

ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING AND IMPACT ASSESSMENT

FOR THE PROPOSED MINERALS EXPLORATION FOR
BASE & RARE METALS, DIMENSION STONES,
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, PRECIOUS METALS,
AND SEMI - PRECIOUS STONES
WITHIN **EPL 8739 Between Aris & Groot Aub**

Khomas Region

APRIL 2023

APP No: 0774

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Title	Environmental Scoping and Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed minerals exploration for base & rare metals, dimension stones, industrial minerals, precious metals, and semi - precious stones within EPL 8739 between Aris & Groot-Aub in the Khomas Region, Namibia
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Authorizer	Ministry of Environment Forestry and Tourism (MEFT)
Internal Doc Name	230425-ETNA-EIA-V03-TS
Cite this document as:	Shuuya, T., 2023. <i>Environmental Scoping and Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed minerals exploration for base & rare metals, dimension stones, industrial minerals, precious metals, and semi - precious stones within EPL 8739 between Aris & Groot-Aub in the Khomas Region, Namibia</i>
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DOCUMENT APPROVAL

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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Alliance Environmental Consultancy CC (AEC) (herein referred to as the consultant) has been appointed by Etna Investments CC (herein referred to as the proponent) to act on their behalf in obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the proposed minerals exploration for base & rare metals, dimension stones, industrial minerals, precious metals, and semi - precious stones within Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) 8739 between Aris & Groot-Aub. The project area is located approximately 15 km southwest of Aris and 20 km northwest of Groot Aub settlements, which are both south of Windhoek, the capital city of Namibia. The site is accessible via the main B1 road and existing tracks. The EPL covers approximately an area of 16668 hectares in total. The EPL covers portions of the following farms: 366 – LICHTENSTEIN, 366 – LICHTENSTEIN-MITTE, 368 – MELROSE, 434 – LICHTENSTEIN, 446 – LICHTENSTEIN SUD and 455 – N/A (**See Table 1**).

In terms of the Environmental Management Act No.7 of 2007 and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2012, the project triggers listed activities that cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). An environmental clearance application will be submitted to the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) and the Ministry of Environmental, Forestry, and Tourism (MEFT) for approval before the commencement of the anticipated project activities.

The exploration activities will be executed through a series of stages which may involve a desktop review of existing data, regional reconnaissance assessment which includes field-based activities such as soil sampling and analysis, geophysical survey (remote sensing Induced polarization and magnetic ground survey), geological mapping and drilling holes for exploration in selected targeted areas.

This Scoping Report (SR) has been compiled in support of an application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate and it includes an Environmental Impact Assessment section. This report describes the baseline bio-physical and socio-economic environment, legal requirements and it also documents the mitigation and control measures are also carried over into an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) which is bound to this report. The results of this scoping assessment were considered satisfactory and concluded that no further assessment was necessary for this phase of the project.

The climate of the Khomas Region is referred to as local steppe, semi-arid. Khomas region is one of the coldest regions in Namibia. For several months of the year, it is warm to hot at temperatures continuously above 25 degrees, sometimes up to 33 degrees. Windhoek gets an average of 370 mm of rainfall per year. Despite the importance of agriculture in the area, minerals occurrence in the surrounding is considered prominent. The study area lies within the Highland Savanna, found mainly in the Khomas Region, and influenced by the Khomas Hochland and Avis Mountain ranges. It should be

noted that portion of the EPL falls within the Auas-Oanob Conservancy which is home to a number of distinctive landscapes that are distinguished by a high species variety, a large number of endemic species, high-altitude mountainous habitats, as well as arid wetland habitats in the shape of the Omiramba. It is estimated that 60 species of reptile, 14 amphibian, 68 mammal, 141 bird species (breeding residents), at least 52 species of larger trees and shrubs (>1m) and at least 64 species of grasses occur in the general/immediate area of which a moderate proportion are endemics. The soils in this area are broadly categorized as the group of leptosols and defined by a combination of eutric and lithic leptosols dominating soils.

The EPL falls within the Hakos group, Damara supergroup, Gariiep complex and Sandstones. The eastern part of the EPL is covered by the Rehoboth Group and rocks associated, which is older than 1,400 million years. Northwest the formations consist of much younger Hakos-sandstones and Witvlei-limestones and sandstones of the Damara Supergroup. The site is underlain by pre-Cambrian aged meta-sedimentary strata of the Kuiseb Formation of the Damara Sequence.

The public is informed of the project via four (4) newspaper advertisements and written notices. Communication was also done through email and phone calls with some affected landowners. There was no one-on-one face-to-face interaction (public meetings) held with the public. The draft documents were shared with the public via email for their review and commentary before submission to authorities. The concerns and comments received from the public and the local community members will form the basis for this report as well as the Draft EMP.

The identification of potential impacts included impacts that may occur during the planning, operational and decommissioning phases of the project. The following potential impacts on the socio-environment during exploration activities have been identified:

- Dust & Noise
- Health & Safety
- Visual
- Ecological
- Groundwater and surface water
- Heritage & Socio-Economic

The benefits that could arise from the project are:

- Creation of additional employment in the area.
- Generation of export and foreign exchange earnings.
- Skills transfer and training would develop the local workforce.
- Increase in knowledge on the subsurface which then contributes to development, and geoscience research.

Due to the limited scope of the proposed activities and the use of a step-by-step approach in advancing exploration operations, the overall severity of potential environmental impacts of the proposed project activities on the receiving environment will be of medium to high magnitude, temporally and permanent duration, localized extent, and high probability of occurrence. All impacts are provided with mitigation measures in order to minimize or avoid them to acceptable degrees provided that the measures are taken into consideration.

Based on the conclusions of this EIA Report, it is thus recommended that an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) be provided for the planned project activities. When implementing the proposed program, the Proponent shall consider the following critical requirements:

- Where applicable, the Proponent will negotiate Access Agreements with landowners/authorities.
- The Proponent is responsible for obtaining all additional permits that may be required.
- In accordance with all applicable national rules, the Proponent shall comply with all terms of the EMP and conditions of the Access Agreement to be signed into between the Proponent and the landowner/s.
- In cases where baseline information, national or international guidelines, or mitigation measures have not been supplied or do not adequately address the site-specific project effect, the Proponent must use the precautionary approach/principles.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AEC	Alliance Environmental Consultancy
BID	Background information Document.
CV	Curriculum Vitae
°C	Degree Celsius
DDH	Diamond Drill Hole
DEA	Directorate of Environmental Affairs
DoF	Directorate of Forestry
DWA	Directorate of Water Affairs
EA	Environmental Assessment
ECC	Environmental Clearance Certificate
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMA	Environmental Management Act No 7 of 2007
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EPL	Exclusive Prospecting Licence
ESIA	Environmental Scoping and Impact Assessment
HAM	Hacking Assessment Method
HSE	Health Safety and Environment
HIA	Heritage Impact Assessment
IAPs	Interested and Affected Parties
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
km	Kilometers
MAWLR	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform
MEFT	Ministry of Environment Forestry and Tourism
MME	Ministry of Mines and Energy
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheet
NSA	Namibia Statistics Agency
WHO	World Health Organization
OSHA	The Occupational Safety and Health Administration
NCAA	Namibia Civil Aviation Authority
PPP	Public Participation Process
RC	Reverse Circulation
SR	Scoping Report
ToR	Terms of Reference

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Alternatives	A possible course of action, in place of another, that would meet the same purpose and need but which would avoid or minimize negative impacts or enhance project benefits. These can include alternative locations/sites, routes, layouts, processes, designs, schedules and/or inputs. The “no-go” alternative constitutes the ‘without project’ option and provides a benchmark against which to evaluate changes; development should result in net benefit to society and should avoid undesirable negative impacts.
Competent Authority	A body or person empowered under the local authorities act or Environmental Management Act to enforce the rule of law.
Environment	As defined in the Environmental Assessment Policy and Environmental Management Act - “land, water and air; all organic and inorganic matter and living organisms as well as biological diversity; the interacting natural systems that include components referred to in sub-paragraphs, the human environment insofar as it represents archaeological, aesthetic, cultural, historic, economic, palaeontological or social values”.
Environmental Assessment (EA)	Process of assessment of the effects of a development on the environment.
Environmental Management Plan (EMP)	A working document on environmental and socio-economic mitigation measures, which must be implemented by several responsible parties during all the phases of the proposed project.
Evaluation	The process of ascertaining the relative importance or significance of information, the light of people’s values, preference and judgements in order to make a decision.
Hazard	Anything that has the potential to cause damage to life, property and/or the environment. The hazard of a particular material or installation is constant; that is, it would present the same hazard wherever it was present.
Interested and Affected Party (IAP)	Any person, group of persons or organisation interested in, or affected by an activity; and any organ of state that may have jurisdiction over any aspect of the activity.
Mitigate	The implementation of practical measures to reduce adverse impacts.
Proponent (Applicant)	Any person who has submitted or intends to submit an application for an authorisation, as legislated by the Environmental Management Act no. 7 of 2007, to undertake an activity or activities identified as a listed activity or listed activities; or in any other notice published by the Minister or Ministry of Environment & Tourism.
Public	Citizens who have diverse cultural, educational, political and socio-economic characteristics. The public is not a homogeneous and unified group of people with a set

of agreed common interests and aims. There is no single public. There are a number of publics, some of whom may emerge at any time during the process depending on their particular concerns and the issues involved.

Scoping Process	Process of identifying: issues that will be relevant for consideration of the application; the potential environmental impacts of the proposed activity; and alternatives to the proposed activity that are feasible and reasonable.
Significant Effect/Impact	An impact that by its magnitude, duration, intensity or probability of occurrence may have a notable effect on one or more aspects of the environment.
Stakeholder Engagement	The process of engagement between stakeholders (the proponent, authorities and IAPs) during the planning, assessment, implementation and/or management of proposals or activities. The level of stakeholder engagement varies depending on the nature of the proposal or activity as well as the level of commitment by stakeholders to the process. Stakeholder engagement can therefore be described by a spectrum or continuum of increasing levels of engagement in the decision-making process. The term is considered to be more appropriate than the term "public participation".
Stakeholders	A sub-group of the public whose interests may be positively or negatively affected by a proposal or activity and/or who are concerned with a proposal or activity and its consequences. The term therefore includes the proponent, authorities (both the lead authority and other authorities) and all interested and affected parties (I&APs). The principle that environmental consultants and stakeholder engagement practitioners should be independent and unbiased excludes these groups from being considered stakeholders.

1. INTRODUCTION

Alliance Environmental Consultancy CC (AEC) has been appointed by Etna Investments CC to act on their behalf in obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the proposed minerals exploration for base & rare metals, dimension stones, industrial minerals, precious metals, and semi-precious stones within (EPL) 8739 between Aris & Groot-Aub in the Khomas Region. The potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed exploration activities will be assessed in this report and an Environmental Management Plan will be provided (**Appendix B**).

No specialist survey of the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of the actual site and surroundings were done except the heritage impact assessment that was conducted. However, a number of studies have been completed for other projects within the vicinity surrounding areas. Though not a site-specific baseline study as such, this report represents a reference point for comparing any current and future data collected.

1.1. PROJECT LOCALITY

The project area is located approximately 15 km southwest of Aris and 20 km northwest of Groot Aub settlements, which are both south of Windhoek, the capital city of Namibia. The site is accessible via the D1427 district road that branches from the B1 main road or the C26 that passes by the Kupferberg landfill south of Windhoek and via existing tracks. The EPL covers approximately an area of 16668 hectares in total. **Figures 1&2** show the locality of the area.

The EPL covers portions of the following farms as per the shapefile obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture Water and Land Reforms (MAWLR):

TABLE 1 - FARMS OVERLAPPING EPL 8739

FARM NO.	FARM NAME
366	Lichtenstein
366	Lichtenstein-Mitte
368	Melrose
434	Lichtenstein
446	Lichtenstein Sud
455	N/A

The proponent applied for the EPL area through the MME on 20 January 2022. The EPL is still at the application stage (pending approval) as it is subject to an (ECC) by the (MEFT) which is the reason for conducting this environmental scoping and impact assessment.

The **FIGURE 1** below shows the locality of the EPL as displayed on the Namibia Mining Cadastral Portal on this link <https://portals.landfolio.com/namibia/>.

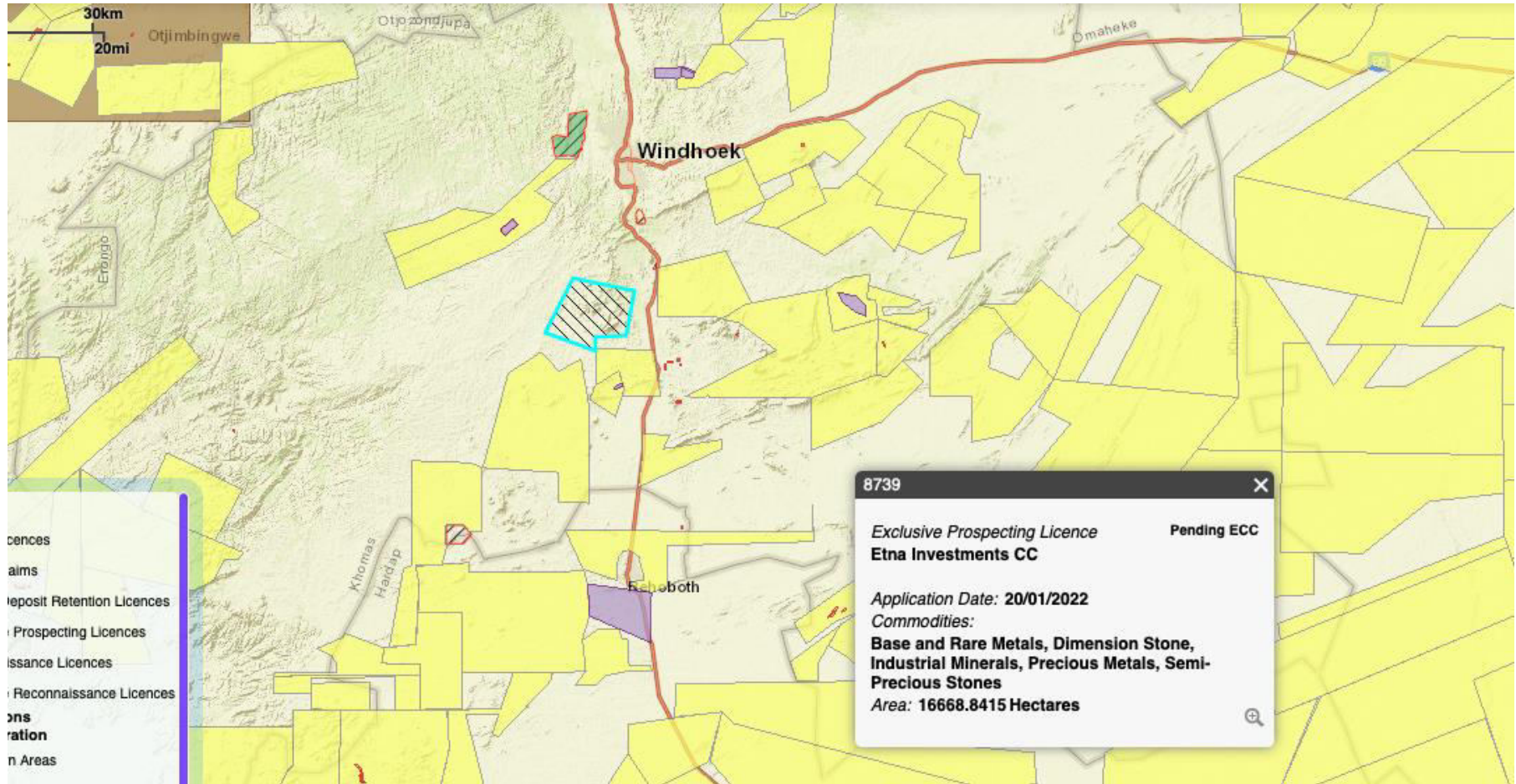


FIGURE 1 - LOCALITY DISPLAY ON THE MINING CADASTRE PORTAL (MME,2023) <https://portals.landfolio.com/namibia/>.

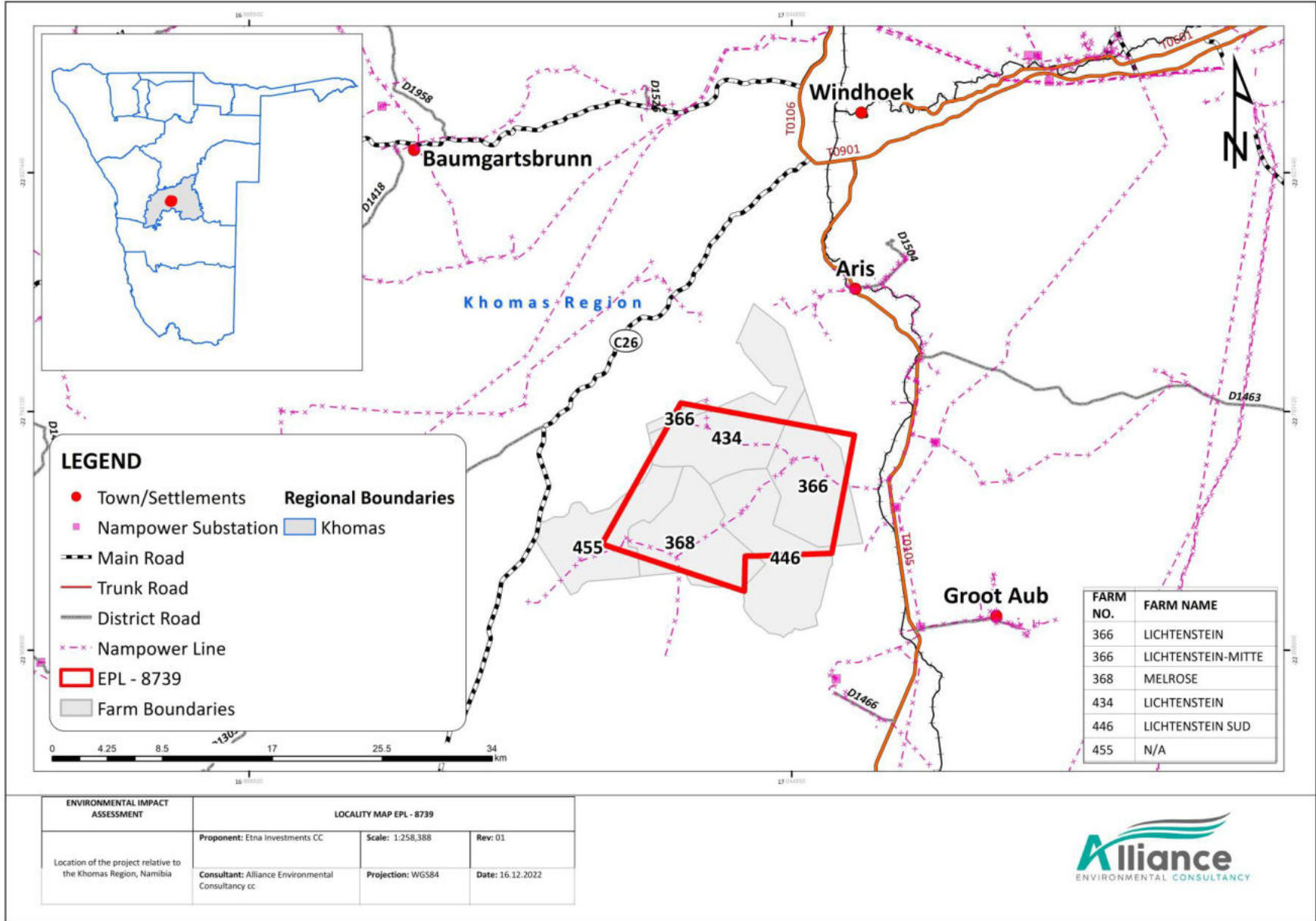


FIGURE 2 – LOCALITY MAP AND INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

1.2. PROJECT MOTIVATION/RATIONALE

Mining activities in Namibia is the biggest contributor to the country's revenue and one of the largest economic sectors in the country. Although for exploration activities there are limited social benefits associated with the project, the following are the possible benefits of the proposed project activities:

- Contributions to annual license fees to the government through the MME.
- Payments of lease agreements and services rendered.
- Value adding to Namibian raw materials.
- Provision of contractual employment opportunities.
- Increase in knowledge on the subsurface which then contributes to development, and geoscience research.
- Contribute to the socio-economic development of the local area and region,
- Direct capital investment into Khomas Region.

Should a feasible resource be located, it could provide social and economic development within the region and the country, subject to a Mining Licence (ML) being issued by MME and a separate, comprehensive (full) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

1.3. PROJECT LIMITATIONS

AEC assumes that all information and technical data for the Project relevant to the scope of the environmental scoping procedure provided by the Proponent are true and correct, and that all necessary information has been disclosed.

This report is compiled as a scoping assessment and an archeological specialist study was done as part of this assessment. This is because the consultants believed that the magnitude of the proposed activities and the existence of similar projects in the vicinity can be used to sufficiently address these potential impacts from the proposed project under the impact assessment section of the SR and mitigation measures provided accordingly. Reviewed literature, and professional experience from similar studies in the Regions and elsewhere were also considered when addressing these effects. The project specific information used in this document is as provided by the Proponent, consultants experience and relevant literature reviewed/research.

1.4. PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

In terms of the Environmental Management Act No.7 of 2007 and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2012, the project triggers listed activities that cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). An environmental clearance application will be submitted to the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) as the competent authority and the Ministry of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism (MEFT) as the issuing authority to make a decision as to whether

an environmental clearance certificate can be issued or not before the commencement of the anticipated project activities.

The environmental scoping assessment report aims to address the following:

- i. Identification of potential positive and negative environmental impacts.
- ii. Evaluation of the nature and extent of potential environmental impacts
- iii. Identify a range of management actions that could mitigate the potential impacts to required levels.
- iv. Consult relevant stakeholders regarding the proposed development.
- v. Provide sufficient information to the MEFT to make an informed decision regarding the proposed project.

The provision of the listed activities are as follows:

MINING AND QUARRYING ACTIVITIES

3.1 *The construction of facilities for any process or activities which requires a license, right, or other forms of authorization, and the renewal of a license, right, or any other form of authorization in terms of Minerals (Prospecting and Mining Act), 1992.*

3.2 *Other forms of mining or extraction of natural resources whether regulated by law or not.*

3.3 *Resource extraction, manipulation, conservation, and related activities.*

FORESTRY ACTIVITIES

4.1 *The clearance of forest areas, deforestation, afforestation, timber harvesting or any other related activity that requires authorization in terms of the Forest Act, 2001 (Act No. 12 of 2001) or any other law.*

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE TREATMENT, HANDLING AND STORAGE

9.1 *The manufacturing, storage, handling, or processing of a hazardous substance defined in the Hazardous Substances Ordinance, 1974.*

1.5. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference (ToR) for the proposed project are based on the requirements set out by the Environmental Management Act (EMA) (2007) and its EIA Regulations (2012). The scope of this assessment is to identify and evaluate potential environmental impacts emanating from the

proposed activity. Data has been compiled by making use of literature, and the information provided by the proponent.

The process covered the following steps, as divided into the sections below. Each section describes what was undertaken.

1.5.1. SCREENING PHASE (DECEMBER 2022 – JANUARY 2023)

This involves project initiation discussions with the proponent to finalize the TOR for the study. The consultants identify potential environmental aspects and potential impacts that may be relevant to the project. Once the screening phase is concluded the scoping process is initiated.

1.5.2. SCOPING PHASE (FEBRUARY TO MARCH 2023)

This phase constitutes of the identification of further potential environmental issues associated with the proposed project, provide a description of the receiving environment, assessment of potential environmental impacts and develop management and mitigation measures.

Other activities that can be conducted at this phase include site visits and identification as well as communication with potential affected parties and the compilation of Scoping Report and EMP. The reports are then distributed to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) for comment. This phase is further discussed under **Chapter 2**.

1.5.3. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

All legislation, policies and guidelines that had reference to the proposed project are listed under **Chapter 5**. The activities for which clearance is required for the project were extracted from the EMA Regulations. As per legal requirements, any exploration activity requires the Environmental Commissioner within the Ministry of Environment & Tourism to render an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

1.5.4. AIM OF THE REPORT

The aim of this report is to provide details on the proposed planning, operational, decommissioning and closure activities that will enable decision makers to make informed decisions regarding the development from an environmental perspective.

1.5.5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Inform Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and relevant authorities of the details of the proposed development and provide them with a reasonable opportunity to participate during the process.

Stakeholder engagement through the public consultation process, is described in a later section of this report (**Chapter 7**).

1.5.6. ENVIRONMENT DESCRIPTION

The 'environment' is defined in the Environmental Assessment Policy and Environmental Management Act as "land, water and air; all organic and inorganic matter and living organisms as well as biological diversity; the interacting natural systems that include components referred to in sub-paragraphs, the human environment insofar as it represents archaeological, aesthetic, cultural, historic, economic, paleontological or social values".

Relevant environmental data was compiled by making use of secondary information and stakeholder consultation. The report identified existing environmental (both ecological and socio-economic) conditions of the receiving environment in order to determine environmental sensitivities. Information regarding the biophysical and socio-cultural environment was sourced from a number of studies previously done in and around the study area. Please refer to **Chapter 6** and the document reference list for the sources of information consulted.

