Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and development of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the development of a new landfill in Stampriet, Hardap Region

Public Participation Meeting

27 September 2024

09:00

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING

Mr. Samson Mulonga thanked everyone who attended the meeting and introduced the project team. The meeting attendees introduced themselves.

2. EXPLANATION OF EIA PROCESS

Mr. Mulonga briefly outlined the purpose of the meeting and then continued to explain the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. He highlighted the role of the CNM Investments (the appointed environmental consultants for the assessment of proposed project) according to the Environmental Management act (7 of 2007).

3. PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED PROJECTS

Mr. Mulonga then presented the project. This description included among other matters the rationale for the project, a description of the various project components, and an outline of the expected cost and timeframe for the construction and implementation of the proposed project.

4. IMPACTS IDENTIFIED

Mr. Mulonga then briefly outlined all the positive and negative environmental impacts associated with the proposed project:

Positive:

- Effective means of disposing of solid waste thus preventing the unsightly accumulation of refuse in urban areas.
- Certain contemporary landfills incorporate advanced technology to capture methane gas generated during the decomposition of organic waste,
- Once landfills have reached their capacity and are closed, they have the potential to be repurposed into valuable, usable land, including parks and recreational areas,
- Landfills are a cost-effective waste management solution,
- ❖ Landfills are a tangible reminder of finite waste disposal space. This visual cue motivates communities to participate in recycling programs,

Negative:

- Releasing potent greenhouse gases like methane, contributing to climate change,
- Contaminating groundwater through leachate,
- Causing air pollution from emitted gases,
- Impacting biodiversity by altering local ecosystems,
- Potentially causing fires due to built-up gas,
- Takes up large areas of land and impacting nearby communities with unpleasant odors and
- Decreases property values.

5. DISCUSSION

After Mr. Mulonga's presentation the floor was opened for questions and comments.

COMMENT	RESPONDENT	RESPONSE
Will the development of the new landfill create employment opportunities for the people of Stampriet?	Mr. Mulonga	Ideally, contractors are encouraged to hire locals for unskilled and semi-skilled jobs.
Why do companies or contractors that are given this kind of jobs come with their own staff to work here, but the youth here can-do similar work?	Mr. Mulonga	Contractors should only come along with specialized workforce and are encouraged to hire locals for unskilled and semi-skilled jobs.
When is the project going to start because some community member had to know about the project today?	Mr. Mulonga	Indication from the client is that the project should commence before the end of the 2024/2025 financial year.
Will the new landfill be development at safer distance from town?	Mr. Mulonga	The landfill boundaries will be within the prescribed local council by laws.

6. CONCLUDING REMARKS

Once all present had an opportunity to ask their questions and raise their concerns, Mr. Mulonga explained what the next steps were for the remainder of the EIA process. These include; the drafting of the Scoping Report, the circulation of the draft Scoping Report for review by registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), the final submission of the Scoping Report for Environmental Clearance consideration and the notification of registered I&APs of their final opportunity to submit comments regarding the Scoping Report directly to the Directorate of Environmental Affairs.

Mr. Mulonga thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting