

Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy
Mining Directorate
The Mining Commissioner
Ms. Isabella Chirchir
Directorate of Mines
Private Bag 13297, Windhoek, Namibia

Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy 9th of January 2025

Mining Commissioner
Directorate of Mines

09 JAN 2026

Private Bag 13297
Windhoek

Received

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF COMPLETE SUBMISSION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT STUDY FOR EPLs (9823, 9824 & 9825)

Dear Sir/Madam,

This letter serves to formally notify your office that the Environmental Scoping Assessment Study for Exclusive Prospecting License (EPLs) (9823, 9824 & 9825), held by Ms. Namasiku Bainga (the Proponent), has been fully prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) under application reference APP-005311, APP-005312 and APP- 005742.

The Proponent is required to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) through the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process within 12 months of the notice. Due to challenges in accessing farms to conduct the mandatory Archaeological Heritage Assessment under the National Heritage Act (27 of 2004), the Proponent requested and was granted a six (6) month extension by your office.

We happy to announce that the Environmental Scoping Assessment has now been completed and submitted to MEFT, the competent authority under the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007). The following key components form part of the submission:

- Scoping Report: outlining the proposed project, identified environmental sensitivities, and the scope of further studies required for the full EIA.
- Environmental Management Plan (EMP): preliminary measures to mitigate potential impacts.
- Proof of Consultation: including minutes and public notification adverts.
- Preliminary Site Map: with geographic coordinates and legend.
- Confirmation of Screening Notice receipt in compliance with Section 35(1)(a)(b) of the Environmental Management Act.

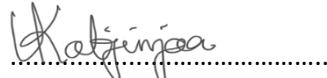
- CV of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).
- Consent from the National Heritage Council – pending.
- Declaration for Submission of Assessment Reports : duly completed as per MEFT's requirements.

The submitted documents are now simultaneously under review by MEFT. We will keep your office informed of all material developments and will comply with any further requirements from MEFT.

We kindly request your office to note this submission and to provide any necessary coordination or support as the EIA process moves forward, particularly in relation to the extended timeline previously approved.

Should you require any further information or documentation, please do not hesitate to contact us at email: UKatjinja@ssconsultant.co.

Yours sincerely,



Uaanao Katjinja

Environmental Specialist-SS Consultants CC

ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING AND ASSESSMENT REPORT:
FOR THE PROPOSED MINERAL EXPLORATION OF BASE AND RARE
METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, AND PRECIOUS METALS ON EXCLUSIVE
PROSPECTING LICENSE NO.9823

OTAVI DISTRICT, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION – NAMIBIA

ECC APPLICATION NO.: APP No. 250207005311

NOVEMBER 2025

COMPILED BY



SS CONSULTANTS

 info@ssconsultants.com

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The copy rights to this report are held by the Proponent the holder of the Exclusive Prospecting License No. 9823 (EPL-9823) and compilation of the report was done by SS Consultants CC herein referred to as ("Consultant/Author"). The consultant owns an environmental consulting company which was established in 2016, in line with the Namibia's Companies Act, 2004 (Act No.28 of 2004), with a company registration number SS/2016/13499.

DISCLAIMER

The author of this report has neither shares nor economic interest in EPL-9823. The report therefore is written without any conflict of interest. This is an Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) report, and the consultant also undertook field-based evaluation. It contains certain forward-looking statements which have been based solely on available literature as well as field data. SS Consultants will not be held responsible for any omissions and inconsistencies that may result from information that was not available at the time this document was prepared and submitted for evaluation. The authors' current expectations about future proceedings are subject to several risks and uncertainties beyond his/her control. Therefore, the author does not give assurance that such statements will prove to be accurate, and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Due care and attention have been taken in the preparation of this report. However, the information contained in this report (other than as specifically stated) has not been independently verified nor has it been audited. Accordingly, the company does not warrant or represent that the information contained in this report is accurate or complete.

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Signature			

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SS Consultants CC (herein referred to as the Consultant) has been appointed by Ms. Namasiku Bainga (herein referred to as the Proponent) to apply for and obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the proposed exploration activities for base and rare metals, dimension stone, industrial minerals, and precious metals on EPL No.9823 (EPL-9823 or the EPL). The EPL is located between Otavi and Otjiwarongo towns in the Otjozondjupa Region, covering a total surface area of 7,468.7708 Ha.

In terms of the Environmental Management Act No.7 of 2007, the proposed exploration activities fall under the listed activities that may not be undertaken without an ECC. An application for an environmental clearance will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the Ministry of Environmental, Forestry, and Tourism (MEFT) for evaluation and approval. Once the ECC is issued, the Proponent is expected to submit it to the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) for approval of commodity addition prior to commencing with the proposed exploration activities.

The proposed project will entail exploration activities on EPL-9823 which will include different methods (techniques) such as field geological mapping, ground electromagnetic and geophysical surveys, drilling and soil sampling in selected targeted areas. The duration of exploration activities is anticipated to be conducted over the license tenure which is valid for a three (3)-year period, once an ECC has been issued for the EPL. The duration of each exploration program shall be refined when detailed geological information is available through a desktop study report. Once the exploration is successful and feasible, exploration operations can potentially transcend into mining, and a separate detailed environmental impact assessment at this phase is to be undertaken.

Mining is an important source of government fiscal receipt and source of foreign exchange. Exploration activities play a crucial role in the economic development of Namibian local communities; generation of employment opportunities for local workers, from geologists and engineers to support staff in logistics and administration. Improved roads, electricity and other benefits associated with exploration programs increase the social welfare of the surrounding communities. While exploration brings economic benefits, it is essential to

balance development with environmental and social considerations to ensure long-term sustainability.

In accordance with the Environmental Management Act (EMA) (No. 7 of 2007) and its 2012 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (GG No. 4878 GN No. 30), the Environmental Assessment Scoping study is aimed at determining the potential environmental impacts arising from the proposed activities by doing a risk assessment. The findings in the EIA report and EMP will enable the Environmental Commissioner to make informed judgements regarding the exploration activities from an environmental perspective. The identification of potential included impacts that may occur during the planning, construction, operational and decommissioning phases of the project. To identify potential impacts (both positive and negative) it is important that the nature of the proposed project is well understood so that the impacts associated with the project can be assessed and the mitigations as detailed in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP). The potential impacts identified on the environment during exploration activities were related to dust, noise, health and safety, land use, waste management, impacts on soil and surface, ecological impacts, groundwater and surface water quality, heritage and socio-economic aspects.

Stakeholder consultations, including discussions with local communities do have critical contribution to this assessment, ensuring a balanced approach to development. The report concludes that, with the implementation of recommended mitigation strategies and compliance with environmental regulations, exploration activities can proceed responsibly while preserving ecological integrity. Founded on the conclusions of this ESA Report, it is thus recommended that an Environmental Clearance Certificate be considered and issued for the planned exploration activities. In implementing the proposed program, the Proponent shall consider the critical requirements; obtaining permits and licenses, effectively implement and monitor the specified management and mitigation measures.

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Appendix B: Environmental Management Plan (EMP)

Appendix C: Consent Letter or Support Document from Relevant Authority

Appendix D: Proof of Consultation (Minutes, Newspaper Adverts)

Appendix E: Confirmation of Screening Notice Received

Appendix F: Preliminary Site Map

Appendix G: CV of the responsible Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) – (Uaanao Katjinjaa)

Appendix H: Archeological & Heritage Assessment Report

Appendix I:Background Information Document (BID)

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ASL	Above Sea Level
BID	Background Information Document
DEAF	Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry
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 License
ESA	Environmental Scoping Assessment
I&APs	Interested and Affected Parties
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
MAWLR	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform
MEFT	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism
MME	Ministry of Mines and Energy
M	Meters
NDP5	National Development Plan
GG & GN	Government Gazette & Government Notice
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HHP	Harambee Prosperity Plan
RAB	Rotary Air Blast (drilling)
RC	Reverse Circulation (drilling)

GLOSSARY 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.
Environmental Assessment (EA)	The 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 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. 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 I&APs) 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.
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.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background Information

Namasiku Bainga (hereafter referred to as "the Proponent") applied for Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 9823 through the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) on 17 November 2023, in accordance with the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act of 1992. Following this application, the Proponent was awarded a "Notice of Preparedness to Grant" for EPL 9823 (Annexure A).

This notice grants the Proponent the rights to prospect and explore for base metals, rare metals, industrial minerals, and precious metals within the designated area. A condition of the grant requires the Proponent to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) through an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process within 12 months. However, due to challenges in securing farm access to conduct the required Environmental and Archaeological Heritage Assessments under the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and the National Heritage Act (No. 27 of 2004), the Proponent requested a six-month extension. This extension was granted by the Mining Commissioner (MC) on 28 August 2025.

In compliance with Namibia's environmental legislation, the Proponent is legally required to secure an ECC prior to commencing any exploration activities. The ECC is issued by the Environmental Commissioner within the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) following the successful completion of an EIA. Under Section 27(1) of the Environmental Management Act, 2007 (Act No. 7 of 2007) and the accompanying 2012 EIA Regulations, mineral exploration is classified as a listed activity that may not proceed without prior environmental authorization.

This EIA report serves to assess all potential environmental, social, and heritage impacts associated with the proposed exploration activities on EPL 9823. It evaluates the baseline conditions of the receiving environment, identifies sensitive ecological and socio-economic receptors, and prescribes appropriate mitigation, monitoring, and management measures. These measures are designed to ensure regulatory compliance and promote environmental sustainability throughout the project's lifespan.

More specifically, this document provides a detailed assessment of the impacts and outlines the necessary mitigation measures to manage them effectively. By doing so, the EIA furnishes MEFT with a scientifically informed basis for decision-making, ensuring that any approved exploration is conducted responsibly, transparently, and in alignment with Namibia's principles of sustainable development.

Through this EIA process, the Proponent demonstrates a full commitment to statutory compliance, environmental stewardship, and responsible resource development in the Otavi–Otjiwarongo region.

1.2 Project Locality

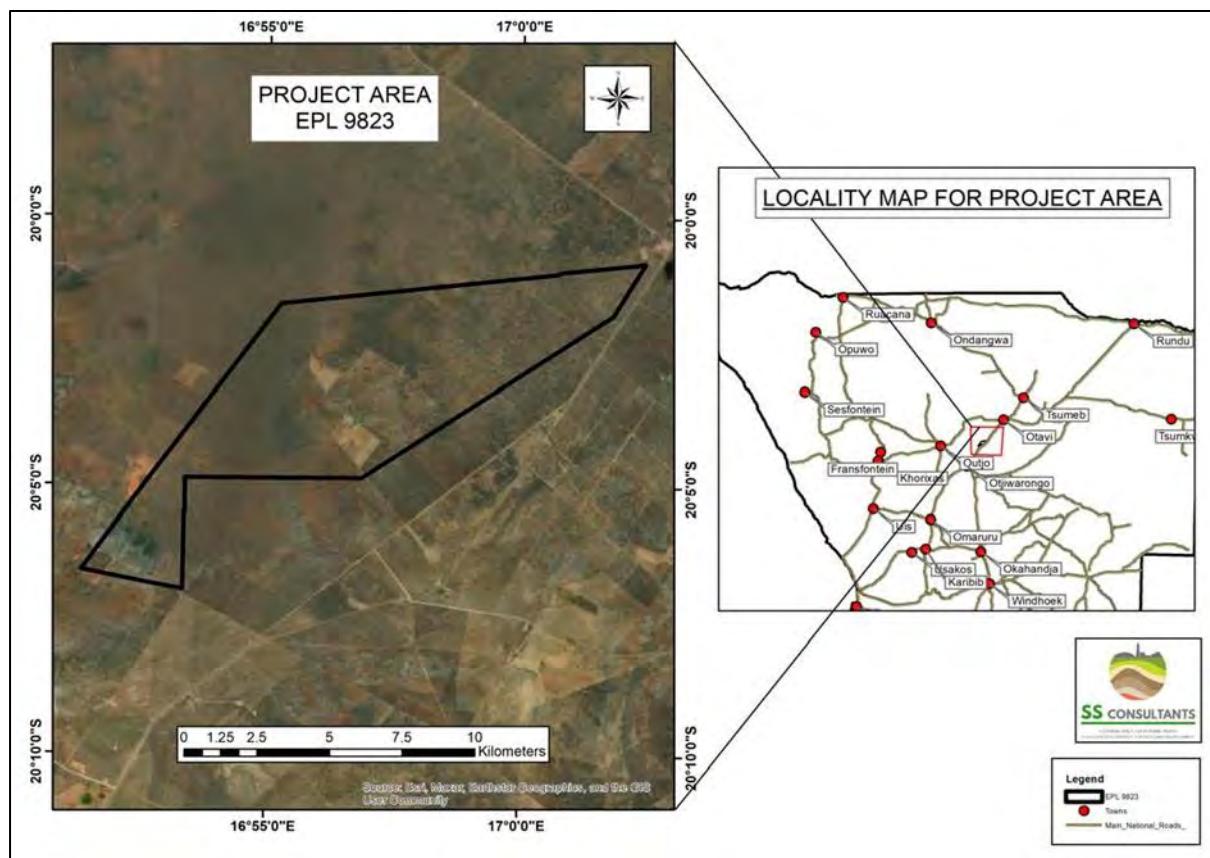


Figure 1-1-1: Locality Map for the Project Area

EPL 9823 covers an estimated 7,468.7708 hectares within the Otjozondjupa Region of Namibia and is strategically located between the towns of Otavi and Otjiwarongo, both of which function as the nearest major service, administrative centers as well as may facilitate ancillary support through labour, accommodation, supplies, and basic services.

Access to EPL 9823 is convenient due to its proximity to Namibia's well-developed national and district road network. The primary route to the area is the B1 national highway, which connects Otavi and Otjiwarongo and forms the backbone of regional mobility. Depending on the precise point of entry, the project area can be accessed from the B1 via a series of district gravel roads (D-roads) and well-established farm access tracks, which traverse the surrounding commercial farming landscape.

Common approach routes include:

- The B1 road between Otavi and Otjiwarongo is the principal national route.
- The D2514 or similar district roads branching from the B1, providing direct access to farming blocks adjacent to EPL 9823.
- Multiple private farm roads and internal tracks, used with landowner permission, which connect directly to proposed survey grids, sampling areas, drill sites, and temporary operational setups within the EPL boundaries.

These access roads allow for efficient movement of exploration teams, drilling machinery, water bowsers, fuel supply vehicles, and light-duty project vehicles required throughout the exploration phases.

The corner coordinates of the EPL are provided in Table 1-1, while the EPL locality details are provided in Table 1-2.

Table 1-1: Corner coordinated for EPL-9823.

Coordinates and Shape		
Coordinates		Shape
Official Area: 7468.7708 Ha		
Coordinate system: GCS Bessel 1841		
Order	Latitude	Longitude
Part 2		
1	20° 06' 56.56" S	16° 53' 21.02" E
2	20° 06' 48.71" S	16° 52' 34.03" E
3	20° 06' 35.19" S	16° 51' 20.88" E
4	20° 05' 07.62" S	16° 52' 28.33" E
5	20° 04' 48.27" S	16° 52' 43.47" E
6	20° 01' 36.83" S	16° 55' 15.57" E
7	20° 01' 02.04" S	17° 00' 43.66" E
8	20° 01' 00.40" S	17° 00' 44.82" E
9	20° 00' 50.09" S	17° 02' 25.99" E
10	20° 01' 48.49" S	17° 01' 48.43" E
11	20° 04' 51.62" S	16° 56' 51.93" E
12	20° 04' 52.34" S	16° 53' 22.92" E
13	20° 05' 29.35" S	16° 53' 22.92" E
14	20° 05' 29.01" S	16° 53' 22.06" E



Table 1-2: Summary of EPL-9836 location details

Location	Approximately 50 km southwest of Otavi
Area size	7,468.7708 Ha
Constituency	Otavi
Regional Administration	Otjozondjupa Region
Nearest Town	Outjo, Otavi and Otjiwarongo

1.3 Need And Desirability Of The Project

Mineral exploration is a foundational and strategic component of Namibia's national development agenda, directly supporting the economic diversification, employment creation, and sustainable growth objectives outlined in Vision 2030, the National Development Plans

(NDPs), and the Harambee Prosperity Plan. As the leading contributor to Namibia's economy accounting for approximately contributing 13.3% to GDP in 2024 (Chamber of Mines of Namibia, 2024). The mining sector is indispensable to the country's fiscal stability and socio-economic progress. Namibia is endowed with a diverse mineral resource base, including diamonds, uranium, copper, gold, lithium, and other critical minerals, positioning it to play an increasingly significant role in the global energy transition and technology value chains (Chamber of Mines of Namibia, 2024).

The economic justification for enhanced exploration is evident in the sector's substantial fiscal contributions. In 2023, mining delivered N\$6.861 billion in taxes, royalties, and levies a 55.9% annual increase driven largely by robust gold and uranium performance underscoring its role as a cornerstone of public revenue (Chamber of Mines of Namibia, 2023). While contributions moderated to N\$5.624 billion in 2024 due to softer diamond markets, the sector remained a vital source of government income, financing public services and development programmes (Chamber of Mines of Namibia, 2024).

Beyond revenue, mining is a major employer: direct employment grew from around 14,000 jobs in 2011 to approximately 19,000 by 2015, with indirect livelihoods supporting an estimated 100,000 Namibians (BDO, 2018). The government has explicitly prioritised the sector for job creation, with the ruling party's manifesto targeting over 3,000 new permanent mining jobs within five years by leveraging favourable commodity prices. Projects such as the Twin Hills gold mine exemplify this potential, having generated over 700 temporary construction roles and sustaining 400 permanent operational positions (Mining and Energy, 2025), thereby offering a tangible model for the employment impact of new exploration initiatives.

Furthermore, the proposed exploration directly supports Namibia's strategic shift toward supplying critical minerals such as copper, lithium, nickel, and cobalt which are essential for renewable energy technologies and for which global demand is projected to grow substantially. Forecasts indicate that cumulative revenues from these minerals could outpace those from fossil fuels by a factor of more than three by 2050, highlighting a transformative economic opportunity (BDO Annual Mining Report, 2025). This aligns with national development targets under NDP5, which identifies mining as a key lever for sustainable growth and industrialisation.

At the same time, the nature of global mineral exploration has evolved. The era of easily discovering surface-level deposits has largely passed, necessitating advanced, technology-driven methods to identify concealed or subtle mineralisation (Marjoribanks, 2010). With worldwide mineral consumption having risen from about 27 billion tonnes in 1970 to roughly 100 billion tonnes in 2017 and projected to reach nearly 185 billion tonnes by 2050 the need for systematic, modern exploration has never been greater (González-Alvarez et al., 2020). This project is designed to meet that need, applying contemporary exploration techniques to uncover Namibia's next generation of mineral resources.

Finally, the project is conceived within a framework of responsible and inclusive development. It emphasises Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), local procurement, community engagement, and strict environmental compliance principles demonstrated by leading Namibian mining projects. By prioritising local hiring, SME development, and transparent stakeholder collaboration, the initiative ensures that mineral discovery translates into shared and sustainable benefits, fulfilling both the economic and social aspirations of Namibia's development policies.

Therefore, the need and desire for this exploration project are firmly grounded in its potential to advance Namibia's economic sovereignty, generate employment, respond to growing global mineral demand, and align with national development goals all while adhering to the highest standards of social and environmental stewardship. It represents a proactive investment in Namibia's future, transforming mineral potential into lasting, inclusive prosperity.

1.4 Scope Of Work

The scoping study is carried out in accordance with the Environmental Management Act (EMA) (No. 7 of 2007) and its 2012 EIA Regulations (GG No. 4878 GN No. 30) to identify potential environmental impacts caused by the proposed exploration project. The Environmental and Impact Assessment (EIA) report together with the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) serve as essential tools for stakeholders and relevant Ministries to make well-informed decisions regarding the exploration activities, considering the environmental perspective. This report provides the following chapters in **Table 1-3**.

Table 1-3: A summary of the contents covered by the report

Description	Section of the Report
The background context, project need and or desirability	Chapter 1
The relevant laws and guidelines pertaining to the proposed project	Chapter 2
The public consultation process followed (as described in Regulation 7 of the EMA Act) whereby interested and affected parties (I&APs) and relevant authorities are identified, informed of the proposed activity, and provided with a reasonable opportunity to give their concerns and opinions on the project	Chapter 4
Description of the Biophysical and Social Environment	Chapter 5
The identification of potential impacts, impacts description, assessment and mitigation measures	Chapter 6
Recommendations and Conclusions to the report	Chapter 7
Reference List (Data Sources)	Chapter 8

2. LEGISLATION, POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

2.1 Applicable Laws and Legislations

This chapter focuses on reviewing the relevant Namibian legislation, policies and guidelines that should be considered and applied for the proposed development. This review serves to inform the Proponent, Interested and Affected Parties and the competent authority about the requirements and expectations, as laid out in terms of these instruments, to be fulfilled to undertake the exploration activities.

Table 2-1: List of applicable legislations, policies and guidelines.

LEGISLATION/POLICY/ GUIDELINE	PROVISIONS	IMPLICATIONS
Environmental Management Act (EMA) No. 7 of 2007	The purpose of this Act is to give effect to Article 95 (l) and 91 (c) of the Namibian Constitution by establishing general management principles for the management of the environment and natural resources. The Act necessitate that project with adverse environmental impacts are subject to an environmental assessment process (Section 27). It details principles which must guide all environmental assessments.	EMA and its regulations should inform and guide this EA process.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations GN 28-30 (GG 4878)	Details requirements for public consultation within a given environmental assessment process (GN 30 S21).	

LEGISLATION/POLICY/ GUIDELINE	PROVISIONS	IMPLICATIONS
	Details requirements for what should be part of the Scoping Report (GN 30 S8) and an Assessment Report (GN 30 S15).	
Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act No. 33 of 1992	To provide for the reconnaissance, prospecting, exploration, and mining for, and disposal of, and the exercise of control over, minerals in Namibia; and to provide for matters incidental thereto.	The Proponent should ensure compliance with the conditions set in the Minerals Act regarding exploration activities.
The Constitution of Namibia Act No. 1 of 1990	According to Legal Assistance Centre (LAC), there is no clear right to health in the Namibian Constitution. However, the Namibian Constitution as the supreme law, under article No.95 provides for matters relating to the environment. This article state that the Republic of Namibia shall- "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	The Proponent should ensure compliance with the conditions of the Act.

