tourism as a result of visual nuisance to the landscape? This is important to know because as you are aware this area forms part of tourism routes and sites.	<b>Mr. NM:</b> During exploration, there will be no material extraction that would leave a scar which would result in scarring of the landscape (an eye sore). We will minimize this by only extract a small block of the stone for exploration data collection and analysis. Regardless, rehabilitation of disturbed sites in the area will be rehabilitated.  <b>Ms. Fredrika Shagama (Ms FS):</b> Noted. The rehabilitation of disturbed site areas after exploration will be incorporated in the EMP for implementation
5.		If the exploration results in mining, will there be a need to relocate people?	<b>Mr. NM:</b> This is unlikely to happen during exploration, but should it come to light towards the end of exploration (when there is enough data to know whether to continue to apply for mining licenses), then this will be communicated with the leaders and communities for further engagements to reach amicable solutions and way forward. In some cases, a landowner may choose to sell off the portion of their area, lease it off or



No.	Name of the speaker/commentor	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
			move away after a fair compensation of course.
6.		The meeting information shared with us indicate that there would be a meeting in Grootspitskop (Spitzkoppe Settlement) with the community at 14h00. I do not think this will materialize because Settlement is far from the two communities of Farm Spitzkoppe and Ketelbank and transport will be a challenge. I think the meeting should be held at one of the two farms or at each.	<b>(Ms FS):</b> Noted. We will probably need to reschedule for another meeting in April to cater for the communities on the farm and Traditional Authority. However, since we are already in the area, we will proceed to the farms for our preliminary site assessment and collection of baseline environmental information.
7.	Mr. Anthony Jantjies	Will there be blasting during exploration?	<b>Mr. NM:</b> There will be no blasting. The activities will be phased into sample collection by geologists and using aeromagnetic surveys and then followed up with exploration trenching and drilling.
8.	Mr. Walter Khuwised (local headman & member of the #Gaingu Conservancy management)	We look at the area and EPLs granted, the areas are big. There are farms, conservancies and then mining related projects. As a conservancy, we are taking care of biodiversity such as wildlife, where we need to have a peaceful environment for the animals, particularly.	<b>Ms. FS:</b> This has been well noted and it is important that such activities are conducted in an environmental friendly manner without impacting the conservation significantly. This would be done by effectively implementing the mitigation measures to be provided in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP).
9.		The Ministry of Mines & Energy (MME) issues or pre-approve EPL applications without first engaging us. Some EPL owners get EPL rights but no activity on the EPL for a long time but when small-scale miners start to mine within the EPLs, they are informed that the area is owned by someone. People have no income, hence diverting to small-scale mining. MME needs to consult the conservancies and traditional authorities first before approving or pre-approving applications.	<b>Ms. FS:</b> Noted. If the small-scale miners have registered mining claims, they do have the same rights as the EPL owners in an area. Therefore, this is a matter of educating the small-scale miners (with legally registered mining claims) about their rights to mine in an area, even if it is inside an EPL. Some (new) EPL owners may not be aware of this but they equally need to be educated about this and respect the rights of the mining claim owners.

**Way forward:** Ms. Shagama will reschedule the meeting with Farm Spitzkoppe and Ketelbank sometime in April so that the communities can submit and or raise their comments and concerns for inclusion.





Ms. Shagama concluded the meeting and thanked the attendees for their participation. She informed them that their comments will be incorporated into the ESA report and suggestions added to the EMP and updated with the inputs from the next community meeting (to be rescheduled) before finalizing the documents for submission to the Environmental Commissioner. The meeting was adjourned at 12h00.

