

Kavango East Region Meeting, (Rundu Governor Board Room).

Friday 10th May 2019

Key stakeholders meeting Kavango West region for the proposed petroleum Exploration (Drilling of Stratigraphic wells) in Petroleum Exploration License (PEL) No. 73 Scoping, EIA and EMP.

Minutes.

09:47 Meeting resumes.

09:48 Welcoming remarks by Hon. Ambassador Dr. Samuel Mbambo, Governor of Kavango East Region.

10:01 Introduction of all members present and their different portfolios by the Hon Joseph Nyando (Chairperson of Kavango East Regional Council).

10:30 Presentation by Dr Sindila Mwiya

1. Purposes and aims of the meeting
2. Background to oil and gas origin, formation, exploration and production opportunities (evolution of our planet and the Etosha Basin)
3. Petroleum systems of Namibia today covering Etosha basin, PEL 73, hydrocarbon map of Namibia, greater Kalahari basin);
4. Description of the proposed petroleum exploration (drilling of stratigraphic wells)
5. The natural receiving environment around PEL 73 and proposed Well locations
6. Assessment of positive environmental impacts
7. Assessment of negative environmental impacts
8. Conclusions and recommendations

The following way Forward points were present to the meeting:

- The proposed drilling is scheduled to start in November / December 2019;
- Risk-Based Solutions will incorporate all the inputs / comments received from today's meeting in the final EIA and EMP Reports;

- In addition to our meeting of today, additional advertisements will be published in the local newspapers in order to inform other interested and affected parties about the proposed project activities;
- Written comments / feedback can still be send to us before Thursday 30th May 2019;
- The Final EIA and EMP Reports will then be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner, Department of Environmental Affairs, Ministry of Environment and Tourism for application of Environmental Clearance Certificate on the Friday 31st May 2019 in order to start the proposed activities;
- Once the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) and other permits such as freshwater and waste water permits, explosive imports permits and radiation sources permits have been issued, the proponent will mobilise to start the drilling operations;
- Reconnaissance or Risk-Based Solution will inform all the stakeholders through the Offices of the Hon. Governor on the actual project start date;
- Regular updates on the development and progress made on this project will be provided regularly all the stakeholders through the Office of the Hon Governor.

Q1. By Hon Haingura

What are the community benefits and those for the communal farmers in the area? Are we going to be relocated or chased away?

ANS: No one will be chased away or relocated because the actual drilling locations are not that fixed and can still be moved around to avoid communities and other sensitive environmental setting. In term of community benefits, there will be limited job opportunities because the drilling operations will require highly skilled and experienced technical personnel. Additionally, the project will be running for a very short period (exploration). Limited Corporate Social Reasonability (CSR) will be considered including the drilling of water boreholes to supply the proposed operations and the boreholes will be handed over to the community through the regional council on completion of the operations for the benefits of the community.

Q2. The Name of your company Risk-Based Solution, why such a name and why do international companies interested to invest in Namibia?

ANS: Well, the choice of the name of our company Risk-Based Solutions is related to the risk nature of the job we do and the type of knowledge required to make the decisions.

International companies are very much interested to invest in Namibia due to many factors including political stability, attractive regulations, global competitiveness and attractive geology with potential to make a commercial discovery.

Q3 / Comment: Borehole requested to be built, its suggested that a drinking trough or dam for the cattle should be built at the site so that, after the operation the local people can utilise it for their cattle or for animal vaccination point.

ANS: Yes the suggestion is noted and will be presented to the project team for consideration and evaluation subject to available resources.

Further Comment and input from the councillors.

- The governor and local councillors they stated that they have information on boreholes which have reported to have water mixed with oil about 23 km meters south of Rundu.

ANS/ INPUTS: We would like very much to have the coordinates or location of the said water well. Please provide the information to us or the Office of Governor or the Ministry of Mines and Energy (Petroleum Commissioner) or to Reconnaissance Project Team for further follow-up and evaluation of the information.

INPUTS: Health director of the both regions Ms Timea Ngwiva. As you be aware that there are no good health facilities in the areas that you will be drilling, if resources allows, we request for a health centre facility in the long run as part of the emergency response plan to benefit the drill crew and the local people.

Q4: Health Director of the both regions Ms Timea Ngwiva – Are you going to have an ambulance on site and if you happen to purchase one, we will appreciate it as donation after the drilling operation have been completed.

ANS: Yes, as part of Emergency Response Plan (ERP), there will be an onsite First Aid Facility and a fully equipped standby ambulance facility. However, at this stage I do not know whether the ambulance will be hired from the medical services providers or its will be purchased for possible donations to the two (2) Kavango Regions after the drilling operations. This information will be know once the detailed project planning and implementation plan has been finalised by the project team. We will keep you updated and we also consult with you when it comes to the ERP arrangements.

Q5 By the Divudu town council CEO, What are the measures in place for the mitigation of HIV/AIDS and safety talks as these regions are of high risk?

ANS: Yes HIV/AIDS is a developmental / socioeconomic issue that has been considered in one of our specialist studies called the Socioeconomic Assessment. All the likely key issues associated with HIV/AIDS have been assessed and mitigation measures have also been developed for implementation by operator. In terms of Health and Safety, the drilling sites (Camp Sites) will be operated with rules and regulations (the Do and DO NOT). The drilling crew will not be allowed to interact freely with the local communities. There will be continuous HSE Briefings for every shift changes in addition to individual debriefing that specialist team leaders will be providing.

Q6. By Hon Kauna

What are the shareholding opportunities / procedures for the local communities? – Communities remain poor while projects move around within their communities, what are the contributions of your company to the welfare of the women and children?

ANS: Reconnaissance Energy Namibia (Pty) Ltd holds 90% of the PEL 73 and the remaining 10% is held by Namcor, a Government company that is working for the interest of all Namibians including the local communities around the proposed project area. The holding company Reconnaissance Energy Namibia (Pty) Ltd is a publicly stock listed trading company and I am sure there may be way to buy shares if someone is interested. We can try and get more information on this matter for those may be interested. However, it's important for anyone intending to invest in oil and gas exploration fully understand the risks that are involved. It's indeed a very high risk with very low probabilities of commercial discoveries.

In term of community benefits the answer was similar to that provided for Q1 with limited jobs, short duration and consideration for Corporate Social responsibilities in terms of water boreholes and other suggested projects still to be assessed such as additional access road clearing, additional water boreholes infrastructure such as cattle drinking pens and veterinary fences / cattle loading zones and possible ambulance /clinic support.

12:32 **Governor closing remarks** and vote of thanks, with words of appreciation to the presenter. He requesting all stakeholders present at the meeting not to forget to inform the communities and the traditional authorities. However, the Hon. Governor also cautioned those present to aware of the fact that the proposed project is just exploration which is dealing with probabilities / chance of finding commercial oil and gas in Kavango East Region. Communities should not be misled communities based on the information we received today because it would be like a fish man going for fishing and before he leaves he already promises everyone fishes without even knowing whether he will be able to even fish, more so catch even a fish.

Meeting was closed and communities were encouraged to inform the office of the Ministry of Mines and Energy, Namcor, the Governor, local Councillors or the Consultant if they suspect oil or gas seepage in their area / water wells.

KEY CONTACT PROVIDED

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