LEGISLATION/POLICY/ GUIDELINE	PROVISIONS	IMPLICATIONS
	provide measures against the dumping or recycling of foreign nuclear waste on Namibian territory.”	
Water Act No. 54 of 1956	<p>The Water Resources Management Act 11 of 2013 is not yet gazetted; hence, the Water Act No 54 of 1956 is still in force:</p> <p>Interdict the pollution of water and implements the principle that a person disposing of effluent or waste has a duty of care to prevent pollution (S3 (k)).</p> <p>Provides for control and protection of groundwater (S66 (1), (d (ii))).</p> <p>Liability of clean-up costs after closure/abandonment of an activity (S3 (l)).</p>	The safety of ground and surface water resources must be a priority throughout all exploration activities.
Water Resources Management Act No.11 of 2013	<p>The Act caters for the management, protection, development, use and 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:</p> <p>Certify that the water resources of Namibia are managed, developed, used, conserved, and protected in a manner accordant with, or</p>	

LEGISLATION/POLICY/ GUIDELINE	PROVISIONS	IMPLICATIONS
	conducive to, the fundamental principles set out in Section 66 - protection of aquifers, Subsection 1 (d) (iii) provide for preventing the contamination of the aquifer and water pollution control (Section 68).	
Soil Conservation Act No. 76 of 1969	The Act aims to prevent and control soil erosion and to protect, revamp, and conserve the soil, vegetation and water supply sources and resources, through directives declared by the Minister.	At a time of soil sampling, soil conservation must be taken care of, and management measures must be part of the EMP.
Nature Conservation Ordinance No.4 of 1975	To centralise and amend the laws relating to the conservation of nature; the establishment of game parks and nature reserves; the control of problem animals; and to provide for matters incidental thereto.	The Proponent should ensure that any activities done in the project area do not in any way trade-off the wildlife and the ordinance requirements are adhered to.
Agricultural (Commercial) Land Reform Act No. 6 of 1995 (Agricultural (Commercial) Land	To provide for the acquisition of agricultural land by the State for the purposes of land reform and for the allocation of such land to Namibian citizens who do not own or otherwise have the use of any or of	The Proponent should ensure that relevant regulations set

LEGISLATION/POLICY/ GUIDELINE	PROVISIONS	IMPLICATIONS
Reform Amendment Act No. 1 of 2014))	<p>adequate agricultural land, and foremost to those Namibian citizens who have been socially, economically or educationally disadvantaged by past discriminatory laws or practices; to vest in the state a preferred right to purchase agricultural land for the purposes of the Act;</p> <p>To provide for the compulsory acquisition of certain agricultural land by the state, for the purposes of the Act; to regulate the acquisition of agricultural land by foreign nationals; to establish a lands tribunal and determine its jurisdiction; and to provide for matters connected therewith.</p>	under this Act are always adhered to.
Forestry Act No. 12 of 2001	<p>The Act caters for the management and use of forests and related products/resources. It provides protection to any living tree, bush or shrub growing within 100 meters of a river, stream or watercourse on land that is not surveyed or even of a local authority area. In such instances, a license would be required to cut and remove any such vegetation.</p> <p>These provisions are only guidelines.</p>	Before removing any protected plant species within the proposed exploration site, the Proponent must secure a permit from the nearest MEFT's Directorate Forestry office

LEGISLATION/POLICY/ GUIDELINE	PROVISIONS	IMPLICATIONS
Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Ordinance No. 11 of 1976	This ordinance sets for the prevention of air pollution.	Measures should be set to ensure that dust and fumes emanating from exploration activities is kept at acceptable levels.
Public Health Act No. 36 of 1919	Section 119 states that “no person shall cause a nuisance or shall suffer to exist on any land or premises owned or occupied by him or of which he is in charge any nuisance or other condition liable to be injurious or dangerous to health.”	The Proponent and all its employees/contractors should adhere to the provisions of these legal instruments.
Health and Safety Regulations GN 156/1997 (GG 1617)	Details various requirements regarding health and safety of labourers.	
The Regional Councils Act No. 22 of 1992	This Act sets out the conditions under which Regional Councils must be elected and administer each delineated region. From a land use and project planning point of view, their duties include, as described in section 28 “to undertake the planning of the development of the region for which it has been established with a view to physical, social and economic characteristics, urbanisation patterns, natural resources,	The relevant Regional Councils are considered to be I&APs and must be consulted during the Environmental Assessment (EA) process.

LEGISLATION/POLICY/ GUIDELINE	PROVISIONS	IMPLICATIONS
	<p>economic development potential, infrastructure, land utilisation pattern and sensitivity of the natural environment.”</p> <p>The main objective of this Act is to initiate, supervise, manage, and evaluate development.</p>	<p>The Otjozondjupa Town Council (Otavi Constituency) is the responsible Regional Authority of the area in which the proposed activity will be undertaken, therefore should be consulted for this EA.</p>
Labour Act No. 6 of 1992	<p>Ministry of Labour (MOL) aim to ensure harmonious labour relations through promoting social justice, occupational health and safety and enhanced labour market services for the benefit of all Namibians. This ministry insures effective implementation of the Labour Act no. 6 of 1992.</p>	<p>The Proponent should ensure that the proposed activity does not compromise the safety and welfare of workers.</p>
Best Practice Guide: Environmental Principles for Mining in Namibia- Exploration	<p>Outlines the regulatory and legislative requirements for exploration in Namibia.</p> <p>Serves as a guiding framework for the exploration phase of the mining life cycle.</p>	<p>The Proponent should be guided by this framework for best practice mining and exploration activities in Namibia.</p>

LEGISLATION/POLICY/ GUIDELINE	PROVISIONS	IMPLICATIONS
National Heritage Act (27 of 2004)	<p>Part V Section 46 of the Act prohibits removal, damage, alteration, or excavation of heritage sites or remains. Section 48 sets out the procedure for application and granting of permits such as might be required in the event of damage to a protected site occurring as an inevitable result of development. Section 51 (3) sets out the requirements for impact assessment. Part VI Section 55 Paragraphs 3 and 4 require that any person who discovers an archaeological site should notify the National Heritage Council. Heritage sites or remains are defined in Part 1, Definitions 1, as “any remains of human habitation or occupation that are 50 or more years old found on or beneath the surface”.</p>	<p>The project must ensure that no heritage resources are damaged and/or removed during its operations. All protected heritage resources (e.g., human remains, paintings etc.) discovered, need to be reported immediately to the National Heritage Council (NHC) and require a permit from the NHC before they may be removed and/or relocated.</p>

Table 2-2: List of applicable international legislations to which Namibia is a signatory.

LEGISLATIONS	PROVISIONS
Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the Ozone Layer – 1997	<p>The agreement was designed to stop the production and import of ozone depleting substances and reduce their concentration in the atmosphere. Its objectives are to promote cooperation on the adverse effects of human activities on the ozone layer, including projects that require environmental assessments.</p>
The Rio de Janeiro Convention on Biological Diversity - 1992	<p>Article 14 of the Convention on Biological Diversity, titled Impact Assessment and Minimizing Adverse Impacts, establishes that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Each Contracting Party, as far as possible and as appropriate, shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce appropriate procedures requiring environmental impact assessment of its proposed projects that are likely to have significant adverse effects on biological diversity with a view to avoiding or minimizing such effects and, where appropriate, allow for public participation in such procedures; Introduce appropriate arrangements to ensure that the environmental consequences of its programs and policies that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on biological diversity are duly taken into account.

LEGISLATIONS	PROVISIONS
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change – 1992	Principle 17 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development states that: “Environmental impact assessment, as a national instrument, shall be undertaken for proposed activities that are likely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment and are subject to a decision of a competent national authority.

Table 2-3: Regulatory authorities responsible for environmental protection and management.

AGENCY	RESPONSIBILITY
Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT)	Issue 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 (CA) responsible for granting authorisations. The Minerals Prospecting and Mining Act No.33 of 1992 approves and regulates mineral rights in relation to exploration,

AGENCY	RESPONSIBILITY
	reconnaissance, prospecting, small scale mining, mineral exploration, large-scale mining, and transfers of mineral licence

Table 2-4: Applicable permits to the proposed project.

PERMITS/CERTIFICATES	ACTIVITY	VALIDITY	REGULATING AUTHORITY
Environmental Clearance Certificate	Regulates prospecting and exploration activities from the environmental management perspective	Three years and should be renewed as long as the project is continuing.	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT): Department of Environmental Affairs (Environmental Commissioner)
Exclusive Prospecting License	Mineral rights ownership and authorization	Three years	Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME): Directorate of Mines (Mining Commissioner)
Notification of Intention to drill (groundwater)	Submitted prior to drilling	Permit dependent	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR): Department of Water Affairs
Water Abstraction	Regulates ground water abstraction	2-5 years	MAWLR: Department of Water Affairs (Water Law Administration Policy Division)
Wastewater (effluent) handling and discharge	Regulates the handling and disposal of wastewater in the environment	2 years or as stipulated	MAWLR: Department of Water Affairs (Water Environment Division)

PERMITS/CERTIFICATES	ACTIVITY	VALIDITY	REGULATING AUTHORITY
Fuel Storage onsite (Consumer installation certificate)	Regulates the storage of fuel onsite in the volume of 600litres or more.		MME: Directorate of Petroleum Affairs (Petroleum Commissioner)

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

3.1 Introduction

The proposed project will commence with a mineral prospecting phase, which will serve as the foundation for any subsequent exploration activities, should the initial findings indicate favourable mineral potential. The primary objective of this phase is to systematically identify, confirm, and assess the presence of mineral resources within the licence area, including but not limited to dimension stone, base and rare metals, industrial minerals, and precious metals.

The prospecting programme is designed to generate a robust baseline dataset comprising geological, geochemical, and geophysical information. This information will be critical in guiding decision-making on the viability, focus, and scale of further exploration activities within the Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) area.

Exploration activities will be carried out using a combination of non-invasive and selective invasive methods, implemented in a phased and environmentally responsible manner. Non-invasive techniques will include remote sensing analysis, detailed geological field mapping, ground-based geophysical surveys, and systematic surface soil and rock sampling. These methods will allow for the identification of priority target zones while minimising disturbance to the receiving environment.

Should the results of the initial prospecting phase justify further investigation, more focused and site-specific invasive techniques may be undertaken. These may include test pitting, trenching, reverse circulation (RC) drilling and/or diamond drilling. All invasive activities will be confined to clearly delineated areas and conducted in accordance with approved environmental management measures to ensure impacts are effectively controlled, mitigated, and rehabilitated.

These activities are designed to minimise disturbance while ensuring that sufficient geological data is collected for evaluation.

It is anticipated that the exploration lifecycle may extend up to seven (7) years, depending on results and findings. The project is divided into three main phases:

- Pre-Development Phase – includes permitting, securing the Environmental Clearance Certificate, concluding land access agreements, stakeholder consultation, site planning and mobilisation preparation.
- Exploration Phase – where active geophysical surveys, sampling, trenching, and drilling activities will be undertaken to identify and assess mineral deposits.
- Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Phase – includes closure of exploration sites, removal of all temporary structures, backfilling and reshaping of disturbed areas, topsoil replacement and re-vegetation in line with the National Policy on the Prospecting and Mining of Mineral Resources and best practice rehabilitation standards.

Prior to mobilising to site and undertaking any form of ground disturbance on EPL 9823, the Proponent is legally obliged to implement measures that ensure environmental protection. Where the licence overlaps with privately owned farmland or portions of farms, land access and use agreements will be formalised with the affected landowners in accordance with Section 52(1)(a) of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act No. 33 of 1992. These agreements will clearly define access rights, permitted activities, areas of exclusion (if any), compensation arrangements where applicable, and responsibilities relating to rehabilitation.

The EPL area is well served by existing infrastructure, including nearby road networks, water supply systems, electricity lines and telecommunications networks, which will be utilised where possible and where legally permitted

Specialist geological consultants, geophysicists and registered drilling contractors will be engaged throughout the various stages of the exploration programme. The project also presents an opportunity for local employment, particularly from nearby towns such as Otavi, Otjiwarongo, Kalkfel, Kombat and Okakarara, and temporary site camps or local accommodation will be used depending on the scale and location of operations.

Should economically viable mineral deposits be identified and confirmed, the Proponent may apply for conversion of the EPL into one or more mining licences, subject to further environmental assessments, feasibility studies and approval from both MME and MEFT. Successful development could contribute to long-term employment, infrastructure

investment, wealth creation and national economic growth through responsible mineral extraction.

All exploration activities will only commence after the ECC has been issued, and strict compliance with all environmental conditions, monitoring requirements, and mitigation measures outlined in the EIA and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) will be maintained throughout the life of the project.

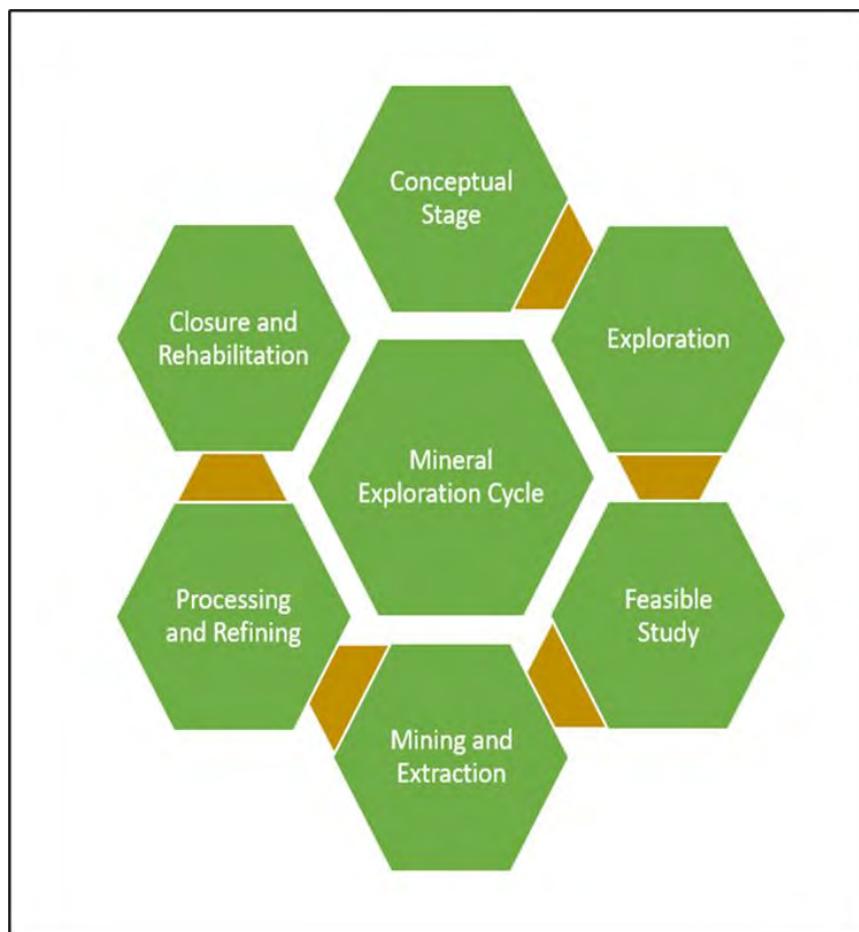


Figure 3-1: The Mineral Exploration Cycle, Adapted from the Association of Mineral Exploration, 2013

3.2 Objectives of the Project

- a. Minimize environmental disruption through sustainable prospection and exploration practices.
- b. Identify potential mineral deposits through exploration techniques like geological mapping, geophysical surveys and geochemical surveys.
- c. Assess the viability of mineral extraction through metallurgy.

The above shall be elaborated in much more detail in the following subsections

3.3 The Assessment Process

This preliminary assessment aims to examine the existing data, identify the gaps that need to be addressed and identify, predict, evaluate and mitigate the potential impacts of the proposed project on the natural and human receiving environment. The assessment procedure and any follow-up studies must apply environmental management concepts to the suggested initiatives; lessen the project's negative effects and amplify its favourable ones; offer a means of presenting the results of the evaluation process to the appropriate authorities for decision-making, as well as a chance for the public to meaningfully consult on the environmental effects of the proposed project. The process followed in assessment is illustrated in **Figure 3-1** below.

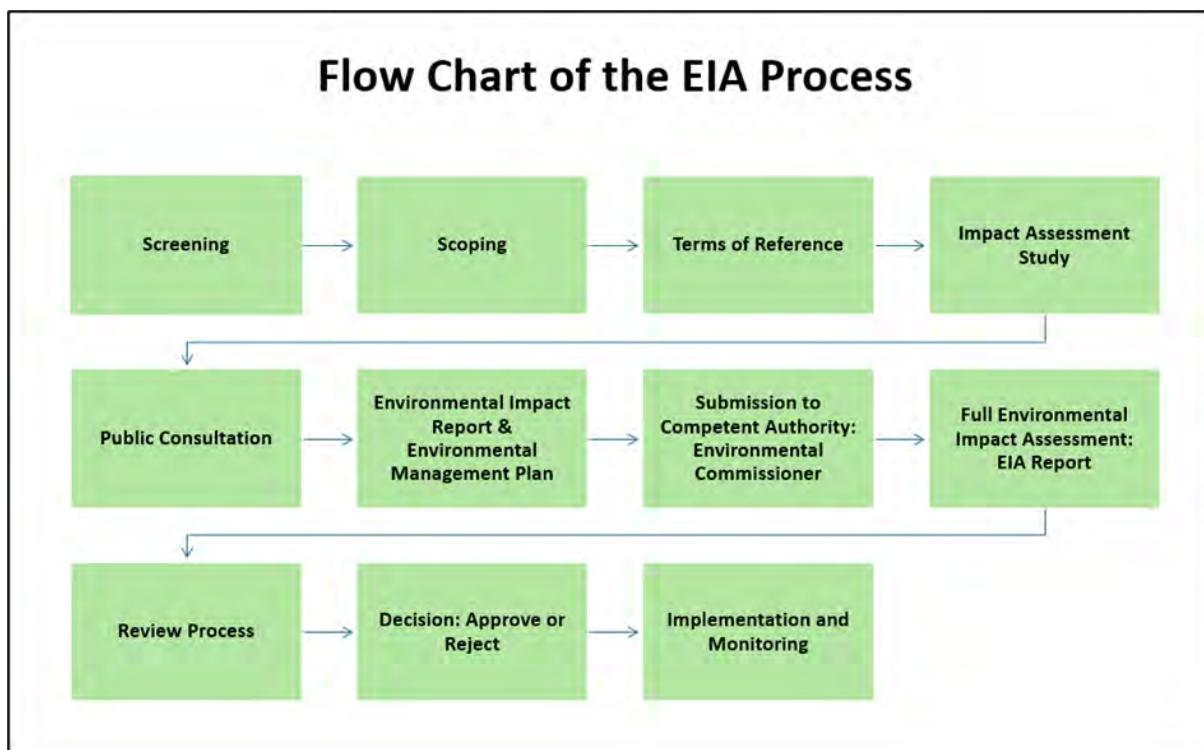


Figure 3-2: Flow chart of the EIA process in Namibia as adopted from MEFT, 2008.

3.4 Conceptual Phase (Pre-Development)

3.4.1 Consultation and Land Access permission

Consultations with all the landowners, users and community and government stakeholders will commence to introduce the Proponent, to explain the purpose and stage of the proposed

exploration.

Regarding land use and permitting, the Proponent is required to secure a signed agreement from the affected landowners or occupiers of land to gain access to the areas of interest for prospecting and exploration investigations as per the Section 52 of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act No. 33 of 1992 and Section 2.2.3 of the Minerals Policy of Namibia.

3.4.2 The Minerals Act: Land Use and Permitting

The Proponent is required to secure a signed agreement from the affected landowners or occupiers of land to gain access to the areas of interest for prospecting and exploration investigations as per the Section 52 of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act No. 33 of 1992 and Section 2.2.3 of the Minerals Policy of Namibia.

1. Section 52 (1) The holder of mineral licence shall not exercise any rights conferred upon such holder by this Act or under any terms and conditions of such mineral licence –

(a) In, on or under any and until such time as such holder has entered into an agreement in writing with the owner of such land containing terms and conditions relating to the payment of compensation, or the owner of such land has in writing waived any right to such compensation and has submitted a copy of such agreement or waiver to the Commissioner.

Section 2.2.3 of the Draft Minerals Policy of Namibia states that the License Holder and/or mineral explorers currently have to negotiate a contract with landowners to gain access for exploration or mining purposes.

3.4.3 Induction on Health and Safety

All project personnel should receive a detailed induction upon joining the project and on a regular basis, if necessary, refresher training should be provided. Project workers should be inducted with an awareness training of the risks of mishandling equipment and materials on site and health & safety risk associated with their respective jobs.

3.5 Exploration Methods

The planned exploration works are estimated to last for the duration of the EPL tenure which is three (3) years. The project will include a variety of prospecting and exploration techniques. The early phase, regional exploration, normally comprises a mixture of non-invasive

techniques such as desktop studies, remote sensing (satellite imagery), reviewing of existing geological maps and historical drilling data, Field evaluation and sampling, geological mapping, geochemical soil sampling and ground geophysics and invasive work such as trenching, pitting and drilling.

The proposed activities will entail both non-invasive and invasive exploration methods. Non-invasive exploration methods usually include desktop study, airborne geophysics and geological field mapping whereas invasive exploration methods include more destructive methods such as ground geophysical survey, surface sampling, reverse circulation or diamond drilling and pitting/trenching.

3.5.1 Non-Invasive

The proponent intends to adopt a systematic prospecting approach starting with stakeholder engagement, desktop study, field evaluation, magnetic data interpretation, and geological mapping, The proposed activities are summarized as follows:

- Stakeholders' engagement: engagement with landowners for accessibility to the license area and investigate the infrastructure in support of the project and socioeconomic environment.
- Desktop study: the exploration program will commence with a review of geological maps and historical drilling and/ or quarrying data for the area, if any.
- Field Evaluation: the field evaluation is to be carried out by a qualified geologist, aimed at locating suitable host rock outcrops in the field.
- Airbourne geophysical data interpretation: purchase, processing, and interpretation of existing seismic, radiometric, magnetic, electromagnetic and gravity data from the Geological Survey of Namibia to identify resource without ground penetration.
- Drone surveys: this survey will provide high-resolution 3D maps, as well as Hyperspectral & Multispectral Imaging.
- Geological Mapping: is the process of creating detailed representations (maps) of the Earth's surface to show the distribution, composition, age, and relationships of rocks, sediments, faults, and other geological features. It involves fieldwork, remote sensing, and laboratory analysis to document and interpret geological formations. Where field evaluation indicates a potentially economical viable deposit, detailed geological

mapping will be conducted by means of mapping transversely across exposed/cleaned segments of the rock unit. The mapping is aimed at delineating major geological structures such as fault and shear zones (zones of weakness), the extent of veins, as well as further delineation of fracture/ discontinuity frequencies.

Collectively, all the above will result in the production of a refined and detailed geological map for the targeted sites. This phase will last between six (6) to twelve (12) months.

3.5.2 Invasive Technique (Detailed exploration)

invasive methods like trenching, pitting, sampling and drilling will only be employed depending on the positivity of non-invasive technique outcomes.

These techniques will execute the following based on the assessment in the EIA Report:

- Geochemical sampling method is a systematic measure one or more chemical properties aimed at identifying content of some elements or group of elements in rock, soil, streams sediments or in water.
- Laboratory analysis of all the samples collected and interpretation of the results and delineating of potential targets for further infill sampling.
- Further infill geochemical sampling aimed at verifying the prospectivity of the target/s delineated during the initial surveys.
- Ground geophysical survey involves planning, selecting a suitable method depending on type of mineralization model (e.g., seismic, resistivity, magnetics), laying out survey grids, collecting subsurface data using specialized instruments, processing the data to identify anomalies, and interpreting results for applications like mineral exploration or groundwater detection. While generally low impact compared to drilling, it can affect the environment through ground disturbance from equipment, vegetation clearance, and noise pollution (seismic surveys), potentially disrupting wildlife and ecosystems. Electromagnetic and resistivity methods may introduce weak currents into the ground, though effects are typically minimal. Proper mitigation such as minimizing survey footprint, avoiding sensitive habitats, and restoring terrain helps reduce environmental harm.
- Trenching/pitting involves excavating narrow trenches or small pits to expose and study subsurface geology, mineral deposits, or soil layers. The process includes site selection, manual or mechanical digging (using backhoes or excavators), logging

geological features, sampling, and backfilling or stabilizing the site afterward. While trenching provides direct, high-quality data, it has significant environmental impact.

- Drilling (last resort): involves penetrating the Earth's subsurface using mechanical rigs to extract rock cores or chips for geological analysis and resource exploration. The process includes site preparation including clearing and road creation, rig setup, drilling with techniques like rotary, percussion, or diamond core methods, sample collection, and well abandonment or restoration.

These techniques will take up to two years and will give insightful information based on the results as to whether there is mineral potential within the area or not, and whether to continue with the project or not. By the end of this phase, if the Proponent desires to continue with the project, they may launch a renewal application for the ECC and once renewed, they may proceed to conduct exploration on the license area.