1.5.7. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The scoping and assessment process aims to guide and promote sustainable and responsible development and not to discourage development. Potential environmental impacts and associated social impacts were identified and addressed in the report (**Chapter 9**). The EAP has assessed likely positive and negative impacts environmental and social impacts at the local and regional (Khomas Region) and national (Namibia) levels using the Hacking Assessment Method (HAM).

Possible enhancement measures have been listed for those positive impacts while prevention, mitigation and rehabilitation measures have been provided for negative impacts. The environmental assessment was conducted to comply with Namibia's Environmental Management Act, the requirements of Local Authorities and all other legal requirements applicable to the development and Namibia.

The assessment process involved merging various information streams into a description of the environment and the proposed project. If the environmental commissioner finds that the assessment of potential impacts and the proposed mitigation measures proposed in this report, are acceptable, an ECC may be awarded.

1.5.8. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (EMP)

This task involved the drafting of a standalone document that outlined the management, monitoring and mitigation measures that will avoid, minimise and/or mitigate potentially negative impacts. In some case remediation and rehabilitation will be required. The ECC should refer to the EMP contained in **Appendix B**, and the conditions stipulated therein, thus rendering the EMP a legally binding document to which the proponent must adhere.

1.6. THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT

Alliance Environmental Consultancy CC (AEC) (hereinafter referred to as consultant) is an independent consultant developed to assist clients to meet environmental legislative requirements, relevant standards and uphold environmental safety throughout project developments and operation. We assess and monitor the social and environmental impacts of projects related to biomass, mining, energy, tourism, and other sectors. Our wide range of capabilities, disciplines, and services are fundamentally based on proactively delivering advice and solutions with the outlook of sustainability. This is done by awarding our clients the responsibility and opportunity to make unique differences in their industries. The consultant was assisted by Mr. Charles Adam Constantin who is an intern. The detailed CV of the team is presented in **Appendix A**.

AEC is in no way a direct affiliate of the applicant and has no personal or financial interest in the proposed project other than reasonable compensation for the professional services provided.

2. EIA APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

The EIA and EMP methodology applied for this project will take into account the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2012, and the Environmental Management Act (EMA) Act No. 7 of 2007. The process followed is detailed below and in **FIGURE 3**.

PHASE 1 – ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING

Project initiation and registration with the Competent Authority

- This involves meeting with the client and discussing timeframes, logistics and project descriptions.
- Basic desktop site Baseline analysis and compilation of a Background Information Document (BID)
- Project registration with Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) to be done on the EIA online portal system.
- After the project is registered, the environmental commissioner will advise whether a full EIA or scoping assessment is required for the project, the required documents are outlined on the online system.

PHASE 2: ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT INCLUDING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS (PPP)

- An extensive desktop baseline study and review for the area will be undertaken using remote sensing to identify and describe potential sites that are likely to be impacted by the project before on ground site verification.
- The consultants will conduct a site visit during this stage to form a basis for the assessment and determine the real sensitivity of the surrounding biophysical and socio-economic environment.
- The information obtained during the site visit (if done) will be supplemented by a literature review and will be used by the environmental consultant to: (a) Determine the actual/real risks associated with the project activities, (b) Provide practical mitigation measures to minimize the risks; and (c) Make recommendations for further studies, should it be required.

Public Consultation Process and stakeholder engagement (21 Days)

- Public consultation is an important stage of the EIA process as it ensures public involvement. The public consultation process begins with newspaper advertisement (Minimum two (2) local newspapers twice for two consecutive weeks), site notices to be placed at easily accessible places around the project area/town, radio announcements, when necessary, through respective constituency offices (especially in remote areas where newspapers might not reach on time) and then possible public meetings when critical. This is done to provide the

public a chance of getting involved in the process, provide their views and input regarding to the proposed activities in the area.

- The EAP approaches different organizations and government institutions to gather information on potential stakeholders' contact details.
- During this stage, potential stakeholders (local governments, constituency offices, farmers etc.) are identified and made aware of the project as advised in writing. Invitation letters and or emails will be sent to the identified I&APs. All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) contact details will be collected for future communications related to the project progress.
- The Background Information Document (BID) prepared in phase 1 will be shared with all identified and registered I&APs during this period. The BID usually contains summarized project information such as the project description of activities, project motivation, potential impacts, and EIA process followed. This document will be shared via email or delivered in hardcopy to the relevant/applicable parties. Other social media platforms such as WhatsApp will also be utilized in this case.
- All comments, inputs, issues and/ or concerns raised by I&APs during the process will be recorded for consideration in the environmental assessment report and development of the EMP.

PHASE 3: ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING – ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT REPORT (ESAR) AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (EMP)

- This stage will include data reduction and analysis using appropriate techniques to produce suitable project results for interpretation and discussion. This stage will entail consolidation of the findings in the form of a report that can be presented to the client for review and comments. An EMP will be drafted to mitigate and manage all impacts identified in the scoping report.
- After approval of the documents by the Client, the draft ESAR and EMP will be prepared for circulation to the public (I&APs) for comments over a period of 7 days.
- All comments are consolidated and included in the reports and the ESAR and EMP are finalized for submission to the competent authority (Ministry of Mines and Energy) and issuing authority (MEFT).
- The registered and identified I&APs will be informed that the final documents have been submitted to the authorities for decision making and that for any further comments, they can directly contact the DEA. Furthermore, the DEA provides another 14 days period for public participation on the online portal in this regard.

PHASE 4: FOLLOW-UP WITH THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY UNTIL FEEDBACK IS GRANTED

FIGURE 5: BELOW PROVIDES A SIMPLIFIED EIA PROCESS FLOWCHART

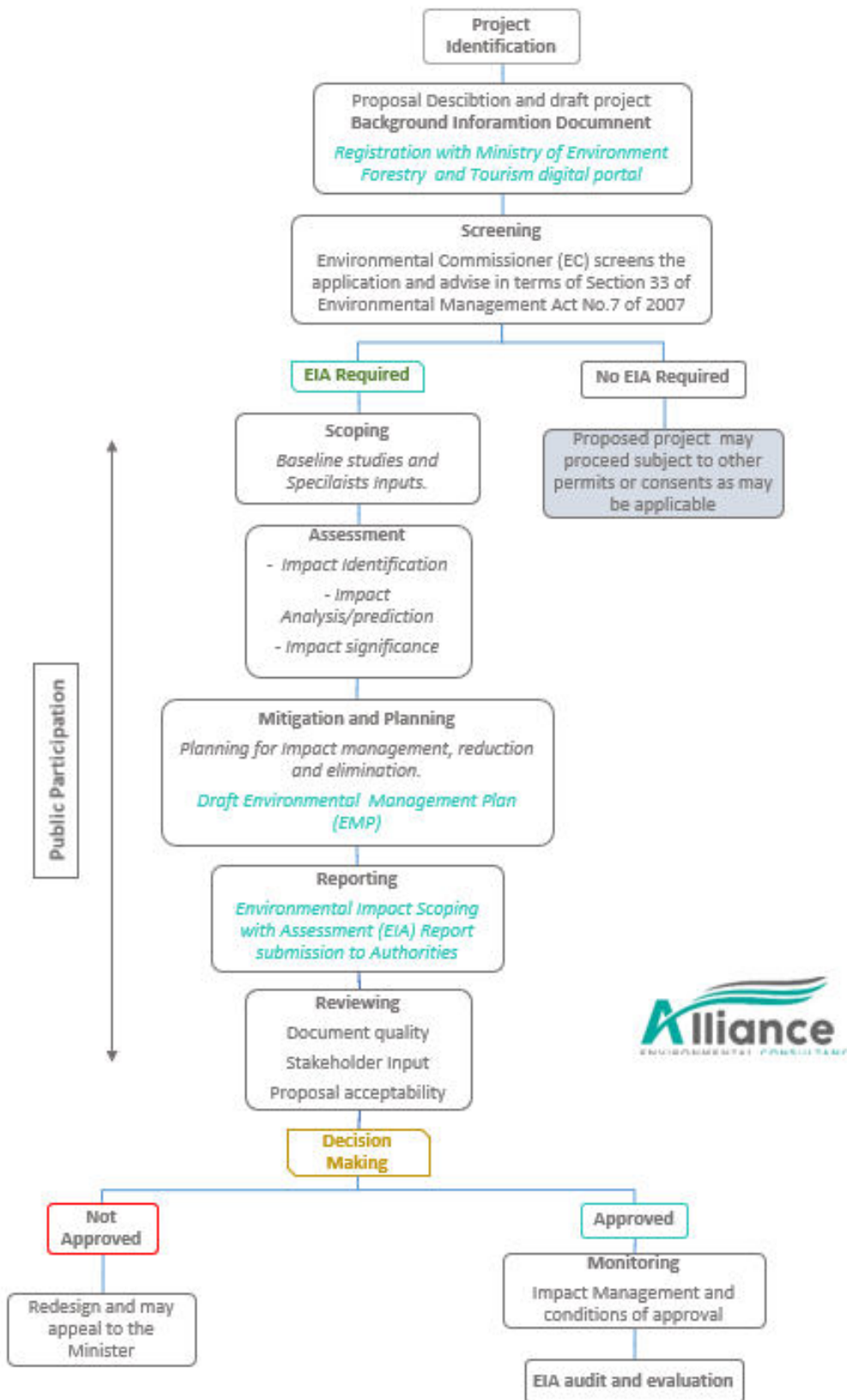


FIGURE 3 - EIA FLOW CHART BY AEC

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

3.1. PROJECT PLAN AND ACTIVITIES

The proponent wishes to conduct an exploration program on EPL 8739 for base & rare metals, dimension stones, industrial minerals, precious metals, and semi - precious stones. Once granted by MME, the licence will be valid for three years with possible renewal after this period. The commencement of the project is planned as soon as the environmental clearance certificate and physical EPL licence has been issued. The exploration program will be carried out as outlined in more detail below:

3.1.1. PLANNING PHASE

This will incorporate the procurement of all required permits and agreements with various state and parastatal agencies as well as surface landowners/land custodians. These will result in various agreements to be entered into between the proponent and the respective parties.

Possible parties that will be/are being consulted include the following:

- Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME)
- Ministry of Environment Forestry & Tourism (MEFT, this application)
- Respective Regional Councils
- Ministry of Agriculture, Water & Land Reform (MAWLR)
- Landowners/ Land custodians

3.1.2. INITIATION/PRE-OPERATIONAL PHASE

i. Accommodation

During this phase, a provisional field camp is planned with basic infrastructure as required for operations within the boundaries of the EPL, such providing accommodation on site. Alternatively, the workers can commute from the nearby town/settlement/lodge or any accommodation places that may be deemed sufficient by the proponent. Any infrastructure will be erected with the permission of the land custodians in the area, i.e., the farmers. The accommodation area will be demarcated to limit the movement of equipment and personnel beyond the footprint of the camp area, and also to limit the movement of animals onto the site from the surrounding.

ii. Access

Existing access roads will be utilized and if need be, upgraded to accommodate heavy motor vehicles and operational machines. The selective clearing of vegetation in areas designated for prospecting will be minimal from the foreseen operations. Usually, land is cleared at areas where drilling operations will be conducted or where the camping area will be erected. When lateral

expansion is required the removal of vegetation will be done in association with the Directorate of Forestry that issues the relevant permits.

iii. Waste management

Solid waste will be removed off site and taken to the nearest registered dumpsite/landfill (Kupferberg Windhoek Landfill). Toilets need to be established, with septic tanks to be emptied regularly using a tanker truck which removes the sewerage and takes it to the municipal sewerage works. For a longer-term field camp arrangement, a French drain system could be devised and constructed.

3.1.3. OPERATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

i. Water supply

Water supply sources being considered are either.

- Ground water abstraction; and
- NamWater

The proponent does not expect to use much water, as the only main activities are for camp use and for drilling. It is suggested that amounts of water can be sourced from the nearest NamWater supply scheme or from one of the surrounding neighbors or community boreholes and then be trucked to the exploration site and camp, this is the preferred option.

If for any reason more water is required then the proponent suggests abstraction of ground water, which can be done at minimal extraction cost, a borehole can be sunk to augment supply volumes or an existing borehole can be utilized with the owner's permission. However, for this option groundwater exploration would need to be undertaken followed by the required permit application process with the Directorate of Water Affairs (DWA).

i. Power supply

No infrastructure development to get electricity from the national grid has been planned. All mobile equipment is diesel driven and self-propelled. Static equipment will use electricity generated by diesel generators. A small field of photovoltaic panels is also envisaged for power generation in the medium term.

ii. Onsite fuel storage

Diesel storage at the site will be only temporary and intermittent during drilling and bulk sampling operations. Fuel will be stored in a bunded fuel tank system, conveniently placed and accessible for deliveries. This facility will be of modern construction, either double-skinned or 110% bound to ensure spills are prevented.

Delivery systems will use sealed fittings to prevent spillage. The fuel facility is to be actively manned. Standardized spill kits and reporting systems will be in place to deal with any hydrocarbon spills. Contaminated soil will be transferred to a remediation site, which is specifically designed for such treatment.

3.1.4. PROSPECTING/OPERATIONAL PHASE ACTIVITIES

The company is targeting rare and base, dimension stones, industrial minerals, precious metals, and semi - precious stones mineralization of the area. A number of mineral occurrences are known in the area from past exploration works. Operations are scheduled to operate 10 hours a day (7am to 5pm) Monday to Friday and (07am to 1pm) on Saturdays. The personnel will be transported to and from the operational site by company transport.

i. Vehicle, machinery, and associated equipment

Main equipment types to be used will include 4X4 bakkies, drill rigs (Reverse Circulation (RC) or Diamond Drill Hole (DDH), excavators and front-end loaders to be used if overburden topsoil removal is required, water tankers for the camp site and to support drilling operations, portable geophysical equipment, sampling equipment (bags, sieves, spades etc.). The aforementioned will be stored and designated areas at the accommodation place.

The projected mineral exploration activities during prospecting follow a staged approach. The different work aspects and consecutive phases are summarized as follows:

ii. Desktop studies including geological mapping.

High resolution data are purchased from the MME to assist in a desktop review of existing historic geological exploration reports data as well as all past research conducted in the general area to see if there are any prospective targets. The data available is used to understand the background of the area through remote sensing and topographic surveys. This involves a review of geological maps of the area and on-site ground traverses and observations. The maps and data will be updated where relevant information has been obtained.

iii. Geophysical survey

The geophysical surveys include the collection of information of the substrata, by ground and airborne techniques, through sensors such as radar, magnetic and electromagnetic to detect any mineralization in the area. Ground geophysical surveys would be carried out using sensors mounted on vehicles or carried by hand. Aerial geophysical surveys would be carried out using sensors mounted on low flying aircraft. The airborne geophysical technique tries to measure electrical conductivity and magnetic variations of the ground using measuring instruments suspended

underneath a helicopter or aircraft. Where necessary, permits will be obtained from Namibia Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) to support the airborne geophysical surveys. Generally, these techniques are not intrusive in terms of impacts towards the environment.

iv. Geochemical sampling

This stage incorporates geochemical analyses, geochemical soil sampling programs, and additional ground geophysical surveys.

For soils sampling, it is done at depths of at least 10 - 30cm therefore firstly removing the upper surface of the soil that will be filled back once a sample is collected. The samples are collected into bags of approximately 100 - 500grams. Usually, soil samples are to be collected where drainage and catchment basins are poorly developed. Sampling can be carried out in up to 8 teams, each consisting of a field technician or geologist and local field assistants.

Once the exercise concludes, the samples are collected and sent to an analytical laboratory (as preferred by the proponent) for geochemical trace element analysis to determine if sufficient quantities of the desired mineralization are present.

Using the results obtained through the geophysical and geochemical surveys, a guided map is created. When target areas are determined, drill pads may be established where these then require clearing of trees and shrubs. Should sensitive/protected species be present in the target area a trees removal and clearing permit is applied for through the Department of Forestry (DoF).

v. Exploration Drilling

Exploration drilling is the process of sampling rock below surface from an area, where it is suspected that there may be mineralization. The most commonly used drilling techniques are Reverse Circulation Drilling (RC) or Diamond Drilling. Both methods are applied in exploration, resource evaluation and subsequently in defining an ore reserve.

Exploration Diamond Drilling differs from other geological drilling in that a solid core is extracted from depth, for examination on the surface. The key technology of the diamond drill is the actual diamond bit itself. It is composed of industrial diamonds set into a soft metallic matrix. The drill produces a "core" which is logged, photographed and which can be split longitudinally for sampling purposes. Half of the split core is assayed while the other half is permanently stored for future use and reference.

RC Drilling uses a pneumatic hammer, which drives a rotating tungsten-steel bit. The technique produces an uncontaminated large volume sample, which is comprised of rock chips. It is relatively quick and cheap compared to Diamond Drilling. The RC technique is common for infill drilling, at a

much higher density or narrower spacing to allow extrapolations of the rock units. Usually, the drill area is approximately 15 m x 15 m and is off-limits to those not part of the exploration team.

Once the samples are analysed at the laboratory the information will be used for the resource modelling and delineation of mining targets. The proponent has not developed the preferred technique to be used yet, therefore for this purpose both techniques apply.

vi. Advanced prospecting/exploration

In the advanced stage of exploration, larger amounts of rock sample material may be required for performing processing trials and for metallurgical testing programs. Ground conditions and geotechnical parameters also need to be established for planning and costing purposes.

Bulk sampling for metallurgical tests and processing trials will be done to complement the material obtained during drilling. Possibly, pits or trenches are to be dug / excavated to a depth of 5m, and several hundred cubic meters of samples are taken. The location of the pits will depend on the drilling results and will be in close proximity to where drilling has occurred. The size of the sample required depends on the nature of the mineralization as observed from drilling and sampling.

vii. Pre-feasibility and feasibility studies

If the detailed exploration activities yield positive results, the exploration data will be compiled into a pre-feasibility report, and upon positive results from further work, a detailed feasibility study will be conducted on the identified site-specific area where a mineral deposit is defined.

Additional detailed and site-specific drilling, bulk sampling, laboratory testing, and trial mining may be conducted.

viii. Mining Licence Application or End of exploration Program

Only if an economic mineral resource is discovered within the EPL area, the proponent will compile an application for a mining licence and a detailed environmental impact assessment study will be undertaken. The EIA will comprise of detailed site-specific specialists' studies of different aspects of the project these studies may include the following impact assessments; Hydrology and geohydrology, archaeology, air quality, traffic, biodiversity (fauna & flora), visual and soil etc.

Should there be no discovery of any economic minerals that warrants a Mining Licence, the proponent can decide to end the operations of the project and the area is rehabilitated.

3.1.5. DECOMMISSIONING AND FINAL REHABILITATION

In accordance with the EMA, the proponent is required to make funds accessible which will specifically be available and allocated for rehabilitation efforts. This fund should continually be available during the period of the active operation yet also be sufficient to cover all decommissioning activities when required.

Decommissioning activities will include the removal of any temporary infrastructure, rehabilitation of roads and other linear infrastructure, drill sites and bulk sampling pits, as necessary. This is done in order to reduce the effects of soil erosion and to re-establish normal ecosystem functionality so as to rehabilitate the environment.

4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

In terms of the Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007 and EIA Regulations, alternatives considered should be analyzed to identify different means of meeting the general purpose and requirements of the activity, which may include alternatives to, location, type of activity, design and layout, technology and operation aspects. This is to ensure that during the design evolution and decision-making process, potential environmental impacts, costs, and technical feasibility have been considered, which leads to the best option(s) being identified. The alternatives considered are tabulated below:

TABLE 2 - ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED TABLE.

ALTERNATIVE	JUSTIFICATION
Site/Location	Minerals Occurrence Location: Several economic deposits are known to exist in various locations of Namibia, some of which have been explored and mined by various companies throughout the years. However, mineral occurrence is often highly localized and therefore primarily determined by the site geology. As part of the license, the proponent proposes to explore and mine for potential base & rare metals, dimension stones, industrial minerals, precious metals, and semi - precious stones economic minerals occurrences in this specific EPL area. There are no alternative locations considered for exploration.
Infrastructure	<p>Access Roads – The access routes to target areas and around the EPL have not been determined yet, however the proponent will use the existing external and internal road networks during the various phases of the project, should any new access be created, it will be done with the permission of landowners/land custodians as well as MEFT.</p> <p>Equipment and infrastructure – The equipment and infrastructure options considered by the proponent are deemed sufficient at this stage of the project. However, in the world of revolving technology, the proponent may opt to employ other improved and environmentally safe to use equipment/infrastructure in the future when deemed necessary in order to maximize the project output.</p>
Water supply	Water will be brought to site from the nearest town/settlement and stored in a tank on site. The alternative is to use existing boreholes or do a hydro search to drill a new borehole.
Power supply	Power will be sourced from a diesel generator; the alternative is to Install photovoltaic solar panels at a later stage

4.1. NO GO ALTERNATIVES

Not conducting exploration will deprive the proponent an opportunity to pursue its business and to strive for mineral resource discoveries, but it will also constitute an opportunity loss for the Namibian economy and overall wealth of the Namibian people. As such it will also deny other key stakeholders an opportunity to earn a much-needed income. The local authority and central government agencies will not earn revenue through rates and taxes. Considering the above losses, the “no-action/go” alternative was not considered a viable option in the interest of the directly affected community and the proponent.

5. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

5.1. LIST OF APPLICABLE LAWS AND LEGISLATIONS

A list of legislation that is applicable to the proposed project is presented in **TABLE 3**.

TABLE 3 - LIST OF APPLICABLE LAWS AND LEGISLATIONS

LAW	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION
Constitution of the Republic of Namibia, 1990	<p>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.</p> <p>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 –</p> <p>"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 utilization 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."</p>
Environmental Management Act (2007) - Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT)	<p>The purpose of the Act is to give effect to Article 95(l) and 91(c) of the Namibian Constitution by establishing general principles for the management of the environment and natural resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to promote the coordinated and integrated management of the environment to give statutory effect to Namibia's Environmental Assessment Policy. - to enable the Minister of Environment, Forestry 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. The provision of listed activities is listed under section 1.4.
Environmental Assessment Policy (1994)	<p>This policy aims to promote sustainable development and economic growth while protecting the environment in the long term by requiring environmental</p>

LAW	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION
	assessment prior to undertaking of certain activities. Annexure B of the policy contains a schedule of activities that may have significant detrimental effects on the environment, and which require authorisation prior to undertaking.
Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act, No. 33 of 1992	Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act 33 of 1992 and special regulations Sections 50, 52, 54, 57 and 130 of this Act sets out provisions for environmental management for activities arising from mineral, Exploration, and exploitation of mineral resources
Water Act 54 of 1956 Ministry 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. water permits will also be required to abstract groundwater as well as for "water works."
Forest Act 12 of 2001 - Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT)	<p>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.</p> <p>Section 22 requires a permit for the cutting, destruction or removal of vegetation that are classified under rare and or protected species; clearing the vegetation on more than 15 hectares on any piece of land or several pieces of land situated in the same locality which has predominantly woody vegetation; or cut or remove more than 500 cubic metres of forest produce from any piece of land in a period of one year.</p> <p>Should the above be unavoidable, it will be necessary to obtain a permit from the Ministry.</p> <p>Minimal vegetation clearing will be required to support the project activities. The necessary permit should be obtained from the MEFT, where the application should satisfy that the cutting and removal of vegetation will not interfere with the conservation of soil, water, or forest resources.</p>

LAW	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION
<p>Hazardous Substance Ordinance 14 of 1974</p> <p>Petroleum Products and Energy Act (No. 13 of 1990) Regulations (2001)</p> <p>Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS)</p> <p>Ministry of \mines and Energy (MME)</p>	<p>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."</p> <p>The project will require diesel storage for supplying power, and machinery operation. The necessary permits should be acquired in this regard.</p>
<p>Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Ordinance 11 of 1976.</p> <p>Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS)</p>	<p>This regulation sets out principles 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.</p> <p>The proposed prospecting activities would not entail the discharge of large quantities of gaseous pollutants into air but may result in increased noise levels, dust generation, destruction of in situ soil structure during such operations.</p>
<p>The Nature Conservation Ordinance 4 of 1975,</p> <p>Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT)</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Soil Conservation Act, No. 76 of 1969 and the Soil Conservation Amendment Act, No. 38 of 1971</p>	<p>The act makes provision for the prevention and control of soil erosion and the protection, improvement and conservation of soil and vegetation.</p>
<p>Labour Act, 1992, Act No. 6 of 1992 as amended in the Labour Act, 2007 (Act</p>	<p>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</p>

LAW	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION
No. 11 of 2007 Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation (MLIREC)	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.
Affirmative Action (Employment) Act No. 29 of 1998	Fair employment practice
Regional Councils Act (Act No. 22 of 1992)	The Regional Councils Act legislates the establishment of Regional Councils that are responsible for the planning and coordination of regional policies and development. The main objective of this Act is to initiate, supervise, manage, and evaluate development in the regions.
Namibia's Environmental Assessment Policy for Sustainable Development and Environmental Conservation of 1995	Prescribes Environmental Impact Assessments for any developments with potential negative impacts on the Environment
Nature Conservation Amendment Act 5 of 1996	To provide for an economically based system of sustainable management and utilization of game in communal areas
Draft Pollution and Waste Management Bill (1999)	This Bill serves to regulate and prevent the discharge of pollutants to air and water as well as providing for general waste management. The Bill repeals the Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Ordinance (11 of 1976). In terms of water pollution, it will be illegal to discharge of, or dispose of, pollutants into any watercourse without a Water Pollution Licence (apart from certain accepted discharges). Similarly, an Air Quality Licence will be required for any pollution discharged to air above a certain threshold. The Bill also provides for noise, dust or odour control that may be considered a nuisance. The Bill advocates for duty of care with respect to waste management affecting humans and the environment and calls for a waste management licence for any activity relating to waste or hazardous waste management.
Convention on Desertification of 1994	Combating desertification and mitigation of the effects of drought
	This Act provides provisions for the protection and conservation of places and

LAW	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION
National Heritage Act 27 of 2004 Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture (MEAC)	objects of heritage significance and the registration of such places and objects. The proposed activities 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 or destroying any heritage.