# SERJAHGE

## CONSULTANTS

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### 1<sup>st</sup> CONSULTATION MEETING ATTENDANCE REGISTER

ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT (ESA) STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING AND EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSES (EPLs) NO. 7603 AND 8521 LOCATED NORTHWEST OF USAKOS IN THE ERONGO REGION, NAMIBIA

Project Proponents: Dwyka Investment cc (EPL 7603) & Haife Wabaka Trust Shilongo (EPL - 8521)

Date & Time: Thursday, 23 March 2023, 14h30

Venue: Tubus Community Hall, win ~~training~~ Conserancy Management Committee

No.	Name & Surname	Institution /Farm Name	Contact number	Email address	Signature
1.	Fredrika Shagema	Serja HGE Consultants	081 407 5536	fredrika@serjaconsu1trust.com	
2	Naill Malima	Dwyka Investment	0812056559	naillmalima@yahoo.co.uk	
3	Anthony Jan Tries	#Gangu Conserca	0812057909	ganguconserca@yahoo.com	

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Sustainable Agriculture & Livestock Assurance  
CC/2020/0010007



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4.	NEVILLE HENDRICKS	#GAIINGU CONSERVANCY	081 6822348	nevilleandko@gmail.com gaininguconservancy22@gmail.com	
5	Ewaldt Tsonqsel	#Gaiingu ConserVancy	0817638401	tsongselwaldt15@gmail.com	
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7.	Renalde Gowases	#Gaiingu ConserVancy	0812464718		
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## CONSULTANTS

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Namibia

No.	Name & Surname	Institution /Farm Name	Contact number	Email address	Signature
9.	Walter Khuwiselo	Fluoringu Conservancy	0816457936		<i>Handwritten signature</i>
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Date: 01 August 2023

## 2<sup>ND</sup> CONSULTATION MEETING MINUTES FOR THE:

### **ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT (ESA) STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING AND EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSES (EPLs) NO. 7603 & 8521 LOCATED NORTHWEST OF USAKOS IN THE ERONGO REGION, NAMIBIA**

**The Project Proponent:** Dwyka Investment cc (EPL-7603) and Haifo Mbaka Shilongo (EPL-8521)

**Date:** Tuesday, 01 August 2023

**Time:** 10h00 -11h00

**Venue:** Office of the Traditional Authority Councils in Windhoek

The Meeting was attended by four (4) people ([Please refer to the attached attendance register](#)).

- **One Environmental consultant** from Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC
- **One representative for the EPLs (7603 and 8521)**
- **Two (2) representatives from the Oe-Gan Traditional Authority as well as Ministry of Urban & Rural Development (MURD).**

#### 1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING

The meeting was opened by Ms. Fredrika Shagama (the Environmental Assessment Practitioner / Consultant from Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants cc) who thanked the attendees for their time. She briefly explained the meeting agenda of the meeting in accordance with the Public Consultation's Section 21 to 24 of the 2012 EIA Regulations: Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007.

Since the draft Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) have already been compiled following the first consultation meeting in March 2023, Ms. Shagama handed over the printed copy of the Report (merged with the EMP and other appendices) to the Office of the Chairperson of the Traditional Authorities Council. The attendance register was also circulated for all to sign as proof of the meeting.

#### 2. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION

Ms. Shagama presented the agenda of the meeting which included the following main points:

##### **2.1 Explanation of what an ESA is, its Process and the Public/Stakeholders' Role in the Process**

Ms. Shagama explained the ESA process and that the proposed prospecting and exploration works is one of the listed that cannot be undertaken without an environmental clearance certificate (ECC) from the Environmental Commissioner, and that the consultation meeting is one of the requirements to the EIA study process to apply for the ECCs for the two EPLs (7603 and 8521). She also indicated that EPL-7603 was under the previous system whereby the ESA Study would be done after the EPL is granted (which is only done now). However, EPL-8521 is under the new system whereby an ESA Study needs to be done and ECC granted before EPL exploration rights can be considered for approval, i.e., before the EPL rights are granted to the Proponent.

## **2.2 Brief Description of the Project and Potential Project Impacts**

Following the printed Scoping Report, a brief description of the planned project activities was presented by Ms. Shagama. She also informed the attendees that it is important to understand that the proposed activities and ECCs applied for the two EPLs are not for mining activities but prospecting and exploration only. This is also because the Proponent cannot mine on EPLs as mining can only be done once the exploration activities yield positive (economic feasible) results, of which the Proponent will need to apply for a Mining License. The ML will be subject to another separate detailed EIA Study with specialists and apply for ECCs for mining activities.