If the need arises a temporary camp may be setup at suitable locations within the EPL area in line with the EMP provisions. The size of the exploration camp will be of very limited footprints during the exploration phase but may be expanded for the test mining and mine development phases in an event of a discovery of economic minerals resources and only phase 3 (exploration drilling) will require most of these services on a daily basis.

4. INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

The successful implementation of the proposed exploration programme will require access to several supporting infrastructure services, including water supply, electricity, road access, accommodation, and transportation at various stages. These requirements were carefully considered as part of the Environmental Assessment (EA). It is acknowledged that the demand for infrastructure and associated services will vary depending on the exploration techniques employed at each stage of the project.

During the initial, predominantly non-invasive exploration phase such as desktop studies, remote sensing, geological mapping, and surface sampling the need for infrastructure and services will be minimal. Activities at this stage will rely largely on existing access routes, limited vehicle movement, and short-term field visits, thereby reducing both environmental disturbance and logistical demands.

As the project advances to more intensive, invasive exploration techniques, including ground geophysical surveys, pitting, trenching, and drilling, the demand for infrastructure and services is expected to increase. These activities will require more regular access to water and power, enhanced transport logistics, improved road access where necessary, and accommodation for field personnel on a daily basis.

To accommodate these increased operational needs, a temporary campsite will be established within the boundaries of EPL-9823, as discussed in the preceding chapter. The campsite will be designed, constructed, and operated in strict accordance with the provisions set out in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP), with the aim of preventing pollution, managing waste effectively, and minimizing disturbance to the surrounding environment. Particular emphasis will be placed on limiting the campsite's spatial footprint, avoiding environmentally sensitive areas, and ensuring that the site is fully rehabilitated once exploration activities have been completed.

4.1 Water

Exploration activities usually require water supply. Water will be required for general usage, diamond-core drilling, domestic use and for dust suppression. The utilization of water from existing boreholes will be determined through individual agreements with landowners and

community members. All necessary permits and requirements for water drilling will be obtained from mandated authorities i.e. Department of Water Affairs (Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform [MAWLR]). Additionally, water used for drilling will be recycled to promote efficiency and conservation. The Proponent will need to enter into water supply purchase agreements with water supplier(s) from outside the Project area to truck and cart water for drilling to the Project Site.

4.2 Power

The projects' location towards established towns presents the option to source power from existing electrical connections. Alternatively, diesel power generation will be utilized, and the fuel will be stored in mobile fuel bowsers of small to medium sizes. The primary electricity demand will be for operating small machinery during the exploration process and, if necessary, providing power to temporary office blocks or containers. Refuelling of the drill rigs can be accomplished using Jerry cans or directly from the fuel bowser. All potential environmental impacts resulting from diesel power generation will be thoroughly assessed, and efforts will be made to explore alternative power sources. With an increase on the usage of the renewable energy resources (solar), the power supply required for drilling will be supplied by a diesel-powered generator or/and electric drive.

On the other hand, various machinery and equipment required for drilling have their own power supplies and or generators attached. Fuel (diesel) will be stored in a small mobile bowser where needed. The drill rigs will be refuelled either with Jerry cans or directly from the bowser.

In the long run, particularly during exploration drilling, renewable resources such as solar energy may be considered to ensure that no reduce of carbon emission is released into the atmosphere. This is also done to reduce soil and possible groundwater contamination from high volumes of hydrocarbons (fuels) used.

4.3 Road Access

To minimize environmental impact during geological mapping, sampling, and geophysical surveys, motorized access will be limited to the existing tracks. However, if new access routes are needed for drilling, they will be identified, marked, and assessed for environmental sensitivity before drilling commences. Prior to initiating exploration activities, the final

alignment of any new access tracks will be discussed and mutually agreed upon with the landowner or community members to ensure their input and address any concerns.

4.3 Human Personnel and Site Safety

The exploration project will employ a total of 6 (six) individuals at commencement, and it is set to increase, all of whom will be provided with appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) that will be regularly replaced or repaired to ensure their occupational health and safety. As a safety and security precaution, areas with high risk of incidents will be temporarily fenced off. Additionally, fire extinguishers will be equipped in exploration vehicles and at all drilling sites to handle potential fire outbreaks during exploration activities. All employment during the exploration phase will be temporary. Most of the workforce for the exploration project will be recruited from the surrounding towns.

4.4 Contractors' Accommodation

A temporary campsite may be set up for the exploration crew. If the accommodation camp is to be set up on a farm, necessary arrangements will be made with the farm/landowner/s. The temporary site camps will only be set up upon reaching signed agreement with and signed by the landowners/local authority and or occupiers of land. Therefore, agreements will need to be reached between the two parties (Proponent and affected landowners/occupiers of land or authorities) prior to the setting up of accommodation structures. Exploration activity will take place during daytime only and the exploration team will be commuting to the work site from their place of accommodation.

4.5 Transportation

Transportation will range from trucks to double and single cab 4 by 4 pickups for daily exploration activities and for personnel transport. The trucks will be used to transport the exploration services, materials and goods. To avoid major road damages, water trucking will be done once or twice a month. In cases where the project progresses, there will be drilling machines within the project area.

4.6 Domestic and Hazardous Waste

The domestic wastes (non-hazardous) are to be disposed of appropriately in designated waste bins onsite that will be regularly emptied at the nearest approved solid waste facility. On the other hand, hazardous waste, all vehicles, machinery and fuel consuming equipment will be provided with drip trays to capture potential fuel spills and waste oils. The waste fuel or oils will be transported to and disposed of at an appropriate facility in the nearest town equipped for the disposal of hazardous substances to ensure that the area is not polluted.

4.7 Resources and Working Team

To fully define the resources being explored, various geological consultants and contractors will be appointed during different exploration phases. Various exploration methods will be involved, and each method produces results that determine the next exploration phase. Therefore, a geophysics expert will potentially be contracted during exploration to conduct geophysical surveys whether it is on the ground or air. In addition, drilling will be executed by an appointed drilling contractor, and it is expected that they will have their own workforce (drilling crew). Furthermore, temporary employment will potentially be available for graduate geologists (2 positions) and geotechnical technicians (2 positions) for the purpose of geological mapping and geochemical surveys. It is anticipated that the workforce will be housed in temporary site camps or may reside in the nearest towns throughout the exploration activities.

4.8 Site Access

The EPL is located within the boundaries of a number of farms as such there are existing gravel roads which can allow access to the EPL. Access agreements would need to be negotiated and entered into between the Proponent and the affected farm owner

4.9 Services Infrastructure

Table 4-1: Alternatives considered in terms of services infrastructure

SERVICES	PROPOSED SOURCE	ALTERNATIVE SOURCE
Water	<p>Hauling water from other sources out of the project area.</p> <p>The proposed source will be used to ensure that the project will not cause any further depletion on the local aquifer water table.</p>	<p>Water to be obtained from boreholes located on the farms or communal areas – with farmer permission.</p> <p>Although this is an alternative, the farmers have expressed major reduction on the aquifer water table (lowered water levels) in the previous years, and hence the project will source its water from outside, preferably purchasing from the nearest willing local authorities.</p>
Power (electricity) for drilling	<p>Solar sources will be used to power the project. This is not only because it will reduce carbon emission but also because it will mitigate soil and groundwater pollution that could have otherwise developed from using a diesel generator at all times.</p>	<p>Electric drives and generators will alternatively be used in cases when there is no enough sunlight to enable solar power usage.</p>
Power for cooking	<p>Gas stoves will be used for cooking during the project activities.</p> <p>Using gas stove ensure that the contractors will not use any firewood from the area which would increase deforestation.</p>	<p>Firewood (purchased from permit holding suppliers) will be used in cases of emergencies (for instance when the gas unexpectedly gets finished). However, there will be no onsite camping. Therefore, personnel will continue to use the source of power used in their houses before the project. For out-of-town project skilled personnel, they will be accommodated in already established and furnished</p>

SERVICES	PROPOSED SOURCE	ALTERNATIVE SOURCE
		accommodation facilities. Therefore, they will not need firewood or own cooking sources.
Workers' accommodation	Local personnel will commute from the homes, if needed, a temporary campsite may be developed with precautionary measures in place.	Local personnel from the towns will not require accommodation as they will commute from their homes. Skilled personnel from outside towns will be accommodated in local established accommodation facilities. If skilled personnel prefer camping in town or at the nearest farm, permission will need to be obtained from landowner.
WASTE MANAGEMENT		
Sewage	Portable toilet – these are easily transportable and have no direct impact on the environment and ecology (if properly disposed). These are chosen at the drill sites.	Ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrine. This would be best suited at the contractors' camp.
Domestic waste	Onsite waste bins, regularly emptied at the nearest landfill is the chosen option. This will prevent an everyday drive from and to the nearest town for waste disposal, which can cause road damages.	Driving waste to the nearest town landfill which is Outjo is an alternative, but not viable as it can result in road damaging.
Drilling waste (chemicals)	Waste generated is to be transported to and disposed of at an appropriate facility in the nearest town equipped for the disposal of hazardous waste to ensure that the area is not polluted.	In cases of emergencies, organic chemicals will be used.

5. PROJECT ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

There have been diverse alternatives that are identified for proposed exploration activities. The most common and pivotal alternatives considered are the no-go option, location, services infrastructure, and exploration drilling methods. By definition, alternatives are “different means of meeting the general purpose and requirements of the activity” (Environmental Management Act (2007) of Namibia and its regulations (2012)).

5.1 No-Go Option

The “No-Go” alternative refers to the option of discontinuing with the project. This implies that no activities will take place on the EPL area, and none of the potential impacts (positive and negative) identified would occur. Moreover, exploration work will not be done on the EPL and the potential mineral ores present within the EPL will remain unidentified and with further exploration findings unmined. With the No-Go option, the key losses that may never be realized if the proposed project does not go ahead include:

- Loss of in-depth geological understanding of the site area regarding the targeted commodities.
- Loss of potential income to the local and national government through land lease fees, license lease fees, and various tax structures.
- Loss of foreign direct investment.
- Loss of potential employment opportunities is curtailed; hence, there will be no local, regional and national economic contribution from the project.
- Socio-economic benefits such as skills acquisition to local community members would be not realized.

Therefore, this alternative was not considered for the project considering the above losses. In the case where parts of the project site are considered environmentally sensitive and/or protected, one or severally sections of the site may be identified sensitive, thus, can be excluded from the exploration.

5.2 Alternative Project Location

No alternative sites were considered for this project because the decision to pursue exploration activities in this area was primarily based on geological assessments, previous exploration data, and indication of mineralization in the area. Several minerals of economic potential deposits are known to exist in the general area and linked to the regional geology of the EPL area. The Proponent intends to explore or prospect for all the licensed minerals groups likely to be associated with the regional and local geology. It is worth noting that when selecting a site for exploration, multiple factors are typically considered, such as geological characteristics, accessibility, existing infrastructure, and potential mineral resources.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy through its geological surveys and assessments, conduct studies to identify areas with potential mineral deposits. These studies involve geological mapping, sampling, and analysis to understand the mineral potential of different areas within Namibia. Based on the findings of these studies, the Ministry categorizes the identified areas according to their mineral potential, considering factors such as the type of mineralization, geological characteristics, and historical mining activities. This categorization helps in prioritizing exploration efforts and guiding potential investors in identifying areas of interest. The Namibia Mining Cadastral Map serves as a centralized database and visual representation of the mineral potential and existing mining rights across Namibia.

5.3 Rehabilitation and Decommissioning

Once the exploration program is completed, any damages or impacts resulting from the exploration activities will be addressed and rehabilitated in accordance with the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) requirements. The EMP outlines the necessary measures and procedures to mitigate and restore any environmental damage or disturbances caused by the exploration activities.

Once the exploration activities on the EPL come to an end, the Proponent will need to put site rehabilitation measures in place. Decommissioning and rehabilitation are primarily reinforced through a decommissioning and rehabilitation plan, which consists of safety, health, environmental, and contingency aspects. The economic situation or unconvincing exploration results might force the Proponent to cease the exploration program before predicted closure.

Therefore, it is of best practice for the Proponent to ensure the project activities are ceased in an environmentally friendly manner and site is rehabilitated by carrying out the following:

- Dismantling and removal of campsites and associated infrastructures from the project site and area.
- Carrying away of exploration equipment and vehicles.
- Clean-up of site working areas and transporting the recently generated waste to the nearby approved waste management facility (as per agreement with the facility operator/owner).

Further decommissioning and rehabilitation practice onsite will include:

- Backfilling of pits and trenches used for sampling.
- Closing and capping of exploration boreholes to ensure that they do not pose a risk to both people and animals in the area.
- Levelling of stockpiled topsoil. This will be done to ensure that the disturbed land sites are left close to their original state as much as possible.

6. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

6.1 Purpose of Stakeholder Engagement

Public consultation constitutes a fundamental and mandatory component of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, serving as a key mechanism for transparent, inclusive, and informed decision-making. Within the context of mineral exploration, public engagement exists along a continuum of increasing levels of stakeholder involvement, ranging from information sharing to active participation in decision-making processes (Chikova & Chilunjika, 2021). This approach recognises that early and meaningful engagement enhances project acceptability and contributes to better environmental and social outcomes.

In the extractive sector in particular, public consultation provides a structured platform through which Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are afforded the opportunity to obtain information on the proposed exploration activities, express their views, and raise concerns relating to potential environmental, social, and economic impacts. Inputs received from stakeholders assist in identifying site-specific issues, inform the assessment of risks and mitigation measures, and allow for the incorporation of local knowledge into project planning and design.

Public participation for this project has been guided by the principles set out in the Environmental Management Act (EMA) and its Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012. In accordance with subsection (2) of the EMA, the consultation process is anchored on the promotion and facilitation of community involvement in the management of natural resources, as well as the equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilisation. Furthermore, the process emphasises the promotion of inclusive participation by all Interested and Affected Parties, ensuring that decision-making takes due consideration of their interests, needs, and values throughout the EIA process.

6.2 Approach to Stakeholder Engagement

The approach taken for public participation is guided by the public consultation definitions and guidance given by the MEFT as per the regulation 21 of the EIA. Communication with I&APs about the proposed development was facilitated through the following procedure:

i. Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs)

SS Consultants CC identified specific I&APs in the region and immediate towns to the EPL, who were considered interested in and/or affected by the proposed exploration activities. In addition, notices regarding the project were placed in widely circulated national newspapers for two consecutive weeks inviting members of the public to register as I&APs.

Table 6-1: Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) in the region and immediate towns.

Interested and / Affected Parties	Needs and Expectations
Owners/Proponent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustained profitability • Good work environment
National (Ministries and State-Owned Enterprises)	
Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements
Ministry of Mines and Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethical behaviour
Ministry of Health and Social Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental protection • Transparency • Risk management • On time tax payments and other fees
Regional, Local and Traditional Authorities	
Otavi Town Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethical behaviour
Constituency office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transparency
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mutual benefits and continuity • Significant development of local environment and communities.
General Public	
Farm and or Landowners /Interested members of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethical behaviour • Transparency

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job security • No excess noise and emissions
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ii. A Background Information Document (BID)

A summarized document containing descriptive information about the proposed exploration activities was compiled (**Appendix I**) and shared upon request to the identified and registered interested and affected (I&APs) on the 23rd May 2025.

iii. Advertisements

Newspaper adverts were placed in local newspapers; the Confidante and the New Era dated (14th - 20th February 2025 and 21th - 27th February 2025) and (13th January 2025 and 17th February 2025) respectively, briefly explaining the activity and its locality, and inviting members of the public to register as I&APs and to register their concerns as well. The newspaper adverts are included in (Annexure D) respectively, briefly explaining the activity and its locality, and inviting members of the public to register as I&APs and to register their concerns.

To place a classifieds advert with us, please contact Ms. Fransina Fredericks
 • T: +264 (61) 246 136 E: fransina@confidanteamibia.com C: +264 81 231 7332

CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICE ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Notice is hereby placed to inform all potentially interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate will be made to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, in line with the provisions of Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007 and its Regulations of 2012.

Project Location: EPL 9677 is located 81 km southeast of Arandis and about 114 km east of Walvis Bay towns, in the Karibib and Swakopmund Districts, Erongo Region.

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 9677 exploration activities for base and rare metals, dimension stone, industrial minerals, precious metals, precious stones and semi-precious stones.

Proponent: Mrs. Tertu Nangula Katondoka

All Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
 • Ms. Uaanao Katjinja
 • +264 81 240 9124
 • UKatjinja@ssconsultants.co



NOTICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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Project Location: Omukwa village, Epupa Constituency, Kunene Region.

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for the establishment of mining activities for base and rare metals and precious stones. Proposed mining areas are 74211, 74212, 74213, 74214, 74215 & 74216 situated approximately 120 KM North of Opwu, when using the C43 road.

Proponent: Mr. Pelihama Tjindunda

All Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 28th February 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
 • Ms. Uaanao Katjinja
 • 0814779623
 • UKatjinja@ssconsultants.co



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Project Location: Otavi/Oljozondjupa Region.

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 9610 exploration activities for industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 65 KM, south of Otavi access is via D2433 and D2804 gravel road.

Proponent: Namasiku Bainga

All Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
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 • Ms. Uaanao Katjinja
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Project Location: Epupa Constituency, Kunene Region.

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 9610 exploration activities for industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 65 KM, south of Otavi access is via D2433 and D2804 gravel road.

Proponent: Bluliv Investment CC

All Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
 • Ms. Uaanao Katjinja
 • 0814779623
 • UKatjinja@ssconsultants.co



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Project Location: EPL 9083 is located 50 km northwest west of Usakos town, in the Karibib District, Erongo Region.

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 9083 exploration activities for base and rare metals, dimension stone, industrial minerals, precious metals, precious stones and semi-precious stones.

Proponent: Mrs. Tertu Nangula Katondoka

All Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
 • Ms. Uaanao Katjinja
 • +264 81 240 9124
 • UKatjinja@ssconsultants.co



NOTICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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Project Location: Henties Bay, Erongo Region.

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 10119 exploration activities for dimension stone, industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 21 KM, east of Henties Bay, access is via C35 and D1918 gravel road.

Proponent: Hushimi Quarrying Services CC

All Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
 • Ms. Uaanao Katjinja
 • 0814779623
 • UKatjinja@ssconsultants.co



NOTICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Notice is hereby placed to inform all potentially interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate will be made to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, in line with the provisions of Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007 and its Regulations of 2012.

Project Location: Otavi, Oljozondjupa Region.

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 9836 exploration activities for dimension stone, industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 18 KM, south of Otavi access is via D2805 and D2807 gravel road.

Proponent: Johannes Gideon Erica Sunday

All Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
 • Ms. Uaanao Katjinja
 • 0814779623
 • UKatjinja@ssconsultants.co



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Project Location: Otavi, Oljozondjupa Region.

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 9836 exploration activities for dimension stone, industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 18 KM, south of Otavi access is via D2805 and D2807 gravel road.

Proponent: Namasiku Bainga

All Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
 • Ms. Uaanao Katjinja
 • 0814779623
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Project Location: Otavi, Oljozondjupa Region.

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 9823 exploration activities for industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 50 KM, south west of Otavi access is via B1 tarred road.

Proponent: Namasiku Bainga

All Interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
 • Ms. Uaanao Katjinja
 • 0814779623
 • UKatjinja@ssconsultants.co



Figure 6-1: Proof of advert in the Confidante News paper, one out of four adverts.

iv. Communication with the Farm/Landowners (Email/WhatsApp Correspondence)

For convenient communication with stakeholders, SS Consultants allowed the concerned individuals to air their views prior to the public consultation in order to inform the I&AP on any communications with regards to the project. Mostly were local

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business owners (eco-tourism) who raised concerns ranging from water resources, land use conflicts and potential environmental degradation hindering their business operations.

v. Site Notices

As part of the public consultation process, site notices were strategically placed at key and accessible locations within and around the project area to ensure effective dissemination of information to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs). These notices were erected at prominent points such as farm entrances and gates within the licence area, as well as at public notice boards in nearby towns and settlements where community members are most likely to access public information.

The placement of the site notices was intended to maximise visibility and public awareness of the proposed project, providing details on the nature of the exploration activities, the location of the project, and the procedures through which stakeholders could register as I&APs or submit comments and concerns. All notices were displayed for the prescribed period in accordance with the Environmental Management Act (EMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012, thereby ensuring that affected stakeholders were afforded adequate opportunity to participate meaningfully in the consultation process.



Figure 6-2 Site Notices



Figure 6-3: Public consultation held at the Khoi Khoi Guest House with the registered I & AP.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL BASELINES

7.1 Introduction

The proposed exploration activities will be implemented within a receiving environment that is characterised by specific biophysical and socio-economic conditions, all of which may be influenced to varying degrees by the project. It is therefore essential that a comprehensive understanding of the pre-development environmental conditions is established prior to the commencement of any exploration activities. This understanding serves as a critical reference point against which potential impacts can be identified, assessed, and monitored throughout the project lifecycle.

Establishing a robust environmental baseline enables informed assessment of how exploration activities may alter existing conditions and provides a sound basis for evaluating the extent, duration, and significance of anticipated impacts. In addition, baseline information assists in predicting potential environmental risks, informing the development of appropriate mitigation and management measures, and supporting effective decision-making during both the exploration and post-exploration phases.

A well-documented baseline further facilitates the assessment of cumulative and residual impacts and allows for meaningful comparison during environmental monitoring and auditing. Ultimately, a thorough baseline assessment is fundamental to ensuring that exploration activities are implemented in an environmentally responsible manner and that any unforeseen impacts arising during or after the project can be identified, addressed, and, where necessary, rehabilitated in accordance with regulatory requirements.

7.2 Geology

7.2.1 *Regional geology*

The local geology of the EPL is characterised by Pan-African Neoproterozoic Damara Belt, an area known for its gold resources (Miller, 2008). This region comprises a Neoproterozoic fold, thrust, and metamorphic belt with a north-eastward strike, reflecting an accretionary rifting event during the Neoproterozoic period, which occurred between the Kalahari Craton to the south and the Congo Craton to the north. Notable related orogenic belts, such as the north-trending Kaoko Belt and the south-trending Gariep Belt, are located along Namibia's coast.

The rifting and accretionary processes began between 800 and 750 Ma and largely concluded by 600 Ma (Hoffman et al., 1996; De Kock et al., 2000).

The collisional environments of the Damara Orogen during the Neoproterozoic can be categorized into distinct belts, with the Southern Central Zone (SCZ) being of particular interest to this project. The SCZ, which dominates a significant portion of the region, is characterized by high-temperature, low-pressure metamorphism, numerous granitic intrusions, and intense deformation, marked by D3-domes (U.M. Schreiber, 2017).

7.2.2 Local Geology

The local geology for EPL 9823, as illustrated in the provided map and sheet explanations, transitions from modern surficial cover to the ancient metasedimentary rocks of the Neoproterozoic. From youngest to oldest, the geological units are described as follows:

The youngest units are the Quaternary Qs (Surficial deposits), which consist of unconsolidated sediments such as sand, soil, calcrete, and pan deposits that typically cover flat-lying terrains or ephemeral watercourses. Underlying these recent deposits are the much older rocks of the NDA (Damara Supergroup), a major Neoproterozoic sequence that underwent intense deformation and metamorphism. Within this supergroup, the map identifies the NSW (Swakop Group), which is characterized by a succession of interbedded carbonate rocks and schists. The primary stratigraphic unit identified within this group is the NKb (Karibib Formation), which consists of a thick succession of bluish-grey bedded to flaggy limestones and marbles, often containing minor amounts of metapelite or dolomite.

To help visualize this, imagine an ancient, grand marble staircase (the Karibib Formation) that has been weathered over eons and is now partially buried under a thin, uneven layer of desert sand and garden soil (the surficial deposits).