TABLE 4 - INTERNATIONAL LAW TO WHICH NAMIBIA IS A SIGNATORY

INTERNATIONAL LAW TO WHICH NAMIBIA IS A SIGNATORY
Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer - 1985
Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the Ozone Layer - 1987
The Basel Convention on the Control of Trans-boundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal – 1989
The Rotterdam convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade – 1989
The Rio de Janeiro Convention on Biological Diversity - 1992
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change - 1992

5.2. KEY REGULATORS / COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

The regulatory authorities responsible for environmental protection and management in relation to the proposed project, including their role in regulating environmental protection are listed in **TABLE 5**.

TABLE 5 - AGENCIES REGULATING ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN NAMIBIA.

AGENCY	RESPONSIBILITY
Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT)	Issuance of Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) based on the review and approval of the Environmental Assessments (EA) reports comprising Environmental Scoping and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) prepared in accordance with the Environmental Management Act (2007) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2012.
Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME)	Competent authority. The national legislation governing minerals prospecting and mining activities in Namibia fall within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) as the competent authority responsible for granting authorisations. The Minerals Prospecting and Mining Act No.33 of 1992 approves and regulates mineral rights in relation to exploration, reconnaissance, prospecting, small scale mining, mineral exploration, large-scale mining, and transfers of mineral licences.

5.3. PERMITS

Some permits related to exploration activities are listed in **TABLE 6**.

TABLE 6 - APPLICABLE PERMITS TO THE PROPOSED PROJECT

PERMITS/CERTIFICATES	ACTIVITY	VALIDITY
Fuel Consumer Installation Certificate - (MME)	Regulates the amount of fuel product in possession	Temporary/ permanent
Notice of intention to drill – (MME)	This is submitted to the mining commissioner prior to drilling operation	Valid for the drilling period in notice
Water abstraction permit – (DWA)	This is applied for at the Directorate of Water Affairs to outline the borehole locations and the quantities of water you intend to abstract and for what sort of activities	Permit dependent
Forestry Permits – (DOF)	Regulates the forest species to be cleared.	Temporary

6. BASELINE ENVIRONMENT/ STUDY AREA

This section lists the most important environmental characteristics of the study area. This provides a baseline where changes that occur as a result of the proposed project can be measured. The data was gathered through desktop analysis of existing data and through spatial analysis. The spatial data used for mapping under this section was obtained from various sources including the <https://digitalnamibia.nsa.org.na/> of Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) as well as the MME minerals Cadastre portal <https://maps.landfolio.com/Namibia/> and The Environmental Information Services website at <http://www.the-eis.com/> . Only a heritage site-specific specialist study was conducted for this project.

6.1. CLIMATE

6.1.1. TEMPERATURE

The climate of the Khomas Region is referred to as local steppe, semi-arid. Khomas region is one of the coldest regions in Namibia. For several months of the year, it is warm to hot at temperatures continuously above 25 degrees, sometimes up to 33 degrees. Maximum and minimum temperatures at Windhoek (closest recorded data to site) during the hottest and coldest months range between 29 - 32°C and 6 to 19 °C, respectively (FIGURE 4).

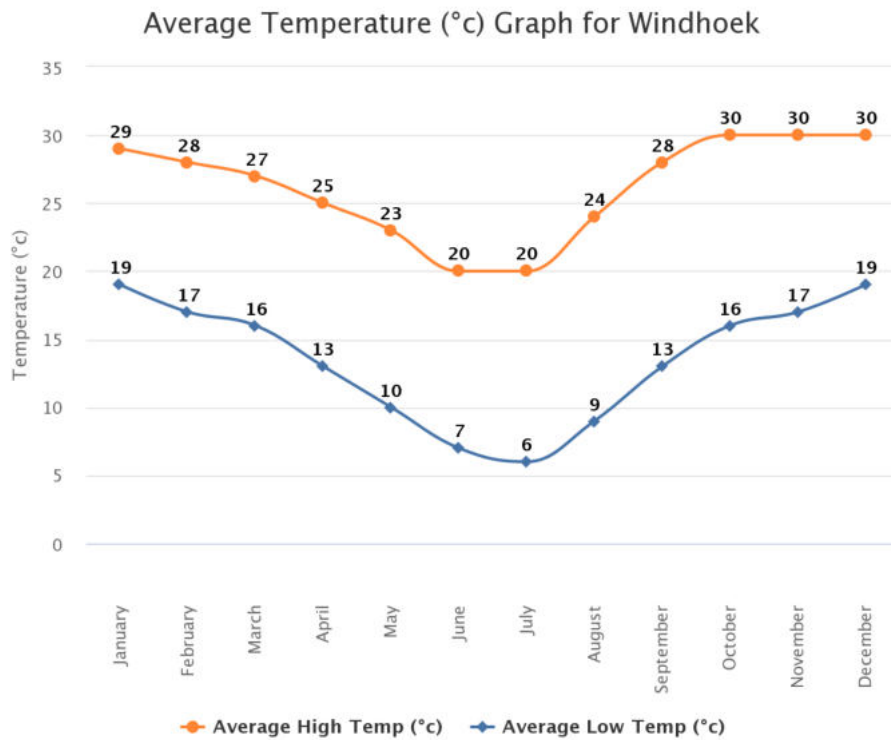


FIGURE 4 - AVERAGE HIGH AND LOW TEMPERATURE FOR WINDHOEK (WWW.WORLDDWERATHEONLINE.COM)



FIGURE 5 - GOOGLE EARTH IMAGE OF THE SITE (GOOGLE EARTH, 2023)

The project area is located at an elevation of (1700 - 2300) meters above sea level (**FIGURE 5**). Groot Aub climate as the closest settlement to the proposed project area, has a subtropical steppe climate. The settlement's yearly temperature is 22.15°C and it is -2.31% lower than Namibia's averages. Groot Aub typically receives about 58.63 mm of precipitation and has 75.41 rainy days (20.66% of the time) annually (www.worlddata.info).

6.1.2. RAINFALL

Windhoek gets an average of 370 mm of rainfall per year, or 30.8 mm per month. On average there are 41 days per year with more than 0.1 mm of rainfall (precipitation) or 3.4 days with a quantity of rain, sleet, etc. per month. The driest weather is in August when an average of 0 mm of rainfall (precipitation) occurs. The wettest weather is in February when an average of 190 mm of rainfall (precipitation) occurs (**FIGURE 6**).

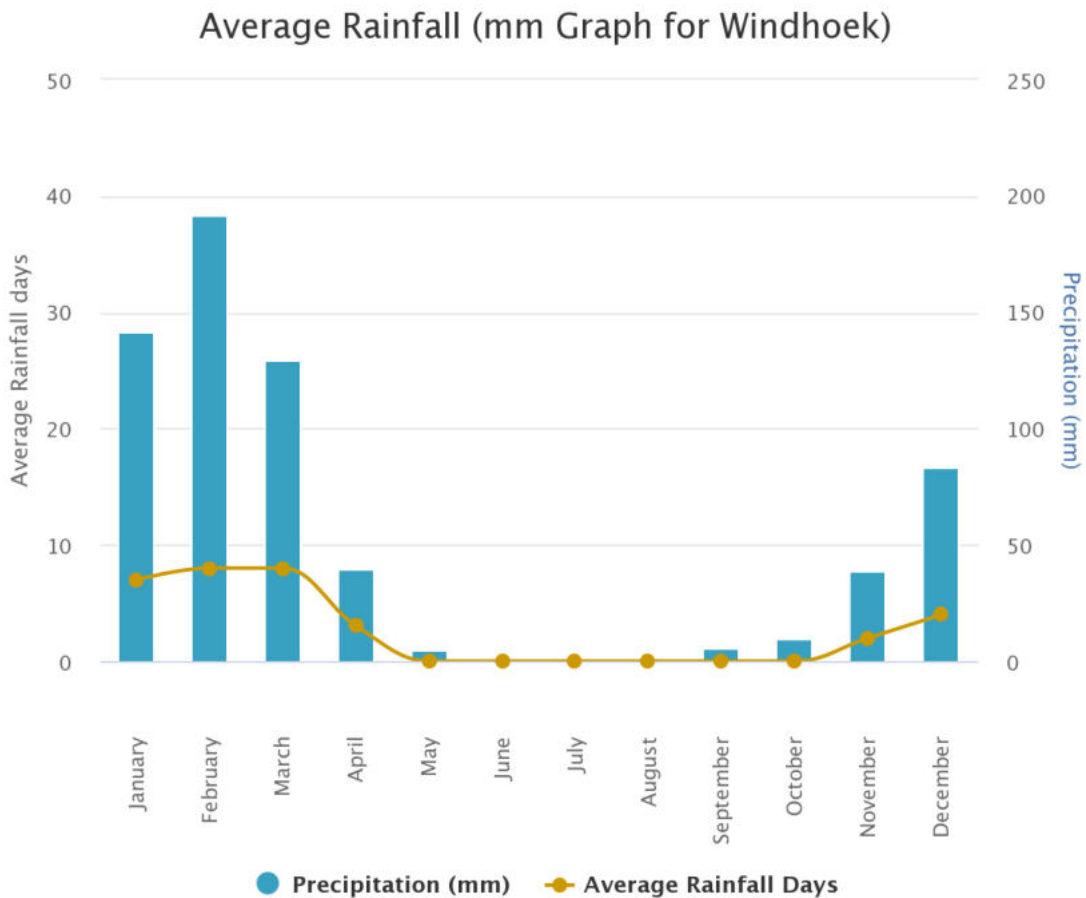


FIGURE 6 – AVERAGE RAINFALL IN WINDHOEK (www.worldweatheronline.com)

6.1.3. CLOUD COVER

The average percentage of cloud cover near the Windhoek surrounding area fluctuates seasonally over the course of the year. The clearer part of the year in the EPL's surrounding area begins around the end of March and lasts for 7.9 months, ending around mid-November. The clearest month of the year is May, during which on average the sky is clear, mostly clear, or partly cloudy 92% of the time.

The cloudier part of the year begins around November 19 and lasts for 4.1 months, ending around March 24. The cloudiest month of the year in Windhoek is January, during which on average the sky is overcast or mostly cloudy 45% of the time. (www.worldweatheronline.com)

6.1.4. SUNSHINE AND WIND

The number of hours of sunshine refers to the time when the sun is actually visible. That is, without any obstruction of visibility by clouds, fog or mountains. With 10 hours per day, November is the sunniest month in the region of Khomas. In March, the sun shines the least. The average annual rates of evaporation in the Windhoek area range between 1,960 and 2,100 mm (Mendelsohn et al., 2002).

The maximum windspeed recorded for areas around Windhoek in the figure below ranges from 15 – 19.9 mph eastern wind with an average of 5.4mph (Iowa weather, 2023).

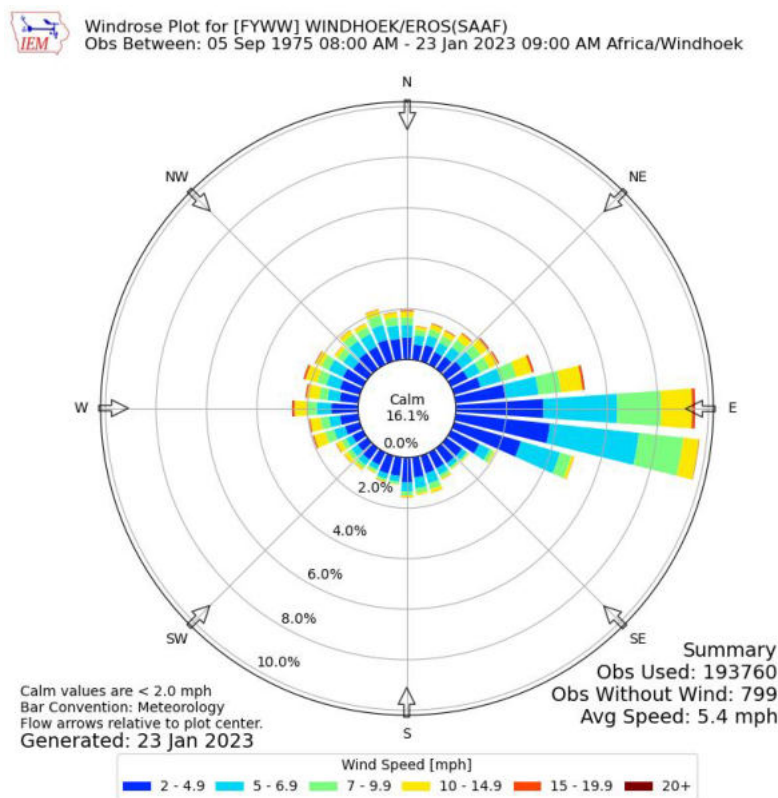


FIGURE 7 - WINDROSE FOR WINDHOEK 2021 TO JANUARY 2023 (IOWA WEATHER, 2023)

6.2. BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

6.2.1. FLORA

The majority part of Namibia is arid to semi-arid. Hence livestock farming is the most prevalent land use activity, while dryland and irrigated crop agriculture are minor sectors in the Namibian economy (Strohbach, 2000). Namibia's vegetation is strongly influenced by rainfall patterns. The study area lies within the Highland Savanna refer to **FIGURE 8**, found mainly in the Khomas Region and influenced by the Khomas Hochland and Avis Mountain ranges (DEA, 2002).

The vegetation within the study site was found to consists mainly of species like: Kudu bush (*Combretum apiculatum*), Wild pear (*Dombeya rotundifolia*), Namibian resin tree (*Ozoroa crassinervia*) Bitter karee (*Searsia marlothii*) Common guarri (*Euclea undulata*) Wild olive (*Olea europea Africana*) are also found in the vicinity of the surrounding area.

The most important species are the endemic – *Tetragonia schenckii* – and near endemic species as well as those with some form of formal protection – i.e., Forestry, Nature Conservation and CITES species. The endemic/near endemic grasses (*Antheophora argentea*, *Eragrostis lehmanniana*, *Eragrostis truncata*, *Panicum kalaharensis* and *Stipagrostis amabilis*) are viewed as the most important species potentially occurring in the general area (Mendelson, 2002).

It should be noted that portion of the EPL falls within the Auas-Oanob Conservancy which is home to a number of distinctive landscapes that are distinguished by a high species variety, a large number of endemic species, high-altitude mountainous habitats, as well as arid wetland habitats in the shape of the Omiramba. The species richness is not directly threatened by current land use, but various forms of land degradation, such as erosion, bush encroachment, and/or the threat of alien invasive species, are likely to result in a change in habitat, which in turn threatens the diversity of plant species and, as a result, the habitat of wild and domesticated animal species (Strohbach, 2017).

Other species with commercial potential that could occur in the general area include *Harpagophytum procumbens* (Devil's claw) – harvested for medicinal purposes and often over-exploited – and *Citrullus lanatus* (Tsamma melon) which potentially has a huge economic benefit (Mendelsohn et al. 2005). **TABLE 8** and **TABLE 8** indicates potential species to occur in the bigger area.

The average percentage cover per vegetation stratum for the different plant community types showed that, generally trees are scarce in the area with the highest average cover recording a rather low value of less than 4 % per specie type, this means that the structural composition of the area is limited to shrublands or bushlands, plains and grasslands.

The variety of perennial grasses is the most important factor for the feasibility of sustainable rangeland farming in combination with the high number and population density of Antelope, Equidae and Bovidae in the Khomas highlands.

TABLE 7 - FLORA DATA FOR THE AREA

Biome	Savanna
Vegetation structure type	Highland shrubland
Number of plant species	More than 300 - 400
Dominant plant species 1	<i>Acacia hereroensis</i>

TABLE 8 - PLANT SPECIES WHICH ARE LIKELY TO OCCUR IN THE AREA (Impala, 2021)

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	STATUS IN NAMIBIA
<i>Acacia erioloba</i>	Camel thorn	Protected
<i>Acacia mellifera</i>	Black thorn	Secure
<i>Acacia reficiens</i>	False umbrella thorn	Secure
<i>Acacia haematoxylon</i>	Grey camel thorn	Protected
<i>Acacia erubescens</i>	Blue thorn	Secure
<i>Acacia karoo</i>	Sweet thorn	Secure
<i>Acacia tortolis</i>	Umbrella thorn	Secure
<i>Acacia hereroensis</i>	False hook-thorn	Secure
<i>Commiphora tenuipetiolata</i>	White-stem corkwood	Secure
<i>Aloe littoralis</i>		Protected
<i>Ozoroa crassinervia</i>	Namibian resin tree	Near endemic, protected
<i>Boscia albitrunca</i>	Shepherd's tree	Protected
<i>Albizia anthelmintica</i>	Worm-bark false-thorn	Protected
<i>Ziziphus mucronata</i>	Buffalo-thorn	Protected
<i>Catophractes alexandri</i>	Trumpet thorn	Secure
<i>Combretum apiculatum</i>	Red bush willow	Secure
<i>Commiphora dinteri</i>		Endemic
<i>Commiphora glandulosa</i>	Tall common corkwood	Secure
<i>Commiphora glaucescens</i>	Blue-leaved corkwood	Nearendemic
<i>Croton gratissimus</i>	Lavender fever-berry	Secure
<i>Cyphostemma bainesii</i>		Endemic, protected
<i>Dichrostachys cinerea</i>	Sickle bush	Secure
<i>Diospyros lycioides</i>	Blue bush	Secure
<i>Dombeya rotundifolia</i>	Common wild pear	Endemic
<i>Ehretia alba</i>		Secure
<i>Elephantorrhiza suffruticosa</i>		Secure

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	STATUS IN NAMIBIA
<i>Euclea pseudebenus</i>	Ebony tree	Protected
<i>Euclea undulata</i>	Common guarri	Secure
<i>Euphorbia guerichiana</i>	Western	woody
<i>Euphorbia virosa</i>		Secure
<i>Ficus cordata</i>	Namaqua fig	Protected
<i>Ficus ilicina</i>	Laurel fig	Secure
<i>Ficus sycomorus</i>	Common cluster fig	Protected
<i>Grewia bicolor</i>	White raisin	Secure
<i>Grewia flava</i>	Velvet raisin	Secure
<i>Grewia flavescens</i>	Sand paper raisin	Secure
<i>Gymnosporia senegalensis</i>	Red spike-thorn	Secure
<i>Ipomoea adenioides</i>		Secure
<i>Lycium bosciifolium</i>		Secure
<i>Lycium cinereum</i>		Secure
<i>Lycium eenii</i>		Secure
<i>Lycium hirsutum</i>		Secure
<i>Lycium villosum</i>		Secure
<i>Maerua juncea</i>		Secure
<i>Maerua schinzii</i>	Ringwood tree	Protected
<i>Manuleopsis dinteri</i>		Endemic
<i>Melianthus comosus</i>		Secure
<i>Obetia carruthersiana</i>		Near endemic
<i>Pechuel-Loeschea leubnitziae</i>		Secure
<i>Sterculia africana</i>	African star-chestnut	Protected
<i>Tarchonanthus camphoratus</i>		Secure
<i>Tetragonia schenckii</i>		Secure
<i>Vernonia cinerascens</i>		Secure
<i>Searsia (Rhus) ciliata</i>		Secure
<i>Searsia (Rhus) lancea</i>	Karree	Protected
<i>Searsia (Rhus) marlothii</i>		Secure

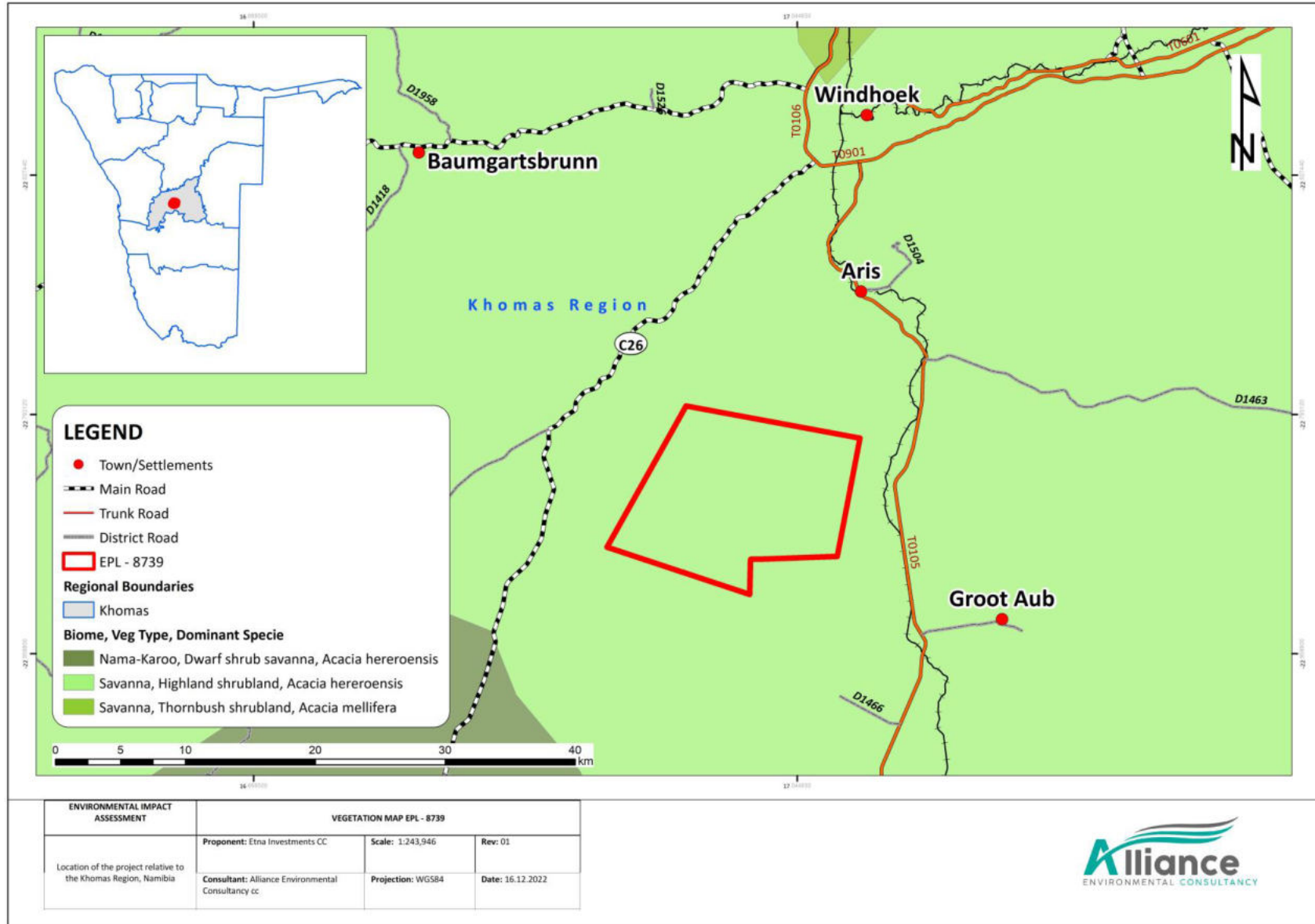


FIGURE 8 -VEGETATION COVER OF THE SURROUNDING AREA.

Some bush clearing may be required during exploration where access roads, drill pads and bulk sample sites are chosen. The clearing of any vegetation would not be on the scale, which triggers a full EIA, but permits to fell trees and clear bush for exploration will require a Forestry Permit. In addition to this, vegetation clearing restrictions within 100m of rivers must be taken into account as outlined in the draft regulations of the Water Resource Management Act. Any relaxation of this rule needs to be confirmed and approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform

6.2.2. FAUNA

Nationally, the area is regarded as a relatively high mammal, reptile and intermediate amphibian diverse (Mendelsohn et al. 2002). Furthermore, the study area is known to have a relative high number of reptile and mammal species that are endemic to Namibia. The bird's diversity that occurs in or near the area ranges at least up to 141 species.

It is estimated that 60 species of reptile, 14 amphibian, 68 mammal, 141 bird species (breeding residents), at least 52 species of larger trees and shrubs (>1m) and at least 64 species of grasses occur in the general/immediate area of which a moderate proportion are endemics. Although many endemic species are known to occur from the general area, it cannot be determined if any of these are associated with the existing EPL area. The high percentage of endemic reptile species (41.3%) associated with the general area underscores the importance of this area without formal state protection. Some of the reptiles in the area viewed as those classified as vulnerable and protected game under Namibian legislation i.e., Tortoises, snakes and monitor lizards are routinely killed for food or as perceived threats.

Mammals classified as rare (*Cistugo seabrae*, *Zeltomys woosnami*, *Felis nigripes*) under Namibian legislation and vulnerable (*Smutsia temminckii*, *Acinonyx jubatus*, *Panthera pardus*, *Felis nigripes*) and near threatened (*Eidolon helvum*, *Hyaena brunnea*) by the IUCN (2017) are viewed as the most important although they do not necessarily occur in the area throughout the year, but rather pass through occasionally dependent on environmental conditions, etc. Larger types of animals such as zebras, giraffes, lions and elephants are rare in this area. There are no species which are exclusively endemic to the exploration area. Based on literature review, development of a mineral exploration project in the area will not have a negative impact on any of the species in the project area.

The ground nesting Ludwig's and kori bustards, vultures and eagles, are likely to breed in the general area, are viewed as important species, although their extent of occurrence in the general area is currently undetermined. Species most likely to be adversely affected by exploration would be the variety of reptiles and ground nesting birds specifically associated with this area. However, none of

the important species are expected to be exclusively associated with the area. The mountain ridges of the Lichtenstein farms form a biological watershed for several reptile and amphibian species defining species occurrence and subspecies development.

Generally, in the area of EPL 8739, there are numerous anthropomorphic influences – e.g., long term farming activities and associated infrastructures, roads, and private farm tracks, etc. affecting the general natural landscape.

TABLE 9 - MAMMAL SPECIES WHICH ARE LIKELY TO OCCUR WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA (Impala, 2021).

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	Cheetah
<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>	Springbok
<i>Atelerix frontalis angolae</i>	Southern African Hedgehog
<i>Canis mesomelas</i>	Black-backed Jackal
<i>Caracal caracal</i>	Caracal
<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>	Spotted Hyena
<i>Cynictis penicillata</i>	Yellow Mongoose
<i>Equus zebra hartmannae</i>	Hartmann's Mountain Zebra
<i>Felis nigripes</i>	Black-footed Cat
<i>Felis silvestris/lybica</i>	African Wild Cat
<i>Galerella sanguinea</i>	Slender Mongoose
<i>Genetta genetta</i>	Small Spotted Genet
<i>Ictonyx striatus</i>	Striped Polecat
<i>Lepus capensis</i>	Cape Hare Secure
<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>	Scrub Hare
<i>Manis temminckii</i>	Ground Pangolin
<i>Mellivora capensis</i>	Honey Badger/Ratel
<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>	Klipspringer
<i>Oryx gazella</i>	Gemsbok
<i>Otocyon megalotis</i>	Bat-eared Fox
<i>Panthera pardus</i>	Leopard
<i>Parahyaena (Hyaena) brunnea</i>	Brown Hyena
<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>	Common Warthog
<i>Proteles cristatus</i>	Aardwolf
<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>	Steenbok
<i>Suricata suricatta marjoriae</i>	Suricate
<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>	Common Duiker
<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>	Greater Kudu
<i>Vulpes chama</i>	Cape Fox

6.3. SOIL

The soils in this area are broadly categorized to the group of leptosols and defined by a combination of eutric and lithic leptosols domination soils as indicated in **FIGURE 9**. These soils are coarse-textured, typically associated with actively eroding landscapes, especially in undulating terrains. Leptosols form thin layers, are shallow (not exceeding 50 cm) and are underlain by continuous hard rock. The soil often contains gravel and is calcareous in many cases. Their water-holding capacity is low, and a sparse vegetation cover associated with these soils is the reason for a low organic content. Overall, these soils are susceptible to erosion (Mendelsohn, et al., 2002).

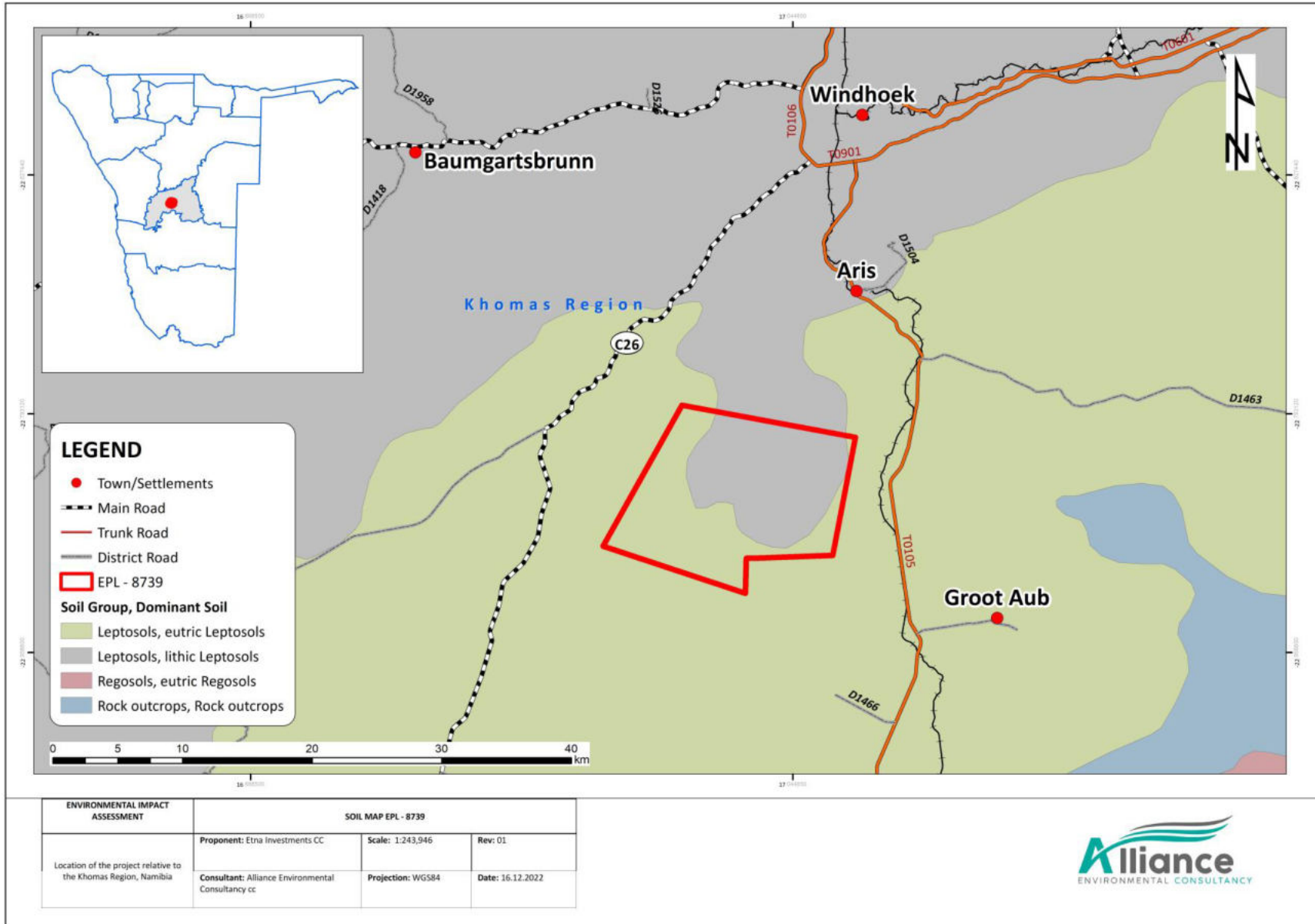


FIGURE 9 - DOMINANT SOIL AROUND THE STUDY AREA

6.4. GEOLOGY

The EPL falls within the Hakos group, Damara supergroup, Gariiep complex and Sandstones as indicated in **FIGURE 10**. Formations of the Damara Supergroup are between 850 and 600 million years old, they cover a large part of the central and western parts of Namibia north of the Tropic of Capricorn. South of the Damara Supergroup is the Namaqua Metamorphic Complex (between 1,400 and 1,050 million years old), the Nama Group (600 – 543 million years old) and the Karoo Supergroup (300 – 180 million years old). To the east the much younger Kalahari deposits (<70 million years old) dominate, overlaying most of the older formations (Mendelsohn et al., 2002). The predominance of flat-lying Kalahari sediments on the surface means that there is almost no geological variation over this vast area (that also covers the largest part of the central interior of southern Africa) and not many exposures of rocks occur.

The eastern part of the EPL is covered by the Rehoboth Group and rocks associated, which is older than 1,400 million years. Northwest the formations consist of much younger Hakos-sandstones and Witvlei-limestones and sandstones of the Damara Supergroup. The site is underlain by pre-Cambrian aged meta-sedimentary strata of the Kuiseb Formation of the Damara Sequence. The Kuiseb Formation comprises of a more than 6000m thick succession of mica schist, graphitic schist, marble and quartzite. The main rock type is identified as biotite schist, but with minor strata of micaceous quartzite, feldspathic schist and amphibole schist.

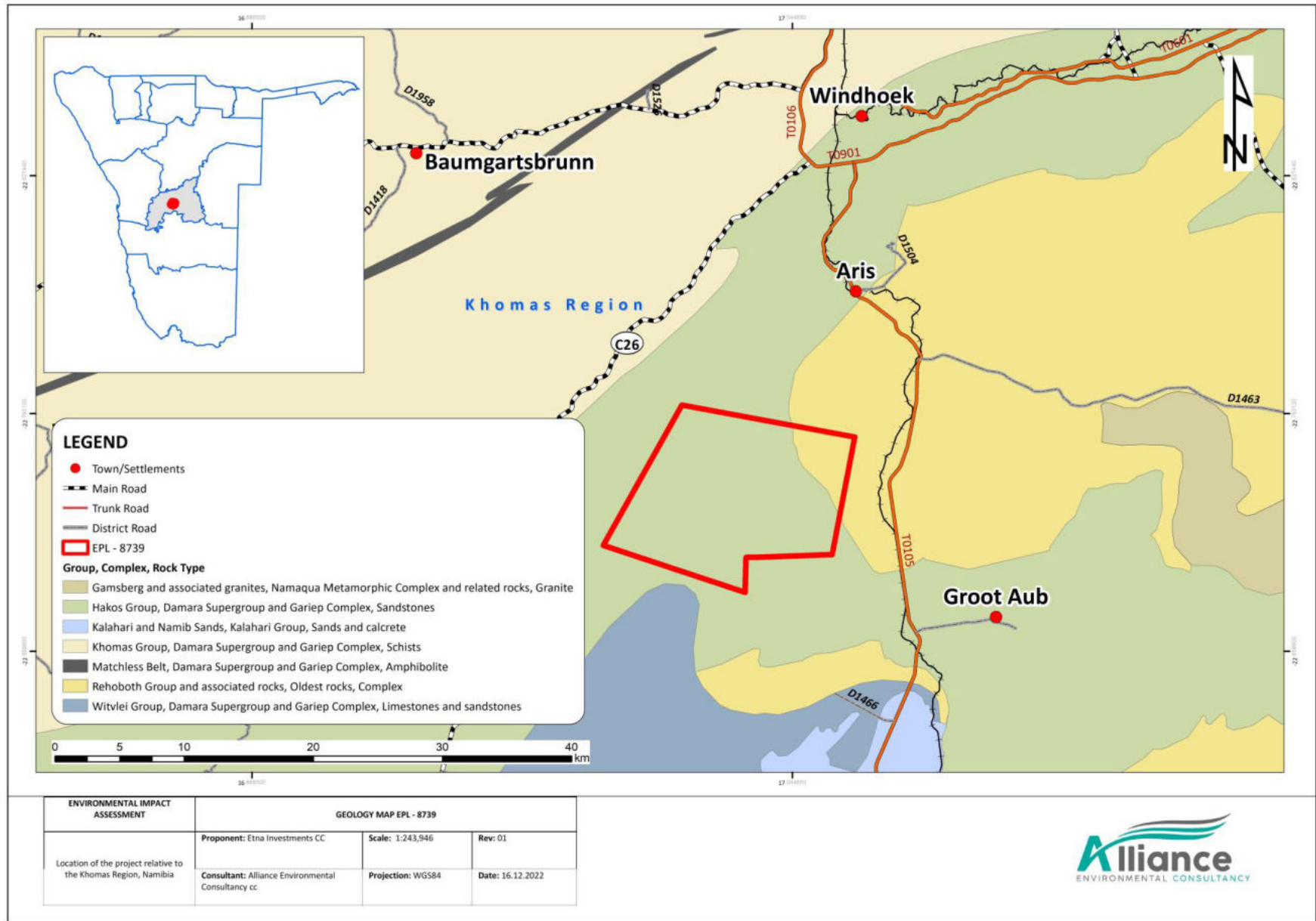


FIGURE 10 - GEOLOGY OF THE SURROUNDING AREAS.

6.5. HYDROLOGY

The proposed EPL lies in the Southern-eastern Kalahari Groundwater basin (**FIGURE 11**). Also referred to as the Karoo basin, a stratigraphic group which consists of a fairly monotonous sequence of red sandstone which ranges in thickness from less than 50 metres to greater than 275 metres. The thickest development occurs within a broad NE – SW trending pre-Kalahari valley. The base of the Kalahari Group is locally marked by a conglomeratic zone consisting of angular blocks sandstone, siltstone or dolerite in a red sandstone matrix (DAF, 2001).

The Kalahari-Karoo contact is usually well defined except where the underlying Karoo rock is weathered sandstone. The basin has low moderate potential of groundwater, with an increase southward. Surface water flows in the southeast direction following the Kalahari gradient. Resources, especially in the arid climate of Namibia and the protection thereof should be regarded as high priority (DAF, 2001). Although most of the surface water evaporates, runoff can be expected due to the impermeability of soil and its water type is characterized as hard water. There exists a water restriction area to the northern side of the EPL (**FIGURE 11**).

There are more than 20 boreholes and several tributaries situated within and around the EPL area and farmers around the area predominantly use water from borehole abstraction. Provided that the boreholes within the area are operational, it is highly probable assumed that water will be obtained from some of these existing boreholes during the exploration activities. Appropriate permits should be obtained from the DWA should borehole water use be realized. Accounting the nature and scale of the proposed exploration, drilling is unlikely to impact groundwater.

Storage of any material substance that may cause pollution to water sources should be handled and stored in accordance with appropriate legislation. Should the sensitivity of the groundwater be determined at a later stage of the project, that will warrant a hydrological study to be undertaken.

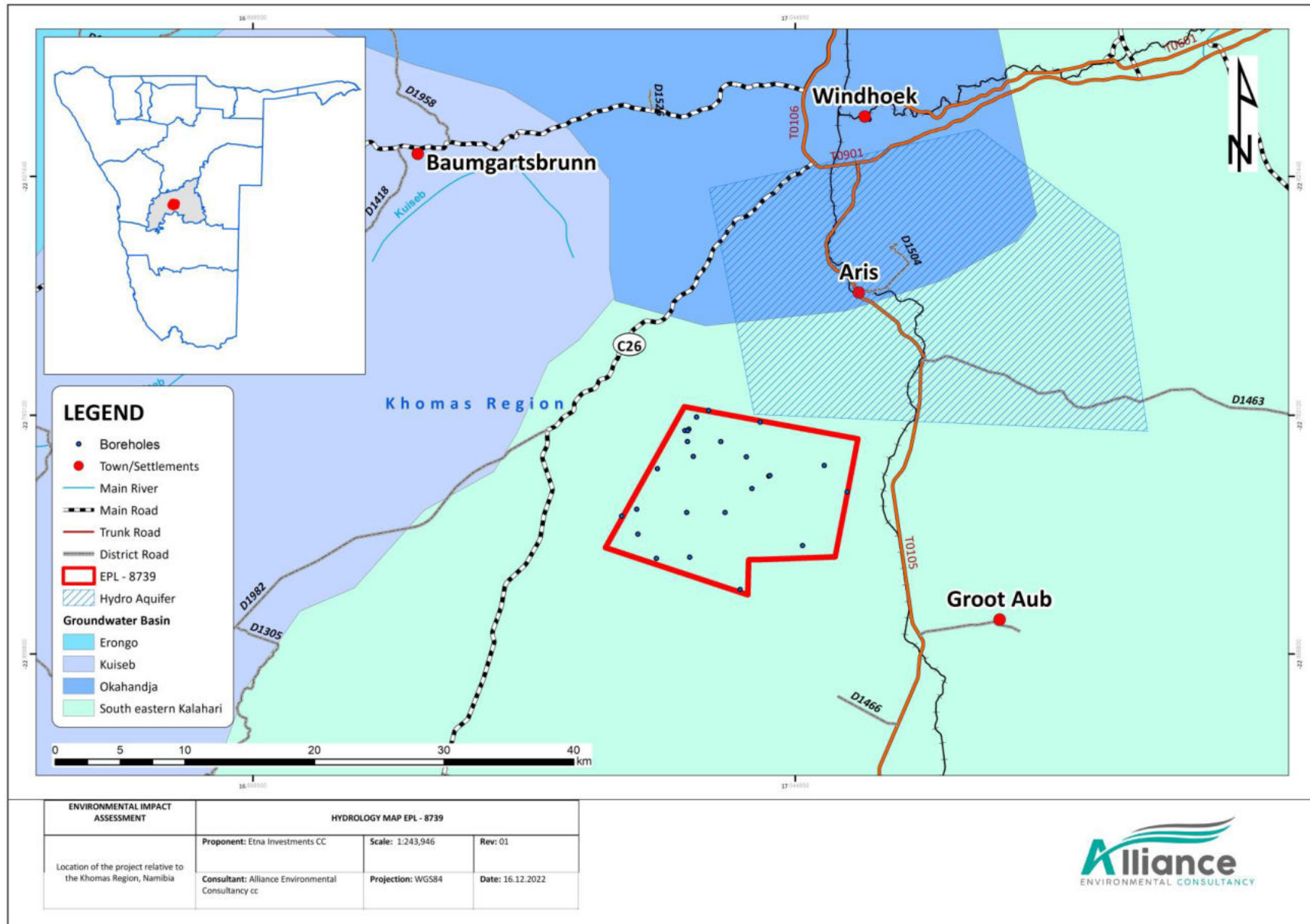


FIGURE 11 - HYDROLOGY SETTING OF THE SURROUNDING AREA.

6.6. SOCIO-ECONOMIC SETTING

6.6.1. REGIONAL AND LOCAL PROFILE

Khomas region is the central region of Namibia and is named after the Khomas Hochland, the prominent highland that surrounds Namibia's capital. In the west and northwest, the region is bordered by the Erongo region, by the Otjozondjupa region to the northeast, the Omaheke region to the east and the Hardap region to the south. Although the Khomas region only occupies 4.5% of the land area of Namibia, it accommodated the largest percentage (18%) of the national population total in 2016 (NSA, 2017).

The City of Windhoek, the capital city of Namibia as well, falls within the Khomas Region. Windhoek forms the administrative, legislative and judicial center of the country, with a population representing over 16% of the total population, it is also the most important business, educational and transport (rail, road and air) Centre of Namibia (Khomas Regional Council, 2015). Most of Namibia's supply (manufacturing) industries are based here, although it cannot be considered as an industrial Centre. The City of Windhoek provides over half of Namibia's non- agricultural employment, with its national share of employment in utilities, transport and communication, finance, and business services (Khomas Regional Council, 2017).

Khomas region is considered as one of the fast developing and equipped region in terms of infrastructural development, a well-developed economic, financial, and trade sectors, home to most government ministries, institutions, and other private company headquarters (Khomas Regional Council, 2017). Khomas region has the highest population density with over 342,141 head counts. The regional growth rate indicates that Khomas region's population has rapidly increased. In the last decade, Khomas had a population of 250,262 in 2001 escalating to 342,141 by 2011 (Khomas Regional Council, 2015 and National Statistics Agency (NSA, 2017).

The Khomas regional economy is predominantly well developed, so investment can be made in any sector, but also in many specific others where opportunities abound. Around the EPL area however, the socioeconomic setting is dominated by commercial agriculture of cattle and small stock.

6.6.2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HERITAGE

A review of the National Heritage Council and the environmental information services database was conducted, and a specialist study was conducted by Christian Nekare. Several heritage sites were found including graves, dam, rock enclosure and protected structures. Structures and the remains thereof that are 60 years and beyond are protected by the Act. The cultural landscape around the Western portion of the EPL serves as a significant cultural landscape. A variety of heritage sites are known to occur in this part of the EPL area. The most outstanding among them are the burial sites, as

well as the large number of sites dating to historic times. The HIA confirmed that the target EPL area is situated within the noncultural landscape. Identified heritage sites can be recorded and a management plan can be developed for responsible action.

In cases where heritage sites are discovered, the chance finds procedure will be used where appropriate measures will be undertaken upon discovering sites of archaeological importance. All archaeological remains are protected under the National Heritage Act (2004) and will not be destroyed, disturbed or removed. The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is contained in **Appendix E**.

7. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

7.1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation is the cornerstone of the Environmental Impact Assessment process. These include the ongoing provision of sufficient information (in a transparent manner) to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs). During the public participation process, I&APs will be given the opportunity to comment on the findings of the reports, during the specified comment periods.

Good consultation helps foster genuine and positive relationships with mutual respect, shared concerns and objectives between the company pursuing development and the community. The public participation facilitator's role is to facilitate that process of dialogue to ensure there is transparency and accountability in decision-making and public confidence in the proposed project and its management. The following approaches were employed in an attempt to get in contact with the potential affected and interested parties around the project area.

7.1.1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

A Background Information Document (BID) was provided to the various I&APs through the public participation process. This document gives an overview and non-technical summary of the proposed development and acts as an easy reference to the proposed project. The BID is included in **Appendix C**. The draft EIA and EMP was circulated to the registered stakeholders in order to provide their further input and comments before submission to the authorities.

7.1.2. NEWSPAPER ADVERTS

Public notices/invitations were placed in the following newspapers for two consecutive weeks (**12th and 16th /19th of December 2022**): **Appendix D** provides Tear sheets of the adverts.

- The Republikein newspaper
- The Allgemeine Zeitung
- The Sun newspaper
- The Windhoek Observer newspaper

7.1.3. SITE NOTICE AND VISIT

No site notices were placed at the EPL site.

7.1.4. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Written notices/invitations were sent to several farmers in order to obtain details for farmers that overlap with the EPL boundaries and inform them about the proposed project. Several farmers were informed of the project and invited to provide their input or concerns regarding the proposed project. The communication trails are contained in **Appendix D**. No public meeting was held for this project as it was not deemed necessary at this stage of the project. The draft scoping report and EMP were shared with the identified and registered stakeholders for a period of 7-14 days to provide their further input and comments regarding the proposed exploration project.

During this period less than five (5) registrations were received during the public participation process. In the event that the ECC is granted the proponent shall ensure ongoing consultation with all relevant affected parties for access to land and other resources.

7.1.5. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES

Concerns received were in relation to an area in or close to the EPL which is a part of the Auas Oanob Conservancy with sites of archeological, cultural and natural heritage as well as biodiversity hotspots which would be affected by the proposed project. Another concern was that the area is also a productive livestock and wildlife area which secures the livelihood and development of a high number of individuals and their families. The responses to the concerns are attached in **Appendix D**.

8. EVALUATION OF IMPACTS

8.1. ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

The purpose of this section is to assess and identify the most pertinent environmental impacts by describing certain quantifiable aspects of these impacts and to provide possible mitigation measures to minimize the magnitude of the impacts that are possibly deriving from the various activities that constitute the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL 8739 by the proponent.

The identification of potential impacts included impacts that may occur during the construction, operational and decommissioning phases of the project. The assessment of impacts includes direct, indirect as well as cumulative impacts. In order to identify potential impacts (both positive and negative) it is important that the nature of the proposed projects is well understood so that the impacts associated with the projects can be assessed.

The process of identification and assessment of impacts includes:

- Determining the current environmental conditions in sufficient detail to establish a baseline against which impacts can be identified and measured.
- Determining future changes to the environment that will occur in a case where the activity does not proceed.
- Develop an understanding of the activity in detail to understand its consequences; and
- The identification of significant impacts which are likely to occur if the activity is undertaken.

The following potential impacts on the environment during the different stages of the project have been identified:

Possible Positive Impacts

- Contributions to annual license fees to the government through the MME.
- Payments of lease agreements and services rendered.
- Value adding to Namibian raw materials.
- Provision of contractual employment opportunities.
- Increase in knowledge on the subsurface which then contributes to development, and geoscience research.
- Contribute to the socio-economic development of the local area and region,
- Direct capital investment into Khomas Region.

Possible Negative Impacts

– **Ecological disturbances**

Potential removal of vegetation to allow project activities and erect temporary site shade structures during field work and exploration operations. Habitat disturbance, especially reptile habitats due to drilling, and increased flow of traffic. Loss of wildlife to poaching due to presence of exploration personnel.

– **Dust & Noise**

Dust emanating from the increased movement of vehicles, trucks and other operational machinery may temper with the ambient air quality in the area. Potential increase in noise levels from project vehicles and machinery may be a nuisance to the locals.

– **Visual**

Changes to the aesthetic appeal of the area due to the presence of people, vehicles and machinery. Visible changes to habitats due to human activities.

– **Health & Safety**

From the handling of equipment and use of machinery as well as potentially risks of contracting diseases linked to prolonged exposure to dust.

– **Waste**

Resulting from maintenance work performed on the machinery as well as littering in the area include packaging from food or other products and consumables.

Soil pollution includes petrochemical spills from vehicles (bakkies), water trucks, diesel operated generator as well as the trailer mounted diesel tank for fuel storage.

– **Groundwater and surface water**

Due to inadequate management of waste, discharge, and infiltration of non-contained wastewater as well as potential spillages of drill fluid, lubrication or drilling that penetrates the ground water table. This may also be influenced by site operations such as maintenance activities or accidental fuel spills.

– **Topography**

Disturbance of the topography due to samples resource removal during exploration.

– **Heritage & Socio-Economic**

Potential disturbance and damage to unforeseen archaeological or heritage sites during project activities and movements in the area.

