Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for Exploration Drilling Activities on Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) 6669 in the Kunene Region

APP:005084

Environmental Management Plan

Final

January 2025

Nangolo Trading Enterprise CC

GCS Project Number: 24-0681

Client Reference: ECC Renewal for EPL 6669



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Description	
The Proponent	Nangolo Trading Enterprise CC	
EPL	Exclusive Prospecting Licence	
DEAF	Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry	
EA	Environmental Assessment	
ECC	Environmental Clearance Certificate	
ECO	Environmental Control Officer	
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	
EMA	Environmental Management Act, 2007	
GCS	GCS Water and Environmental Engineering (Pty) Ltd	
GG	Government Gazette	
MEFT	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism	
NHCN	National Heritage Council of Namibia	
PPE	Personal protective equipment	
PR	Proponent's Representative	

UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

Unit of Measure	Description
km	kilometre
ha	hectare
mm	millimetre

1 OVERVIEW

1.1 Project Background

Nangolo Trading Enterprise CC proposes to undertake exploration drilling activities on Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) 6669 in the Kunene Region. EPL 6669 is in the northwestern part of Namibia approximately 200 km northwest of Opuwo and 18 km southwest of Epupa Village (Figure 1-1 and Figure 1-2). EPL 6669 measures approximately 18847 ha in extent.

Nangolo Trading Enterprise CC has obtained their Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) dated 02 September 2020 (Annexure A) to undertake exploration drilling activities on Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) 6669 in the Kunene Region. The Environmental Management Plan (EMP) was compiled by GCS Water and Environmental Engineering (Pty) Ltd (GCS) in 2020 as part of the Environmental Assessment process conducted for the development. To date, no construction has commenced on-site.

The ECC is only valid for three years (until September 2023) and as such Nangolo Trading has appointed GCS to apply to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) for the renewal of the ECC.