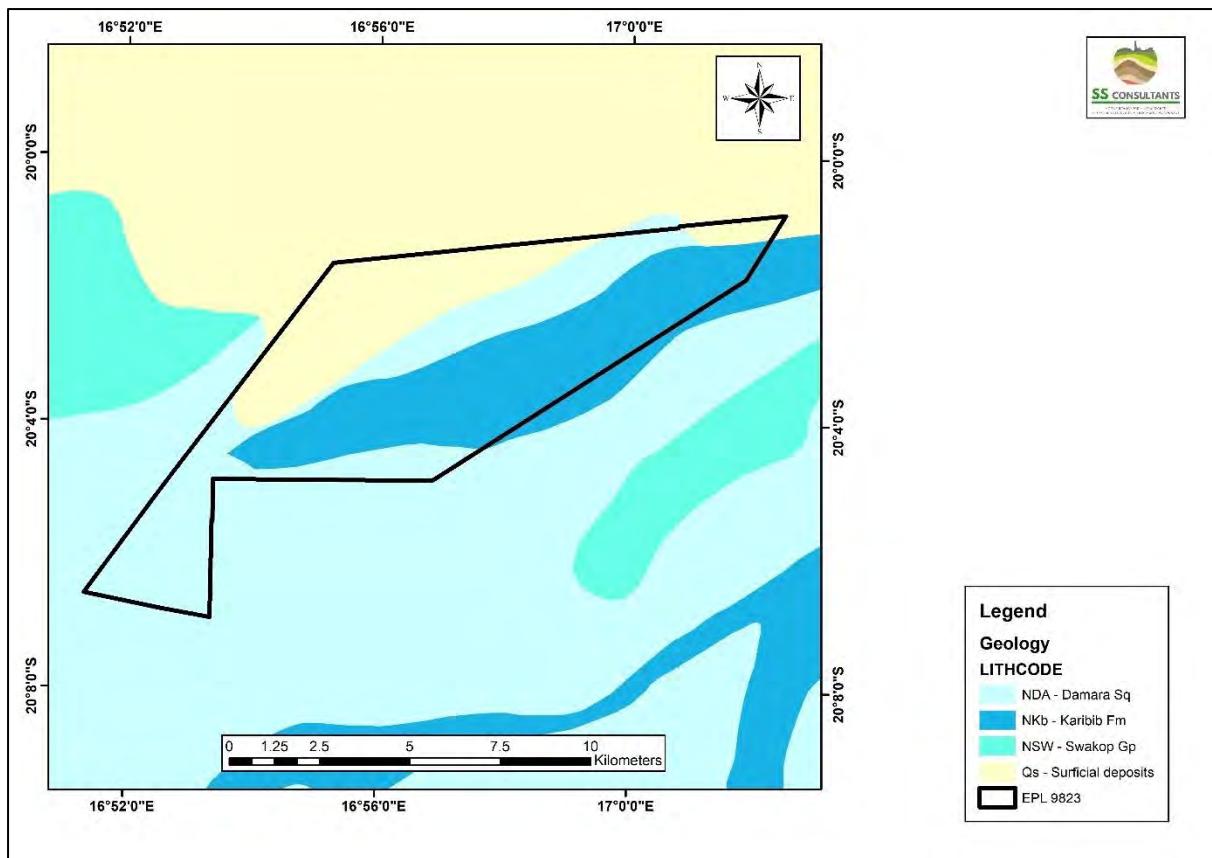


Figure 7-1: geological map for project area.

7.2.2 Mineral Prospecting

Gold mineralisation in Namibia is largely concentrated within two key geological domains, namely the Damara Province and the Otavi Mountain land, both of which are regarded as highly favourable for the occurrence of economic gold deposits. Within these terrains, gold is typically hosted by structurally complex settings, with mineralisation controlled by shear corridors, thrust-related deformation, brecciation, and hydrothermal fluid systems that developed contemporaneously with Pan-African tectonic activity.

The project area lies within the Damara Province, a broad mineralised belt that extends diagonally across central Namibia from the southwest towards the northeast. This province is notable for its intense deformation history, widespread metamorphism, and well-developed structural architecture, conditions that are widely acknowledged as conducive to orogenic gold formation.

Several of Namibia's most significant gold mining operations are located within this geological province, highlighting its proven endowment and ongoing exploration potential. These include the Otjikoto Gold Mine operated by B2Gold, the Navachab Gold Mine managed by

QKR, and Osino Resources' Twin Hills Gold Project, which has progressed into the development stage. The proximity of these deposits reinforces the regional prospectivity of the Damara Province and supports continued exploration within the project area.

7.3 Biophysical Environment

7.3.1 Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

The Otjozondjupa region in Namibia is rich in archaeological and cultural heritage. It has been the subject of various studies, including impact assessments for proposed developments. These assessments often explore the tangible and intangible cultural heritage resources in the area, as defined by Namibia's National Heritage Council.

The region is also known for its unique landscapes, soils, and vegetation, which have been surveyed in collaboration with research institutions. Additionally, landmarks like the Waterberg Plateau Park and the Hoba meteorite contribute to the region's historical and cultural significance. The areas to be affected by proposed explorations and mining activities within EPL do not contain any significant nor sensitive heritage and archaeological sites that fall directly within the areas. Therefore, it is at present safe to assume that the proposed prospection of dimension stones will not have a cumulative adverse effect on the Namibian heritage resource base.

7.3.2 Climate

The climate in the project region is characterized by a semi-arid climate that has little rainfall throughout the year, that ranges between 400-450 mm. June is the driest month, with an average rainfall of 0 mm. January, on the other hand, is the wettest month. October through March are the hottest months of the year. Temperatures during this time of year might have highs that range from 35 °C to 45°C. Winter generally runs from June until August. During this season, the minimum temperatures may range between 4 °C and 8 °C. The prevailing climatic conditions in this region are classified as a regional steppe climate. Throughout the year, precipitation is scarce in Otjiwarongo. This location is classified as BSh by Köppen and Geiger.

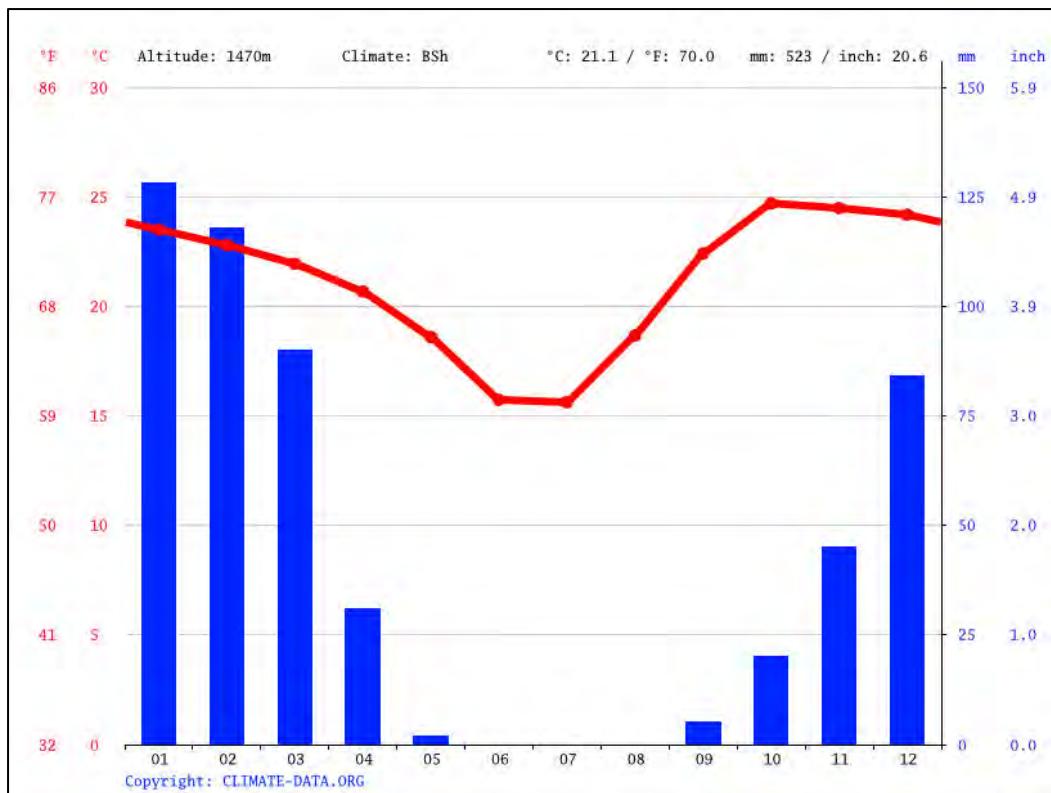


Figure 7-2: Otjiwarongo and surrounding areas Climatic Graph <https://en.climate-data.org/africa/namibia/otjozondjupa-region/otjiwarongo-2768/>.

7.3.3 Rainfall

On average, the region receives approximately 682 mm of rainfall annually. The wettest months are January and February, with February recording around 163 mm of precipitation. In contrast, the driest months are June and July, with rainfall as low as 0.1 mm. The rainy season typically brings short, intense showers, while the dry season is characterized by minimal precipitation.

7.3.4 Wind

Wind speed is expected to be low with more than two-thirds of the time lower than 2 m/s. The stronger air movements during the afternoons and evenings are the result of the ground being heated more in some places than others, in combination with the orographic effect of the mountains. During the winter months wind speed is slightly higher.

5.3.5 Topography

In the Otjozondjupa Region, the land elevation steadily rises between 1,320 and 1,850 m from sea level. The soil is poorly developed and thin, lacks appreciable quantities of accumulated

clay and organic material and is susceptible to erosion during the rainy season, especially in the beginning of the rainy season when vegetation cover is sparse (Mendelsohn et al, 2002).



Figure 7-3: Topography of the project area.

7.3.6 Water Resources: Surface and Groundwater

Hydrogeological conditions in the area are shaped by two primary factors: topography and karst processes. Surface water movement is not defined by permanent streams but rather by topography, with runoff flowing along natural depressions and drainage lines, becoming active mainly during and shortly after rainfall. This results in episodic and highly variable surface flow, with little evidence of sustained watercourses. In the wider Otavi Mountain Land, the landscape is strongly influenced by karst development, where long-term dissolution of limestone and dolomite along fractures and bedding planes has created subsurface conduits, sinkholes, caves, and springs. These karst features control much of the region's water movement, facilitating groundwater recharge and localized spring discharge.

Within EPL 9823, the hydrogeological potential is rated as moderate to locally high, supported by enhanced groundwater storage in porous and fractured aquifers. Groundwater availability is expected to be more widely distributed and structurally controlled in favorable zones, with water quality generally suitable for domestic use. Overall, groundwater development

prospects across the license area are considered moderate to good, particularly in structurally enhanced areas, making an understanding of both surface and subsurface hydrological processes essential for environmental management and impact assessment.

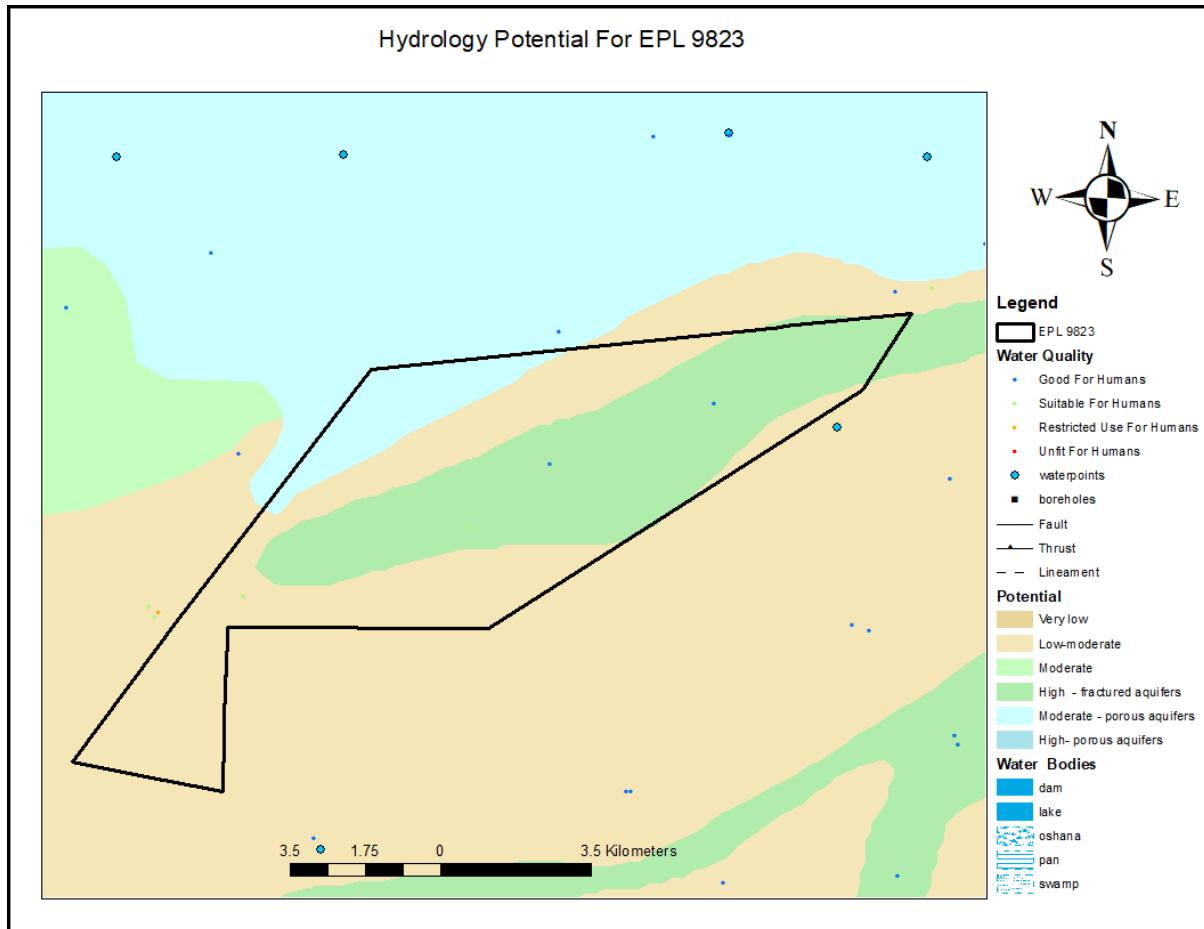


Figure 7-4: Hydrology potential of EPL 9823 .

5.3.7 Fauna and Flora

The project area is situated within a woodland-type vegetation zone characterised by a mosaic of woody plant communities dominated by shrubs and small to medium-sized trees. Vegetation cover across the area is generally moderate to dense, although its structure and composition vary noticeably in response to local topography, soil depth, and underlying geology.

In flatter areas with deeper sandy soils, vegetation tends to form well-developed thornbush thickets, while in more elevated, undulating, and rocky terrain, plant growth becomes distinctly more stunted and shrubbier. Shallow soils, steeper slopes, and increased rock outcrops limit root penetration and moisture retention, resulting in lower canopy heights and

greater dominance of hardy, drought-tolerant species, as described by Mendelsohn et al. (2002).

Woody vegetation within the area typically ranges between approximately 1 m and 3 m in height, with thorny Acacia species forming a dominant component of the plant community. Certain woody species exhibit a preference for higher-lying terrain and are largely confined to elevated or rocky areas, contributing to localised variation in species distribution. Calcrete- and rock-dominated substrates also support dense, but low-growing, thornbush assemblages adapted to nutrient-poor and arid conditions.

Overall, the vegetation reflects an ecosystem well adapted to semi-arid environmental conditions, where soil type, elevation, and surface geology play a central role in shaping vegetation patterns and ecological structure.



Figure 7-5 Shrubs and Trees found within the EPL

7.4 Socio-Economic Settings

7.4.1 Introduction

Otavi is a small but established town located within the Otjozondjupa Region of central Namibia, with an estimated population ranging between 4,000 and 5,000 residents. The town functions as a local service and employment centre for surrounding rural communities and agricultural areas. Accessibility within the region is supported by several district roads, complemented by an extensive network of farm access roads and tracks that extend towards the EPL area, facilitating movement for landowners, workers, and project-related activities.

The local economy of Otavi is strongly influenced by mining activities, which provide employment to a significant portion of the town's residents. In addition to mining, a smaller segment of the population is employed within the public sector, including municipal and other government services. Beyond the urban centre, livelihoods in the surrounding rural areas are largely dependent on agriculture. Farmers within and in the vicinity of the EPL rely primarily on their land for income and subsistence, with communal and small-scale farming forming a core component of local economic activity.

Whereas Otjiwarongo serves as the commercial heart and regional capital of the Otjozondjupa Region in central-north Namibia. Strategically positioned at the junction of the B1 highway and the Trans-Namib Railway, it forms a vital transport and logistics hub connecting Windhoek to the Golden Triangle towns of Otavi, Tsumeb, and Grootfontein, as well as to major tourist destinations such as Etosha National Park and the nearby Waterberg National Park. Its name, derived from Otjiherero, translates to "Pleasant Place" or "Where Fat Cattle Graze."

Municipally governed, Otjiwarongo traces its origins to a Rhenish missionary station established following an 1891 treaty between German missionaries and Herero Chief Kambazembi. A German military garrison arrived in 1904, and the town was formally founded in 1906, spurred by the construction of a narrow-gauge railway linking Swakopmund to the Otavi and Tsumeb mining districts.

The region also presents opportunities for nature-based and cultural tourism, supported by its scenic landscapes, geological features, and proximity to established tourism routes within the Otavi Mountain land. These activities contribute modestly to the local economy and provide supplementary income opportunities for some residents. Overall, the socio-economic

profile of the area highlights a mixed livelihood system that combines mining, agriculture, and emerging tourism, all of which are relevant considerations for the proposed project.

7.4.2 Land Use

The Otjozondjupa Region's whole eastern part and certain western parts are characterized by livestock farming on commercial farms, and in the communal. The main economic activities in the central and coastal area are light industry, farming, charcoal processing, mining and tourism (Ministry of Agriculture Water and Rural Development, 2011). This is also true for the farmers within the EPL area. Afore mentioned, the farmers use a large portion of land for communal farming and recently the charcoal activities.

7.4.3 Agro-Tourism

The economy of the Otjozondjupa Region is predominantly agriculture-based. Extensive livestock farming forms the livelihood of many people and is one of the reasons for the low intensity land use over much of the 105,460 km² the region covers, the total low population of (220,811 in 2016) as well as the low population density (about 2.1 persons per km²). Large parts of the region are covered by commercial and communal farms, mainly for cattle ranching. Tourist enterprises such as guest farms and hunting farms are also a source of income in the area. Charcoal production for export has grown steadily in the area. Tourism is another key economic driver, largely centered on the town's proximity to the Waterberg Plateau Park. Otjiwarongo is also home to the internationally recognized Cheetah Conservation Fund and lies near the Africat Foundation's Okonjima facility, a cheetah and leopard rehabilitation centre about 50 km away. Additionally, the town hosts a CITES-registered Nile Crocodile breeding ranch on its outskirts.

7.4.4 Mining Activity

The region is also known to host mining and economy is significantly underpinned by mining. It hosts B2Gold's Otjikoto open-pit gold mine, established in 2014 approximately 70 km from the town, and the Okorusu fluorspar mine, located 48 km to the north now under care and maintenance, which is noted both for producing collector-grade fluorite specimens and holding potential for rare-earth element extraction. Not to forget the Cheetah cement and Ohorongo Cement factories in the vicinity of Otjiwarongo and Otavi. There indeed some new discoveries within the region by junior mining companies like Yintai/Osino, Aldoro and Broadmin.

As mentioned earlier, collectively mining and related industries support roughly 13% of the local economy. This has contributed largely to employment in the country, with mining being one of the largest contributors to the country's GDP.

7.4.5 Archaeological and Heritage Resources

An archaeological impact assessment was carried out for the Proponent focusing on the proposed exploration activities on EPL-9823. The assessment therefore reviewed the archaeological records, historical documents from the previous studies surrounding the area, interview with locals and a field survey as a basis of inference to conclude that damage or disturb sites or materials protected under the National Heritage Act (27 of 2004) is unlikely to occur. However, due to the possibility that buried archaeological remains could become known in the course of construction work the client is advised to adopt the *Chance Finds Procedure*.

8. IMPACT IDENTIFICATION, ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION MEASURES

8.1 The Impact Assessment Process

This section provides an assessment of the longer-lasting environmental impacts that may result from the proposed exploration activities by identifying, analysing, and where possible quantifying key impact components. The intention is to focus on those impacts that have the potential to persist beyond the immediate duration of activities and therefore require careful evaluation and management.

While the proposed project may generate both beneficial and adverse effects, the assessment places particular emphasis on identifying potential negative environmental impacts, as these require proactive mitigation to prevent unacceptable harm to the receiving environment. By examining the nature, extent, duration, and intensity of these impacts, appropriate mitigation and management measures can be developed and integrated into the project design.

The overarching objective of this approach is to reduce the significance of adverse impacts to acceptable levels through the implementation of effective mitigation measures, while at the same time enhancing and optimising any positive outcomes associated with the exploration activities. This structured assessment framework supports informed decision-making and ensures that environmental considerations remain central throughout the exploration phase.

8.2 Impact Assessment Methodology

The identified impacts were evaluated in terms of probability (likelihood of occurrence), scale/extent (spatial scale), magnitude (severity), and duration (temporal scale). Certain biophysical and social features will be impacted by the proposed exploration activities. As presented in **Table 6-1, Table 6-2, Table 6-3, Table 6-4 and Table 6-5**.

Each rating scale is assigned a numerical value to facilitate a scientific approach to determining environmental significance. This methodology ensures consistency and that potential impacts are addressed in a consistent manner, allowing a wide range of impacts to be compared. Determining the significance of a potential impact is a good predictor of the

risk associated with that impact. Each potential impact will be subjected to the following process:

- Provision of a brief explanation of the impact.
- Assessment of the pre-mitigation significance of the impact and
- Description of recommended mitigation measures.

The recommended mitigation measures prescribed for each of the potential impacts contribute to the project's achievement of environmentally sustainable operational conditions for various biophysical and social environment. The following criteria were applied in this impact assessment:

Extent (spatial scale)

Extent is an indication of the physical and spatial scale of the impact. Table 8-1 shows rating of impact in terms of extent of spatial scale.

Table 8-1: Extent or spatial impact rating.

Low (1)	Low/Medium (2)	Medium (3)	Medium/High (4)	High (5)
Impact is localised within the site boundary: Site only	Impact is beyond the site boundary: Local	Impacts felt within adjacent biophysical and social environments: Regional	Impact widespread far beyond boundary: Regional	Impact extend National or over international boundaries

Duration

Duration refers to the timeframe over which the impact is expected to occur, measured in relation to the lifetime of the project. Table 8-2 shows the rating of impact in terms of duration.

Table 8-2: Duration impact rating.

Low (1)	Low/Medium (2)	Medium (3)	Medium/High (4)	High (5)
Immediate mitigating measures, immediate progress	Impact is quickly reversible, short term impacts (0-5 years)	Reversible over time; medium term (5-15 years)	Impact is long-term	Long term; beyond closure; permanent; irreplaceable or irretrievable commitment of resources

Intensity, Magnitude / Severity

Intensity refers to the degree or magnitude to which the impact alters the functioning of an element of the environment. The magnitude of alteration can either be positive or negative. These were also taken into consideration during the assessment of severity. Table 8-3 shows the rating of impact in terms of intensity, magnitude or severity.

Table 8-3: Intensity, magnitude or severity impact rating.