– **Impact of poor communication**

Miscommunication may lead to negative insulence in the community towards the project. Increased movement in the surrounding area and inadequate deliverable of notice for exploration and or operational activities in the community may result in conflicts with landowners and the affected community.

The following methodology is applied to the prediction and assessment of impacts and risks. Potential impacts and risks have been rated in terms of the direct, indirect, and cumulative where:

Status	Whether the impact/risk on the overall environment will be
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive - Environment overall will benefit from the impact/risk; • Negative - Environment overall will be adversely affected by the impact/risk; • Neutral - Environment overall not be affected.

Direct impacts	Impacts are directly caused by the activity and usually occur at the same time and place of the activity. These impacts are often related to the construction, operation or maintenance of an operation and are often obvious and quantifiable.
Indirect impacts	These types of impacts include all the potential impacts that are not evident immediately when the activity is carried out, or which occur at a different place due to the activity.
Cumulative impacts	Impacts that result from the incremental impact of the proposed activity on a common resource when added to the impacts of other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future activities.

In addition to the above, the impact assessment methodology includes the following aspects:

Spatial Extent	The size of the area that will be affected by the impact:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site specific - Only within the site boundaries Local - limited to within 15 km of the area Regional - limited to ~100 km radius National - limited to within the borders of Namibia International - extending beyond Namibia's borders

Consequence	The anticipated consequence of the impact:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extreme - Environmental functions and processes are altered such that they permanently cease); • Severe - Environmental functions and processes are altered such that they temporarily or permanently cease); • Substantial - environmental functions and processes are altered such that they temporarily or permanently cease); • Moderate - Environment continues to function but in a modified manner); or • Slight - No natural systems/environmental functions, patterns, or processes are affected.

Duration	The timeframe during which the impact/risk will be experienced
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very short term - instantaneous; • Short term - less than 1 year; • Medium term - 1 to 10 years; • Long term - The impact will occur for the project duration • Permanent - The impact will occur beyond the project decommissioning.

Reversibility of the Impacts	The extent to which the impacts/risks are reversible assuming that the project has reached the end of its life cycle (decommissioning phase)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes - High reversibility of impacts (impact is highly reversible at end of project life); • Partially - Moderate reversibility of impacts; or • No - Impacts are non-reversible (impact is permanent).

Using the criteria above, the impacts will further be assessed in terms of the following:

Probability	The probability of the impact/risk occurring
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very likely; • Likely; • Unlikely; • Very unlikely; and • Extremely unlikely.

To determine the significance of the identified impact/risk, the consequence is multiplied by probability. This approach incorporates internationally recognized methods from the IPCC (2014) assessment of the effects of climate change and is based on an interpretation of existing information in relation to the proposed activity. The significance is then rated qualitatively as follows against a predefined set of criteria (i.e., probability and consequence) as indicated below:

		IMPACT = CONSEQUENCE X PROBABILITY				
PROBABILITY	Very Likely					Very High Impact
	Likely				High Impact	
	Unlikely			Moderate Impact		
	Very Unlikely		Low Impact			
	Extremely Unlikely	Very Low Impact				
		Slight	Moderate	Substantial	Severe	Extreme

Where:

Significance	Will the impact cause a notable alteration of the environment?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very low (5) - The risk/impact may result in very minor alterations of the environment and can be easily avoided by implementing appropriate mitigation measures and will not have an influence on decision-making. • Low (4) - The risk/impact may result in minor alterations of the environment and can be easily avoided by implementing appropriate mitigation measures, and will not have an influence on decision making. • Moderate (3) - The risk/impact will result in moderate alteration of the environment and can be reduced or avoided by implementing the appropriate mitigation measures and will only have an influence on the decision-making if not mitigated. • High (2) - The risk/impact will result in major alteration to the environment even with the implementation on the appropriate mitigation measures and will have an influence on decision making); and • Very high (1) - The risk/impact will result in very major alteration to the environment even with the implementation on the appropriate mitigation measures and will have an influence on decision making.
Confidence	The degree of confidence in predictions based on available information and specialist knowledge
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low - Based on the availability of specialist knowledge and other information • Medium - Based on the availability of specialist knowledge and other information • High - Based on the availability of specialist knowledge and other information

Impacts are evaluated for the different phases of the proposed project. Impacts have been evaluated with and without mitigation in order to determine the effectiveness of mitigation measures on reducing the significance of a particular impact. The Assessment is presented in the following section and further in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

9. IMPACTS ASSESSMENT

The purpose of this section is to assess and identify the most pertinent environmental impacts by describing certain quantifiable aspects of these impacts and to provide possible mitigation measures to minimize the magnitude of the impacts that are possibly deriving from the various activities that constitute the proposed minerals prospecting and exploration activities within EPL 8739. Comments and concerns raised during the public consultation process have been considered and included.

TABLE 10 – ECOLOGICAL/BIODIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TABLE

Impact	Minerals prospecting and exploration activities in general pose impacts towards the diversity of species within the various habitats by reducing population numbers of certain species.
Nature of impact	<p>Loss of Habitat and species during exploration activities such as drill rig preparation, tracks creation and general movement in the area. The most vulnerable species are reptiles and birds.</p> <p>Some exploration activities such as tracks creation, drill site preparations and, camping area preparation require removal of some plants to a small extent therefore affecting the flora status of the area.</p> <p>Taking into account that the EPL overlays farmlands where commercial farming is practiced, the presence of project personnel and vehicles may disturb domestic animals and scare away the wild animal, thereby disturbing the hunting activities.</p> <p>The presence of people in the area could also influence, livestock left, illegal hunting or poaching.</p> <p>No specialist fauna and flora studies were commissioned for the EIA. Specialist studies were deemed unnecessary for this environmental impact assessment due to low intensity and extent of the activities. Exploration may occur at designated sites throughout the EPL but the total activity footprint as a percentage of the total areas of each habitat is estimated to be very low.</p>
Status	Negative
Spatial Extent	Local

Duration	Long term
Consequence	Substantial
Probability	Very Likely
Reversibility	Partially
Mitigation Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Though the habitats will remain relatively undisturbed due to the very low percentage footprint of activities planned, without prior knowledge of the whereabouts of the vulnerable, threatened and critically endangered species and their preferred habitat, it may not be possible to prevent an impact, regardless of how small it might be. – The planning of the activity's layout must endeavor reduce the footprint to a minimum without compromising the realistic needs of the business operation and making decisions that will safeguard against indiscriminate habitat alteration. – If any topsoil or grass exists, when removal is required then this should be stockpiled for use during rehabilitation. – Engage interested stakeholders to participate on site in the rescue and relocation of indigenous and protected flora. – Undertake Plant and animal Search and Rescue prior to the commencement of operations. – Driving only on existing roads (national roads and existing tracks) as far as practically possible. – Habitat loss for fauna and flora species should be kept to a minimum with footprint areas being restricted to the direct operational areas only. – In addition, where possible, activities are to be aligned along previously disturbed areas. – No wandering around the site, collecting of plant species or hunting should be allowed. – Rehabilitation must restore the disturbed sites, as far as is possible to their prior state to mitigate the visual impact and to allow for the best possible re- colonization of the site, by plants and animals. – If targeted rock units have protected or special plants, the proponent should seek a specialist opinion on how to preserve that plant species, with possible relocation. – Notice should be given at least two (2) weeks in advance to indicate the flying times for geophysical surveys, so that these surveys do not coincide with hunting seasons to scare away the animals. – Cleared vegetation that might be of interest to biomass or coal production must be gathered and handed over to ensure harmonious continuation of both activities. – No onsite vegetation should be cut or used for firewood related to the project's operations. The Proponent should

		<p>provide firewood for his onsite camping workers from authorized firewood producer or seller.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working sites should be fenced off to keep wild and domestic animals out. - Environmental awareness on the importance of biodiversity preservation should be provided to the workers.
Significance of Impact = Consequence x Probability	Without Mitigation	Moderate (3)
	With Mitigation	Low (4)
Ranking of Impact		3
Confidence Level		Medium

TABLE 11 - NOISE IMPACT ASSESSMENT TABLE

Impact	Noise cause by project activities (drilling operations, machineries, and vehicular movements)
Nature of impact	<p>Disturbance of sense of place and the effect on tranquil ambient noise levels.</p> <p>Hearing problems to operators if noise generation is prolonged and not managed.</p> <p>Potential noise sources during the exploration activities could originate from vehicles, hammers, powered hand tools, excavators, and drill rigs. The nuisance factor of these noise sources will depend on the proximity of the activities to the national road, homesteads and sensitive animal habitats.</p>
Status	Negative
Spatial Extent	Local
Duration	Temporary/ Permanent
Consequence	Substantial/Severe
Probability	Likely
Reversibility	Partially
Mitigation Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) guidelines set legal limits on noise exposure in the workplace. These limits are based on a worker's time weighted average over an 8-hour day. With noise, OSHA's permissible exposure limit (PEL) is 90dBA for all workers for an 8-hour day. The OSHA standard uses a 5dBA exchange rate. This means that when the noise level is increased by 5dBA, the amount of time a person can be exposed to a certain noise level to receive the same dose is cut in half. - The WHO guideline on maximum noise levels to prevent hearing impairment set noise level limits at an average of 70 dBA over a 24-hour period with maximum noise levels not exceeding 110 dBA during the period. These latter limits would apply if the daytime shift were prolonged beyond the 8-hour day. - The nuisance factor of these noise sources will depend on the proximity of the exploration activities to the national road, homesteads, and sensitive animal habitats. - PPE is considered an acceptable mitigation, but a less desirable option to control exposures to noise.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limiting the amount of time, a person spends at a noise source. - Monitoring personnels' hearing, before, during (each year if employed longer than one year) and after employment, as a minimum. - Machinery and vehicles (moving and stationed) should be serviced regularly. - A noise management standard operating procedure (SOP) for the activities happening on-site should be developed. - Avoid generating unnecessary noise by making sure that equipment that are not in use are always turned off and by avoiding operations during odd hours. - Landowners should be informed of prior drilling over the weekends or at other times not outlined in this document. - It is recommended that any complaints regarding noise be recorded and included in the environmental reports. Should complaints persist then a survey by a suitably qualified and independent hygienist will be required. - Transportation routes should be planned for trucks such that they pass as far away as possible from noise sensitive receivers, a restriction of the hours of movement, e.g., not allowing the transport of material during the noise sensitive hours of the night can mitigate noise impacts.
Significance of Impact = Consequence x Probability	Without Mitigation	Moderate (3)
	With Mitigation	Low (4)
Ranking of Impact		3
Confidence Level		Medium

TABLE 12 - DUST IMPACT ASSESSMENT TABLE

Impact	Dust generation during exploration activities (e.g., vehicular movement, drilling operation, drill rig preparation) may result in dusty conditions.
Nature of impact	<p>Tempering of the ambient air quality in the surrounding</p> <p>Fauna and flora alike could be impacted as ecosystem functioning is possibly affected.</p> <p>Negative effects of dust on personnel working at the drilling site are likely to occur if dust suppression techniques are not employed and personal protection equipment is not used to safeguard the health of personnel.</p>
Status	Negative
Spatial Extent	Local
Duration	Medium term
Consequence	Substantial
Probability	Very Likely
Reversibility	Partially
Mitigation Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Natural weather conditions can create very dusty atmospheric conditions. The exploration activities contribute very little to the widespread ambient conditions that often prevail. Cars travelling on the access roads can create dust plumes trailing behind them. – Dust suppression techniques should be employed. However, this scarce resource cannot be applied continuously and indiscriminately. – Avoid activities that create excessive dust on extremely windy days. – Personnel are required to wear personal protection equipment if excessive dust is created for prolonged working periods. – Employees should be made aware of negative effects of dust inhalation. – Water spays at the various components with effectively keep dust from blowing into the atmosphere.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The road network within the EPL site can be sprayed with water and other dust suppressants during dry dusty conditions. - To mitigate gaseous pollutants released from the combustion of hydrocarbons, use of high-quality fuels will ensure quantities released per unit weight of product are at levels within environmental limits.
Significance of Impact = Consequence x Probability	Without Mitigation	Moderate (3)
	With Mitigation	Low (4)
Ranking of Impact		3
Confidence Level		Medium

TABLE 13 - WASTE IMPACT ASSESSMENT TABLE

Impact	Generation of waste during the proposed project activities.
Nature of impact	Domestic waste and waste from maintenance work performed on the machinery can potentially cause unpleasant odor, sight for the people in the surrounding as well as disturbance to surface and ground water. The dumping of general waste within the camp, drilling sites and surrounding areas could prove hazardous to wildlife and livestock. This could also lead to general environmental degradation.
Status	Negative
Spatial Extent	Local
Duration	Medium term
Consequence	Moderate
Probability	Likely
Reversibility	Partially
Mitigation Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Waste generation is likely to be limited on site and will primarily be domestic waste. This material will be stored properly until safe disposal off-site. - The domestic waste, which is separated from all paper and organic materials, is taken to the nearest official dumpsite. - Collection and disposal of waste must be effective enough to not impact any of the receptors. - Oil from the servicing of the vehicles and machines is collected in drums and is taken together with all other industrial waste that is generated on site to the nearest hazardous waste site. - A certificate of disposal needs to be kept on file. - Personal protection equipment (PPE) can protect personnel from exposure to disease or toxic chemicals. - Groundwater is a scarce and valuable resource in Namibia and must be protected at all costs. It must still be protected from pollutants since it can act as a conduit for the transfer of pollutants to secondary receptors such as the ocean. Additional boreholes are to be drilled to generate data about the groundwater quality and quantity

		<p>when exploration intensify.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The proponent must follow the provisions of the Water Act so that they do not in any way damage the susceptible water resources. - Sewerage created at the camp or management offices either needs to be deposited directly into approved and permitted French drains or removed offsite. If the latter is to be done, then sealed sewerage tanks are required. The regulations under the Water Resource Management Act need to be consulted with regards to the erection of French drains near water courses. They cannot to be constructed within 100m of the banks of a water course. - Some wastes are dangerous to fauna and flora; Animals should not be able to access the waste management area; waste must be contained so that it cannot enter the naturally vegetated areas beyond the accessory works area. - Storage of hazardous liquid waste must by law follow industry standards. These standards will be communicated in fuller details by the fuel supplier. Ideally, self-110% banded containers should be brought to site and placed upon sealed surfaces with waste collection sumps. - Soil which is contaminated by used hydrocarbons needs to be relocated to a remediation cell where the addition of fertilizer, air and water will within a year be suitable for re-use. - Good housekeeping - Training and awareness for company personnel and the public will inform them of those wastes that may cause harm, pollute the soil, groundwater, or air (if particulate). - Practice reusing, recycling of products.
Significance of Impact = Consequence x Probability	Without Mitigation	Moderate (3)
	With Mitigation	Very low (5)
Ranking of Impact		3
Confidence Level		Medium

TABLE 14 - VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT TABLE

Impact	Visual impact caused by the operational activities
Nature of impact	Impact on visual resources would be considered unfavorable if the landscape were significantly degraded or modified. Changes to the aesthetic appeal of the area due to the presence of people, vehicles, and machinery . Visible changes to habitats due to human activities
Status	Negative
Spatial Extent	Local
Duration	Temporary
Consequence	Moderate
Probability	Very Likely
Reversibility	Yes
Mitigation Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The domestic waste, which is separated from all paper and organic materials, is taken to the nearest official dumpsite. – As far as is possible existing roads and tracks are used to access target sites for exploration. – Personnel to be trained regarding the observable signs of faunal and floral biodiversity and the avoidance of habitat disturbance. – Minimize the footprint of personnel, vehicles, and machinery. – Where new roads are constructed, the methods should be low intensive and possibly use manpower and not machines. – The remains of all structures that may have been erected at the EPL shall be demolished and removed on completion of the project.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Care must be taken to ensure that all rehabilitated areas are similar to the immediate environment in terms of visual character, vegetation cover and topography and any negative visual impacts will be rectified to the satisfaction of the MEFT officials. - Overburden topsoil will be placed back into excavation as part of the rehabilitation programme. - Rehabilitate habitats through the removal of obvious signs of human presence. - Remove all waste daily and dispose of it in the appropriate manner. - Removal of machinery from the sites if periods of inactivity are protracted.
Significance of Impact = Consequence x Probability	Without Mitigation	Moderate (3)
	With Mitigation	Low (2)
Ranking of Impact		4
Confidence Level		Medium

TABLE 15 - HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT TABLE

Impact	Heritage sites destruction during prospecting and exploration activities	
Nature of impact	Possible destruction to heritage sites	
Status	Neutral	
Spatial Extent	Local	
Duration	Long term	
Consequence	Substantial	
Probability	Unlikely	
Reversibility	Partially	
Mitigation Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A 'chance find' of any potential heritage site should be communicated to the police and the National Heritage Council of Namibia. If activities occur at the location where a 'chance find' has been made, then the activities should cease until the necessary authorities have visited the site and provided the go ahead to proceed with activities. 	
Significance of Impact = Consequence x Probability	Without Mitigation	Moderate (3)
	With Mitigation	Low (4)
Ranking of Impact	4	
Confidence Level	Medium	

TABLE 16 - LANDUSE IMPACT ASSESSMENT TABLE

Impact	Conflict with lands use of the area	
Nature of impact	Possible conflict with community during the implementation of the project (e.g., issues related to access and security)	
Status	Negative	
Spatial Extent	Local	
Duration	Short term	
Consequence	Substantial	
Probability	Unlikely	
Reversibility	Partially	
Mitigation Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The EMA requires that permission be provided by the competent authorities for the listed activity. - Update stakeholders register regularly. - Actively engage landowners regularly to maintain open channels of communication - The proponent is subservient to the conditions laid down by the guidelines / conditions and the law that upholds it. The implementation of the exploration programme will be in accordance with the approved Environmental Management Plan (EMP). - The communities of neighboring farms may claim to the grazing rights of the area. This would also prevent livestock from unwittingly falling from the steep precipice. 	
Significance of Impact = Consequence x Probability	Without Mitigation	Moderate (3)
	With Mitigation	Low (4)
Ranking of Impact	3	
Confidence Level	Medium	

TABLE 17 - SOCIO ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT TABLE

Impact	Exploration activities related to the project	
Nature of impact	Employment creation	
Status	Positive	
Spatial Extent	National	
Duration	Long term	
Consequence	Slight	
Probability	Very Likely	
Reversibility	Yes	
Mitigation Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where possible, local persons should be employed depending on the level of skills they have. - Employment will result should the project be permitted. - Promote local procurement of goods and services. 	
Significance of Impact = Consequence x Probability	Without Mitigation	Low + (4)
	With Mitigation	Very low + (5)
Ranking of Impact	5	
Confidence Level	Medium	

10. DECOMMISSIONING AND REHABILITATION

Disturbance of the earth's surface by exploration activities may result in removal of existing vegetation and ecosystems within the disturbed area. The impacts are significant, but localized to the disturbed area, and the overall extent of the impact is determined by the concentration of the activity and the sensitivity of the disturbed ecosystems. The impact on the environment can be lessened by planning with future closure in mind. When an exploration area is abandoned the infrastructure and altered landscape can affect the safe access of wildlife and public if not rehabilitated. The altered habitat may or may not promote the re-establishment of organisms once found there. Visual rehabilitation to the original state is not always practical due to economic factors.

The objectives of the closure and decommissioning are to:

- Provide a safe and stable landform compatible with the intended final use;
- Comply with relevant regulatory requirements and attain regulatory consensus on the successful closure and rehabilitation of the Project area;
- Complete the closure, decommissioning and rehabilitation works as quickly and cost effectively as possible whilst achieving primary objectives
- Produce a final “walk away” landform that is stable and that blends aesthetically into the surrounding landforms, yet as far as possible does not limit possible future land uses

10.1. SITE REHABILITATION

Proponent should keep the disturbed areas to a minimum, plants should not be removed unless necessary; selective exploration should be adopted so that the entire site is not cleared and affected at once; backfilling the topsoil should be done as soon as possible where soil was removed, therefore topsoil should not be piled up for a long time as it will lose its natural nutrient content.

10.2. PLANNING FOR REHABILITATION

The proposed post exploration land-use will also influence the procedure and the plant species used for rehabilitation

The following are the basic rehabilitation practices as summarized after the Minerals Council of Australia (1998), which with appropriate modifications, will apply to most disturbed areas.

1. Making Safe: After planning for rehabilitation, the first step is to clean up and make the area to be rehabilitated, safe. This involves the following:
 - Removal of infrastructure and unused or unwanted equipment. No facilities or equipment should remain on site unless with the written approval of the landowner or relevant authority.

- Removal of rubbish for disposal at approved sites. Care is required with residual toxic or hazardous materials including contaminated packaging and containers
2. Erosion Control: Progressive rehabilitation will be undertaken to stabilize disturbed areas as quickly as practical and to limit erosion.
- Restrict clearing to areas essential for the works
 - Windrow vegetation debris along the contour
 - Minimize length of time soil is exposed
 - Divert run-off from undisturbed areas away from the works
3. Topsoil Management: The rehabilitation strategy may include the following measures which are designed to minimize the loss of topsoil material respread on rehabilitated areas and promote successful vegetation establishment.
- Minimize the length of time that topsoil material is to be stockpiled.
 - Respread topsoil material in even layers at a thickness appropriate for the landform and land capability of the area to be rehabilitated.
 - Topsoil stockpiles are located in areas away from drainage lines or windy areas in order to minimise the risk of soil and wind erosion;
 - Rehabilitation areas of returned topsoil will be ripped, with care taken not to bring subsurface materials to the surface (e.g. large rocks). Ripping should only be sufficient to allow equipment to work efficiently. Ripping along slopes should be along contour.

11. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The aim of this environmental scoping assessment was to identify the potential impacts associated with the proposed exploration activities on EPL 8739 to assess their significance and recommend practical mitigation measures. The public and all directly affected stakeholders are consulted as required by the EMA and its 2012 EIA Regulations (Section 21 to 24). The public is informed via the three newspapers advertisement used for this assessment. A one-on-one interaction (public meeting) is held for the project.

Due to the limited scope of the proposed activities and the use of a step-by-step approach in advancing operations, the overall severity of potential environmental impacts of the proposed project activities on the receiving environment will be of medium magnitude, temporally duration, localized extent, and high probability of occurrence.

All impacts are provided with mitigation measures, minimized or avoided to acceptable degrees provided that the measures are put into consideration

Based on the conclusions of this EIA Report, it is thus recommended that an Environmental Clearance Certificate be provided for the planned project activities (ECC). When implementing the proposed program, the Proponent shall consider the following critical requirements:

- If applicable, the Proponent will negotiate Access Agreements with landowners.
- The Proponent is responsible for obtaining all additional permits that may be required.
- In accordance with all applicable national rules, the Proponent shall comply with all terms of the EMP and conditions of the Access Agreement to be signed into between the Proponent and the landowner/s.
- In cases where baseline information, national or international guidelines, or mitigation measures have not been supplied or do not adequately address the site-specific project effect, the Proponent must use the precautionary approach/principles.

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APPENDIX A – ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS CV

APPENDIX B – ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (EMP)

APPENDIX C – BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

APPENDIX D – ADVERTS, STAKEHOLDER LIST AND COMMUNICATION

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009 Vakatures	009 Vacancies
010 Spesiale dienste	010 Services
011 Gelukwensings	011 Congratulations
012 Eendomme	012 Properties
013 Bou en verf	013 Construction
014 Akkommodasie	014 Accommodation
015 Te huur gevra	015 Wanted to Let
016 Te huur	016 To Let
017 Kommerseel te huur gevra	017 Commercial Wanted to Let
018 Kommerseel te huur	018 Commercial to Let
019 Kommerseel te koop gevra	019 Commercial Property to Buy
020 Kommerseel te koop	020 Comm. Property for Sale
021 Alreie te koop gevra	021 Goods Wanted to buy
022 Alreie te koop	022 Goods for Sale
023 Diere	023 Animals
024 Motorfietsse en fietsse	024 Bicycles and Motorcycles
025 Motors	025 Vehicles
026 Vragmotors en sleepwagens	026 Trucks and Trailers
027 Huise te koop gevra	027 Residential Prop. to Buy
028 Huise te koop	028 Residential Prop. for Sale
029 Besigbede	029 Businesses
030 Plase te koop gevra	030 Farms Wanted to Buy
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035 Regkennisgewings	035 Legal Notices

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TODAY IS... GINGERBREAD HOUSE DAY

Gingerbread houses are a favorite holiday pastime with families, be it with parents, grandparents, or even both! But these delicious, decorative bread houses have always been a staple of the holiday season for as long as people can remember. Where did they come from? Who came up with the idea? To answer those questions, we must follow the ghost of holiday's past into the history of Gingerbread House Day!