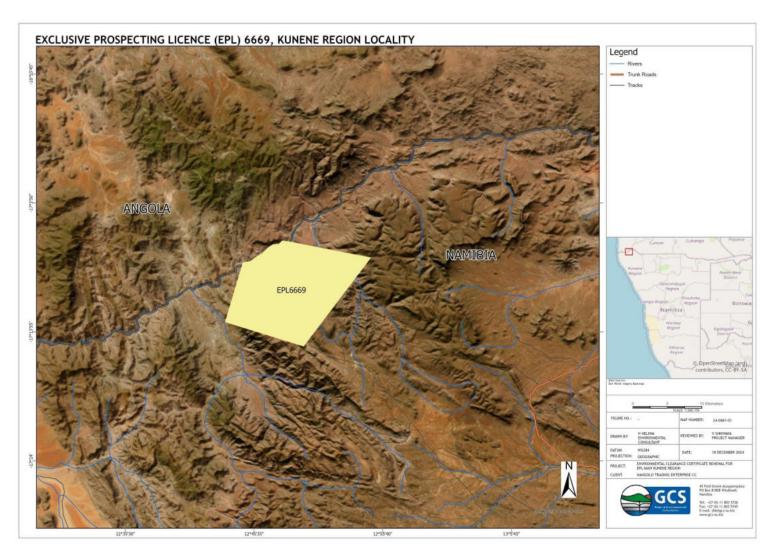


Figure 1-1: Location of EPL 6669 in the Kunene Region

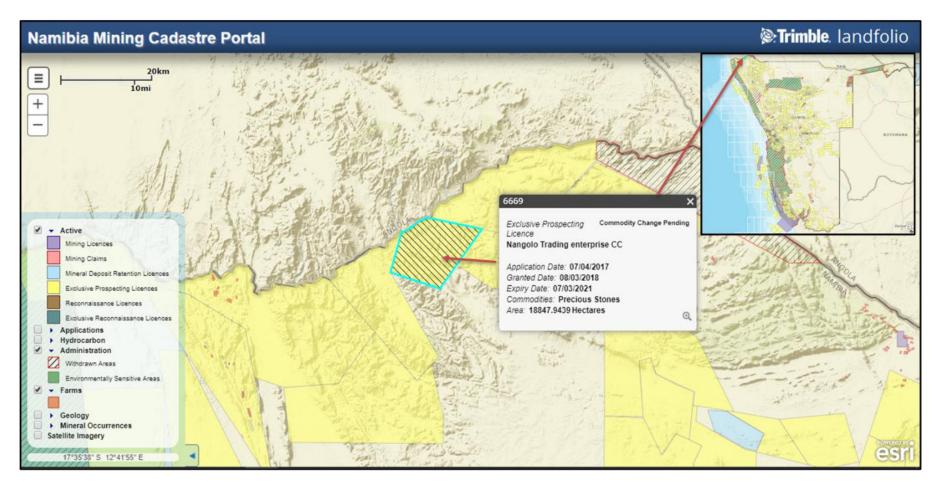


Figure 1-2: EPL 6669 on Namibia's Ming Cadastral Portal (http://portals.flexicadastre.com/Namibia/, 2024

1.2 Purpose of the Environmental Management Plan

Regulation 8 of the Environmental Management Act's (EMA) (Act 7 of 2007) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2012) requires that a draft EMP be included as part of the Environmental Assessment (EA) process. A 'management plan' is defined as:

"...a plan that describes how activities that may have significant environmental effects on the environment are to be mitigated, controlled and monitored."

An EMP is one of the most important outputs of the EA process as it synthesises all the proposed mitigation and monitoring actions, set to a timeline, and with specific assigned responsibilities. It provides a link between the impacts identified in the EIA Process and the required environmental management on the ground during project implementation and operation. It is important to note that an EMP is a legally binding document and a person who contravenes the provisions of this EMP may face imprisonment and/or a fine. This EMP is a living document and should be amended to adapt to project changes and/or environmental conditions and feedback from compliance monitoring.

The purpose of this document is therefore to guide environmental management throughout the following life-cycle stages of the proposed development, pre-operation (planning and design), operation and decommissioning.

The following phases are addressed in this EMP:

- Planning and design (Pre-operation) the period, prior to the exploration phase, during which preliminary legislative and administrative arrangements are carried out in preparation for exploration activities.
- Operation the period during which the exploration activities will be operational.
- **Decommissioning** Should the development be closed; this phase will be implemented.

1.3 Environmental Assessment Practitioner

GCS has been appointed by Nangolo Trading Enterprise CC as independent environmental consultants to apply for the renewal of the ECC. This includes the updating of the existing EMP for the development. The EMP is to be submitted with the ECC renewal application to apply for the renewal of the ECC. The application will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry of the MEFT. The EMP will also be used by the mining team to guide activities during operation and decommissioning of the mine, to ensure that impacts on the environment are limited or avoided altogether.

Legal Requirements

The contents of the EMP must meet the requirements Section 8 (j) of the EIA Regulations (2012). The EMP must address the potential environmental impacts of the proposed activity on the environment throughout the project life-cycle. It must also include a system for assessment of the effectiveness of monitoring and management arrangements after implementation. Nangolo Trading Enterprise CC therefore has the responsibility to ensure that the proposed activity as well as the EIA Process conforms to the principles of EMA and must ensure that any contractors appointed by them also comply with such principles.

Table 1-1 below lists the requirements of an EMP as stipulated by Section 8 (j) of the EIA Regulations (2012).

Table 1-1: Applicable and relevant Namibian legislation and guidelines for the Environmental Assessment process

Legislation	Permit/Approval/Requirement	Contact Details
Environmental	Amendments (required every 3 years) to	Mr Damian Nchindo
Management Act,	this Environmental Management Plan	Department of Environmental
2007 (EMA) (Act 7 of	(EMP) will require an amendment of the	Affairs, Ministry of
2007).	ECC for these developments.	Environment and Tourism
Environmental Impact	Activities listed in Government Notice No.	Tel: 061 284 2701
Assessment (EIA)	29 of GG No. 4878 require an	
Regulations (2012)	Environmental Clearance Certificate	
(Government Gazette	(ECC).	
(GG) No. 4878).		
Water Act, 1956 (Act	Prohibits the pollution of underground	Mr Witbooi (Department of
54 of 1956).	and surface water bodies (\$23 (1)).	Water Affairs)
	Liability of clean-up costs after	Tel: (061) 208 7226
	closure/abandonment of an activity (S23	
	(2)).	
Water Resources	The act provides for the management,	
Management Act,	protection, development, use and	
2013 (Act 11 of 2013).	conservation of water resources; and	
	provides for the regulation and	
	monitoring of water services and to	
	provide for incidental matters. The	
	objects of this Act are to:	
	Ensure that the water resources of	
	Namibia are managed, developed, used,	
	conserved and protected in a manner	
	consistent with, or conducive to, the	
	fundamental principles set out in Section	
	66 - protection of aquifers, Subsection 1	
	(d) (iii) provide for preventing the	