Type of criteria	Negative				
	H- (10)	M/H- (8)	M- (6)	M/L- (4)	L- (2)
Qualitative	Very high deterioration, high quantity of deaths, injury of illness / total loss of habitat, total alteration of ecological	Substantial deterioration, death, illness or injury, loss of habitat / diversity or resource, severe alteration or	Moderate deterioration, discomfort, partial loss of habitat / biodiversity or resource,	Low deterioration, slight noticeable alteration in habitat and biodiversity. Little loss in	Minor deterioration, nuisance or irritation, minor change in species / habitat / diversity or resource, no or

	processes, extinction of rare species	disturbance of important processes	moderate alteration	species numbers	very little quality deterioration
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Probability of Occurrence

Probability refers to the likelihood of the impacts occurring. This determination is based on previous experience with similar projects and/or based on professional judgment. Table 8-4 below shows the criteria for impact rating in terms of probability of occurrence.

Table 8-4: Probability of occurrence impact rating.

Low (1)	Medium/Low (2)	Medium (3)	Medium/High (4)	High (5)
Improbable; low likelihood; seldom. No known risk or vulnerability to natural or induced hazards.	Likely to occur from time to time. Low risk or vulnerability to induced hazards.	Possible, distinct possibility, frequent. Low to medium risk or vulnerability to natural or induced hazards.	Probable if mitigating measures are not implemented. Medium risk of vulnerability to natural or induced hazards.	Definite (regardless of preventative measures), highly likely, continuous. High risk or vulnerability to natural or induced hazards.

Significance

Impact significance is determined through a synthesis of the above impact characteristics. The significance of the impact “without mitigation” is the main determinant of the nature and degree of mitigation required. As stated in the introduction to this chapter, for this assessment, the significance of the impact without prescribed mitigation actions was measured.

Once the above factors (in the Tables above) have been ranked for each potential impact, the impact significance of each is assessed using the following formula:

$$\text{Significance (SP)} = (\text{magnitude} + \text{duration} + \text{scale}) \times \text{probability}$$

The maximum value per potential impact is 100 significance points (SP). Potential impacts were rated as high, moderate or low significance, based on the following significance rating scale (Table 8-5).

Table 8-5: Significance rating scale.

SIGNIFICANCE	ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE POINTS	COLOUR CODE
High (positive)	>60	H
Medium (positive)	30 to 60	M
Low (positive)	<30	L
Neutral	0	N
Low (negative)	>-30	L
Medium (negative)	-30 to -60	M
High (negative)	>-60	H

Mitigation measures are recommended for an impact with a high significance rating to reduce the impact to a low or medium significance rating, provided that the impact with a medium significance rating can be sufficiently controlled with the recommended mitigation measures. Monitoring for a period of time is recommended to confirm the significance of the impact as low or medium and under control to maintain a low or medium significance rating.

8.3 Description of Positive Impacts

The following key positive impacts are anticipated from the proposed project activities:

- **Improved Regulations:** Strengthens environmental policies by highlighting areas that need protection.
- **Temporary Employment:** there will be a creation of job opportunities to some locals from sampling throughout to drilling. This will include casual labourers, technical assistants, cleaners, etc.
- **Land Access Use Fees:** fees to the affected farmer and land custodian for socio-economic development: Payment of land use fees to the farmer in accordance with the Mining Act and possibly to MEFT would generate an income for the farm and government during exploration duration, respectively.
- **Community Engagement:** Public participation in decision-making improves social acceptance.
- **Empowerment of Local Businesses:** Procurement of local goods and services (such as site clearing, cleaning, etc.) by local business will promote local entrepreneurship empowerment and local economic development (income generation).
- **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR):** Benefits of potential social upliftment where possible, by the Proponent and his partners while operating in the area to fund existing or new projects that can be sponsored through the exploration project.
- **Ecosystem Restoration:** Rehabilitation programs may restore degraded land and habitats.
- **Sustainable Land Use:** Encourages responsible development to minimize environmental harm.

The careful execution of an EIA ensures that development not only avoids harm but actively contributes to environmental and social progress.

8.4 Description and Assessment of Adverse (Negative) Impacts

In this section, the potential impacts are described and assessed include impacts on wildlife (biodiversity), dust (air quality issue), soil and groundwater pollution, waste, social, archaeological resources, noise, visual and health and safety. The management and mitigation of impacts have also been provided under each impact as well as in the EMP.

8.4.1 Impact Assessment of Biodiversity Loss and Land Degradation

The presence and movement of the exploration personnel and operation of project equipment and heavy vehicles would disturb wildlife present near the EPL area. There is also a potential of illegal hunting (poaching) of local wildlife by project related workers. This could lead to loss or number reduction of specific faunal species which also impacts tourism in the community.

In terms of site vegetation (flora), these would be impacted through clearing to create exploration access roads, setting up project equipment and infrastructures, and actual exploration activities such as sampling, drilling, and trenching. Drilling activities may potentially impact vegetation through the fallout dust settling on the leaves of the plants, hindering, or preventing photosynthesis. The clearing of vegetation, where deemed necessary will be limited to the specific route and minimal, therefore, the impact will be localized, site-specific, therefore manageable.

Whilst the mining industry plays a vital role in the growth and development of Namibia, it must be noted that essential areas for biodiversity and ecosystem services conservation must be sustained. Therefore, prospecting activities within biodiversity priority areas must be guided by frameworks that ensure prohibition on related impacts. The assessment of this impact is presented below.

Table 8-6: Assessment of the impacts of the exploration activities on biodiversity loss.

Mitigation Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability	Significance
Pre-mitigation	M: -3	M: -3	M: -6	M / H: 4	M: -36
Post-mitigation	L - 1	L - 1	M/L - 4	M/L - 2	L - 16

Mitigations and Recommendations to Biodiversity Loss and Land Degradation

- Vegetation should only be cleared when necessary, and the number of protected, endemic, and near-endemic species removed should be documented.
- Identify protected areas and ensure no harmful exposure to the biodiversity.
- Trees with trunk diameters of 150 mm or greater should be surveyed, marked with paint (that is easily visible), and protected.
- Trees and plants protected by the **Forest Act No. 12 of 2001** may not be removed unless accompanied by a valid permit from the local Department of Forestry.
- Poaching of wildlife is strictly prohibited and is punishable by law.
- Avoid off-road driving as it leads to the destruction of site vegetation. Therefore, rather stick to provided and approved access tracks.
- Working hours should be limited to during the day, thus enabling the wildlife to roam freely at night.
- No snaring, hunting, or capturing of wildlife shall be permitted.
- There should be a no-theft policy in place for the duration of the exploration activities to be strictly adhered to by exploration workers.

8.4.2 Impact Assessment of Soil, Surface and Groundwater

Improper handling, storage and disposal of hydrocarbon products and hazardous materials at the site may lead to soil, surface, and groundwater contamination, in case of spills and leakages. The pre-mitigation impact is assessed to be “medium” in significance and after mitigation the impact is assessed to have a “low” significance. The assessment of this impact is presented in Table 8-7.

Table 8-7: Assessment of the impacts of the exploration activities on soil, surface and groundwater.

Mitigation Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability	Significance
Pre-mitigation	M/H - 4	M/H - 4	M/H - 8	M - 3	M - 48
Post-mitigation	M - 3	L/M- 2	M- 6	L/M - 2	L - 22

Mitigations and recommendations to soil, surface and groundwater impacts

- Employees must be trained on the correct hydrocarbon storage and handling techniques.
- Vehicles and machinery must be stored in bounded areas when not in use or a drip tray should be placed beneath potential leakage points.
- Spill control preventative measures should be put in place to manage soil contamination.
- Employees must be trained in spill management.
- All contaminants (e.g. hydrocarbons) which might potentially be carried in run-off should be contained on-site in the appropriate manner (e.g. temporary storage in designated containers, installation of oil-water separators etc.) and disposed of as hazardous waste, so that they do not contaminate soil or groundwater.
- Appropriate storage and handling of hydrocarbons on site are essential.
- Water abstraction permits should be obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Fisheries, and Land Reform, in the event that the Proponent aspires to access local groundwater resources.
- Potential contaminants such as hydrocarbons and wastewater should be contained on site and disposed of in accordance with municipal wastewater discharge standards so that they do not contaminate surrounding soils and groundwater.
- An emergency plan should be available for major / minor spills at the site during operation activities (with consideration of air, groundwater, soil and surface water) and during the transportation of the product(s) to the site.
- Groundwater monitoring should be done regularly to detect contamination.

8.4.3 Impact Assessment of Physical land (soil) disturbance resulting in erosion

The excavations and land clearing to enable siting of project structures and equipment will potentially result in soil disturbance which will leave the site soils exposed to erosion. This impact would be probable at site areas with no to little vegetation cover to the soils in place. Exploration activities may also result in erosion from the removal of vegetation which could impact water run-off and loss of topsoil, especially for the desert soils that are prone to erosion and tracks may take up to 100 years to disappear. The movement of heavy vehicles and equipment may lead to compaction of the soils during exploration. This will, however, be a short-term and localized impact. The pre-mitigation impact is assessed to be “medium” in significance and after mitigation the impact is assessed to have a “low” significance. The assessment of this impact is presented in Table 8-8.

Table 8-8: Assessment of the impacts of the exploration activities on soil erosion .

Mitigation Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability	Significance
Pre-mitigation	M/H - 4	M/H - 4	M/H - 8	M - 3	M - 48
Post-mitigation	M - 3	L/M- 2	M- 6	L/M - 2	L - 22

Mitigations and recommendations to erosion

- Where possible, avoid the unnecessary destruction of habitat (e.g. large trees or bushes) and/or degradation of the environment, including the sensitive drainage lines and other vegetated areas.
- Ensure erosion control and prevention measures are in place when vegetation is removed.
- Avoid drainage lines when planning for access routes/tracks.

8.4.4 Impact Assessment of Waste

Improper handling and poor management of waste such as solid, wastewater and possibly hazardous onsite during exploration may result in land pollution on the EPL or around the site. If solid waste such as papers and plastics is not properly stored or just thrown into the

environment (littering), these may be consumed by animals in the area which could be detrimental to their health. The poor handling, storage and disposal of fuels and oils may lead to soil and groundwater contamination, in case of spills and leakages. The pre-mitigation impact is assessed to be “low” in significance and after mitigation, the impact is assessed to have a “low” significance. The assessment of this impact is presented in Table 8-9.

Table 8-9: Assessment of the impacts of the exploration activities on waste.

Mitigation Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability	Significance
Pre-mitigation	M: -3	M: -3	M / L: -4	M / H: 4	M: -40
Post-mitigation	L - 1	L- 1	L- 2	M/L - 2	L - 12

Mitigations and recommendations to waste management

- Waste generated on site is to be collected and disposed of daily at the nearest licenced solid waste management facility such as the Town Council site.
- Separate waste bins for domestic and hazardous waste should be available on site.
- No waste may be buried or burned on site or anywhere else.

8.4.5 Impact Assessment of Occupational and Community Health and Safety

Exploration activities may cause health and safety risks to people operating onsite and surrounding areas. Project personnel (workers) involved in the exploration activities may be exposed to health and safety risks. These are in terms of accidental injury involving heavy machinery or vehicles accidents. The careless storage and handling of heavy vehicle, equipment and fuel may result in harm or injury to the personnel, residents and animals. Another potential risks to both people and animals within the EPL are unfenced exploration trenches or trenches that are not backfilled after completing the sampling works. Unsecured exploration trenches and even uncapped holes could pose a risk of people or animals falling into the open trenches leading to injuries.

The use of heavy equipment, especially during drilling and the presence of hydrocarbons (fuel residue) on sites may result in accidental fire outbreaks. This could pose a safety risk to the project personnel and locals too. Furthermore, the influx of people into the project area may

also lead to sexual relations between these out-of-area workers and the locals. This would lead to the spreading of sexual transmitted diseases (i.e., HIV/AIDS) when engaging in unprotected sexual intercourse.

The pre-mitigation impact is assessed to be “medium” in significance and after mitigation the impact is assessed to have a “low” significance. The assessment of this impact is presented in Table 8-10.

Table 8-10: Assessment of the impacts of the exploration activities on occupational and community health and safety.

Mitigation Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability	Significance
Pre-mitigation	M/L - 2	M/L - 2	M - 6	M/H - 4	M - 40
Post-mitigation	L - 1	L- 1	M/L- 4	M – 3	L - 18

Mitigations and recommendations to occupational and community health and safety

- Exploration workers should be provided with awareness training about the risks associated with hydrocarbon handling and storage.
- During the works conducted, workers should be properly equipped with the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) such as coveralls, gloves, safety boots, safety glasses etc.
- Regular health and safety training should be carried out to remind workers of the risks and the need to be vigilant.
- Loads should be securely fastened on vehicles or places they are stored.
- Site areas that pose as a risk to people and animals should be temporary fenced off until the hazard is removed.
- Exploration holes and trenches should be capped, backfilled and secured until they can be completely backfilled and rehabilitated upon completion of exploration sampling.

8.4.6 Impact Assessment of Dust (Air Quality)

Dust generation may occur during exploration activities emanating from site access roads when transporting exploration equipment and supply to and from site as well as actual excavations and drilling. This may compromise the air quality in the area.

The pre-mitigation impact is assessed to be “medium” in significance and after mitigation the impact is assessed to have a “low” significance. The assessment of this impact is presented in Table 8-11.

Table 8-11: Assessment of the impacts of the exploration activities on dust generation.

Mitigation Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability	Significance
Pre-mitigation	L/M - 2	L/M – 2	M/H - 4	L/M - 2	L – 16
Post-mitigation	L / M - 2	L / M – 2	L - 2	L / M - 2	L – 4

Mitigations and recommendations to dust generation

- Dust abatement techniques should be implemented e.g. spraying of water as needed to suppress dust. However, caution should be taken during times of low water availability then waterless dust suppression means should be considered.
- Exploration workers should be provided with and wear dust masks during exploration works if needed.
- Vehicles should be driven at a speed less than 40km/hour to reduce the generation of excess dust in the area.

8.4.7 Impact Assessment of Noise

Exploration equipment, heavy vehicles (trucks) and machinery may produce high levels of noise during operations. Similarly, the use of aircrafts for remote sensing techniques during exploration over large areas may disrupt animals and human activity due to excessive noise. The pre-mitigation impact is assessed to be “medium” in significance and after mitigation the impact is assessed to have a “low” significance. The assessment of this impact is presented in Table 8-12.

Table 8-12: Assessment of the impacts of the exploration activities on noise.

Mitigation Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability	Significance
Pre-mitigation	L/M - 2	L/M - 2	M/H - 8	M - 3	M - 36
Post-mitigation	L - 1	L - 1	M - 6	L/M - 2	L - 16

Mitigations and recommendations to noise

- Exploration activities should only be undertaken between 07h30 and 17h00 only and not in the night or morning hours before 07h30.
- Avoid flying aircrafts directly over human settlements.
- Consult with the relevant stakeholders when would be the best suited time to fly prior to commencing with the flights.
- Noise levels should adhere to the South African National Standards (SANS) regulations 10103.

8.4.8 Impact Assessment of Archaeological and Heritage Resources

The proposed exploration activities may impact areas that could potentially house archaeological and heritage resources. The excavation on the EPLs may result in inadvertent destruction of subsurface heritage resources such as artefacts and unknown graves. The EPL lies in an area of inferred archaeological sensitivity, with a high likelihood that it will contain archaeological sites. The pre-mitigation impact is assessed to be “medium” in significance and after mitigation the impact is assessed to have a “low” significance. The assessment of this impact is presented in Table 8-13.

Table 8-13: Assessment of the impacts of the exploration activities on archaeological and heritage resources.

Mitigation Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability	Significance
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Pre-mitigation	L/M - 2	L/M - 2	M - 6	H - 5	M - 50
Post-mitigation	L - 1	L- 1	M- 6	L/M - 2	L - 16

Mitigations and recommendation to archaeological and heritage resources

- An archaeological expert must be appointed to undertake a detailed archaeological survey once targets have been identified for drilling and/or other mechanically assisted exploration, and prior to the commencement of any such activities.
- All works are to be immediately ceased should an archaeological or heritage resource be discovered during activities on site.
- The project should adopt an Archaeological Chance Finds Procedure (Appendix K) to cater for unexpected discoveries of archaeological remains in the course of exploration.
- The National Heritage Council of Namibia (NHCN) should advise with regards to the removal, packaging and transfer of the potential resource.

8.4.9 Impact on aesthetics (visual impact) and tourism

The exploration works are associated with visual impacts due to land scars owing to dimension stone exploration activities, resulting in the impact on tourism. Visual impact from unrehabilitated explored areas on the EPL may pose as an eyesore to travellers (including tourists) using the roads/tracks in the area.

Mining related activities such as exploration, particularly dimension stone leave scars on the local landscape. If the explored sites are close to or along roads or frequented areas, these scars in many cases contrast the surrounding landscape and thus may potentially become a visual nuisance, especially in tourist-prone areas such as the EPL site area. The pre-mitigation impact is assessed to be “medium” in significance and after mitigation the impact is assessed to have a “low” significance. The assessment of this impact is presented in Table 8-14.

Table 8-14: Assessment of the impacts of the exploration activities on visual aesthetics and tourism.

	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability	Significance
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Pre-mitigation	M/L - 2	M/L - 2	M - 6	M/H - 4	M - 40
Post-mitigation	L - 1	L - 1	M/L - 4	M - 3	L - 18

Mitigations and recommendations to visual impact

- The EPL portions or areas close to the roads should be progressively rehabilitated during exploration over the shortest timescale possible to ensure that there are no prolonged visible and excessive land disturbances.
- All access roads leading to the EPL should have speed limits of no more than 30km/h to minimise the amount of dust generated by the vehicles. This in turn will also minimise any potential air quality concerns in the vicinity of the project.
- Utilize stockpiled topsoil to partially back fill explored sites, thus, minimizing visual impacts.
- Consider a phased exploration and direct placement of overburden (topsoil and waste rocks) and other site-derived materials to allow progressive restoration around the margins of the explored site areas.

8.4.10 Impact Assessment of Social Environment

The proposed activity may provide employment opportunities for local people within proximity of the exploration site. Additional benefits may arise depending on the agreements reached between the communities and the Proponent. The assessment of this impact is presented in

Table 8-15.

	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability	Significance
Pre-mitigation	L - 1	L/M - 2	L - 2	M - 3	L - 15
Post-mitigation	L - 2	M - 3	M - 6	M/H - 4	M - 44

Table 8-15: Assessment of the impacts of the exploration activities on social environment.

Mitigations and recommendations to the social environment

- Should any job opportunities result, it should be made available to the local people in the area.

8.5 Decommissioning Phase

A well-planned decommissioning phase ensures responsible closure while minimizing environmental and social disruptions. Once the exploration activities are decommissioned, the main potential impacts are groundwater pollution and loss of jobs to the people employed by the activities.

Should the exploration activities be decommissioned, and the exploration area be rehabilitated groundwater pollution and loss of employment are likely to be main concerns. The pre-mitigation impact is assessed to be “medium” in significance and after mitigation, the impact is assessed to have a “low” significance. The assessment of this impact is presented in Table 8-16 and Table 8-17 below.

Table 8-16: Assessment of the impacts of decommissioning of exploration activity on groundwater.

	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability	Significance
Pre-mitigation	M/H – 4	M/H - 4	M/H - 8	M - 3	M – 48
Post-mitigation	M – 3	L/ML- 2	M- 6	M/L - 2	L – 22

Mitigations and recommendations on groundwater impacts

- Rehabilitation of the site to acceptable standards should be commenced once exploration works cease.
- Landowners should be consulted to indicate acceptance of the rehabilitation.
- Ensure that the integrity of all aquifers remains consistent with the existing natural and operational conditions

Table 8-17: Assessment of the impacts of decommissioning of exploration activity on employment.

	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Probability	Significance
Pre-mitigation	M/HL/M - 4	M/H - 4	M/H - 8	M - 3	M - 48
Post-mitigation	L/M - 3	L/M - 2	M- 6	L/M - 2	L - 22

Mitigations and recommendations on loss of employment

- The Proponent should inform the employees, of its intentions to end the exploration activities, and the expected date well in advance.
- The Proponent should raise awareness of the possibilities for work in other related sectors if possible.

Environmental Concerns

The decommissioning phase marks the end of a project's operational lifespan, requiring safe dismantling, environmental restoration, and sustainable repurposing. The following are environmental considerations typically involved.

1. Site Closure and Dismantling

- Safe shutdown of operations.
- Removal of infrastructure, including equipment and structures.
- Disposal or recycling of materials in compliance with environmental regulations.

2. Environmental Restoration

- Soil rehabilitation to restore natural conditions.
- Groundwater and surface water monitoring for contamination.
- Reforestation or revegetation to support biodiversity recovery.

3. Social and Economic Considerations

- Transition plans for employees affected by closure.
- Consultation with local communities to ensure sustainable land use after decommissioning.
- Repurposing the site for new industries, tourism, conservation, or agriculture.

4. Monitoring and Compliance

- Long-term environmental monitoring to ensure successful rehabilitation.
- Reporting compliance with environmental laws and sustainability standards.
- Continuous stakeholder engagement to address any post-closure concerns.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 CONCLUSION

The primary purpose of this environmental scoping assessment was to systematically identify and evaluate potential environmental impacts that may arise as a result of the proposed exploration activities within the EPL area. The assessment focused on determining the nature and extent of likely impacts, evaluating their significance, and proposing feasible and effective mitigation measures to avoid, minimise, or manage adverse effects on the environment.

Potential biophysical impacts associated with all phases of the project lifecycle—namely the pre-operational phase, active exploration and maintenance phase, and eventual decommissioning and site rehabilitation—have been identified and assessed. This phased approach ensures that both short-term and longer-term environmental interactions are adequately considered and managed.

Based on the findings of the assessment, the anticipated environmental impacts on the receiving environment are expected to be largely manageable through the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures and adherence to the Environmental Management Plan (EMP). Overall, the residual impacts associated with the proposed project are assessed to be of moderate significance, provided that recommended environmental controls and rehabilitation measures are effectively implemented.

9.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

In an effort to uphold environmental management principles, appropriate mitigation measures (where required and possible) are recommended. The deduction from the scoping study is that, the proposed exploration for the commodities holds the potential to contribute to Namibia's economy through the creation of employment, transformation of existing technology and uplifting of living standards in general. It is therefore recommended that:

- i. **Comprehensive Baseline Data Collection:** Ensure thorough and accurate baseline environmental data. This includes water quality assessments, air pollution levels, biodiversity studies, and socio-economic impacts to provide a clear picture of existing conditions.
- ii. **Stakeholder Engagement and Public Participation:** Actively involve communities, industry experts, and environmental groups throughout the EIA process. Transparent communication and addressing concerns enhance the credibility and acceptance of the assessment.
- iii. **Sustainable Mitigation Strategies** Develop realistic and practical mitigation measures that effectively minimize environmental harm. The strategies should prioritize sustainability and long-term ecological balance while considering economic feasibility.

- iv. **Clear and Transparent Reporting** Present findings using clear language, visual aids, and structured analysis. Avoid technical jargon where possible and ensure that conclusions and recommendations are well-supported by data.
- v. **Continuous Monitoring and Adaptive Management:** Implement ongoing environmental monitoring beyond project approval. Adaptive management allows for responsive action if unforeseen environmental impacts arise during project implementation.

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ANNEXURES

**ANNEXURE A: Notice to of Preparedness to Grant Applicant for
Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) 9823**



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF MINES AND ENERGY

Tel.: +264 61 284-8111
Fax: +264 61 238643 / 220386
E-mail: info@mme.gov.na
Website: www.mme.gov.na

1 Aviation Road
Private Bag 13297
WINDHOEK

Enquiries: Mr. S.J. Simon
Reference No: 14/2/4/1/9823

Namasiku Bainga
P.O. Box 2670
Ngeze
Katima Mulilo
Namibia

NOTICE TO APPLICANT OF PREPAREDNESS TO GRANT APPLICATION FOR EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE No. 9823.