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CARWASH DRIVERS: Various positions available, (valid driver's license required), car washer cleaners, as well as cleaners for office and building cleaning in Windhoek. Send your CV/contact details via SMS or Whatsapp to: 081-3984800. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. DM0202200406803

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LIQUIDATION ACCOUNTS AND PLANS OF DISTRIBUTION IN SEQUESTERED ESTATES COMPANIES BEING WOUND UP Pursuant to section 412 of the Companies Act 2004 (as amended) notice is hereby given that the liquidation accounts and plans of distribution or contribution in the estates companies/cooperatives mentioned below, will lie for inspection of creditors at the offices of the Master of the High Court, John Meinert Street, Windhoek. The particulars given are the following order: Name and description of estate/company, description of account, place of account lying for inspection. W 34/2021 Nedcapital Investment Holdings (Pty) Ltd (in voluntary liquidation). First and Final Liquidation and Distribution Account. Office of the Master of the High Court, Windhoek for a period of 14 days as from 9 December 2022. H. D. Bossau, Liquidator, H. D. Bossau & Co., P. O. Box 1975, Windhoek. DM0202200407262

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PUBLIC NOTICE
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES WITHIN EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE (EPL) 8739, KHOMAS REGION
 On behalf of the proponent, Alliance Environmental Consultancy CC (AEC) herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act No.7 of 2007 and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations for the proposed prospecting activities within EPL 8739, Khomas Region.
Proponent: Etha Investments CC
Commodities: Base and Rare Metals, Dimension stone, Industrial minerals, precious metals and Semi-precious stones.
Locality: Between Rehoboth and Windhoek. Covering portions of farms: 20 Inzumbuk, 21 Lichtenstein Zuluak 30 Inzumbuk, 366-0334-446 Lichtenstein, 367 Hank, 368 Melrose, 447 Gross Hagamos.
 All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby invited to register and submit comments duly motivated in writing on or before the 30 January 2023. Registration and Background Information Documents (BID) for the project can be requested from the email address below.
Email: info@emiro-sec.com
Cell: +264857728929

035 Regkennisgewings Legal Notices
PUBLIC NOTICE
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES WITHIN EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE (EPL) 9700, OSHANOTO & OTJONDJONA REGIONS
 On behalf of the proponent, Alliance Environmental Consultancy CC (AEC) herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations for the proposed prospecting activities within EPL 9700, Oshikoto and Otjoondjona Regions.
Proponent: Phico One Hundred and Seventy-Three (Phy) Ltd
Commodities: Base and Rare Metals, Industrial minerals, precious metals and Semi-precious stones.
Locality: Approximately 20km East of Tsumeb, covering a total area of 78906 Ha on about 50 farmlands including Aandus 832, Ahenab 707, Kliprand 827, Accra 660, Detroit 700 and more.
 All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby invited to register and submit comments duly motivated in writing on or before the 30 January 2023. Registration and Background Information Documents (BID) for the project can be requested from the email address below.
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 Otjap Town (State Hospital) 10:00-15:00
 Swakopmund Town (Verbonden Strich Street No 4) 10:00-16:00

Tuesday, 13 December 2022
 Centre Tal Street (Windhoek) 07:00-16:00
 Channel Life Centre Post Street Mall (Windhoek) 08:30-16:00
 Kietmanshop Town (NG Church Hall) 10:00-18:00
 Okahandja Town (Town Hall) 11:00-16:00
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Every year one thing remains the same around the holidays, people everywhere have to decide at what point before the big day they're going to go out and hunt down a Christmas tree.

005 Kennisgewings Notices

WECKE VOIGTS: Okaveru-as back in stock, various colors available, price NS 2100, at Wecke & Voigts for you, shop 1, Maerua Lifestyle Center Windhoek. Tel:061-377000. DM0202200407344

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Tamara-Lee Pienaar: 081 202 6062

035 Regskenningsgewings Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES WITHIN EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE (EPL) 8739, KHOMAS REGION

On behalf of the proponent, Alliance Environmental Consultancy CC (AEC) herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations for the proposed prospecting activities within EPL 8739, Khomas Region.

Proponent: Etna Investments CC. Commodities: Base and Rare Metals, Dimension stone, Industrial minerals, precious metals and Semi-precious stones.

Locality: Between Rehoboth and Windhoek. Covering portions of farms: 20 knunneck, 231 Lichtenstein, 30 Krambuk, 366,433,4,446, Lichtenstein, 367 Hatis, 368 Melrose, 447 Gross Heigemas.

All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby invited to register and submit comments duly motivated in writing on or before the 30 January 2023.

Email: info@enviro-aec.com Cell: +264857728929

035 Regskenningsgewings Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES WITHIN EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE (EPL) 9710, OSHIKOTO & OTJAZONDJUPA REGIONS

On behalf of the proponent, Alliance Environmental Consultancy CC (AEC) herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations for the proposed prospecting activities within EPL 9710, Oshikoto and Otjozondjupa Regions.

Proponent: Phico One Hundred and Seventy-Three (Pty) Ltd. Commodities: Base and Rare Metals, Industrial minerals, precious metals and Semi-precious stones.

Locality: Approximately 20km East of Tsumeb, covering a total area of 78906 Ha on about 50 farmlands including Aandras 832, Abernethy 707, Kliprand 827, Accra 660, Detroit 700 and more.

All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby invited to register and submit comments duly motivated in writing on or before the 30 January 2023.

Email: info@enviro-aec.com Cell: +264857728929

AL-ANON logo and text: Help for relatives of Alcoholics. AL-ANON Family groups offer help for friends and relatives of alcoholics. They provide assistance for people who live with alcoholics. Mail: vollmerdj@telecom.na

YOUR BLOOD IS THE BEST CHRISTMAS GIFT YOU CAN GIVE. WE NEED YOU! PLEASE DONATE BLOOD. Monday, 19 December 2022. Tuesday, 20 December 2022. Wednesday, 21 December 2022. Includes list of donation centers and times.

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LIFESTYLE



Nobel awards to take place in Stockholm with full glitz and glamour

Nobel laureates congregated in the Swedish capital Stockholm on Saturday for the first fully in-person award ceremonies complete with a formal banquet since the COVID-19 pandemic that curtailed events in the past two years.

The ceremony starts at 1500 GMT and features glamorous formal wear, with the men in white tie and tails and women in flowing gowns and elegant hairdos. Ceremonies in 2020 and 2021 were scaled back and there was no banquet. Many laureates from 2020 and 2021 will be attending this year as well as the 2022 winners – last year for example there was a ceremony but no laureates attended as they received their medals in their home countries.

Throughout this week the laureates have taken part in activities ranging from panel discussions to news conferences, finding time to visit schools and give lectures and attend alights show. "Given the challenges the world faces, it feels especially important to highlight Alfred Nobel's idea of international community," says Vidar Helgesen, executive director of the Nobel Foundation.

Five of the six Nobel prizes are awarded in Stockholm every year after a nomination process that is kept secret for the next 50 years. The Nobel Peace Prize is awarded in Oslo where separate festivities are held. Dynamite inventor Alfred Nobel left around 31 million crowns- about 1.8 billion crowns (\$174.2 million) in today's money according to the Foundation – to fund prizes for achievements in science, literature and peace awarded annually since 1901.

Among the laureates for 2022 is a former chairman of U.S. Federal Reserve, Ben Bernanke, who won the Nobel Economics Prize along with economists Douglas Diamond and Philip Dybvig for research on how propping up failing banks can stave off an even deeper economic crisis. The economics prize is a later addition to the original line-up, instituted by the Swedish central bank.

After the ceremony, there is a banquet in City Hall, attended by Sweden's royal family, government officials and dignitaries and business leaders from different countries. Swedish political party leaders are always invited to the banquet.

However Jimmie Akesson, leader of the anti-immigration Sweden Democrats, which became the country's second biggest party in an election in September election, was left off the guest list, with his party not deemed to be in keeping with the prizes' tenets.

The Nobel Foundation has also snubbed the ambassadors of Russia and Belarus, following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Jailed Belarusian activist Ales Byalyatski, Russian rights group Memorial and Ukraine's Center for Civil Liberties won the 2022 Nobel Peace Prize. (\$1 = 10.3329 Swedish crowns) -i/ol

PUBLIC NOTICE

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES WITHIN EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE (EPL) 8739, KHOMAS REGION

On behalf of the proponent, Alliance Environmental Consultancy CC (AEC) herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations for the proposed prospecting activities within EPL 8739, Khomas Region.

Proponent: Etna Investments CC

Commodities: Base and Rare Metals, Dimension stone, Industrial minerals, precious metals and Semi-precious stones.

Locality: Between Rehoboth and Windhoek Covering portions of farms: 20 krumneck, 23 Lichtenstein Zukauf, 30 Krumhuk, 366,433/4,446 Lichtenstein, 367 Haris, 368 Melrose, 447 Gross Haigamas

All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby invited to register and submit comments duly motivated in writing on or before the 30 January 2023. Registration and Background Information Documents (BID) for the project can be requested from the email address below.

Email: info@enviro-aec.com
Cell: +264857728929

PUBLIC NOTICE

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES WITHIN EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE (EPL) 9110, OSHIKOTO & OTJONZONDJUPA REGIONS

On behalf of the proponent, Alliance Environmental Consultancy CC (AEC) herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations for the proposed prospecting activities within EPL 9110, Oshikoto and Otjonzondjupa Regions.

Proponent: Philco One Hundred and Seventy-Three (Pty) Ltd

Commodities: Base and Rare Metals, Industrial minerals, precious metals and Semi-precious stones.

Locality: Approximately 20km East of Tsumeb, covering a total area of 78906 Ha on about 50 farmlands including Aandrus 832, Abenab 707, Kliprand 827, Accra 660, Detroit 700 and more.

All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby invited to register and submit comments duly motivated in writing on or before the 30 January 2023. Registration and Background Information Documents (BID) for the project can be requested from the email address below.

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Cell: +264857728929

LIFESTYLE

Can rice water strengthen and improve your hair growth?

The practice of “dry scooping”, or ingesting pre-workout powders without water, has become dangerously popular among TikTok users.

Some individuals assert that dry scooping might hasten your body’s absorption of the chemicals and improve your exercise, but there is no

scientific basis for these assertions.

Additionally, there are a number of possible hazards associated with this technique, some of which may be significant.

Pre-workout powders are nutritional supplements designed to improve your workout by maybe offering certain advantages.

Increased training capacity, improved blood supply to working muscles, and prevention of weariness are a few of them.

Pre-workout substances that are often used include, according to the National Centre for Biotechnology Information, the following:

Caffeine increases vitality and concentration while reducing weariness.

Creatine may boost training adaptations and high-intensity exercise performance.

Beta-alanine may improve one’s capacity for high-intensity exercise and serves as a pH buffer for lactic

acid.

L-theanine is frequently used to counteract the jittery effects of caffeine and to increase attention.

L-arginine is a precursor to nitric oxide, which increases vascularity and blood flow throughout the body.

Citrulline malate is a renowned nitric oxide booster that the body easily converts to L-arginine.

Branched chain amino acids are particular amino acids that are frequently given to help in muscle protein synthesis and to stop muscle breakdown, but there is conflicting evidence about their efficacy.

Although pre-workout supplements gained popularity in the bodybuilding community, athletes from other sports also take them. The majority of manufacturers advise drinking the pre-workout supplement around 30 minutes before exercising, after combining it with water.

The majority of pre-workout powders are made to be dissolved in water. There are certain potentially dangerous health hazards when ingesting them dry.

Additionally, pre-workout powders often target adults over the age of 18 owing to their high caffeine content, which can be harmful if used in excess. Additionally, pre-workout supplements could have potentially dangerous ingredients.

Due to the participation of children, this makes the TikTok habit of dry scooping much more hazardous.

Here are the main dangers associated with dry scooping pre-workout powders and the reasons why TikTok specialists strongly advise against it.

Accidental inhalation

You run a higher danger of inhaling pre-workout powder while attempting to swallow it without water.

You might not be able to swallow pre-workout powder after putting a scoop in your mouth owing to its gritty feel. You could gasp for air as a result, inhaling powder into your lungs and nasal passages.

Aspiration is what that is. In extreme circumstances, it may cause lung irritation or infection.

Heart-related side effects

The amount of caffeine in many pre-workout supplements can surpass 300mg per serving. That’s comparable to the amount of caffeine found in three 237ml cups of coffee.

When the powder is combined with water and ingested gradually, the majority of individuals might be able to take this level of caffeine; nevertheless, dry scoops delivers a massive dosage of caffeine to your body at once.

Many individuals could find it to be too much to manage, especially those who are younger than 18. Such a high caffeine intake might cause severe blood pressure increases and uncontrolled heartbeats.

There has been at least one reported example of a social media influencer getting a heart attack from dry scooping a pre-workout powder.

Intestinal problems

Digestive problems have also been mentioned as a dry scooping disadvantage.

The sudden, massive ingestion of undiluted drugs with little fluids can cause symptoms including nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea and stomach cramps.

The majority of people may avoid these problems by simply blending the supplement with water.

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES WITHIN EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE (EPL) 8739, KHOMAS REGION

On behalf of the proponent, Alliance Environmental Consultancy CC (AEC) herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations for the proposed prospecting activities within EPL 8739, Khomas Region.

Proponent: Etna Investments CC

Commodities: Base and Rare Metals, Dimension stone, Industrial minerals, precious metals and Semi-precious stones.

Locality: Between Rehoboth and Windhoek Covering portions of farms: 20 krumneck, 23 Lichtenstein Zukauf, 30 Krumhuk, 366,433/4,446 Lichtenstein, 367 Haris, 368 Melrose, 447 Gross Haigamas

All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby invited to register and submit comments duly motivated in writing on or before the 30 January 2023. Registration and Background Information Documents (BID) for the project can be requested from the email address below.

Email: info@enviro-aec.com
Cell: +264857728929

PUBLIC NOTICE

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED MINERALS PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES WITHIN EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE (EPL) 9110, OSHIKOTO & OTJOZONDJUPA REGIONS

On behalf of the proponent, Alliance Environmental Consultancy CC (AEC) herewith gives notice in terms of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations for the proposed prospecting activities within EPL 9110, Oshikoto and Otjozondjupa Regions.

Proponent: Philco One Hundred and Seventy-Three (Pty) Ltd

Commodities: Base and Rare Metals, Industrial minerals, precious metals and Semi-precious stones.

Locality: Approximately 20km East of Tsumeb, covering a total area of 78906 Ha on about 50 farmlands including Aandrus 832, Abenab 707, Kliprand 827, Accra 660, Detroit 700 and more.

All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby invited to register and submit comments duly motivated in writing on or before the 30 January 2023. Registration and Background Information Documents (BID) for the project can be requested from the email address below.

Email: info@enviro-aec.com
Cell: +264857728929

REGISTERED AND IDENTIFIED STAKEHOLDER IST

ORGANIZATION/AUTHORITY	CONTACT PERSON	CAPACITY
Ministry of Mines and Energy	Mr Shivolo Erasmus	Mining Commissioner
Ministry of Environment and Tourism	Mr Timoteus Mufeti	Environmental Commissioner
Khomas Regional Council		
Windhoek Urban Constituency		
Lichtenstein West	Bianca Lueesse	Lichtenstein West
Melrose	Djion Neto	Melrose
Master Hunting Guide on Lichtenstein West	Dr Hans Gerd Lüesse	Master Hunting Guide on Lichtenstein West

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

Stakeholder Notification - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed exploration activities on Exclusive Prospective License (E...



info@enviro-aec.com

To: 'Titus Shuuya'

Bcc: 'earusch@iafrica.com.na'; 'panorama@mweb.com.na'; 'melrose@afol.com.na'



Wed 3/8/2023 15:12



221218_EPL8739_BID_LNA.pdf
748 KB



230306_EPL8739_StakeholderLetter_MAIN_CAC_TS_v2.pdf
687 KB



Locality Map 8739.jpg
3 MB

Dear Sir/Madam

You have been identified as an affected party for the proposed minerals exploration for base & rare metals, dimension stones, industrial minerals, precious metals, and semi - precious stones on Exclusive Prospective License (EPL) 8739 located between Aris & Groot-Aub, in the Khomas Region.

The EPL covers portions of the following farms: 366 – LICHTENSTEIN, 366 – LICHTENSTEIN-MITTE, 368 – MELROSE, 434 – LICHTENSTEIN, 446 – LICHTENSTEIN SUD and 455 – N/A.

In terms of the Environmental Management Act, 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the EIA Regulations 30 of 2012, Alliance Environmental Consultancy cc (AEC) hereby act on behalf of Etna Investments CC in the application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Ministry of Environment Forestry and Tourism (MEFT).

Attached is the official invitation letter and Background Information Document (BID) for the project.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you and,

Kind Regards

Titus Shuuya (EAP)

Associate Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Alliance Environmental Consultancy

Email: info@enviro-aec.com

Cell: +264 85 301 3777 OR +264 85 772 8929



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Wed 3/8/2023 15:13

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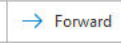
SMTP error from remote mail server after RCPT TO:<melrose@afol.com.na>:

550 5.1.1 <melrose@afol.com.na> User unknown; rejecting

FW: Stakeholder Notification - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed exploration activities on Exclusive Prospective Licens...



info@enviro-aec.com
 To: 'melrose@mweb.com.na'
 Cc: 'Titus Shuuya'



Wed 3/8/2023 15:32



From: info@enviro-aec.com <info@enviro-aec.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 15:12

To: 'Titus Shuuya' <titus.shuuya@gmail.com>

Subject: Stakeholder Notification - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed exploration activities on Exclusive Prospective License (EPL) 8739 in the Khomas Region

Dear Sir/Madam

You have been identified as an affected party for the proposed minerals exploration for base & rare metals, dimension stones, industrial minerals, precious metals, and semi - precious stones on Exclusive Prospective License (EPL) 8739 located between Aris & Groot-Aub, in the Khomas Region.

The EPL covers portions of the following farms: 366 – LICHTENSTEIN, 366 – LICHTENSTEIN-MITTE, 368 – MELROSE, 434 – LICHTENSTEIN, 446 – LICHTENSTEIN SUD and 455 – N/A.

In terms of the Environmental Management Act, 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the EIA Regulations 30 of 2012, Alliance Environmental Consultancy cc (AEC) hereby act on behalf of Etna Investments CC in the application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Ministry of Environment Forestry and Tourism (MEFT).

Attached is the official invitation letter and Background Information Document (BID) for the project.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you and,

Kind Regards

Titus Shuuya (EAP)

Associate Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Alliance Environmental Consultancy

Email: info@enviro-aec.com

Cell: +264 85 301 3777 OR +264 85 772 8929



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Like Reply Reply All Forward More

Wed 3/8/2023 16:11

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melrose@mweb.com.na
host mail01.africaonline.com.na [196.47.64.158]
SMTP error from remote mail server after RCPT TO:<melrose@mweb.com.na>:
550 5.1.1 <melrose@mweb.com.na> User unknown; rejecting

FW: Stakeholder Notification - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed exploration activities on Exclusive Prospective Licens...



info@enviro-aec.com
To 'zanialexandrino@gmail.com'
Cc 'Titus Shuuya'

Like Reply Reply All Forward More

Thu 3/9/2023 09:13

You forwarded this message on 3/9/2023 09:32.

221218_EPL8739_BID_LNA.pdf 748 KB 230306_EPL8739_StakeholderLetter_MAIN_CAC_TS_v2.pdf 687 KB Locality Map 8739.jpg 3 MB

From: info@enviro-aec.com <info@enviro-aec.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 15:32
To: 'melrose@mweb.com.na' <melrose@mweb.com.na>
Cc: 'Titus Shuuya' <titus.shuuya@gmail.com>
Subject: FW: Stakeholder Notification - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed exploration activities on Exclusive Prospective License (EPL) 8739 in the Khomas Region

FW: Stakeholder Notification - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed exploration activities on Exclusive Prospective Licens...



info@enviro-aec.com
To 'nelo@gginam.com'
Cc 'Titus Shuuya'

Reply Reply All Forward

Thu 3/9/2023 09:34

221218_EPL8739_BID_LNA.pdf
748 KB

230306_EPL8739_StakeholderLetter_MAIN_CAC_TS_v2.pdf
687 KB

Locality Map 8739.jpg
3 MB

From: info@enviro-aec.com <info@enviro-aec.com>

RE: Stakeholder Notification - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed exploration activities on Exclusive Prospective Licens...



Panorama Investment cc <panorama@afol.com.na>
To info@enviro-aec.com

Reply Reply All Forward

Tue 3/28/2023 09:59

You replied to this message on 3/30/2023 21:39.

Good morning Sir,

We require the information stated below:

- Upon communication with the other stakeholders claimed by you to be part of this EPL, they informed us that they have not received any communication regarding your issue.
- NAU assisted us to find the EPL registration which could not be found – please forward the official EPL documentation and registration.
- No details on the company called Etna Investments could be found – please forward company registration document and company contact.

No further action will be taken until you provide adequate information as requested.

Sincerely
Bianca Lueesse
Lichtenstein West

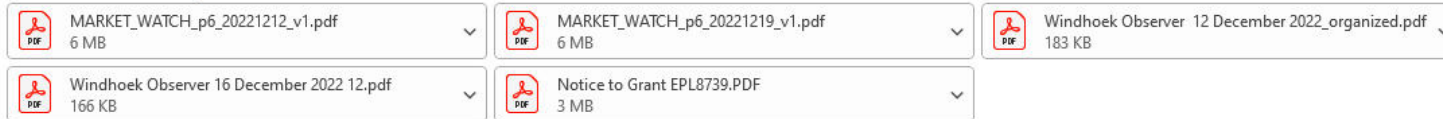
RE: Stakeholder Notification - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed exploration activities on Exclusive Prospective Licens...



info@enviro-aec.com
To 'panorama@afol.com.na'
Cc 'Titus Shuuya'

👍 Reply Reply All Forward ...

Thu 3/30/2023 21:41



Dear Bianca,

Thank you for your email, please see response in red below:

Upon communication with the other stakeholders claimed by you to be part of this EPL, they informed us that they have not received any communication regarding your issue.

- Stakeholder registration invitation email were sent to the relevant landowners of whom details were available and obtained from the Ministry of Lands. Additionally, as part of the 21 days public participation process (PPP), newspaper notification adverts were placed in 4 national newspapers (Die Republikein, The sun, Windhoek Observer and Allgemeine Zeitung) for two days over a period of two consecutive weeks as per the attached.
- We would appreciate your assistance in providing the contact details of other stakeholders that could potentially be affected by this project in order to include them in the process and make them aware of the project as per the Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007.

NAU assisted us to find the EPL registration which could not be found – please forward the official EPL documentation and registration.

- Please be advised that, EPL applications and registrations are administered through the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) and not the NAU.
- Kindly note that the applications for Environmental Clearance Certificates under the Environmental Management Act 07 of 2007 and the Regulations 2012 does not require public disclosures of the Proponent's trading resources related to the authorisation falling within the roles and responsibilities of the Competent Authority and in this case the MME.
- To confirm the boundaries and status of the EPL application please access the MME cadastre portal on <https://maps.landfolio.com/Namibia/> also see page 5 of the background information document shared with you.
- A notice of preparedness to grant EPL8739 was issued by MME to Etna Investment cc on the 30th of November 2022 for the proposed minerals prospecting activities within the EPL. Please see attached copy.

No details on the company called Etna Investments could be found – please forward company registration document and company contact.

- The company Etna Investment was registered according to the Business and Intellectual Property Authority Act, 2016 (Act No. 8 of 2016) with registration number CC/2014/07459. Please refer to the BIPA website at <https://www.bipa.na/search/?txts=eTNA>.
- Issues related to company credibility as such, and the sharing of company registration documents are beyond our scope of work and are not part of the ECC application process.

Kindly be further advised that, the draft Environmental scoping and Impact Assessment (ESIA) as well as the draft Environmental Management Plan (EMP) will be shared with you for your further comments and or input before submission to authorities.

We trust all is in order, we aspire to build an open communication with you, should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Many thank and,
Kind Regards

Titus Shuuya (FADP)

Re: Stakeholder Notification - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed exploration activities on Exclusive Prospective Licens...



Dr Lueesse <doc.lueesse@icloud.com>
To info@enviro-aec.com; titus.shuuya@gmail.com

👍 Reply Reply All Forward ...

Fri 3/31/2023 08:06

image001.jpg 46 KB	Untitled attachment 00002.htm 1 KB	~WRD0000.jpg 916 bytes
Untitled attachment 00005.htm 2 KB	221218_EPL8739_BID_LNA.pdf 744 KB	Untitled attachment 00008.htm 360 bytes
230306_EPL8739_StakeholderLetter_MAIN_CAC_TS_v2.pdf ..	Untitled attachment 00011.htm ..	Locality Map 8739.jpg ..

To whom it may concern

As Master Hunting Guide on Lichtenstein West and other affected farms I declare myself personally as concerned Party and individual stakeholder.

Dr Hans Gerd Lüesse

Life begins outside your comfort zone

+264 811247508

Re: Stakeholder Notification - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed exploration activities on Exclusive Prospective Licens...



Dr Lueesse <doc.lueesse@icloud.com>
To info@enviro-aec.com; titus.shuuya@gmail.com; timoteus.mufeti@mefst.gov.na

👍 Reply Reply All Forward ...

Fri 3/31/2023 10:01

If there are problems with how this message is displayed, click here to view it in a web browser.

Please provide me with a full copy of the actual EPL.,

Dr Hans Gerd Lüesse

Life begins outside your comfort zone

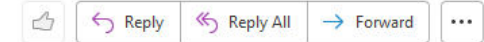
+264 811247508

Re: Stakeholder Notification - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed exploration activities on Exclusive Prospective Licens...




Dr Lueesse <doc.lueesse@icloud.com>

To info@enviro-aec.com; titus.shuuya@gmail.com; timoteus.mufeti@mefl.gov.na



Fri 3/31/2023 10:27

 You replied to this message on 4/1/2023 12:49.
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As we were only notified on short notice and not all concerned parties have been notified at all we request a public meeting as stipulated in the Acts.

As the area demarked in the EPL concerns a great part of the Auas Oanob Conservancy with sites of archeological, cultural and natural heritage as well as biodiversity hotspots which would be affected such a hearing and proper follow up of environmental law issues is of critical importance for integrity and sustainable development of Namibia.