Legislation	Permit/Approval/Requirement	Contact Details	
	contamination of the aquifer and water		
	pollution control (Section 68).		
Forestry Act, 2001	The Act provides for the management and	If there are trees within the	
(Act 12 of 2001).	use of forests and related	proposed footprint of the	
	products/resources. It offers protection	project area that need to be	
	to any living tree, bush, or shrub growing	removed, the Proponent	
	within 100 metres of a river, stream or	should notify the Forestry	
	watercourse on land that is not a surveyed	Department in Keetmanshoop	
	erven of a local authority area. In such	of the number and/or type of	
	instances, a licence would be required to	trees to be removed to allow	
	cut and remove any such vegetation.	exploration activities and	
	These provisions are only guidelines.	apply for a permit to remove	
		protected tree species.	
Minerals (Prospecting	To provide for the reconnaissance,	Mr Erasmus Shivolo	
and Mining) Act, 1992	prospecting and mining for, and disposal	Ministry of Mines and Energy	
(Act 33 of 1992).	of, and the exercise of control over, Mining Commissioner		
	minerals in Namibia; and to provide for	Tel: 061 -284 8167	
	matters incidental thereto.		

1.4 Assumptions and Limitations

This EMP has been drafted with the acknowledgement of the following assumptions and limitations:

- This EMP has been drafted based on the scoping-level EA conducted for the proposed development of EPL 6669. No specialist studies were included as part of the assessment; and
- The mitigation measures recommended in this EMP document are based on the risks/impacts in the Scoping Report which were identified based on the provided project description and site investigation. Should the scope of the project change, the risks will have to be reassessed, and mitigation measures provided accordingly.

1.5 Report Structure

This EMP lays out the management actions for the proposed exploration activities on EPL 6669. The EMP addresses the following phases:

- Pre-Operational (Planning and design) phase the period, prior to exploration, during which preliminary legislative and administrative arrangements are carried out in preparation for the proposed exploration activities.
- Operation phase the period during which exploration activities will be operational and conducted by the Proponent and/or their contractors; and

 Decommissioning phase: the period during which the Proponent may decide to discontinue the operations of exploration and its associated activities.

2 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Nangolo Trading Enterprise CC (the Proponent) is ultimately responsible for the implementation of the EMP. The Proponent may delegate this responsibility at any time, as they deem necessary, from planning and design to operation and maintenance phase and decommissioning phase (if considered). The delegated responsibility for the effective implementation of this EMP will rest on the following key individuals which may be fulfilled by the same person:

- Proponent's Representative;
- Environmental Control Officer (ECO).

2.1 Proponent's Representative

If the Proponent does not personally manage all aspects of the planning and design, construction and operation and maintenance phase activities and decommissioning, referred to in this EMP, they should assign this responsibility to a suitably qualified individual referred to in this plan as the Proponent's Representative (PR). The Proponent may decide to assign the role of a PR to one person for both phases. Alternatively, the Proponent may decide to assign a separate PR for each component i.e. planning and design, construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning phase. The PR's responsibilities are included in **Table 2-1** below.

Table 2-1: Responsibilities assigned to the Proponent's Representative for planning and design, construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning phases

Responsibility	Project Phase
Managing the implementation of this Environmental Management	Throughout the lifetime of
Plan (EMP) and updating and maintaining it when necessary.	the project.
Management and monitoring of individuals and/or equipment on-	Throughout the lifetime of
site in terms of compliance with this EMP.	the project.
Issuing fines for contravening EMP provisions.	Throughout the lifetime of
	the project.

2.2 Environmental Control Officer

The Proponent should assign the responsibility of overseeing the implementation of the whole EMP on the ground from the planning and design phase to operation and maintenance and decommissioning phase to a designated person, referred to in this EMP as the ECO. The Proponent may decide to assign this role to one person for both phases or may assign separate individual ECOs to oversee EMP implementation during each phase. The ECOs will have the

following responsibilities:

- Management and facilitation of communication between the Proponent, PR and Interested and Affected Parties about this EMP;
- Conducting site inspections (recommended minimum frequency is monthly during exploration and bi-annually during decommissioning) of all areas with respect to the implementation of this EMP (monitor and audit the implementation of the EMP);
- Advising the PR on the removal of person(s) and/or equipment not complying with the provisions of this EMP;
- Making recommendations to the PR for the issuing of fines for contraventions of the EMP; and
- Undertaking an annual review of the EMP and recommending additions and/or changes to this document.