In terms of Section 48(4) of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act, No. 33 of 1992, notice is hereby given that the Minister is prepared to grant your new application, lodged on **17 November 2023**, for an exclusive prospecting licence in respect of **Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals, Precious Metals**, Groups of Minerals over an area of land as shown in the attached diagrams, subject to the terms and conditions contained in the attached schedule, which terms and conditions supplement the terms, conditions and provisions of the said Act.

Your attention is drawn to the provisions of Section 48(5) of the said Act, which requires that within one (1) month from the date of this notice, written acceptance of such terms and conditions must be received by the Commissioner, failing which the application will be deemed to have lapsed.

Kindly acknowledge your acceptance of such terms and conditions by

- completing the section at the bottom of this notice.
- initialling each page of the schedule and the diagrams; and
- returning such signed and initialled documents to the Commissioner.

Oliver 23/09/2024
Ms ISABELLA CHIRCHIR
MINING COMMISSIONER

**TO THE MINING COMMISSIONER
MINISTRY OF MINES AND ENERGY**

I.....Nimisiku Bawink.....(name of person) in my capacity as applicant/duly authorized officer/approved accredited agent (please delete titles not relevant), hereby accept the supplementary terms and conditions referred to in this notice and contained in the attached schedule which are to be imposed on the grant of the application for exclusive prospecting licence herein referred to.


.....
Signed

.....21.09.2024
Date

Capacity.....
(Applicant /authorized officer of the applicant if a company/approved accredited agent of a non-resident applicant who is a natural person/authorized officer of such accredited agent).

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SCHEDULE OF SUPPLEMENTARY TERMS AND CONDITIONS TO BE IMPOSED ON THE GRANT OF AN EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE NO. 9823 (IN ADDITION TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS OUTLINED UNDER SECTION 50 OF THE MINERALS (PROSPECTING AND MINING) ACT, NO. 33 OF 1992) IN FAVOUR OF NAMASIKU BAINGA.

PART 1 - GENERAL

1. The exclusive prospecting licence shall endure for **three (3) years** reckoned from the date of issue of the Environmental Clearance Certificate unless it is abandoned in terms of Section 54 of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act, 1992, (hereinafter "the Act") or cancelled in terms of Section 55 of the Act or on application made to the Minister in terms of section 72 of the Act, it is renewed by the Minister for any further period or periods.
2. In consideration of the rights hereby granted, the holder of the exclusive prospecting licence shall pay to the Commissioner for the benefit of the State Revenue Fund, such licence fee as may from time to time be prescribed in terms of Section 123 of the Act, it is recorded that the annual licence fee prescribed in relation to the licence at the time of its issue shall be N\$ 10 000-00 payable annually on or before each anniversary date of the date of issue of the licence.
3. If the prescribed licence fee changes, such change shall become effective on the next anniversary date of the date of issue of the licence after such change.
4. The Minister may, in the interest of the reasonable development of the prospecting operations, impose from time to time such additional terms and conditions as he may deem fit.

PART 2 - WORK PROGRAMME AND OBLIGATIONS

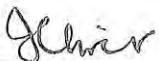
5. The holder of the exclusive prospecting licence shall-
 - 5.1 commence with, and thereafter continue without undue interruption or delay, prospecting operations immediately in substantial conformity with the proposed work programme, schedule and budget which accompanied the original application for the licence, and which served as the motivation of the granting thereof.
 - 5.2 where any material deviation of such work programme, schedule and budget is in the opinion of the holder of the licence, necessitated by the nature of the results of prospecting operations (but specifically excluding any circumstances of Vis Major provided for in terms of Section 56 of the Act), apply in writing to the Minister for approval of the revision of such work programme, schedule and budget in terms of Section 75 of the Act; and
 - 5.3 execute such additional work programme and expend such additional expenditure within a specified period as may be imposed by the Minister from time to time.
 - 5.4 submit proof that the funds to be expended on the licence and all/any activities relating to it are remitted to a reputable financial institution in Namibia to the Mining Commissioner's office within twelve (12) months from the date of written acceptance of these terms and conditions, before issuance of Exclusive Prospecting Licence.

NB
gl
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5.5 ensure that all funds raised anywhere and exclusively in respect of this licence shall be expended on the licence and all/any activities relating to it and, to the extent such funds are to be expended directly in Namibia.

PART 3 – ENVIRONMENT

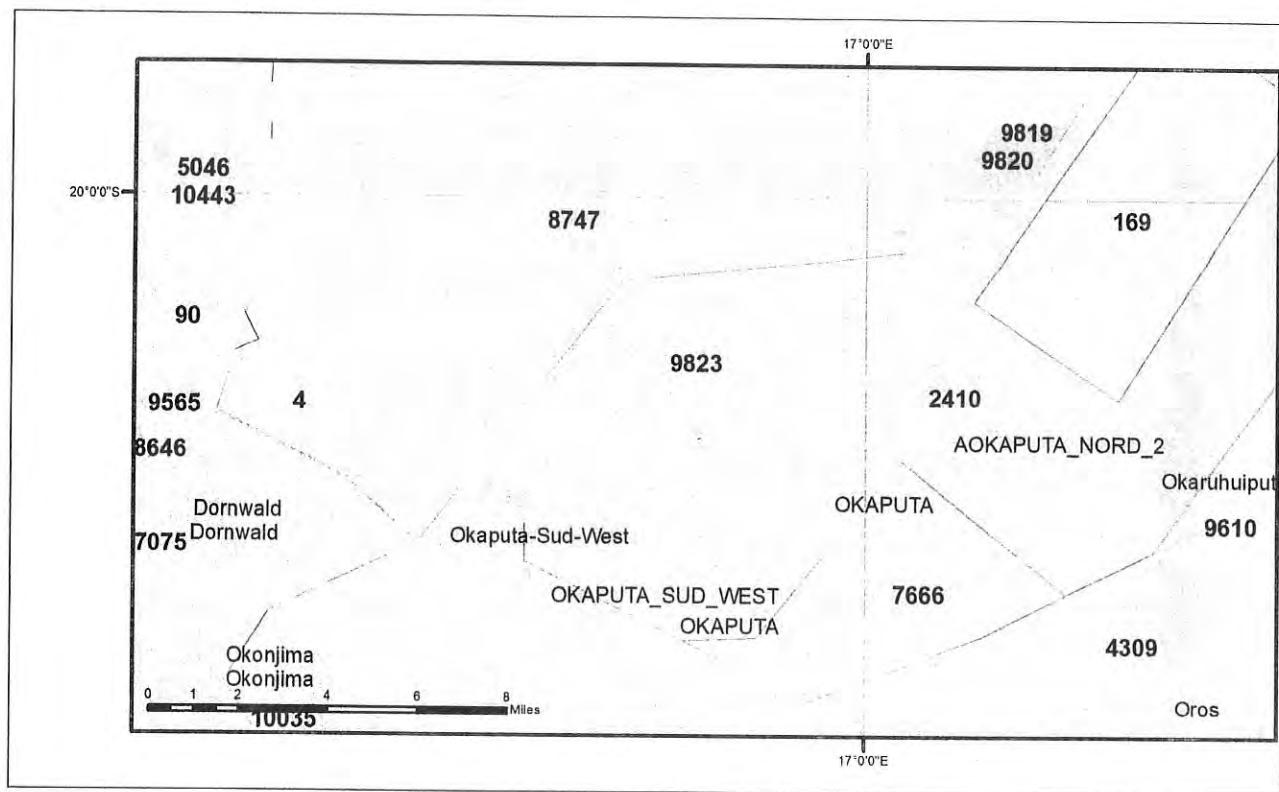
6. The holder of the **Notice of Preparedness to grant application for Exclusive Prospecting Licence** shall submit a copy of the Environmental Clearance Certificate issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism to the Mining Commissioner's office within twelve (12) months from the date of written acceptance of these terms and conditions before issuance of Exclusive Prospecting Licence.
7. The holder of an exclusive prospecting licence shall observe any requirements, limitations, or prohibitions on his or her prospecting operations as may in the interest of the environmental protection, be imposed by the Minister.



Ms ISABELLA CHIRCHIR
MINING COMMISSIONER

DIAGRAM – EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE – 9823

Issued in favour of Namasiku Bainga



Latitude and Longitude lines refer to the Bessel 1841 Spheroid

EPL - Application	ERL - Application	Withdrawn Area	District
EPL - Active	ERL - Active	Farms	Region
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
ML - Application	RL - Application	Environmentally Sensitive	Division
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ML - Active	RL - Active		
<input type="checkbox"/>			
MC - Application	MDRL - Application	Projection: Albers Conic Equal Area Spheroid: Bessel 1841 Central Meridian: 17 Deg. E	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
MC - Active	MDRL - Active		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

AREA: 7468.7708 Hectares

MAP(S):

LOCALITY:

*Regions(s): Otojondjupa

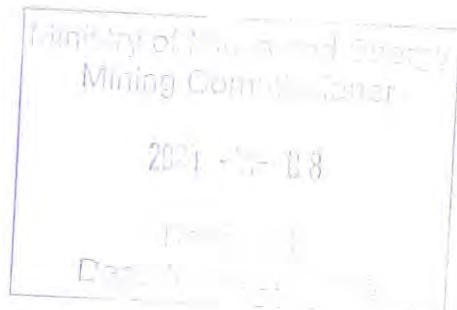
*Magisterial District(s): Grootfontein

*Registration Division(s): D, B

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Order	Lat Deg	Lat Min	Lat Sec		Long Deg	Long Min	Long Sec	
1	- 20	06	56.56	S	16	53	21.02	E
2	- 20	06	48.71	S	16	52	34.03	E
3	- 20	06	35.19	S	16	51	20.88	E
4	- 20	05	7.62	S	16	52	28.33	E
5	- 20	04	48.27	S	16	52	43.47	E
6	- 20	01	36.83	S	16	55	15.57	E
7	- 20	01	2.04	S	17	00	43.66	E
8	- 20	01	0.40	S	17	00	44.82	E
9	- 20	00	50.09	S	17	02	25.99	E
10	- 20	01	48.49	S	17	01	48.43	E
11	- 20	04	51.62	S	16	56	51.93	E
12	- 20	04	52.34	S	16	53	22.92	E
13	- 20	05	29.35	S	16	53	22.92	E
14	- 20	05	29.01	S	16	53	22.06	E

Certified by:..... *John*
Mining Commissioner



ANNEXURE B: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN REPORT:
FOR THE PROPOSED MINERAL EXPLORATION OF BASE AND RARE
METALS, DIMENSION STONE, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, AND PRECIOUS
METALS ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE NO.9823**

OTAVI DISTRICT, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION – NAMIBIA

ECC APPLICATION NO.: APP No. 250207005311

NOVEMBER 2025

COMPILED BY



SS CONSULTANTS

info@ssconsultants.com

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The copy rights to this report are held by the Proponent the holder of the Exclusive Prospecting License No. 9823 (EPL-9823) and compilation of the report was done by SS Consultants CC herein referred to as ("Consultant/Author"). The consultant owns an environmental consulting company which was established in 2016, in line with the Namibia's Companies Act, 2004 (Act No.28 of 2004), with a company registration number SS/2016/13499.

DISCLAIMER

The author of this report has neither shares nor economic interest in EPL-9823. The report therefore is written without any conflict of interest. This is an Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) report, and the consultant also undertook field-based evaluation. It contains certain forward-looking statements which have been based solely on available literature as well as field data. SS Consultants will not be held responsible for any omissions and inconsistencies that may result from information that was not available at the time this document was prepared and submitted for evaluation. The authors' current expectations about future proceedings are subject to several risks and uncertainties beyond his/her control. Therefore, the author does not give assurance that such statements will prove to be accurate and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Due care and attention have been taken in the preparation of this report. However, the information contained in this report (other than as specifically stated) has not been independently verified nor has it been audited. Accordingly, the company does not warrant or represent that the information contained in this report is accurate or complete.

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Signature			

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1 INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Environmental Management Plan (EMP) presented in this section demonstrates how the Proponent intends to manage all the exploration, possible mining and processing operations within the EPL area that will significantly impact on the receiving environment, or that may potentially be of high risk in the long-term. Therefore, this EMP is formulated as a mandatory condition of the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) pursuant to Section 27 of the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007). It serves as the primary operational document for proactively identifying, assessing, and managing all environmental risks associated with mineral exploration activities on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) 9823. The EMP is a legally enforceable document, and any instance of non-compliance constitutes a direct breach of the ECC conditions, potentially resulting in enforcement action, suspension of activities, or revocation of the license. Furthermore, this plan is designed as a "live document" that will be periodically reviewed and updated in response to monitoring results, audit findings, and changes in the scope of exploration activities.

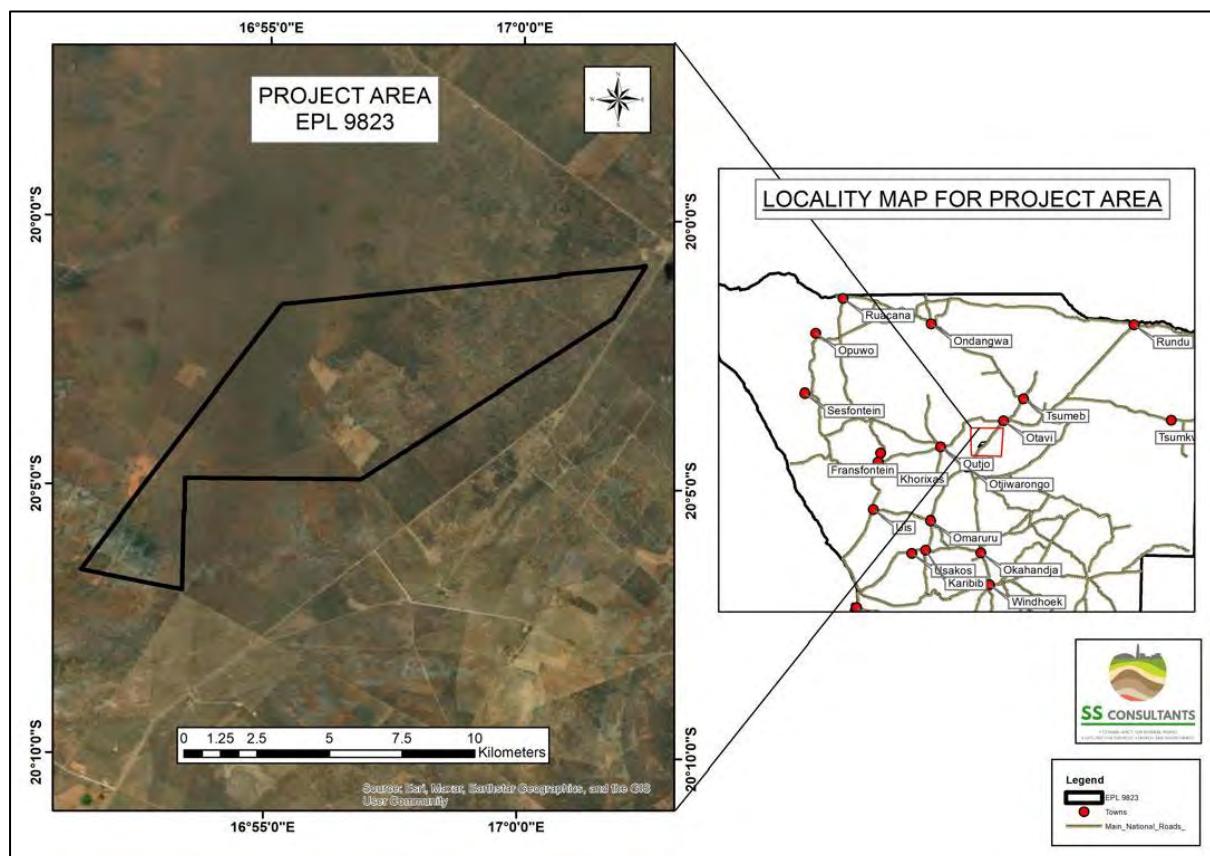


Figure 1 Project area map

2 PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

This document is prepared as part of the Environmental Scoping and Impact Assessment for Proposed Exploration which was conducted in terms of the Environmental Management Act, 2007 (Act No 7 of 2007). This Environmental Management Plan is a live document that has been prepared based on the environmental effects identified in Environmental Scoping Assessment and provides operational environmental management instructions for exploration on EPL 9823. It must be read in conjunction with the ESA Report.

The EMP provides a practical, implementable framework to:

- Minimise, manage, and monitor potential environmental and socio-economic impacts associated with exploration activities;
- Ensure compliance with national legislation and best-practice environmental standards;
- Assign responsibilities for environmental management; and
- Guide the exploration team and contractors on environmentally responsible behaviour.

2.1 Operation and Maintenance

Operation and maintenance requirements include:

- Ensuring vehicles and machinery are kept in good working condition to minimise pollution and safety risks.
- Carrying out all exploration tasks (geochemical sampling, trenching, drilling, pitting, mapping, geophysics) in compliance with environmental standards.
- Maintaining drill pads, access tracks, fuel storage points, and sample storage areas to avoid contamination or degradation.

2.2 Environmental Monitoring Requirements

Environmental monitoring is required throughout the project to:

- Track compliance with the EMP;
- Observe vegetation, soil and water conditions near drill sites and trenches;
- Monitor waste management practices;
- Detect any contamination early and address it promptly;
- Ensure safe and responsible site access.

2.3 Decommissioning and Rehabilitation

Upon completing exploration activities:

- All temporary infrastructure must be removed.
- Trenches and pits must be backfilled and reshaped.
- Drill pads must be ripped and recontoured.
- Waste must be removed from site.
- A post-closure environmental inspection must be conducted.

All rehabilitation must comply with the National Policy on Prospecting and Mining, industry best practices, and MEFT requirements.

2.4 Appointed Environmental Assessment Practitioner

- In order to satisfy the requirements of the EMA and its 2012 EIA Regulations, SS Consultants has been appointed by the proponent as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner conduct the required EIA process on their (Proponent's) behalf.

3 PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The proposed exploration programme for EPL 9823 will be implemented in sequential phases, progressing from low-impact desktop studies to targeted field-based operations. Each stage is designed to refine the understanding of mineral potential within the licence area and to ensure that field activities only intensify where justified by positive results.

- Phase 1: Desktop Review and Data Interpretation

This initial phase involves the review and interpretation of all available geological, geophysical, and geochemical data relevant to the EPL area.

Key tasks include:

- Reviewing existing research, historical reports, and previous exploration records;
- Purchasing high-resolution geological and geophysical datasets from Government repositories;
- Interpreting regional datasets to identify potential prospective zones for further assessment.

This phase is non-invasive and aims to determine whether the licence area presents viable preliminary targets for follow-up work.

- Phase 2: Reconnaissance Assessment

If Phase 1 identifies promising targets, the exploration progresses to reconnaissance fieldwork.

This stage involves:

- Broad-scale field verification of interpreted targets;
- Regional geological mapping;
- Surface sampling (e.g., rock chip or soil sampling);
- Ground truthing of anomalies identified during the desktop study.

The main purpose of this stage is to validate regional targets and narrow down specific areas that warrant detailed investigation.

- Phase 3: Initial Field-Based Exploration Activities

Where reconnaissance results are positive, initial field-based activities are undertaken.

This may include:

- Widely distributed geological mapping;
- Systematic surface sampling;
- Ground geophysical surveys;
- Broadly spaced trenching or shallow drilling to test subsurface continuity and geologic structures.

Activities at this phase remain exploratory and are limited to assessing the feasibility of identified targets. If results demonstrate that targets are not viable, exploration may cease and the licence may be relinquished.

- Phase 4: Detailed Localised Exploration Activities

Should initial exploration confirm mineral potential, more focused and detailed field-based operations will be conducted.

These may include:

- Site-specific detailed geological mapping;
- Trenching and bulk sampling;
- Detailed geophysical surveys;
- Targeted drilling programmes aimed at delineating mineralisation;
- Laboratory testing, metallurgical analysis, and preliminary resource estimation.

Data generated from this phase is used to compile a pre-feasibility study. If pre-feasibility results are favourable, the project will proceed to a full feasibility study, which will include intensive drilling, additional bulk sampling, and test-mining where relevant.

3.1 Access and Transport

Activities include:

- Use of the B1 national road and existing farm tracks.
- Minor vegetation clearing to access sampling/trenching/drill sites (where unavoidable).

- Movement of 4x4 vehicles, light trucks, and drill rigs.

A Traffic Management Plan must be adhered to.

3.2 Resources (Water and Electricity)

- Water required for drilling will be sourced from existing boreholes upon landowner consent, or from bowsers transported from Otjiwarongo/Otavi.
- Power will be supplied via generators or vehicle systems.

3.3 Accommodation and Supporting Infrastructure

Personnel will be:

- Housed in nearby towns (Otavi or Otjiwarongo); or
- Temporarily accommodated onsite (if agreed with landowners).

Supporting infrastructure may include:

- Temporary storage containers
- Vehicle service areas
- Sample storage areas
- Temporary ablution facilities (VIP or chemical toilets)

4 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

This Environmental Management Plan (EMP) has been developed to ensure full compliance with the comprehensive legal and regulatory framework governing mineral exploration and environmental protection in Namibia. The table below outlines the key legislative and policy instruments applicable to the proposed exploration activities on EPL 9823, detailing their specific requirements and the direct implications for project implementation.

Legislation/Policy/ Guideline	Key Provisions & Requirements	Specific Implications for EPL 9823
Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) & EIA Regulations (2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The overarching framework for environmental governance.Mandates an EIA for listed activities (Section 27).Requires the development of an EMP as a condition for an ECC.Establishes principles of public participation, pollution prevention, and the precautionary approach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">This EMP is a direct legal requirement of the ECC.All project activities must adhere to the principles and specific measures outlined in this plan.Non-compliance is a prosecutable offence under the Act.
Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act (No. 33 of 1992)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Governs the granting and exercise of mineral rights.Section 52 mandates a written land access agreement with the landowner before any prospecting can commence.Provides for compensation for damages and loss of land	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Proponent must secure and maintain valid Land Access Agreements with all relevant landowners/occupiers.Copies of all agreements must be kept on site and made available for inspection.

	use.	
Water Resources Management Act (No. 11 of 2013)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides for the protection, management, use, and development of water resources. Prohibits the pollution of water resources (Section 68). Requires a water abstraction license for the withdrawal of water from any source. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Water Abstraction Licence from the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) is required prior to any groundwater abstraction for drilling. Strict pollution control measures (e.g., bunding, spill kits) are mandatory to prevent contamination of surface and groundwater.
Forestry Act (No. 12 of 2001)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protects forest resources and specific tree species. Prohibits the cutting, disturbance, or destruction of any tree or forest product within 100 meters of a watercourse or on any ground not classified as a surveyed land parcel, except under a permit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A permit from the Directorate of Forestry (MEFT) is required before clearing any protected vegetation, especially near drainage lines. A pre-clearance survey to identify protected species is mandatory.
National Heritage Act (No. 27 of 2004)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides for the protection and conservation of places and objects of heritage significance. Requires a permit for any disturbance of a heritage site. Mandates that any chance discovery of archaeological or 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The "Chance Finds Procedure" outlined in Section 5.8 of this EMP is mandatory. Work must cease immediately upon discovery of any potential heritage resource, and the National Heritage Council must be informed.

	<p>palaeontological material must be reported immediately to the National Heritage Council.</p>	
Labour Act (No. 11 of 2007) & Health and Safety Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stipulates employer responsibilities for providing a safe working environment. • Requires risk assessments, safe work procedures, and the provision of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). • Governs terms of employment and worker welfare. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A site-specific Health and Safety Plan must be developed and implemented. • All personnel must undergo safety induction and be provided with appropriate PPE. • First aid facilities and trained personnel must be available on site at all times.
Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Ordinance (No. 11 of 1976)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aims to prevent air pollution and nuisances. • Provides for the control of emissions of smoke, dust, and fumes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dust suppression measures (e.g., water spraying, speed limits) are legally required to minimize particulate emissions. • Machinery must be maintained to prevent excessive exhaust emissions.
Soil Conservation Act (No. 76 of 1969)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aims to prevent and control soil erosion. • Empowers the Minister to declare directives for soil conservation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erosion control measures, such as minimizing land disturbance, contouring, and revegetation, are mandatory components of this EMP, especially given the erosive soils in the project area.