The area is as well a highly productive livestock and wildlife area which secures the livelihood and development of a high number of individuals and their families.

Also we cannot find the named company/EPL holder in the BIPA registry. Please provide us with proof of existence/registration

Kind regards

Dr Hans Gerd Lüesse

Farm Lichtenstein West 434
Panorama Hunting Ranch
Auas Oanob Conservancy

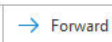
Life begins outside your comfort zone

+264 811247508

RE: Stakeholder Notification - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed exploration activities on Exclusive Prospective Licens...



info@enviro-aec.com

To: 'Dr Lueesse'; 'titus.shuuya@gmail.com'; 'timoteus.mufeti@mef.gov.na'
Cc: 'hnchris88@gmail.com'

Fri 3/31/2023 16:52

You forwarded this message on 4/1/2023 12:47.

221218_EPL8739_BID_LNA.pdf 748 KB	Notice to Grant EPL8739.PDF 3 MB	Windhoek Observer 16 December 2022 12.pdf 166 KB
MARKET_WATCH_p6_20221212_v1.pdf 6 MB	MARKET_WATCH_p6_20221219_v1.pdf 6 MB	Windhoek Observer 12 December 2022_organized.pdf 183 KB

Dear, Dr Hans Gerd Lüesse,

Thank you for your registration. Please see our response in red below;

As we were only notified on short notice and not all concerned parties have been notified at all we request a public meeting as stipulated in the Acts.

- Stakeholder registration invitation email were sent to the relevant landowners of whom details were available and obtained from the Ministry of Lands. Additionally, as part of the 21 days public participation process (PPP), newspaper notification adverts were placed in 4 national newspapers (Die Republikein, The sun, Windhoek Observer and Allgemeine Zeitung) for two days over a period of two consecutive weeks as per the attached.
- The EIA regulations require written notices to be given to the occupiers of the surface land on which the proposed activity is intended on happening. The public participation commenced on the 12th of December 2022, however due to the difficulty in acquiring all the contacts of the potentially affected parties, the period will be extended until a later date in April 2023 to afford the affected parties ample time to provide their input concerning the proposed project. Although public meeting is not a compulsory exercise during the process, the Draft deliverables (Environmental Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan) will be shared with all registered party for their review and commentary, thereafter a public meeting can be decided upon.
- We would appreciate your assistance in providing the contact details of other stakeholders that could potentially be affected by this project in order to include them in the process and make them aware of the project as per the Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007.

As the area demarked in the EPL concerns a great part of the Auas Oanob Conservancy with sites of archeological, cultural and natural heritage as well as biodiversity hotspots which would be affected such a hearing and proper follow up of environmental law issues is of critical importance for integrity and sustainable development of Namibia.

- Currently no potential minerals target/s have been delineated on the EPL and there is no guarantee that detailed field-based exploration will indeed be undertaken on these specific farms resulting in negative impacts presented. Our study covers environmental assessment work aimed at supporting the application for the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the EPL, to enable the minerals rights holder to undertake non-field/field-based exploration activities if potential prospective targets are delineated.
- The EIA is conducted to identify key sensitive receiving environmental receptors and likely negative or positive impacts that may arise from the proposed exploration activities and prepare mitigation measures to be contained in the Scoping report and EMP report for implementation by the Proponent. Generally, considering the low impact that exploration has towards the environment, the said conservancy and the proposed prospecting activities can co-exist, provided that all mitigation measures are taken into consideration.
- As part of the scoping assessment, an archaeologist specialist (CCed in this email) visited the area in order to determine the extent of sensitivity to the potential archaeology occurrence in the area. However, the specialist was denied access to some of the farms. For that reason, a detailed desktop screening exercise was conducted using remote sensing and historic heritage data of the area. Provided access is granted to the specialist, another site visit can be organised ASAP, and the assessment report be amended if new potentially affected sites are discovered.
- Kindly refer to the attached BID page 9-10 for the process being followed.

The area is as well a highly productive livestock and wildlife area which secures the livelihood and development of a high number of individuals and their families.

- That is noted and will be considered in the scoping report and EMP to be shared in due course.

Also, we cannot find the named company/EPL holder in the BIPA registry. Please provide us with proof of existence/registration

- The company Etna Investment was registered according to the Business and Intellectual Property Authority Act, 2016 (Act No. 8 of 2016) with registration number CC/2014/07459. Please refer to the BIPA website at <https://www.bipa.na/search/?txts=eTNA>.
- Issues related to company credibility as such, and the sharing of company registration documents are beyond our scope of work and are not part of the ECC application process.

Please provide me with a full copy of the actual EPL.,

- To confirm the boundaries and status of the EPL application please access the MME cadastre portal on <https://maps.landfolio.com/Namibia/> also see page 5 of the background information document shared with you.
- A notice of preparedness to grant EPL8739 was issued by MME to Etna Investment cc on the 30th of November 2022 for the proposed minerals prospecting activities within the EPL. Please see attached copy.

Many thank and,
Kind Regards

Titus Shuuya (EAP)

Associate Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Alliance Environmental Consultancy

Email: info@enviro-aec.com

Cell: +264 85 301 3777 OR +264 85 772 8929



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Fri 3/31/2023 16:54

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SMTP error from remote mail server after MAIL FROM:<info@enviro-aec.com> SIZE=21936890:
552 size limit exceeded

RE: Stakeholder Notification - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed exploration activities on Exclusive Prospective Licens...



info@enviro-aec.com
To 'Dr Luesse'
Bcc 'Titus Shuuya'

Reply Reply All Forward

Sat 4/1/2023 12:52

Good day Dr. Hans Gerd Luesse,

I notice that our response email sent yesterday (31/03/2023) bounced back. Do you by any chance have an alternative email that we can use?
Please let us know.

Regards
Titus

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To info@enviro-aec.com



Sat 4/1/2023 16:26

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RE: Stakeholder Notification - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) pro... (14.7 KB)
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RE: Stakeholder Notification - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for t...



Panorama Investment cc <panorama@afol.com.na>
To info@enviro-aec.com; titus.shuuya@gmail.com



4/13/2023

Good evening Mr Shuuya,

Thank you for your feedback below.

As concluded by yourself already, a visit by the archaeologist will not be necessary as your studies have been done. There are no sites of interest to add from our side.

We are therefore awaiting your reports as described in your mail for further input.

We have again studied the website of the MME and could not find said EPL borders.

You may contact the NAU (Namibian Agricultural Union) to obtain contact details of other affected parties.

For all future correspondence please use only our official address panorama@afol.com.na

Sincerely

Bianca Lueesse

Lichtenstein West Nr 343

EIA and EMP (Drafts) Public review - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) proce...



info@enviro-aec.com

To
Cc 'Titus Shuuya'Bcc 'panorama@afol.com.na'; 'Dr Lueesse'; 'zanialexandrino@gmail.com';
'Djion Neto'

Wed 4/19

EPL8739_Draft EMP Report_TS - 100423.pdf
2 MBEPL 8739_Draft EIA Report_TS - 100423.pdf
5 MB

Dear Stakeholder,

This email serves to notify you that the Draft Environmental & Scoping Impact Assessment (ESIA) report and the Draft Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the proposed minerals prospecting activities within Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL 8739), Khomas region is ready for your review and commentary.

Kindly be informed that the review period will last **from the 19th of April 2023 to the 28th of April 2023**. You will be notified once the documents are submitted to the authorities for decision making.

Further take note that the Ministry of Environment Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) provides a further review period of 14 days after submission via their online portal at <http://eia.met.gov.na/>.

We aspire to build an open commutation with you and should you require further information please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you and,
Kind Regards

28 April 2023

COMMENTS ON THE EPL 8739 ESIA REPORT BY OWNERS OF LICHTENSTEIN WEST Nr434

We would like to draw attention to the fact that some of the farm names listed in the document are not correct. The author did not make effort to contact most of the landowners directly and has not obtained any information of them besides Melrose and Lichtenstein West Nr 434.

We acknowledge that it is possible that not all farmers have been informed but however effort to obtain their contact information was done. The ministry of lands and the NAU does not provide farmers contact details therefore we also rely on neighboring landowners who were contacted to assist with conveying the message. For the purpose of this project however, the possible areas of interest lie within Melrose and Lichtenstein West and both farmers were informed. The access denial from some farmers have made the process more difficult.

Some comments on the report below:

Non-Technical Summary

The EPL covers approximately an area of 16668 hectares in total. The EPL covers portions of the following farms: 366 – LICHTENSTEIN, 366 – LICHTENSTEIN-MITTE, 368 – MELROSE, 434 – LICHTENSTEIN, 446 – LICHTENSTEIN SUD and 455 – N/A (See Table 1)....

The proponent didn't put in reasonable effort to investigate in the correct direct stakeholders, which are easily available at the NAU. So, the mere basis of this report is detrimental.

Please see response above.

(p.7)...recommended that an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) be provided for the planned project activities. When implementing the proposed program, the Proponent shall consider the following critical requirements:

Where applicable, the Proponent will negotiate Access Agreements with landowners/authorities.

It will be a conditio sine qua non to negotiate Access Agreements with the individual landowners. Some of the access roads are on farms that are not part of this EPL. No effort was made by the authors to contact them.

That is noted, please see response above, kindly note that issues related to access agreements does not form part of the EIA process, that is entered between the landowners and the proponent.

1.5.2. SCOPING PHASE (FEBRUARY TO MARCH 2023)

This phase constitutes of the identification of further potential environmental issues associated with the proposed project, provide a description of the receiving environment, assessment of potential environmental impacts and develop management and mitigation measures.

Other activities that can be conducted at this phase include site visits and identification as well as communication with potential affected parties and the compilation of Scoping Report and EMP. The reports are then distributed to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) for comment.

There have been no site visits or communication with the affected parties, the landowners.

Multiple site visits have been communicated/attempted especially to you and access was denied on both occasions including the Heritage Assessment study. Melrose was successfully visited by the Heritage team. Should another site visit be warranted, we will communicate accordingly and hope for a successful visit.

4.1. NO GO ALTERNATIVES

Not conducting exploration will deprive the proponent an opportunity to pursue its business and to strive for mineral resource discoveries, but it will also constitute an opportunity loss for the Namibian economy and overall wealth of the Namibian people. As such it will also deny other key stakeholders an opportunity to earn a much-needed income. The local authority and central government agencies will not earn revenue through rates and taxes. Considering the above losses, the "no-action/go" alternative was not considered a viable option in the interest of the directly affected community and the proponent.

The directly affected community is dependent on the integrity of the veld and natural environment as the sole source of income and living. Impairing this will lead to a total loss of income for the stakeholders and their employees, loss of revenue and taxes for central and local government and increasing rural unemployment, depriving hundreds of dependents of income.

Considering the nature of the proposed activities and the impacts extent unto the environment the current activities practiced on the land can co exist with the proposed prospecting works and will not jeopardize the environment as a source of income and living .

6. BASELINE ENVIRONMENT/ STUDY AREA

This section lists the most important environmental characteristics of the study area. This provides a baseline where changes that occur as a result of the proposed project can be measured. The data was gathered through desktop analysis of existing data and through spatial analysis. The spatial data used for mapping under this section was obtained from various sources including the <https://digitalnamibia.nsa.org.na/> of Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) as well as the MME minerals Cadastre portal <https://maps.landfolio.com/Namibia/> and The Environmental Information Services website at <http://www.the-eis.com/>. Only a heritage site-specific specialist study was conducted for this project.

No on-site study was conducted.

Please see responses above.

6.2. BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

FLORA

As a scientific study the correct names should be used. The term Acacia is only to be used for Australian species.

There was no site study performed. The vegetation consists of a relevant number of protected camelthorn trees (*Vacellia erioloba*), *Aloe litoralis*, *Boscia albitrunca*.

The Ruschioidae have been completely left out of the study. A fair number of members of this genus are highly endemic to the Lichtenstein farms and only occurring in this area.

Thank you for your input, we will consider the above.

The EPL falls within the Auas-Oanob Conservancy which is home to a number of distinctive landscapes that are distinguished by a high species variety, a large number of endemic species, high-altitude mountainous habitats, as well as arid wetland habitats in the shape of the Omiramba. The species richness is not directly threatened by current land use, but various forms of land degradation, such as erosion, bush encroachment, and/or the threat of alien invasive species, are likely to result in a change in habitat, which in turn threatens the diversity of plant species and, as a result, the habitat of wild and domesticated animal species (Strohbach, 2017).

The Auas Oanob Conservancy was founded to ensure the biodiversity and specific richness of the area. With a variety of finalized and current scientific projects on predators, erosion, population studies on amphibians, reptiles, succulents and rangeland it maintains the high species variety, large number of endemic species, distinctive landscapes and habitats by scientifically approved methods of rangeland use, bush decroachment, erosion prevention and habitat enrichment.

FAUNA

Nationally, the area is regarded as a relatively high mammal, reptile and intermediate amphibian diverse (Mendelsohn et al. 2002). Furthermore, the study area is known to have a relative high number of reptile and mammal species that are endemic to Namibia. The bird's diversity that occurs in or near the area ranges at least up to 141 species.

The mountain ridges of the Lichtenstein farms form a biological watershed for several reptile and amphibian species defining species occurrence and subspecies development.

Several protected avian species as *Ardeotis kori*, *Gyps* spp., *Bubo* spp. *Caprimulgus* spp., are breeding in this area which are sensitive to environmental impacts such as disturbance, loss of broods and nesting sites generated by prospection and mining. Regarding the impact various ground-nesting birds are a matter of high concern.

This is highly noted, should the proposed activities intensify, a proper biodiversity specialist study will be warranted.

It is estimated that 60 species of reptile, 14 amphibian, 68 mammal, 141 bird species (breeding residents), at least 52 species of larger trees and shrubs (>1m) and at least 64 species of grasses occur in the general/immediate area of which a moderate proportion are endemics. #

The variety of perennial grasses is the most important factor for the feasibility of sustainable rangeland farming in combination with the high number and population density of Antelope, Equidae and Bovidae in the Khomas highlands.

Very well noted. Thank you.

Although many endemic species are known to occur from the general area, it cannot be determined if any of these are associated with the existing EPL area. The high percentage of endemic reptile species (41.3%) associated with the general area underscores the importance of this area without formal state protection.

The Auas Oanob Conservancy serves to maintain the high percentage of the various endemic species of allclusters.

Well noted.

Some of the reptiles in the area viewed as those classified as vulnerable and protected game under Namibian legislation i.e., Tortoises, snakes and monitor lizards are routinely killed for food or as perceived threats.

By awareness training, management and supervision the farms of the Auas Oanob Conservancy and especially the Lichtenstein Farms have curbed the loss of tortoises, snakes and lizards to basically zero. This also counts for *Manis temmickii*, the world's most poached single mammal species.

These wildlife management measures can only work because access to the area is heavily restricted and would be under high threat if this changes, contradicting §96 of the Namibian Constitution.

That is well noted.

SOIL

As correctly determined, the shallow leptosols are highly susceptible to erosion by any type of invasive ground penetration, rendering the area unprotected and unproductive for many years or even decades. Sustainable use as rangeland is possible by a constantly monitored and adapted stocking rate.

That is well noted.

10.1. SITE REHABILITATION

Proponent should keep the disturbed areas to a minimum, plants should not be removed unless necessary; selective exploration should be adopted so that the entire site is not cleared and affected at once; backfilling the topsoil should be done as soon as possible where soil was removed, therefore topsoil should not be piled up for a long time as it will lose its natural nutrient content.

A survey of vegetation including grasses has to be undertaken for any topsoil removal site and been rehabilitated in such a manner including grasses and herbs.

Well noted and will be considered.

APPENDIX E – HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT (HIA)

A PHASE 1 REPORT ON HERITAGE IMPACT FOR THE PROPOSED EXPLORATION
ACTIVITIES ON EPL8739, LOCATED SOUTH WEST OF WINDHOEK ON THE C26
ROAD KUPFERBERG, KHOMAS REGION, NAMIBIA.

Prepared for:

Geotrend & Research Data Solution CC

Private Bag 23088, Windhoek, Namibia

by:

Christian Nekare

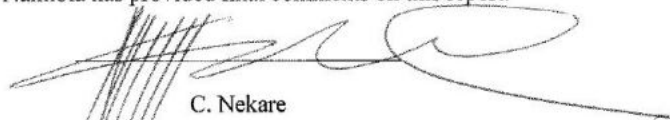
(B. Ed (UNAM), MA (WHSD-UNITO), MA (Geography Candidate-UNAM)

Accredited member of Namibian Scientific Society (NSS)

DISCLAIMER:

I hereby declare that:

- a. I have the knowledge of and experience in conducting heritage Impact assessment (HIA), including knowledge of the Acts, Regulations, and Guidelines that are relevant to Namibian legislation, specifically the National Heritage Act (27 of 2004), as well as regulations and guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity.
- b. I have performed the work relating to the application objectively, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the proponent.
- c. Although all efforts are made to identify all sites of heritage significance during an assessment of study areas, the nature of heritage resources are as such that it is always possible that hidden or subsurface sites, features or objects could be overlooked during the study.
- d. Clients & Developers should not continue with any development actions until the National Heritage Council of Namibia has provided final comments on this report.



C. Nekare
World Heritage Specialist (WHS)

SUMMARY

The aims of this Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is to identify possible heritage sites and finds that may occur in the licensed EPL area and determine whether any heritage resources are located within the area to be developed as well as the possible impact of the proposed development thereon. Furthermore, the study adapts an integrated look at the broader heritage resources and inform the proponent to manage the rediscovered heritage resources in a responsible manner, in order to protect, preserve, and develop them within the framework provided by the National Heritage Act (27 of 2004). Information in this HIA was obtained through field survey of the area supplemented by relevant HIA reports review and satellite analysis.

Previous work in the larger geographical area was utilized in the background study. This report discusses the results of both the background research and field assessment and provides recommendations on the way forward at the end.

From a Heritage Point of View, it is recommended that the proposed development be allowed to continue, taking into consideration the recommendations put forward at the end of the report.

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1. Introduction
2. Terms of Reference
3. Legal requirements
4. Methodology
5. Receiving environment
6. Description of the area
7. Geology of the area
8. Receiving environment
9. Impact assessment
10. Conclusions & recommendations
11. Appendix A Chance finds procedure
12. Reference

1. INTRODUCTION

World Heritage Specialist (Christian Nekare) was appointed by Geotrend & Research Data Solution CC to conduct a Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed exploration activities on EPL 8739, located South West of Windhoek on the C26 Road, Kupferberg, Khomas Region, Namibia.

The Khomas cultural landscape holds a potential wealth of physical and human environment that includes a vast array of significant heritage resources. Most of these resources are covered by the surface of the earth. However, at national level, probably the most targeted cultural landscapes might be those associated with rock arts. Archaeologically, so far dozens of surface scatters have been identified but very few have been subjected to scientific considerations in the territory (Kinahan, 2021). The search for minerals and mining goes back to the ancestors of human race in Namibia, up-to-date numerous EPLs and MCs have, however, been granted for prospecting activities.

To its credit, the Government have been successful in developing policies that are harmonising the cultural sector. Other important heritage resources from the larger geographical territory includes, MSA and LSA sites (Hardaker, 2011) and heritage of later prehistoric periods ranges in age from about 200,000 years ago to the present. Apart from their significances, such heritage resources have high potential to enhance the tourist attraction of the country. As more sites are identified and studied, a great number of them remains at risk today than at any other time in history, because of human activities. Perhaps the most devastating threats to heritage resources in the territory is mining activities. At present, the nation has yet to develop a comprehensive national inventory register of its heritage resources, and a large part of the heritage remains archeologically *terra incognita*. Therefore, any activity resulting in disturbance of the land surface

is likely to threaten yet unidentified and undocumented heritage resources. One however has to realize that this most likely only indicates that not much research has been done here before.

Background research indicates that there are no heritage resources featuring in the targeted geographical area of the EPL. However, the western plains of the EPL contain several potential heritage resources, qualifying this part of the EPL area as a culturally sensitive landscape. Previous work in the larger geographical area was utilized in the background study.

The proponent indicated the location and boundaries of the study area and the assessment concentrated on this portion.

1. TERMS OF REFERENCE

A Heritage Impact Assessment (including Archaeological, Cultural heritage, Built Heritage and Paleontological Assessment) to determine the impacts on heritage resources within the study area.

The following are the required to perform the assessment:

- A desk-top investigation of the area;
- A site visit to the proposed development site;
- Identify possible archaeological, cultural, historic, built and paleontological sites within the proposed development area;
- Evaluate the potential impacts of construction and operation of the proposed development on archaeological, cultural, historical resources; built and paleontological resources; and
- Recommend mitigation measures to ameliorate any negative impacts on areas of archaeological, cultural, historical, built and paleontological importance.

2. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

The National Heritage Act (No. 27 of 2004) together with its reinforced guidelines of (2021), complimented by the Environment Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and its Regulations (2012) makes provision for a compulsory Heritage Impact Assessment when an area is earmarked for development. This is to determine if the area contains heritage sites/ resources and to take the necessary steps to ensure that they are not damaged or destroyed during development.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1. Survey of literature

A survey of available literature was undertaken in order to place the development area in a heritage context. The sources utilized in this regard are indicated in the bibliography.

4.2. Field survey

The field assessment section of the study is conducted according to generally accepted HIA practices and aimed at locating all possible objects, sites and features of heritage significance in the area of the proposed development. The location/position of all sites, features and objects is determined by means of a Global Positioning System (GPS) where possible, while detail photographs are also taken where needed.

4.3. Oral histories

People from local communities are sometimes interviewed in order to obtain information relating to the surveyed area. It needs to be stated that this is not applicable under all

circumstances. When applicable, the information is included in the text and referred to in the bibliography.

4.4. Documentation

All sites, objects, features and structures identified are documented according to a general set of minimum standards. Co-ordinates of individual localities are determined by means of the Global Positioning System (GPS). The information is added to the description in order to facilitate the identification of each locality.

4.5. The limitations and assumptions associated with this heritage impact assessment are as follows;

- ✓ Field investigations were performed on foot and by vehicle where access was readily available.
- ✓ Sites were evaluated by means of description of the cultural landscape, direct observations and analysis of written sources and available databases.
- ✓ It was assumed that the site layout as provided by Geotrend & Research Data Solution CC is accurate.
- ✓ We assumed that the public participation process performed as part of the EIA process was sufficiently encompassing not to be repeated in the Heritage Assessment Phase.

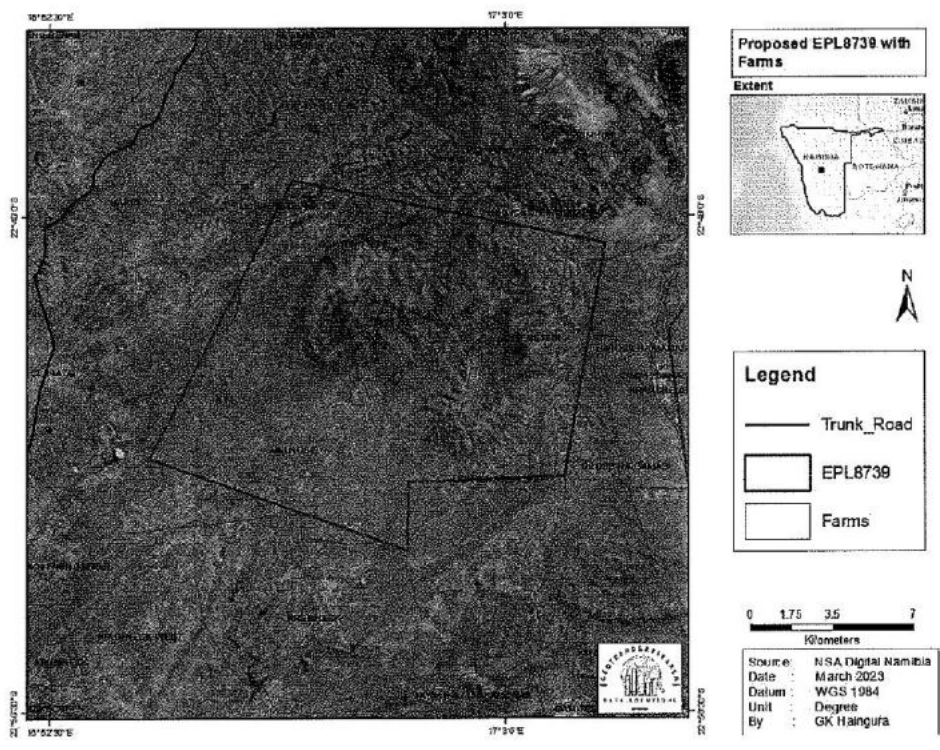


Figure 1: Overview location of the proposed EPL 8739 (Credits: Geotrend, 2023).