To ensure transparency and that the attendees understand both sides of the proposed project activities, Ms. Shagama also presented the potential pre-identified potential positive and negative environmental impacts anticipated from the proposed prospecting and exploration activities. She also pointed out the management and mitigation measures provided in the EMP.

## **2.4 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)**

Upon presentation of the ESA/EIA process, project activities, and anticipated impacts, the meeting attendees were afforded an opportunity to ask questions and/or raise concerns with regards to the proposed project activities.

The key comments and concerns raised in the meeting were noted for consideration and inclusion in the ESA Report. These recorded comments and concerns are presented in **Table 1**.

**Table 1: Comments received during the Consultation Meeting on 01 August 2023 in Windhoek**

No.	Name of the speaker/commentor	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
1.	Chief Immanuel Gaseb	I think EPL holders/applicants do need consent letters from the Traditional Authority, right? If so, this means I will only need to issue a consent for exploration only.	<b>Ms. Fredrika Shagama:</b> Yes, the consent letters required at this stage are only for prospecting and exploration so that the EIA reports can be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as part of the documents needed for evaluation and consideration of the ECCs. Besides, mining cannot be undertaken on EPLs, as this can only be done on mining licenses that are usually applied for after successful exploration. Before mining licenses are issued, another EIA would need to be done.
2		Communities usually complain about EPLs being owned by people from outside their communities, and they feel left out. How does the EPL	<b>Ms. Fredrika Shagama:</b> The EPLs are applied for at the Ministry of Mines & Energy (MME). Of course, there are procedures and requirements to the application such as financial capacity which starts at paying application fees of about NAD10,000 and

No.	Name of the speaker/commentor	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
		process work for one or communities to own EPLs?	<p>other financial obligations. One also need to note that owning an EPL is just that and one has to put money into it, with no guarantee that one will get that money back (if the EPL becomes unsuccessful to convert into a mining license for actual mining and get return on investment). EPLs are just aimed at prospecting and exploration, where you put money with no guarantee, therefore, considerate a risk. This is why some people say that people who invest in EPLs use money that they do not need at the time.</p> <p>To the question of whether communities can also apply for EPLs in their area, of course they can, given that they meet the set requirements. I would suggest, that a community can come up with a company that can probably use money from the funds paid by EPL holders (land use fees paid through the Traditional Authority) in the area and apply for an EPL (as a starting point). They would then take it from there.</p>
<p><b>Way forward:</b> Ms. Shagama will the Proponents' details to the Chief's Office for consideration of the consent letters before the final Scoping Report can be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner</p>			

Ms. Shagama concluded the meeting and thanked the attendees for their participation.

The meeting was adjourned at 11h00.

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### CONSULTATION MEETING ATTENDANCE REGISTER

ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT (ESA) STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING AND EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSES (EPLs) NO. 7603 AND 8521 LOCATED NORTHWEST OF USAKOS IN THE ERONGO REGION, NAMIBIA

Project Proponents: *Dwyka Investments and Haifo Mbaka, Dr. Shilongo*

Date & Time: *Tuesday, 01 August 2023*

Venue: *Office of the Traditional Authorities Council, Windhoek*

No.	Name & Surname	Institution / Farm Name	Contact number	Email address	Signature
1.	<i>Frederika Shagama</i>	<i>Seja HGE Consultants</i>	<i>0817499223</i>	<i>frederika@sejainvestments.com</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
2	<i>HAIFO SHILONGO DWYKA INVESTMENTS CC</i>	<i>EPL 8521 EPL 7603</i>	<i>0812025709</i>	<i>haifoshilongo@gmail.com</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
3	<i>Chico I. N. GÄSER</i>	<i>Docfgan T/A</i>	<i>0812422667</i>	<i>immanuel.gaser@gmail.com</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>



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