Table 1 Summary of Applicable Legislative and Policy Framework

This EMP is designed to operationalize the requirements of these instruments into clear, actionable management and mitigation measures. Compliance with this plan will therefore ensure the Proponent's adherence to the broader legal framework of Namibia.

5 SUMMARY OF THE RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT & RISK ASSESSMENT

The terrain within the EPL is characterized by undulating plains and scattered low hills, with elevations ranging from 1,320 to 1,850 meters above sea level. The region falls within a semi-arid climatic zone, receiving an average annual rainfall of approximately 682 mm, predominantly during short, intense summer thunderstorms. A critical defining characteristic of the area is its karst hydrogeology, resulting from the dissolution of underlying carbonate rocks (dolomite and limestone) of the Damara Sequence. This geological setting creates a landscape and aquifer system highly vulnerable to surface-derived contamination and susceptible to soil erosion, particularly on disturbed ground, necessitating exceptionally careful management practices.

5.1 Geology

The EPL is located within the Damara Belt's Southern Central Zone, characterized by the Pan-African Neoproterozoic orogeny. Local lithology is dominated by meta-sedimentary rocks of the Swakop Group, including schists (biotite, garnet) and significant marble bands of the Karibib Formation. The area is prospective of structurally controlled gold and other mineral deposits.

Geology supports exploration techniques such as:

- Remote sensing
- Geological mapping
- Geochemical sampling
- Geophysical surveys
- Drilling

5.2 Location and Extent

- EPL 9823 is located between Otavi and Otjiwarongo in the Otjozondjupa Region.
- Access to the licence area is via the B1 national road.
- The EPL covers an area of 7,468.7708 hectares.

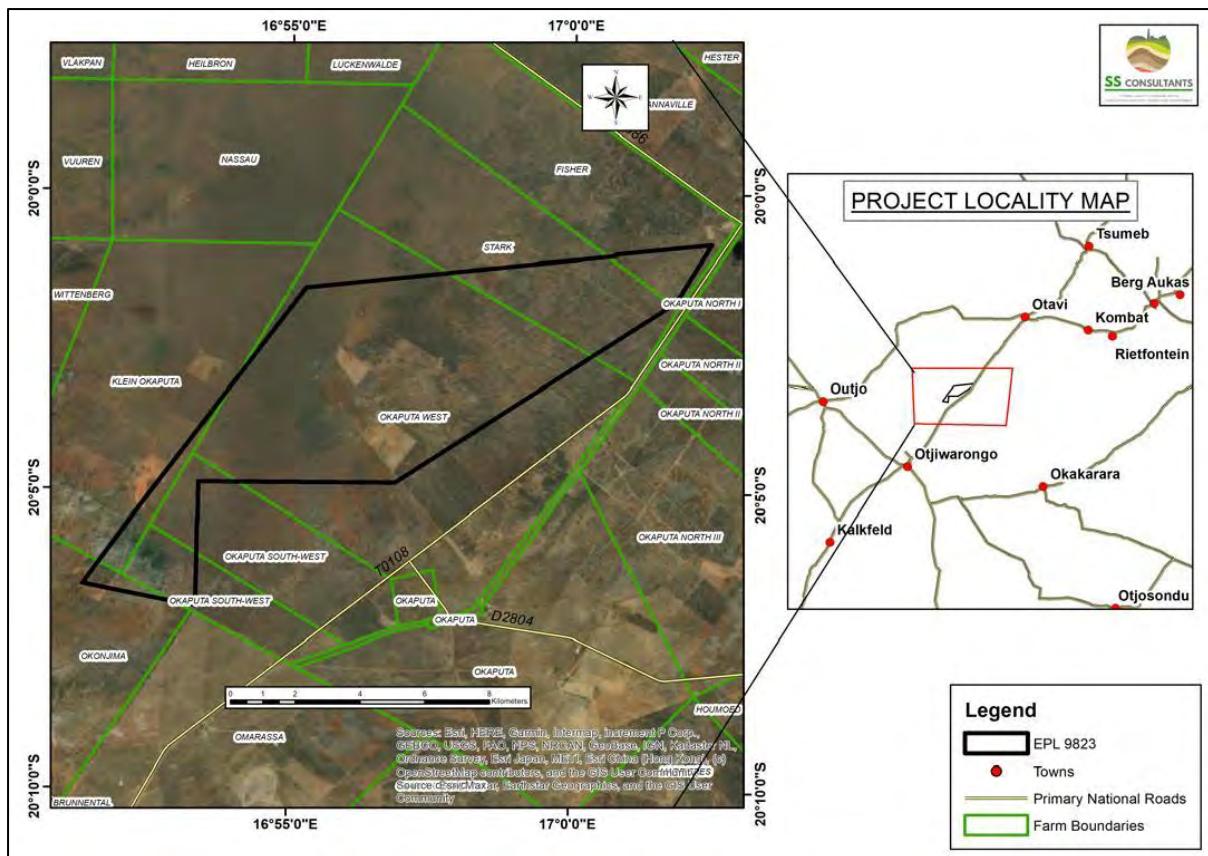


Figure 2 Locality map.

5.3 Land Use

- The EPL falls within a landscape dominated by commercial farming activities, primarily livestock production.



Figure 3: Livestock in EPL area.

- There may be interactions with farmers and landowners.

The area is well serviced by:

- Existing water supply points
- Power lines
- National and district roads
- Telecommunication infrastructure

5.4 Topography

- The topography consists of gentle undulating terrain, typical of the Otavi–Otjiwarongo area.
- The area is easily accessible with minimal need for new infrastructure developments.

5.5 Climate

- The region experiences a semi-arid climate, with:
 - Hot summers
 - Seasonal rainfall
 - Typically dry, windy periods that may increase dust dispersion

5.6 Biodiversity (Flora & Fauna)

The project area falls within a semi-arid woodland ecosystem, characterised by diverse shrubs, trees, succulents, and associated savanna fauna.

5.6.1 Flora

The area is broadly classified as a woodland, with vegetation dominated by relatively dense stands of woody shrubs and trees. According to regional descriptions (Mendelsohn et al., 2002):

- The vegetation transitions from taller woodland to shrubby forms in areas with:
 - Shallow soils
 - Steeper slopes

- Hillier or rockier terrain
- Woody vegetation commonly ranges between 1 m and 3 m in height.
- The area is dominated by thorny *Acacia/Vachellia* and *Senegalia* species, typical of the Otjozondjupa savanna.
- Thornbush thickets are prevalent on sandy and calcrete-rocky soils.
- Several species are associated with higher elevations only.

5.6.2 Key Plant Species Noted in the EPL 9823 Area

- *Aloe littoralis* (Windhoek Aloe) — protected plant, visually dominant in rocky and elevated parts of the EPL.
- *Vachellia tortilis* (Umbrella Thorn)
- *Senegalia mellifera* (Black Thorn)
- *Terminalia sericea* (Silver Terminalia)
- *Combretum* species
- Various grasses and forbs typical of semi-arid bushveld

The presence of *Aloe littoralis* indicates a rocky, well-drained habitat, consistent with much of the terrain between Otavi and Otjiwarongo.

5.6.3 Fauna

The woodlands and thornbush thickets support a diverse savanna fauna community, including:

5.6.3.1 Mammals

- Common species:
 - Springbok
 - Kudu
 - Warthog
 - Jackal

- Small antelope species (duiker, steenbok)
- Smaller mammals:
 - Rodents
 - Bats
 - Mongooses

5.6.3.2 Birdlife

The mixture of trees, shrubs and open woodland supports:

- Raptors (eagles, kestrels, hawks)
- Ground-dwelling birds (francolins, guineafowl)
- General savanna species (hornbills, weavers, starlings)

5.6.3.3 Reptiles

- Lizards
- Geckos
- Snakes typical of semi-arid savannas

Reptile presence may be higher around rocky outcrops and aloe clusters, which offer shade and moisture pockets.

5.6.4 Ecological Sensitivities

- **Protected species present:** including *Aloe littoralis*.
- **Thornbush thickets** provide habitat for birds and small mammals.
- **Rocky slopes and shallow soils** support unique, slow-growing flora.
- Disturbance to vegetation must be minimised, especially in areas with **succulents and protected trees**



Figure 4 Vegetation

5.7 Mitigation Measures for Flora & Fauna

Environmental Aspect	Potential Impact	Mitigation Measures	Responsible Party
Disturbance to Protected Plants (e.g., <i>Aloe littoralis</i>)	Damage, removal, or destruction of protected aloe species and other sensitive flora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify and mark protected plants before work begins. - Establish 10–20 m no-go buffer around <i>Aloe littoralis</i> and other protected species. - Avoid clearing on rocky outcrops where aloes are concentrated. - If removal is unavoidable, obtain a permit from Forestry (MAWLR) before any disturbance. - Train workers to recognise protected species. 	ECO / Site Manager / Contractor
Vegetation Clearing	Loss of woodland,	- Limit clearing to the minimal	Contractor /

(General)	shrubs, and thornbush thickets	<p>footprint required for access and drilling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use existing tracks rather than creating new ones. - Clearly demarcate work areas. - Avoid clearing in sensitive zones (steep slopes, rocky areas, shallow soils). 	Proponent
Habitat Loss & Fragmentation	Disruption of habitats used by mammals, birds, reptiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plan access routes to avoid dense thickets and drainage lines. - Conduct work in phases to minimise large disturbances. - Implement progressive rehabilitation after completing work in each area. - Maintain natural vegetation buffers around active exploration areas. 	ECO / Site Manager
Soil Disturbance (Affects Flora Regeneration & Fauna Habitat)	Reduced vegetation recovery; soil erosion; disturbance to burrowing animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strip and stockpile topsoil separately for reuse. - Avoid working during/after heavy rains. - Backfill pits, trenches, and drill sums immediately after use. - Stabilise loose soils using vegetation or brush packs. 	Contractor
Wildlife Disturbance	Stress, displacement, or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restrict operations to daylight hours (07h00– 	All Staff / ECO

	<p>injury to fauna</p>	<p>18h00).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prohibit chasing, feeding, or handling wildlife. - Minimise noise by maintaining equipment. - Establish a wildlife sighting and incident reporting system. - Maintain safe driving speeds (<40 km/h on farms). 	
Poaching & Illegal Plant Harvesting	<p>Loss of wildlife and protected flora</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enforce a zero-tolerance poaching policy. - Prohibit removal of plant material (aloe leaves, firewood, seeds). - Site access must be controlled and monitored. - Report any suspected poaching to MET/MEFT. 	Proponent / Contractor
Fire Risk (Affects Both Fauna & Flora)	<p>Bushfires leading to loss of vegetation, aloe stands, and wildlife</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No open fires allowed.- Equip all vehicles with fire extinguishers.- Maintain cleared firebreaks around drill sites.- Avoid work on extreme fire-danger days.- Train staff in fire response. 	Site Manager / Contractor
Pollution (Hydrocarbons, Waste)	<p>Soil/water contamination affecting plant roots & wildlife</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bund all fuel storage (110% capacity). - Use drip trays for machinery. - Remove all waste to licensed sites. 	Contractor / Proponent

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clean up spills immediately using spill kits. - No waste burial or burning. 	
Disturbance to Avifauna (Birdlife)	Disruption of nesting or roosting areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Avoid clearing trees during bird breeding season (if applicable to species present). - Mark tall structures if left overnight to prevent bird collision. - Maintain woodland buffers near nesting trees. 	ECO / Contractors
Reptile & Small Mammal Mortality	Injury or death from pits, trenches or vehicle movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cover or fence open trenches overnight. - Inspect pits daily for trapped animals. - Provide escape ramps in deeper excavations. - Limit vehicle movement to designated tracks. 	Contractor / Site Supervisor
Post-Exploration Vegetation Recovery	Poor regrowth on disturbed areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Re-spread topsoil after backfilling. - Encourage natural revegetation using brush-packing. - Avoid smoothing natural rocky surfaces where aloes grow. - Monitor regrowth for at least one rainy season. 	ECO / Proponent

Table 2 Mitigation Measures for Flora & Fauna

5.8 Socio-Economic Environment

- Communities in Otavi and Otjiwarongo stand to benefit from:
 - Temporary jobs
 - Skills transfer
 - Local procurement
- The workforce will be sourced from nearby towns.

6 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

The Proponent will ensure that all project participants adhere to the following principles:

- All employees will be obliged to undertake activities in an ecologically and socially responsible way. This applies to all consultants, workers, contractors, and subcontractors, as well as transporters, visitors, and anyone else who enters the premises.
- Safeguard the health and safety of project personnel and the public against potential impacts of the project.

This includes issues of road safety, precautions against dangers on site, potential hazards; and,

- Promote good relationships with the surrounding settlements and other stakeholders.
- Wise use and conservation of environmental resources, giving due consideration to the use of resources by present and future generations;
- Prevent or minimize environmental impacts,
- Minimize air, water, and soil pollution; and Conserve Biodiversity.

7 MANAGEMENT OF KEY POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

7.1 Roles and Responsibilities for Environmental Management

The environmental aspects associated with the exploration programme on EPL 9823 may result in both positive and negative impacts. This section outlines the roles, responsibilities, communication structures, and implementation requirements necessary to ensure effective environmental management throughout the project lifecycle. It also sets out the objectives, indicators, and responsibilities of all stakeholders involved in implementing the EMP.

7.1.1 Communication Between Parties

Open and transparent communication between all project stakeholders is essential for proactive environmental management. This approach ensures that potential negative impacts are **anticipated, avoided, or minimized** rather than addressed only after the damage has occurred.

Particular emphasis must be placed on preventing unnecessary off-track driving and avoiding damage to vegetation especially **protected, rare, or slow-growing species** such as *Aloe littoralis*. These impacts are often difficult or impossible to rehabilitate, making proactive management critical.

The communication system must include:

- Clear reporting lines
- Regular updates between the ECO, Site Manager, contractors, and the Proponent
- Early notification of activities that may pose risks
- Immediate reporting of incidents or non-compliance

7.1.1.1 Stakeholder Engagement

Effective stakeholder engagement is a critical component of responsible mineral exploration and is essential to ensuring transparency, building trust, and preventing conflict during project implementation. The Proponent, together with the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) and the Manager of Field Operations (MFO), shall ensure that all Interested and

Affected Parties (I&APs) are informed of the project activities and that meaningful opportunities for engagement are provided throughout the exploration lifecycle.

Stakeholder engagement activities for EPL 9823 will include, but are not limited to, the following:

a) Notification of Project Activities

- Public notices shall be placed in **local newspapers**, in accordance with the Environmental Management Act (EMA) and its Regulations.
- **Site notices** will be prominently displayed at strategic locations within and around the EPL to inform local communities, landowners, and passers-by of the intention to undertake prospecting and exploration activities.
- All notices will clearly state the project description, proponent details, contact information, and the period within which stakeholders may submit comments.

b) Engagement with Landowners and Local Communities

- The Proponent shall maintain open communication with landowners and community members throughout all phases of exploration.
- Prior to the commencement of fieldwork, landowners shall be consulted to ensure access arrangements, safety considerations, and expectations are clearly understood.
- Any concerns raised by landowners or local communities will be recorded by the ECO and addressed promptly.

c) Management of Stakeholder Queries and Complaints

- A stakeholder register will be maintained, listing all individuals or groups who express interest in the project.
- A **Grievance and Feedback Mechanism** will be implemented to allow I&APs to raise issues or lodge complaints.
- The ECO will ensure that all complaints are investigated, addressed, and documented, with response actions communicated back to the affected stakeholder.

d) Ongoing Communication During Exploration

- Updates on exploration progress, access routes, and any activity that may affect communities or landowners will be shared proactively.
- Where significant changes to exploration activities are planned, the Proponent shall notify relevant stakeholders beforehand.
- The ECO will ensure that all engagement activities are documented, forming part of the project's compliance reporting.

e) Integration of Stakeholder Input

- Stakeholder comments and recommendations will be considered in decision-making where feasible and appropriate.
- Issues raised during engagement processes shall be incorporated into mitigation measures, access arrangements, and operational planning.

7.1.2 The Exploration Operating Company (Proponent)

The Proponent, through its Managing Director and Environmental Control Officer (ECO), is ultimately responsible for ensuring that all exploration activities comply with the EMP and relevant legislation. Responsibilities include:

- Ensuring the EMP and its environmental specifications are built into all contractual documents.
- Ensuring all contractors, subcontractors, and consultants comply with the EMP and relevant Namibian legislation and international standards where applicable.
- Enforcing compliance with the environmental specifications on a day-to-day basis.
- Appointing a suitably qualified ECO to conduct environmental monitoring and periodic audits.
- Ensuring adequate budget is allocated for environmental management measures.
- Commissioning tree/vegetation surveys where needed (e.g., before new access tracks or clearances).
- Ensuring forestry permits are applied for and obtained when protected species may be affected.

- Maintaining open and effective communication regarding environmental matters with all project parties.

7.1.3 Site Managers

Day-to-day environmental responsibility will be assigned to the Site Manager and Manager: Field Operations (MFO), supported by the ECO. Their responsibilities include:

- Familiarity with the EMP and relevant sections of the ESA/EIA.
- Implementing and enforcing environmental specifications at the workface.
- Monitoring daily compliance and communicating the ECO's directions to staff and contractors.
- Consulting with the ECO in cases where environmental damage has occurred or may occur and implementing necessary remedial measures.
- Keeping photographic and written records of “before-and-after” site conditions.
- Facilitating communication between workers, contractors, and the ECO to ensure effective environmental management.

7.1.4 Environmental Control Officer (ECO)

The Proponent must appoint a competent ECO to oversee environmental management. The ECO will:

- Conduct environmental audits and site inspections at least **bi-annually** or as required by MEFT.
- Compile environmental inspection reports for submission to the Managing Director and MFO.
- Advise the MFO on interpreting and implementing environmental requirements.
- Recommend corrective actions in cases of non-compliance.
- Submit required reports to MEFT at intervals stipulated by law or ECC conditions.
- Maintain an incident register documenting environmental events, corrective actions, and follow-up measures.

7.1.5 Contractors

All contractors operating on EPL 9823 must comply with this EMP. Their responsibilities include:

- Ensuring all staff understand and follow the EMP and environmental specifications.
- Notifying the Site Manager and ECO well in advance of any activity that may cause significant negative impacts so that mitigation measures can be agreed upon and implemented beforehand.
- Providing environmental induction and training to their employees and subcontractors.
- Ensuring appropriate waste management, pollution control, and safe operational practices.
- Undertaking rehabilitation measures progressively, rather than leaving all rehabilitation to the end of the project.
- Cooperating fully with the ECO during audits, inspections, and corrective action processes.

8 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

This section provides the specific, actionable procedures that must be followed.

8.1 Pre-Operational Planning and Land Access

- **Land Access Agreements:** No vehicle or personnel shall enter any privately owned land within the EPL without a signed Land Access Agreement as per Section 52 of the Minerals Act.
- **No-Go Zones:** Prior to mobilisation, the MFO and ECO shall identify and clearly demarcate environmentally sensitive "No-Go Zones," including drainage lines, dense vegetation, and areas near homesteads.
- **Stakeholder Notification:** A schedule of planned activities must be shared with relevant landowners and the Local Authority at least 14 days in advance.

8.2 Access, Track Management and Erosion Control

- **Use of Existing Tracks:** Vehicle movement must be restricted to existing farm and access tracks. Off-road driving is strictly prohibited.
- **New Track Establishment:** If absolutely necessary, requires prior written approval from the landowner and the ECO. New tracks must follow natural contours, avoid drainage lines, and be rehabilitated immediately after use.
- **Erosion Control:** At all sites where vegetation is cleared, immediate erosion control measures must be implemented, such as brush packing or sediment fences.

8.3 Biodiversity and Flora Conservation

- **Minimised Clearance:** Vegetation clearance must be limited to the absolute minimum necessary for safety and operational efficiency.
- **Protected Species:** A pre-clearance survey must be conducted to identify any plant species protected under the Forestry Act. A permit from the Directorate of Forestry is required before any protected species can be disturbed.

- **Topsoil Management:** In areas of ground disturbance, the top 150-200mm of topsoil must be carefully stripped, stockpiled separately, and protected for use in rehabilitation.

8.4 Waste Management

- **The Principle:** "Take it in, take it out" shall apply to all non-organic waste.
- **Waste Segregation:** Clearly labelled, sealed bins for general waste, recyclables, and hazardous waste must be provided at all work sites.
- **Hazardous Waste:** All used oils, filters, and chemical containers must be stored in a dedicated, bunded area and removed by a licensed waste carrier. Records of waste disposal receipts must be maintained.

8.5 Pollution Prevention and Hazardous Substances Management

- **Fuel and Oil Storage:** All hydrocarbons must be stored in dedicated, labelled containers placed within an impermeable bund with a volume of 110% of the largest container.
- **Maintenance and Refuelling:** All vehicle and equipment maintenance and refuelling must occur over drip trays in a designated, bunded area, at least 50m from any drainage line.
- **Spill Response Plan:** A Spill Response Kit must be present on all service vehicles. All personnel must be trained in immediate spill containment and reporting procedures. Any spill exceeding 25 litres must be reported to the MFO, ECO, and MAWLR within 24 hours.

8.6 Water Resource Protection

- **Water Abstraction:** The abstraction of groundwater for drilling or other purposes is strictly prohibited without a valid Water Abstraction Permit from MAWLR.
- **Source Water:** Water for drilling and dust suppression should be sourced via bulk water suppliers from outside the project area.
- **Drillhole Decommissioning:** Upon completion, each drillhole must be properly decommissioned to prevent it from becoming a conduit for contamination in the

karst environment. This involves geophysical logging, placement of bentonite plugs, and backfilling with cement/bentonite grout. A detailed Drillhole Decommissioning Record for each hole must be submitted to the ECO and MEFT.

8.7 Air Quality, Dust and Noise Management

- **Dust Suppression:** On unsealed access tracks and work areas, dust must be suppressed by applying water at a frequency sufficient to prevent visible dust plumes. Speed limits on site tracks shall be set at 30 km/h.
- **Noise:** Noisy activities shall be restricted to weekdays between 07h00 and 18h00. All machinery must be equipped with standard mufflers.

8.8 Heritage and Archaeological Resources Protection

8.8.1 Impact Assessment of Archaeological and Heritage Resources

The EPL 9823 project area is situated within a landscape of inferred archaeological sensitivity. Although no heritage resources were formally recorded during the desktop assessment, the geological setting and known regional heritage patterns indicate a high likelihood that undiscovered archaeological sites, artefacts, or subsurface features—such as stone tools, pottery fragments, historical remains, or unmarked graves—may occur.

Exploration activities, particularly drilling, trenching, excavation, and movement of heavy vehicles, may inadvertently disturb or destroy such resources. The pre-mitigation impact significance is therefore assessed as **Medium**, due to the irreversible nature of potential damage. When mitigation measures are fully implemented, the impact significance is reduced to **Low**.

8.8.2 Mitigation Measures and Recommendations

To safeguard archaeological and heritage resources, the following measures shall apply:

- A qualified archaeologist must be appointed to conduct a **detailed archaeological survey** prior to drilling or any mechanically assisted exploration where ground disturbance is expected.

- All exploration activities must **stop immediately** if any archaeological remain, artefact, or suspected grave is uncovered.
- The project shall adopt and implement the **Archaeological Chance Finds Procedure** included in **Appendix K** of this EMP.
- **Chance Finds Procedure:** The following procedure is mandatory:
 - **STOP** all work immediately.
 - **SECURE** the area.
 - **INFORM** the MFO and ECO immediately.
 - The ECO will **NOTIFY** the National Heritage Council of Namibia (NHC) without delay.
 - Work may only resume upon written authorisation from the NHC.