3 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN ACTIONS

3.1 Key Potential environmental Impacts to be Managed

From the EA, the following key potential impacts have been identified per project phase and are summarised in **Table 3-1** below. The full impact description is presented in the tables under subchapters 3.2 to 3.5 as well as in the Scoping Report.

Table 3-1: Summary of key potential environmental impacts per project phase

Pro	ject Phase	Potential Impacts Identified in the scoping-level
Environmental Assessment process		Environmental Assessment process
1	Planning and design	Design and planning failures.
2	Pre-operation	Biodiversity.
3	Operation and maintenance	Health and safety, soil, surface and groundwater contamination, wildlife disturbance, dust, noise, environmental degradation and social impacts.
4	Decommissioning	Loss of employment and soil, surface and groundwater contamination and loss of employment.

The management actions of the EMP aim to avoid potential impacts where possible. Where impacts cannot be avoided, measures are provided to reduce the significance of these impacts.

Management actions recommended to manage the potential impacts rated in the EA carried out for the proposed exploration development are presented in the following tables. The management actions were compiled based on the three project phases:

• Planning and design phase (pre-exploration) (Table 3-2);

- Operation and maintenance phase management actions (during exploration activities) (Table 3-3); and
- Decommissioning phase (Table 3-4).

The responsible persons at Nangolo Trading Enterprise CC should assess these commitments in detail and should acknowledge their commitment to the specific management actions detailed in the table of the next subchapters.

3.2 Phase 1: Planning and Design Management Actions

The management requirements detailed in **Table 3-2** need to be carried out before any tenders are drafted for the construction of services infrastructure while necessary preliminary legislative and administrative arrangements are made in preparation for the proposed exploration activities.

Table 3-2: Planning and design management actions

Aspect	Management Requirement	
Labour recruitment	Provisions designed to maximise the use of local labour should be included	
	within tenders concerning the:	
	A provision stating that all unskilled labour should be sourced from	
	local communities should be included within tenders concerning	
	the exploration operations.	
	• Specific recruitment procedures ensuring local firms enjoy	
	preference during tender adjudication should be included within	
	tenders concerning the exploration operations.	
	 Provisions promoting gender equality of recruitment should be 	
	included within tenders concerning the exploration operations.	
Biodiversity	All trees (a "tree" is defined here as an indigenous woody perennial plant	
	with a trunk diameter ≥ 150 mm) that occur within the development site	
	should be surveyed and not removed from the site.	
	 For trees that have not been registered and surveyed and will be 	
	removed, the Proponent should apply for the licence to remove	
	these trees from the Forestry department (Ministry of Agriculture,	
	Water and Forestry) in Opuwo.	
	• Large indigenous trees and protected tree species within the site	
	should be surveyed and marked with red paint.	
Environmental	The Proponent should appoint a Proponent's Representative (PR)	
Management Plan (EMP)	who will act as their on-site implementing agent. This person	
implementation	should be responsible for ensuring that the Proponent's	
	responsibilities are executed in compliance with relevant	
	legislation and this EMP.	

Agreements with the An access agreement needs to be made with those community community affected by members most likely to be affected by the exploration activities the activity in the area. This agreement should be communicated in a format that is understandable by the local community in the area. The agreement should include but is not limited to: Compensation agreements (if necessary). Agreed upon operating hours. A commitment by the exploration company for the rehabilitation of the site when exploration activities are decommissioned. Agreed upon access to the site. Commitment to the adherence and implementation of the EMP. The Scoping Report and EMP for reference. Archaeology The archaeological significance of the area is to be established prior to commencing with drilling activities on-site. This must be carried out as a desktop analysis and on-site investigation by a qualified Cultural Heritage Specialist. As such an archaeological reconnaissance survey of the Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) should be conducted before commencing with the assistance of a qualified Archaeological Specialist. This should be done in conjunction with the affected community particularly regarding the potential graves present on-site. A cultural heritage specialist should be appointed to attend the site during the exploration phase to ensure that activities do not impact on significant cultural heritage sites/artefacts/ graves. Once the exact locations of the drilling sites are determined, and should a heritage or archaeological site be uncovered, a chance find procedure should be applied in the following order: Stop work if operating machinery or vehicles; Demarcate the site with danger tape; Determine GPS position if possible; Bring the cultural heritage specialist to the site to advise on the minimisation of further impact; Report site location, findings and actions to the site manager; Visit site to determine whether works may proceed without damage to the finding; Site to be added to the project Geographical Information Systems for field confirmation by the archaeologist; Advise the National Heritage Council of Namibia and