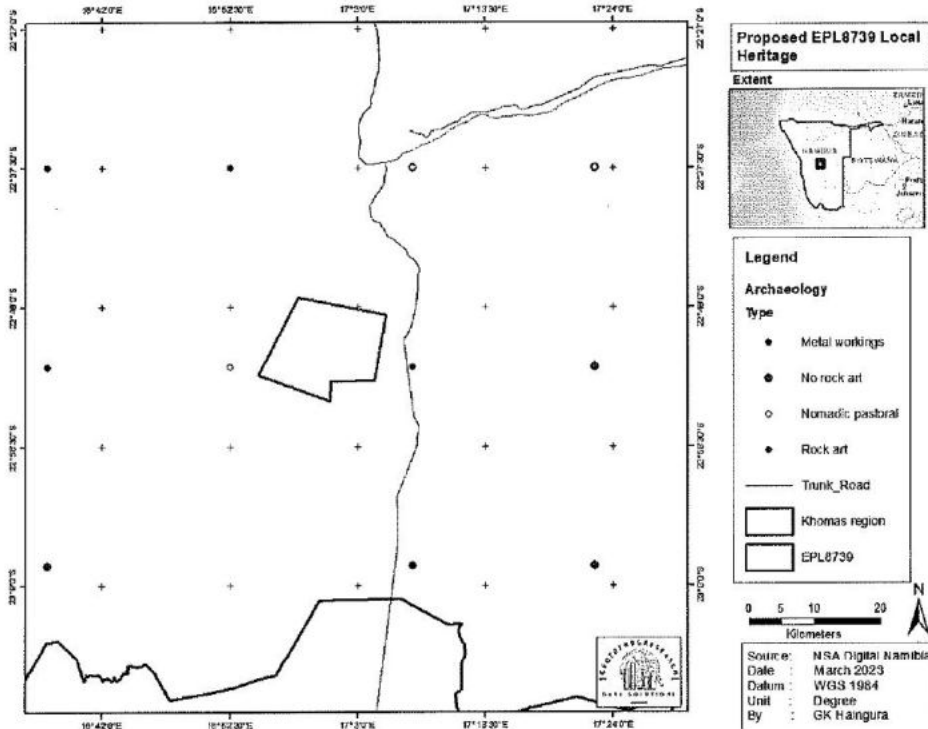


Figure 2: Overview of heritage sites in Khomas Region: (Credit: Geotrend, 2023)

5. THE RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT.

There are quite a number of known heritage sites in the Khomas cultural landscape but they are not very evenly distributed, a large number are situated in the southern cultural landscape, the vegetation region between Khomas and Hardap Region. The pottery sequence in this cultural landscape is still too patchy for meaningful interpretation but differs across the landscape. A real gap exists, moreover, in the South West of Windhoek, nothing is known at present archeologically. Taking into account the meagre facts known that this area has been the hotspot for geological studies due to its mineralisation. In this case one has to bear in mind, however, that the present limited heritage dataset, does not necessarily mean that there have

never been heritage resources in the area. In the larger geographical area, the excavation of the Eros Rock Shelter yielded a fair amount of pottery, some iron fragments and a single copper bead (Wendt, 1972) and the remains of at least two elephants - slaughtered by Stone Age hunters over 5,000 years ago - were discovered in the Windhoek area. A variety of stone tools were also found. They were made of quartz that were used mainly for chopping and cutting. These tools were made for killing elephants before butchering the meat. Today the original elephant remains and tools are stored at the National Museum of Namibia in Windhoek. (<https://namibian.org/namibia/archaeology/prehistoric-elephant>).

These cultural landscape lie beneath the pre-Damara rocks grouped with the Rietfontein Granite-Gneiss which are non-fossiliferous and are of no palaeontological concern. No fossils have been reported from the immediate environment of the EPL area before. Empowering the catalogue of the area, therefore, represents a vital aspect in the preservation of heritage resources that can contribute to the improved narrative of Namibia's past and provide a glimpses into the change of the local biological environment.

These region is crucial in understanding the entire Southern Africa's past. Despite growing archaeological studies in the region, many key debates about the archaeology of this area remain unresolved. The overall picture of heritage resources in the Region is still one of too little data. Only tentative conclusions can be drawn from a few sources spread over a vast cultural landscape. Broad change of the environment is evident, it is clear, however, pre-historic people were able to successfully inhabit even the mountainous reaches of the Region.

A number of Khoekhoen related heritage sites have been identified by (Sandelowsky, 2004) in the overlapped Geographical Region, while doing research on Khoekhoen ethno-archaeology, integrated oral traditions, archaeology and ethnography to show the heritage of

khoekhoen people. The archaeology of the wide cultural landscape shows a local development of a Khoekhoen domination.

Indigenous hunter-gatherers occupied the region throughout the Holocene and a new population – likely Proto-Khoekhoe-speaking hunter-gatherers with limited numbers of livestock – entered the landscape approximately 2000 years ago. These last were the ancestors of the historically Khoekhoen pastoralists. The search for the prehistoric identity is not new and the subject has been examined repeatedly according to the following categories:

Earlier Stone Age (ESA) up to 2 million – more than 200 000 years ago: Characterized by surface scatters of stone tools and artefact debris, usually transported from original context by fluvial action, and seldom occurring in sealed stratigraphic context.

Middle Stone Age (MSA) less than 300 000 – 20 000 years ago: Characterized by dense surface scatters and rare occupation evidence in sealed stratigraphic context, with occasional associated evidence of food remains.

Later Stone Age (LSA) 40 000 years ago – 2000 years ago: Characterized by increasingly dense

a. and highly diverse evidence of settlement, subsistence practices and ritual art, as well as grave sites and other remains.

b. Historical (the last ca. 250 years): Characterized by remains of crude buildings, livestock enclosures, wagon routes and watering points, as well as graves, comprising small cemeteries near farm settlements or isolated burial sites.

The historic era is dominated by the conflict between Germans, Nama and Hereros. The Nama and Hereros established seasonal settlements in present-day Windhoek cultural landscape, then

the two group launched into action against the Germans. The Germans ruthlessly, massacred the two group (It has become known as the first genocide of the 20th century). The district of Kupferberg was established as farmscape, made up of all immaterial manifestation of culture, representing the variety of living heritage in the area.

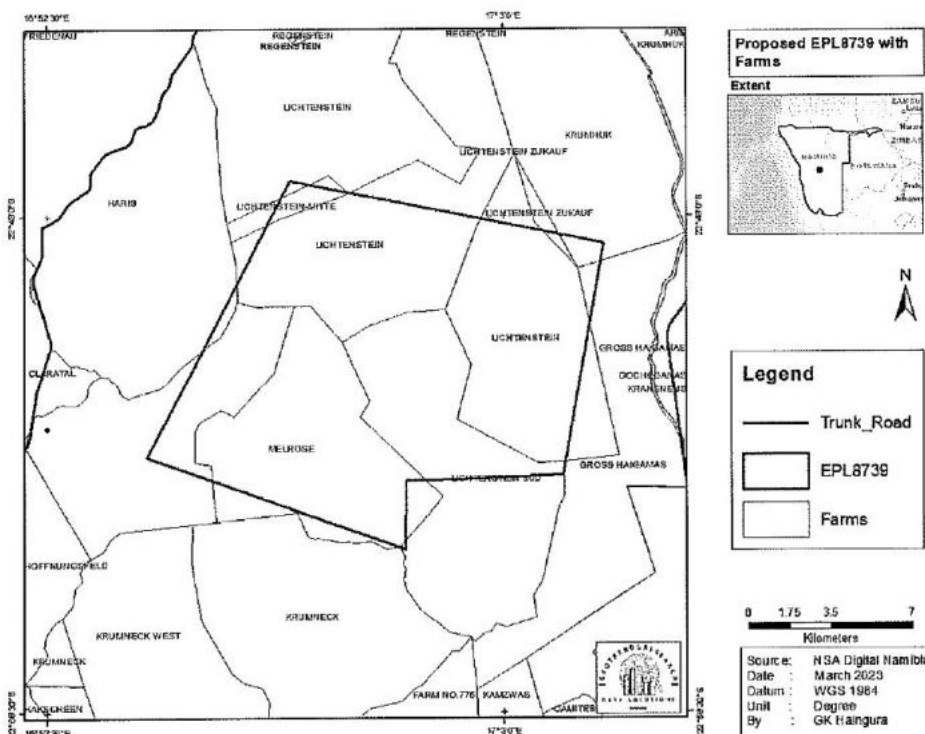


Figure 3: Locality of the proposed EPL 8739, (Credits: Geotrend 2023).

6. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

The EPL is situated within the Kupferberg district, approximately 29 km directly southwest of Windhoek. Presently, the EPL falls into several farm under cattle, wildlife management and tourism establishments. The vegetation is described as thornveld with *Acacia mellifera* and *Acacia*

Karoo dominating the landscape. Large stands of leadwood are found along streams. Average precipitation is about 300 mm per annum, the area is generally disturbed, flat although a topographic rise marks the mineralisation portion of the targeted Eastern Zone.

Most of the EPL flat plain consist of a number of unnamed streams crisscross the landscape, although the targeted area of the EPL have a relatively low heritage sensitivity. The western part of the EPL is condensed with significant heritage resources. Indications are that the graves are fairly marked, fenced and looked after. The farmers are aware of the graves, and that all measures will be taken to protect and safeguard them, if the development is approved. The results of these assessment show a consistent distribution of burial sites along the western strips of the EPL area. No known HIA has been conducted in the study area. The current approximate location of the EPL is shown above while coordinates are indicated below:

Latitude	Longitude	Latitude	Longitude
22° 53'06"S	16° 54'47"E	-22.885	16.91306
22° 47'14"S	16° 58'05"E	-22.7872	16.96806
22° 48'34"S	17° 05'18"E	-22.8094	17.08833
22° 53'29"S	17° 04'22"E	-22.8914	17.07278
22° 53'36"S	17° 00'46"E	-22.8933	17.01278
22° 53'37"S	17° 00'46"E	-22.8936	17.01278
22° 53'37"S	17° 00'45"E	-22.8936	17.0125
22° 55'04"S	17° 00'43"E	-22.9178	17.01194

This HIA focused the survey on the generic licensed EPL and the targeted area. The general view on the farms is basically the same.

7. FINDINGS

The phase 1 HIA for this EPL have resulted in the identification several significant heritage resources. Generally, the targeted Eastern portion of the EPL is of low heritage potential and significant heritage finds in this EPL are limited to the Western portion of the EPL situated more than 20 km away from the targeted area within the EPL. These heritage resources will not be affected by the exploration activities and their detailed descriptions will be provided in this HIA. However, if subsurface heritage resources are discovered, the proposed exploration activities should cease and the area be demarcated by a danger tape.

So far some of the recorded graves are still fenced while some have lost the fence through natural process. The graves and their contents are protected in Namibia by the National Heritage Act (No. 27 of 2004), more especially when they 60 years old or beyond. These HIA survey contain remarkable finds that are scattered across the Western portion of the EPL area – Important to note that these resources fall outside the targeted portion of the EPL area, despite being mapped on the same EPL. The burials are evidence of careful planning. “It’s not an accumulation of burials by accident, but a place where they decided to put their dead. Farm burials have changed the face of the country as a separated people, evidence of past relations that were chilly and people buried here might have had limited contact with each other’s.

Site 1: Grave site containing four people, probably biological related, according to the observation two of them are infants. Some tombstones are inscribed with names and date of death while some are plain. Therefore, it is safe to argue that in the absence of any person with knowledge/sources on the identities of the people buried here that they might be associated to the family networks of

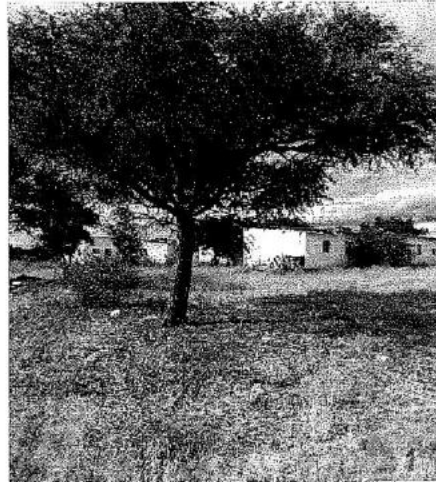
farmworkers. However, to go with the flow of the names, we can conclude that these graves after dark belong to the Kheokhoen community.



View of ONE GRAVE on the Western portion of the proposed EPL area.

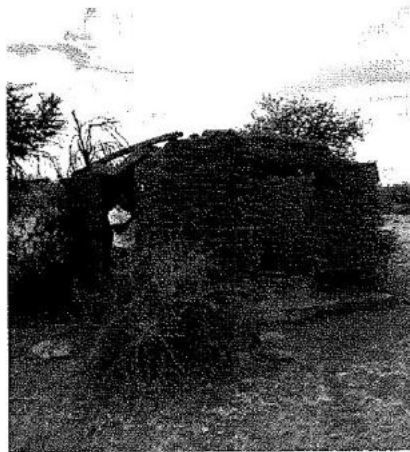


View of TWO GRAVES on the Western portion of the proposed EPL area.

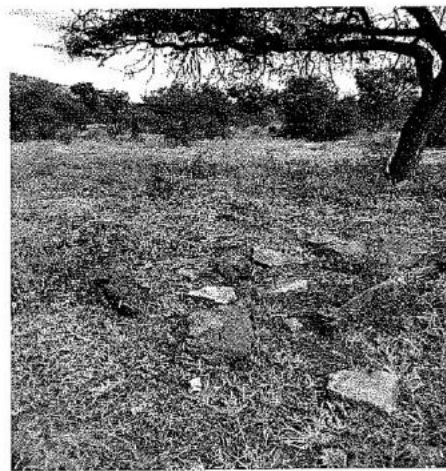


View of the HISTORICAL BUILDINGS on the Western portion of the proposed EPL area.

Site 2: These are abandoned structure that are occurring on the Western portion of the EPL and could be considered under the categories of Vernacular Architecture. However, more investigations are needed before any decision could be taken on the status of these heritage resources. The stone enclosures, this could have been a fireplace, probably not very old, but require deductive research.



View of the abandoned structure on the Western portion of the proposed EPL area.



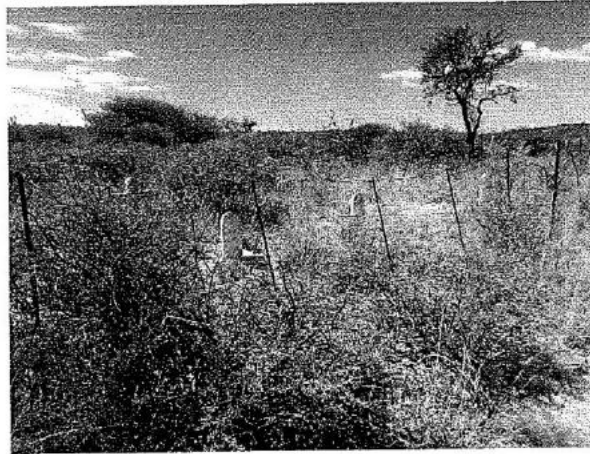
View of the STONE ENCLOSURE on the Western portion of the proposed EPL area.

Site 3: Containing graves of two persons marked with tombstones and concrete waterproofing. Natural process has vandalized the fence that was enacted around the graves. More people perhaps are buried on this site, since it is in the valley evidence is washed away.



View of the TWO GRAVE on the Western portion of the proposed EPL area.

Site 4: This are well-protected graves, about eight people are buried here. The gender and age composition of the deceased is mixed. In terms of practicality, fences were placed around the cemetery to prevent animals from entering the grave site.



View of the GRAVEYARD on the Western portion of the proposed EPL area.



View of the DAM on the Western portion of the proposed EPL area (These are the pioneering dams).

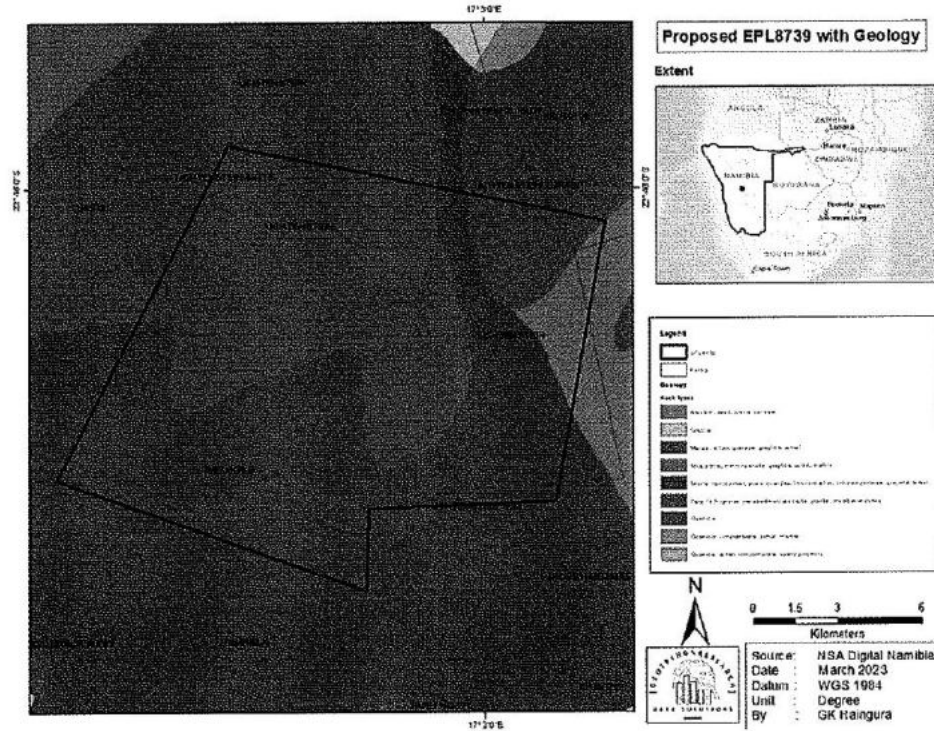


Figure 4: Geology of the proposed EPL 8739, (credits: Geotrend, 2023).

8. GEOLOGY OF THE AREA

The upper marble, basal bed of the Khomas series, comfortably overlies the laminated quartzite. The general strike direction is southwest: the dip varies 10 to -65 northwest. The Hakos series locally represents the northern limb of the regional Aris anticline. Field observation on the upper marble indicates parasitic folding within this limb. The main rock type is identified as biotite schist, but with minor strata of micaceous quartzite, feldspathic schist and amphibole schist (Labuschagne, 2004, and Mendelsohn, et al, 2002). The soil cover in the study area is largely shallow and has been derived from the underlying lithologies and is classified as ‘leptosol’

(Mendelsohn, et al 2002) referring to shallow soil cover overhard rocks. 'Leptosol' dominate the entire EPL area.

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENT (FIELD ASSESSMENT)

It is important to note that the whole EPL area was surveyed with extensive focus on the targeted area. Several graves, dams, stone enclosure and structures were identified within the larger geographical area. These resources are located away from the targeted area and no impact is expected on these resources but provides context to heritage management within the EPL area. The identified resources date to 1960s and 1970s respectively. Some of these heritage resources are almost 60 years and beyond. The HIA ensures that all relevant factors are addressed and for each predicted impact, criteria are applied to establish the significance of the impact based on likelihood and consequence. This table summarises the heritage resource types assessed during field assessment, and observations according to the grading of the NHC guidelines 2021.

The table below grades heritage significance for heritage resources in Namibia.

Level of significance	Grading	Description
Exceptional/upper higher	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major national heritage resources. • Rare & outstanding example. • Containing unique evidence of high regional & national significances.
Considerable high	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very important to the heritage of the region. • High degree of integrity/ authenticity. • Multi-component site and objects • High research potential

Moderate	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributes to the heritage of the locality and region • Has some altered or modified elements, not necessarily detracting from the overall significance of the place. • Forming part of an identifiable local distribution or group. • Research potential.
Low	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolated minor finds in undisturbed primary context, with diagnostic materials • Makes some contribution to the heritage of the locality, usually in the combination with similar places or objects
Little	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes little contribution to the heritage resources of the locality. • Heritage resources in a disturbed or secondary contexts, without diagnostic or associated heritage.
Zero/ no significance	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absence of heritage resources • Highly disturbed or secondary context, without diagnostic or associated heritage

Paleontology

No sites of paleontological value are located within this EPL.

Nature of Impacts: No sites are located within the EPL; therefore, no impacts are anticipated.

Extent of Impact: Due to the lack of paleontological sites within this area, the extent of impacts will be zero.

Level of significance	Grading	Description
Exceptional/upper higher	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major national heritage resources. • Rare & outstanding example. • Containing unique evidence of high regional & national significances.
Considerable high	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very important to the heritage of the region. • High degree of integrity/ authenticity. • Multi-component site and objects • High research potential
Moderate	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributes to the heritage of the locality and region • Has some altered or modified elements, not necessarily detracting from the overall significance of the place. • Forming part of an identifiable local distribution or group. • Research potential.
Low	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolated minor finds in undisturbed primary context, with diagnostic materials • Makes some contribution to the heritage of the locality, usually in the combination with similar places or objects
Little	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes little contribution to the heritage resources of the locality. • Heritage resources in a disturbed or secondary contexts, without diagnostic or associated heritage.

Zero/ no significance	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absence of heritage resources • Highly disturbed or secondary context, without diagnostic or associated heritage
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Prehistoric

This EPL site shows no signs of pre-contact sites in the investigated area.

Nature of Impacts: The development can result in the localized uncovering of sites from the pre-contact era.

Extent of Impacts: Taking into account the lack of sites in the study area these impacts can be seen as minimal.

Level of significance	Grading	Description
Exceptional/upper higher	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major national heritage resources. • Rare & outstanding example. • Containing unique evidence of high regional & national significances.
Considerable high	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very important to the heritage of the region. • High degree of integrity/ authenticity. • Multi-component site and objects • High research potential
Moderate	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributes to the heritage of the locality and region • Has some altered or modified elements, not necessarily detracting from the overall significance of the place.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forming part of an identifiable local distribution or group. • Research potential.
Low	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolated minor finds in undisturbed primary context, with diagnostic materials • Makes some contribution to the heritage of the locality, usually in the combination with similar places or objects
Little	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes little contribution to the heritage resources of the locality. • Heritage resources in a disturbed or secondary contexts, without diagnostic or associated heritage.
Zero/ no significance	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absence of heritage resources • Highly disturbed or secondary context, without diagnostic or associated heritage

Post-Contact Heritage

Several buildings making up farmstead are still intact and inhabited whilst others have been reduced to rubble. The buildings, although inhabited, are in poor condition. Three cemeteries found on the Western portion of the EPL. These graves are well safeguarded, known to the farms and fenced.

Nature of Impacts: No impacts.

Extent of Impacts: None anticipated

Impact statement**Paleontological sites**

No paleontological sites of high value could be identified at this EPL.

Mitigation

No mitigation is recommended

Archeological sites

No archaeological sites were identified. Possible sub-surface sites could be disturbed by future mining activities.

Mitigation

No mitigation is recommended.

Built Environment

Heritage sites associated with the built environment is located within this EPL area. However, they are away from the targeted EPL area.

Mitigation

No mitigation is recommended.

10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Several heritage sites were found including graves sites, dams, rock enclosure and protected structures. Structures and the remains thereof that are 60 years and beyond are protected by Act. The cultural landscape around the Western portion of the EPL serves as a significant cultural landscape. A variety of heritage sites are known to occur in this part of the EPL area. The most outstanding among them are the burial sites, as well as a large number of sites dating to historic times. This HIA confirmed that the targeted EPL area is situated within the none cultural landscape. Identified heritage sites can be recorded and a management plan can be developed for responsible

action. The proponent is advised that concentration of heritage resources in the Western portion of EPL does not mean they are not featuring in the demarcated targeted area, as demonstrated the archeological resources identified in the study area are of significant heritage values. Therefore, it is essential that cognisance be taken of the larger cultural landscape of the area in order to avoid the destruction of subsurface heritage resources. It should be stated that it is likely that further underground heritage resources might occur elsewhere in the proposed Area along and burials and historically significant structures dating to the historical period occur on within the EPL area and these resources should be avoided during all phases of development, with the implementation of the mitigation measures in this report no significant heritage resources will be affected by the development and therefore the impact of the project on heritage resources are low and the project can commence.

Recommendations for condition of authorization, the following apply:

- Implementation of a chance find procedure for the development
- Demarcation of known sites on development plans
- Monitoring of the burial site during the cycle of the development.

The EPL area is rural in character and sparsely developed, characterized by farming and tourism developments next to the C26 road. Several cemeteries, dams as well as bridges and structures were identified within the larger geographical area. These features are located away from the targeted area and no impact is expected on these features but provides context to the cultural landscape in which the project is located. The identified heritage resources will require management measures to be safeguarded during the development Phase of the project. The HIA concluded that a Fossil Chance Find Protocol should form part of the development.

APPENDIX A: Chance find

A. Responsibility:

Operator	To exercise due caution if archaeological remains are found
Foreman	To secure site and advise management timeously
Superintendent	To determine safe working boundary and request inspection
Archaeologist	To inspect, identify, advice management, and recovers remains

B. Procedure:

Action by the person (operator) identifying archaeological or heritage material

- (a) If operating machinery or equipment: stop work
- (b) Identify the site with flag tape
- (c) Determine GPS position if possible
- (d) Report findings to foreman

C. Action by foreman:

- (a) Report findings, site location and actions are taken to the superintendent
- (b) Cease any works in the immediate vicinity

D. Action by superintendent

- (a) Visit the site and determine whether work can proceed without damage to findings;
- (b) Determine and mark the exclusion boundary
- (c) Site location and details to be added to the Archaeological Heritage database system.

E. Action by archaeologist

- (a) Inspect site and confirm the addition to AH database system;
- (b) Advise National Heritage Council and request a permit to remove findings;
- (c) Recovery, packaging and labeling of findings for transfer to National Museum

F. In the event of discovering human remains

- (a) Actions as above;
- (b) Field inspection by archaeologist to confirm that remains are human;
- (c) Advise and liaise with NHC Guidelines; and
- (d) Recovery of remains and removal to National Museum or National Forensic Laboratory, or as directed.

10. Reference

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