request permission to remo	ove findings from the site and;
o Requirements for recover	y, packaging and labelling of
findings for transfer to a N	ational Museum.

3.3 Phase 2: Operational Phase Management Actions

The management actions for the operational phase during which the exploration activities will take place are listed in **Table 3-3**.

Table 3-3:Operation phase management actions

Environmental	Environmental Impact Management Actions Management Actions Manageme	
Feature	Feature	
Environmental Management Plan (EMP) training Monitoring	Lack of EMP awareness and the implications thereof.	 Employees appointed for exploration work must ensure that all personnel are aware of necessary health, safety and environmental considerations applicable to their respective work. The Environmental Control Officer (ECO) or the
	compliance.	 Proponent/Proponents Representative should monitor the implementation of this EMP. The Proponents Representative should inspect the site throughout the exploration at least every week. Monthly audits should be conducted of site activities by an external ECO.
Waste management	Visual impact and soil contamination.	 The exploration site should always be kept tidy. All domestic and general waste produced daily should be cleaned and contained daily. No waste may be buried or burned. Waste containers (bins) should be emptied regularly and removed from the site to the nearest municipal waste disposal site. All recyclable waste needs to be taken to the nearest recycling depot. A sufficient number of separate waste containers (bins) for hazardous and domestic/general waste must be provided on-site. Exploration workers should be sensitised to dispose of waste responsibly and not to litter. No waste may remain on-site after the completion of the project.
Hazardous waste	Soil and groundwater	 All heavy operation vehicles and equipment on-site should be provided with a drip tray.
	contamination.	All heavy operation vehicles should be maintained

Environmental Feature	Impact	Management Actions
reature		regularly to prevent oil leakages.
		 Maintenance and washing of operation vehicles should take place only at a designated workshop area.
Wastewater	Groundwater contamination.	 Use of the toilets instead of the veld must be strictly adhered to. If grey water can be collected from ablution facilities at the contractors' camp it should be recycled and: Used for dust suppression Used to water vegetable gardens or to support a small nursery in local communities (as and when agreed upon by such communities) Used to clean equipment All runoff materials such as hydrocarbons, wastewater and other potential contaminants should be contained on-site and disposed of in accordance with municipal wastewater discharge standards, so that they do not reach to ground or surface water systems. Wastewater (excluding sewage) should be drained into lined / impermeable catch pits, big enough for daily/weekly usage without overflowing. Water from these catch pits should be removed from site to the nearest wastewater treatment facility by an approved wastewater removal company. Groundwater impact awareness training should be provided to the employees involved in this project phase. An emergency plan should be available for major/minor spills and firefighting at the exploration
Soil	Soil contamination.	site during exploration activities (with consideration of air, groundwater, soil and surface water). • Spill control preventative measures should be put in
3011	SOIL CONLAMINATION.	 Spill control preventative measures should be put in place to manage soil contamination. An impermeable liner should be laid down on the site area in order to prevent contaminants from reaching to surrounding soils and eventually groundwater systems. Potential contaminants such as hydrocarbons and wastewater should be contained on-site and disposed of in accordance with municipal wastewater

Environmental Feature	Impact	Management Actions
reature		discharge standards so that they do not contaminate surrounding soils. Soil contamination should be monitored on-site daily by PR and monthly by ECO. ECO(s) should ensure that a sufficient number of drip trays are available on-site and that these are utilised in the event of leakage from construction trucks or vehicles. Contaminated soils on-site that may have resulted from leakage/spillage construction vehicles or equipment should be removed to a depth dependent on the size of the spill and replaced with clean soil. The contaminated soil should be removed and disposed of at a designated landfill site suitable to receive contaminated soil.
Biodiversity	Loss of biodiversity.	 Trees with a trunk size of 150 mm and bigger should be surveyed, marked with paint (readily visible) and protected. The Proponent should only remove trees within the actual footprint of the proposed facility's structures to be erected. Trees that are not within the footprint should be left to preserve biodiversity in the area.
Dust and noise	Nuisance impacts.	 The contractor(s) should suppress dust associated with drilling by using a reasonable amount of water. If feasible, wastewater should be treated to an acceptable water quality level, so that it can be used for exploration purposes (dust suppression). Noise levels during drilling activities should be kept within the allowable standards for urban areas. Noise levels should adhere to the South African National Standard restrictions on noise. Work hours should be restricted to between 08h00 and 17h00 due to the use of heavy equipment, power tools and the movement of heavy vehicles. Noisy equipment should be shut down when not in use (when not needed) to avoid unnecessary noise onsite. Workers performing noisy tasks should be rotated regularly (work on shifts) to avoid exposing them to excessive noise for a long period in a day. Workers should be equipped with personal protective

Environmental	Impact	Management Actions
Feature		
Water	Groundwater	 manage and update these records. How these stakeholders will be consulted on an ongoing basis. Make provision for a grievance mechanism - outlining how concerns will be lodged/recorded and how feedback will be delivered, inclusive of further steps of arbitration in the event that feedback is deemed unsatisfactory. Stakeholders need to be informed of the communication plan once drafted to ensure they are aware of the relevant communication channels. No wastewater / effluent should be allowed to leave
water	contamination.	 No wastewater / effluent should be allowed to leave the site premises without proper control. These should be disposed of in accordance with municipal wastewater discharge standards. Regular maintenance and monitoring of exploration equipment and vehicles should be done to detect early spills or leakages. An emergency plan should be available for major/minor spills at the exploration site during operation activities (with consideration of air, groundwater, soil and surface water). Groundwater impact awareness training should be provided to the employees involved in this phase.
Wildlife and stock animals	Disturbance of wildlife and stock theft.	 Working hours should be limited to during the day, thus enabling the wildlife to roam freely at night. The contractor is to compile a Non-Theft Policy to which all workers are to comply. All exploration workers are to adhere to the Non-Theft Policy.

3.4 Phase 4: Rehabilitation and Decommissioning Management Actions

The table below (Table 3-4) presents the management action for the decommissioning phase.

Table 3-4: Decommissioning phase management actions

Environmental	Impact	Management Actions
Feature		
Employment	Loss of employment.	The Proponent should inform the employees, of its intentions to cease the exploration activities and the expected date of such.

Environmental	Impact	Management Actions
Feature		
		The Proponent should raise awareness of the
		possibilities for work in other industrial sectors.
Rehabilitation	Groundwater	During the initial prospecting phase, only limited
	contamination.	surface rock and soil sampling will take place, and it
		is unlikely that any scars be left by this activity.
		Remove all waste, defunct samples, and any other
		remains from the site
		• Remove all sample bags, plastic waste, survey pegs,
		materials used for sump creation etc. from site at the
		completion of sampling schedule
		Site should be rehabilitated to as close as possible to
		its original condition
		Re-contour and rip the drill site before the site is
		finally decommissioned
		• Fill holes, rip up, rake track, and spread stockpiled
		topsoil back over the entire new tracks made, to
		allow re-vegetation
		Make sure that the ECO has a site inspection prior to
		and after rehabilitation to check rehabilitation
		efforts of each drill site

3.5 Recommendations for Monitoring

In order to prevent and minimise the above-mentioned environmental impacts, the following site monitoring measures need to be done:

- Monitor whether provisions as set out in the EMP have been complied with.
- Non-compliance is to be recorded and discussed at weekly site meetings and timeous remedial actions are taken.
- Should dust and noise complaints be received, abatement measures should be implemented such as water spraying, and continued communication should be held with the aggrieved parties until the noise and dust matters are clarified.

4 CONCLUSIONS

The actions included in this report will assist in the management, mitigation or avoidance of negative impacts on the environment as a result of the proposed activities. It is important that the Proponent thoroughly understands the commitments made in this report and that they are prepared to implement the actions discussed above on-site.

Should the measures recommended in this EMP be implemented and monitored, GCS is confident that the risks identified in the Scoping Report can be reduced to acceptable levels.

APPENDIX A: ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE FOR EXPLORATION DRILLING ON EPL 6669