The National Heritage Council of Namibia (NHC) must be notified immediately for guidance on assessment, recovery, packaging, and removal where required. Work may only resume after formal written approval is granted by the NHC.

8.8.2.1 Archaeological and Heritage Resources – Impact, Mitigation, Responsibility, Monitoring

Potential Impact	Mitigation Measures	Responsibility	Monitoring Indicators
Disturbance or destruction of archaeological sites, artefacts, or unmarked graves during exploration activities (Medium → Low significance with mitigation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Appoint a qualified archaeologist to conduct a detailed survey before drilling or ground-disturbing activities. - Implement and enforce the Chance Finds Procedure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Officer (ECO); Manager Field Operations (MFO); All Personnel; Appointed Archaeologist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Archaeological survey report completed. - Evidence of worker awareness and training. - Register of chance finds maintained. - NHC

	<p>(Appendix K).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stop work immediately if any heritage resource is discovered. - Secure the site and notify the ECO and MFO. - ECO to notify the National Heritage Council (NHC) for guidance. - Resume work only upon written approval from the NHC. 		<p>communication records.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No unauthorised disturbance of heritage material
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Table 3 Archaeological & Heritage Resources Mitigation

9 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

The Proponent commits to ensuring that all project participants uphold the following principles:

a) Ecological and Social Responsibility

All employees, including consultants, workers, contractors, subcontractors, transporters, visitors, and others entering the premises, are obligated to conduct activities in an ecologically and socially responsible manner.

b) Health and Safety

Safeguarding the health and safety of project personnel and the public is paramount. This includes addressing road safety, on-site dangers, and potential hazards associated with the project.

c) Community Relations

Foster positive relationships with surrounding settlements, farm owners and stakeholders, emphasizing open communication and collaboration.

d) Wise Use and Conservation of Environmental Resources

Ensure the wise use and conservation of environmental resources, with consideration for both present and future generations. Prevent or minimize environmental impacts associated with project activities. Take measures to minimize air, water, and soil pollution resulting from project operations. Actively contribute to the conservation of biodiversity in the project area.

These principles underscore the Proponent's commitment to responsible and sustainable practices, promoting not only the success of the project but also the well-being of the environment, communities, and future generations.

10 ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIFICATIONS

These are detailed and specific requirements, standards, and guidelines that are set to govern and ensure the environmental performance of exploration. These specifications are designed to minimize or mitigate any potential negative impacts on the environment resulting from the activities associated with the exploration. These specifications cover a range of aspects and practices to promote responsible and sustainable environmental management. The environmental specifications are:

10.1 Compliance with Environmental Specifications

- Conducting activities in an environmentally and socially responsible manner.
- Strict adherence to environmental specifications by the contractor and on-site personnel.

10.2 Training and Awareness

- Provision of training for all site personnel and contractors to ensure compliance with environmental specifications.
- Oversight by the Manager Field Operations (MFO) to guarantee appropriate training levels at all personnel tiers.

10.3 Stakeholder Relations

- Maintenance of positive relations with landowners and the public by all site personnel.
- Addressing and resolving any complaints received by the Environmental Control Officer (ECO).

10.4 Permits

- Obtaining all necessary permits from relevant authorities.
- Conservation and relocation of rare and endangered plants require permits from the Directorate of Forestry.

10.5 Road Safety

- Implementation of precautions for safe access road usage, considering visibility, animal presence, and road conditions.
- Adherence to speed limits, cautious driving, and strict control of vehicle movements.

10.6 Access Tracks

- No new tracks unless essential, with approval from the Municipality and landowners.
- Clear marking of selected access and site roads, avoiding damage to plants.
- Foot access to elevated or trackless sites where possible.

10.7 Conservation of Biodiversity

- Strict avoidance of damage to protected species.

10.8 Wildlife Poaching

- Prohibition of capturing, killing, or harming animals or birds.
- Strict consequences for violations, including potential suspension from the project and prosecution.

10.9 Soil Management and Erosion Control

- Careful excavation to minimize topsoil removal.
- Separation and stockpiling of subsoil for backfilling.
- Prevention of soil erosion with suitable measures in sensitive areas.

10.10 Pollution Control

- Immediate reporting and containment of spills by workers.
- Mitigation of pollution incidents by the contractor.

10.11 Air Pollution/Dust Emission

- Timely activities during permissible weather conditions.
- Sheltered location for soil and sand stockpiles.

- Vegetation retention to reduce dust, re-vegetation of exposed surfaces, and controlled vehicle movement.
- Adherence to speed limits and dust monitoring practices.

10.12 Noise Pollution

- Keeping noise levels within acceptable limits, following appropriate noise mitigation specifications.
- Limiting noisy activities to specific times and avoiding weekends and public holidays.

10.13 Waste Management

- Maintaining cleanliness with provided bins and responsible waste disposal.
- No on-site burial of waste; removal to approved facilities.

10.14 Hazardous Substances

- Proper labelling and sealing of containers holding hazardous substances.
- Bunding of tanks to contain spills, immediate clean-up, and disposal of spills.

10.15 Fire Prevention

- Emergency Response Plan establishment.
- Controlled burning of charcoal with precautions and supervision.

10.16 Archaeological Sites

- Protection of archaeological remains, reporting of any finds to the Heritage Council.

10.17 Health and Safety

- Detailed induction for all personnel, including measures for dust, bees, snakes, and scorpions.
- Emphasis on good personal hygiene, including handwashing before eating.
- Provision of personal protective equipment and first aid supplies.

10.18 Dust Management

Staff provided with dust masks and proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) during charcoal processing to prevent inhalation.

10.19 Ingestion Prevention

Prohibition of eating, drinking, or smoking while working with potentially hazardous materials to avoid ingestion

10.20 Emergency Measures

Availability of Aspivenin (suction syringe) at all workstations for first aid in case of snake bites, scorpion stings, or bee stings.

10.21 Work Stoppage

- Authority of the MFO to halt work in case of environmental specification infringements.
- No entitlement to claims for delays during work stoppages.

10.22 Compliance Monitoring

- Monthly site compliance inspections by the company ECO.
- Compilation of EMP compliance reports submitted regularly to the MFO and biannually to the MEFT.

11 DECOMMISSIONING, REHABILITATION AND CLOSURE PLAN

Rehabilitation is a progressive process conducted concurrently with operations.

- **Progressive Rehabilitation:** As each exploration target is completed, rehabilitation must commence within one month.
- **Site-Specific Methods:**
 - **Trenches and Pits:** Backfill with original material, compact, and cover with stockpiled topsoil.
 - **Drill Pads:** Remove all equipment, rip compacted surfaces, and re-spread topsoil.
 - **Access Tracks:** Ripper lines to break up compaction and re-contour to blend with natural topography.
- **Closure Criteria:** The site will be considered successfully rehabilitated when all infrastructure is removed, the landform is stable, natural revegetation is established, and the landowner provides written sign-off

12 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

This section forms the core of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP), providing a systematic and detailed analysis of the potential environmental and socio-economic consequences of the proposed exploration activities on EPL 9823. It moves from identification to prescription, ensuring every foreseeable impact is matched with a concrete, actionable control measure.

12.1 Key Components:

1. **Impact Identification:** The section catalogues both positive and negative impacts across all project phases (pre-operational, operational, decommissioning). Positive impacts include temporary job creation, local skills development, and economic injection. Negative impacts are categorized by environmental theme, such as impacts on biodiversity, soil and water, waste generation, air quality (dust), noise, heritage resources, and community health and safety.
2. **Risk-Based Assessment:** Impacts are not merely listed; they are evaluated. The section employs a risk assessment methodology (or references its findings from the Scoping Report) that considers the *probability, extent, duration, and intensity* of each impact. This allows for the prioritization of management efforts on those impacts deemed most significant (e.g., groundwater contamination in the karst environment, improper drillhole closure).
3. **Structured Mitigation Hierarchy:** For every identified negative impact, the section prescribes a clear hierarchy of controls:
 - **Avoidance:** Where possible, changing plans to avoid the impact altogether (e.g., defining "No-Go Zones" for sensitive habitats).
 - **Minimization:** Implementing measures to reduce the impact's severity (e.g., using water for dust suppression, restricting work hours to limit noise).
 - **Rehabilitation:** Repairing damage during and after operations (e.g., progressive backfilling of trenches, re-spreading topsoil).
 - **Offset/Compensation:** As a last resort, where residual impacts are unavoidable.

4. **Actionable Management Measures:** The mitigation is presented not as vague advice but as **specific procedures and standards**. Examples include:

- The requirement for a 110% bund volume for fuel storage.
- The step-by-step Chance Finds Procedure for heritage resources.
- The technical specification for drillhole decommissioning (bentonite plugs, grouting).
- Speed limits (30 km/h) for vehicles on site tracks.

5. **Integration with Operational Control:** The mitigation measures are directly linked to the roles and responsibilities defined earlier in the EMP. They specify *who* must implement the measure (e.g., the MFO, the drilling contractor) and *how* it will be monitored and enforced.

Environmental Impact	Proposed Mitigation Measures	Responsibility	Monitoring Indicators
Air Pollution / Dust Generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct regular maintenance of vehicles and heavy equipment. • Brief workers and contractors on dust control requirements. • Enforce speed limits and controlled vehicle movement. • Undertake grading/landscaping only when necessary. • Provide dust masks/PPE to all workers. • Limit clearing during windy periods. 	Personnel on Duty; Foreman; Environmental Officer (EO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visible dust during operations. • Compliance with speed limits. • Condition of access roads and cleared areas.
Noise Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep noise within acceptable levels. • Notify employees and neighbours of planned noisy activities. • Conduct regular maintenance of noisy machinery and vehicles. • Provide workers 	Foreman; EO; Safety, Health & Environment (SHE) Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noise level measurements. • Noise complaints logged. • Maintenance records.

	with hearing protection where necessary.● Restrict noisy work to 06h00–18h00.		
Solid Waste Generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide clearly labelled refuse bins and skips at strategic points. Encourage recycling of plastic, cans, and paper. Empty bins regularly and dispose at approved facilities. Maintain bulk storage waste points to prevent littering. Prohibit burying or burning of waste onsite. 	Personnel on Duty; EO; SHE Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Condition and availability of waste bins. Records of waste removal. Site cleanliness.
Oil Leaks and Hydrocarbon Spills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct vehicle maintenance in a designated, sealed, and bunded area. Handle and store oils on impervious, bunded surfaces. Keep spill kits onsite and train workers in their use. Maintain equipment to prevent leaks. Clean spills immediately and dispose of contaminated materials properly. 	Personnel on Duty; Foreman; EO; SHE Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Absence or presence of oil spills. Spill incident register. Condition of bunded areas.
First Aid & Medical Emergencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain a well-stocked first aid kit at all times. Train personnel in first aid and emergency response. Display emergency contact information onsite. 	SHE Manager; Safety & Health Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contents of first aid kits. Incident and treatment records.
Visual / Aesthetic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply environmental considerations before clearing, 	SHE Manager; EO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visual inspection reports.

Impact	trenching, or excavating. - Limit disturbance to designated work areas only. - Rehabilitate disturbed areas progressively.		- Evidence of minimal disturbance. - Rehabilitated areas.
Archaeology & Cultural Heritage	- Establish buffer zones around known heritage sites. - Follow guidance from a qualified archaeologist when operating in sensitive areas. - Identify and protect all archaeological sites before work begins. - Keep an archaeologist on standby during high-risk phases. - Report chance finds immediately to EO and NHC; do not disturb materials.	All Personnel; EO; Manager	- Heritage register updated. - Chance finds log maintained. - Buffer zones clearly demarcated.
Occupational Health & Safety	- Provide PPE and train workers in its correct use. - Maintain clean and adequate sanitary facilities. - Keep first aid kits stocked and accessible. - Investigate and record all incidents and near-misses. - Conduct regular toolbox talks and inductions.	Safety & Health Officer; SHE Manager	- PPE usage on-site. - First aid kit availability. - Records of incidents and inductions.
Fauna Disturbance	- Avoid sensitive habitats such as riverbeds, rocky outcrops, and caves.	Personnel on Duty; EO; SHE Manager	- Observation of animal movement. - Wildlife incidents

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct fauna surveys if necessary. - Prohibit harming or capturing animals. - Prevent improper disposal of food waste to avoid attracting wildlife. - Educate workers on human–wildlife conflict prevention. 		<p>recorded.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cleanliness of work areas.
Alien Invasive Plant Spread	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure vehicles and equipment arrive clean and free of seeds. - Implement an alien vegetation management plan. - Remove and control invasive species early. - Train workers to recognise invasive plants. 	EO; Environmental Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular inspections for invasive species. - Records of removals or treatment.
Loss of Vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow environmental guidelines before clearing. Prevent vehicle movement in sensitive areas (riverbeds, rocky outcrops). - Restrict vehicle access to authorised routes. - Rehabilitate cleared areas with native vegetation. 	EO; SHE Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Warning signage in place. - Restoration of disturbed areas. - Compliance with approved access routes.

Figure 5 Environmental Impacts, and Mitigation Measures, Responsibilities, and Monitoring Indicators

13 MONITORING PLAN

13.1 Project Readiness Monitoring

- Verify permits
- Conduct environmental induction
- Confirm access agreements

13.2 Environmental Quality Monitoring

- Soil and vegetation condition
- Waste disposal records
- Water usage

13.3 EMP Compliance Monitoring

- ECO reports
- Incident logs
- Internal audits

13.4 Operational Monitoring

- Drill site inspections
- Hydrocarbon storage checks
- Rehabilitation status tracking

13.5 INCIDENT REPORTING AND NON-COMPLIANCE PROTOCOL

- **Incident Reporting:** Any environmental incident must be reported to the MFO and ECO within 24 hours. A formal Incident Report must be compiled.
- **Non-Compliance:** The ECO is empowered to issue a formal "Notice of Non-Compliance" for any breach. Repeated or serious non-compliance will result in a "Stop Work Order".

14 ENVIRONMENTAL CODE OF CONDUCT

This Environmental Code of Conduct applies to **all personnel** involved in the exploration operations on EPL 9823, including the Proponent, contractors, subcontractors, temporary and permanent workers, and visitors. Adherence to this Code is mandatory for any individual entering or working within the project boundary.

The Environmental Control Officer (ECO) is responsible for monitoring compliance with all environmental requirements outlined in this EMP. The ECO has the authority to issue warnings, recommend corrective actions, and report non-compliance to site management. Repeated or serious violations may lead to disciplinary action, including removal from the exploration site. This Code of Conduct ensures that all project participants contribute to responsible, safe, and environmentally sustainable operations throughout the project lifecycle.

14.1 Site Closure and Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation is a critical step to restore the environment affected by exploration activities. The objective is to return disturbed areas as close as possible to their pre-exploration condition and ensure that the post-closure landscape is safe, stable, and non-polluting.

Rehabilitation efforts will focus on:

- Drill pads
- Trenches and pits
- Access tracks
- Temporary work areas
- Areas used for storage, sampling, and equipment placement

The closure vision is to achieve a self-sustaining, environmentally stable landscape that does not pose risks to people, livestock, wildlife, or downstream users.

14.1.1 Site Closure and Rehabilitation Activities

The following activities will form part of the rehabilitation and closure process:

- Removal of all temporary structures, including site camps and storage facilities.

- Removal of all equipment, drilling gear, and associated materials from the site.
- Dismantling and removal of temporary infrastructure such as fuel storage tanks, solar units, and generators.
- Backfilling of all trenches, pits, and drill sums using appropriate material.
- Rehabilitation of access tracks (where new tracks were created) in consultation with landowners.
- Avoidance of damage to existing secondary roads and strict use of designated tracks.
- Redistribution of recovered topsoil and subsoil to restore natural soil profiles.
- Cleaning, treatment, and restoration of disturbed or contaminated areas.
- Full removal of domestic and hazardous waste to licensed facilities in Otavi, Otjiwarongo, or other approved disposal sites.

15 RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the comprehensive findings and detailed management framework established within this Environmental Management Plan (EMP), the following formal recommendations are made to ensure the responsible execution of the proposed exploration activities:

1. **Issuance of Environmental Clearance Certificate:** It is recommended that the Environmental Commissioner grant an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) to the Proponent for the proposed exploration activities on EPL 9823, contingent upon the full and binding implementation of all conditions and mitigation measures stipulated within this EMP.
2. **Pre-Operational Compliance Verification:** Prior to the commencement of any ground-disturbing activities, the Proponent must provide evidence to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) of the following:
 - Signed Land Access Agreements with all relevant landowners/occupiers, as per the Minerals Act.
 - Appointment of a suitably qualified and MEFT-approved Environmental Control Officer (ECO).
 - Submission of contractor environmental management protocols and proof of staff induction.
 - Acquisition of all other necessary subsidiary permits (e.g., from Forestry, Water Affairs).
3. **Implementation of Progressive Monitoring and Auditing:** The Proponent must adhere to the stringent monitoring and auditing schedule outlined in this EMP. The timely submission of the ECO's bi-annual audit reports and annual performance reports to MEFT is mandatory for demonstrating ongoing compliance and for informing any necessary adaptive management of the plan.
4. **Commitment to Adaptive Management:** This EMP must be treated as a living document. The Proponent is required to formally review and, if necessary, revise the plan in response to monitoring findings, audit outcomes, changes in exploration

methodology, or the discovery of unforeseen environmental sensitivities. Any significant amendments must be submitted to MEFT for approval.

5. **Stakeholder Engagement Continuity:** The Proponent should maintain open, proactive communication channels with registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), local authorities, and landowners throughout the exploration phase, providing updates on activities and environmental performance.
6. **Condition for Future Development:** Should exploration activities progress beyond the scope defined in this EMP and identify economically viable mineral resources, it is a mandatory condition that a separate, comprehensive Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) be conducted for any proposed advanced exploration, test-mining, or mining operations. This subsequent assessment will be scoped specifically to the project's new footprint and potential impacts, requiring a new application for environmental authorization.

16 CONCLUSION

This Environmental Management Plan (EMP) provides a rigorous, practical, and legally defensible framework designed to govern the environmental and social aspects of mineral exploration on EPL 9823. It translates the principles of Namibia's environmental legislation into explicit, actionable procedures for on-the-ground management.

The plan demonstrates a clear pathway for the Proponent to fulfill their commitment to regulatory compliance, responsible environmental stewardship, and proactive stakeholder engagement. By establishing defined roles, systematic monitoring protocols, and detailed mitigation measures—particularly for the sensitive karst environment and biodiverse woodlands of the Otavi District—the EMP ensures that exploration is conducted with minimal footprint and maximum accountability.

Effective implementation of this EMP will facilitate the following outcomes:

- **Minimization and Control of Negative Impacts:** Through preventative design, continuous monitoring, and immediate corrective actions, potential impacts on soil, water, air, biodiversity, and heritage resources will be reduced to acceptable levels.
- **Enhancement of Positive Socio-Economic Benefits:** By prioritizing local employment, skills transfer, and fair engagement with landowners, the project can contribute positively to the local economy while fostering social license to operate.
- **Protection of Ecosystem Function and Land Use Compatibility:** The phased and low-impact approach, coupled with strict controls and progressive rehabilitation, ensures that exploration activities coexist with existing farming and ecological land uses without causing long-term degradation.
- **Strengthened Governance and Transparency:** The mandated audit and reporting regime provides a transparent mechanism for regulator and stakeholder oversight, building trust and ensuring ongoing compliance.

In conclusion, this EMP represents a comprehensive blueprint for **sustainable exploration**. If implemented diligently and enforced consistently, it will ensure that the search for mineral resources on EPL 9823 is conducted in a manner that safeguards environmental integrity, respects social values, and aligns with Namibia's long-term sustainable development goals.

The plan thereby provides a sufficient basis for managing the identified risks, supporting the recommendation for the approval of the proposed activities.

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**ANNEXURE C: CONSENT LETTER OR SUPPORT DOCUMENT FROM
RELEVANT AUTHORITY**

Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy
Mining Directorate
The Mining Commissioner
Ms. Isabella Chirchir
Directorate of Mines
Private Bag 13297, Windhoek, Namibia

Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy 9th of January 2025

Mining Commissioner
Directorate of Mines
09 JAN 2026
Private Bag 13297
Windhoek
Received

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF COMPLETE SUBMISSION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT STUDY FOR EPLs (9823, 9824 & 9825)

Dear Sir/Madam,

This letter serves to formally notify your office that the Environmental Scoping Assessment Study for Exclusive Prospecting License (EPLs) (9823, 9824 & 9825), held by Ms. Namasiku Bainga (the Proponent), has been fully prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) under application reference APP-005311, APP-005312 and APP- 005742.

The Proponent is required to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) through the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process within 12 months of the notice. Due to challenges in accessing farms to conduct the mandatory Archaeological Heritage Assessment under the National Heritage Act (27 of 2004), the Proponent requested and was granted a six (6) month extension by your office.

We happy to announce that the Environmental Scoping Assessment has now been completed and submitted to MEFT, the competent authority under the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007). The following key components form part of the submission:

- Scoping Report: outlining the proposed project, identified environmental sensitivities, and the scope of further studies required for the full EIA.
- Environmental Management Plan (EMP): preliminary measures to mitigate potential impacts.
- Proof of Consultation: including minutes and public notification adverts.
- Preliminary Site Map: with geographic coordinates and legend.
- Confirmation of Screening Notice receipt in compliance with Section 35(1)(a)(b) of the Environmental Management Act.

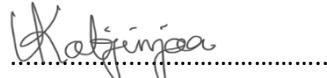
- CV of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).
- Consent from the National Heritage Council – pending.
- Declaration for Submission of Assessment Reports : duly completed as per MEFT's requirements.

The submitted documents are now simultaneously under review by MEFT. We will keep your office informed of all material developments and will comply with any further requirements from MEFT.

We kindly request your office to note this submission and to provide any necessary coordination or support as the EIA process moves forward, particularly in relation to the extended timeline previously approved.

Should you require any further information or documentation, please do not hesitate to contact us at email: UKatjinja@ssconsultant.co.

Yours sincerely,



Uaanao Katjinja

Environmental Specialist-SS Consultants CC

**ANNEXURE D: PROOF OF CONSULTATION (MINUTES, NEWSPAPER
ADVERTS)**

20 November 2025

PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING MINUTES:

PROJECT: Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) for Proposed Exploration Activities on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 9823 located of in the Otjozondjupa region, Namibia.

Date: 03 November 2025, Monday

Time: 11:00 – 12:11

Venue: Khoi-Khoi Guesthouse, Otavi

Nine people attended the public consultation meeting, including two Environmental Consultants (Mr. Mandume Leonard and Ms. Vistolina Augustus) and one Archaeologist (Ms. Loide Shipingana) from Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd (EDS) and Mr. Silvanus Shigwedha (Geologist) from SS Consultancy.

Supplementary farm-to-farm visits were also made to engage with absent farmers. Additionally, telephone communications were used to further interact with stakeholders who were unable to attend in person.

These minutes encompass feedback and discussions gathered from both the Khoi-Khoi Guesthouse meeting and subsequent farm visits, as well as insights shared through phone conversations.

Please refer to the attached attendance register for a complete list of attendees.

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING REMARKS

The Environmental Consultant (Mandume) began the meeting by introducing the team and explaining the purpose of the consultation, which was to engage Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) about the proposed prospecting and exploration activities within **EPL 9823**.

An attendance register was then circulated among the attendees, enabling them to register their names and contact details, which would be used to maintain communication and provide updates on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

2. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION

The agenda of the meeting included the following main points:

2.1 Brief Description of the Project

Mr. Mandume provided the attendees with an overview of the ESA process, citing relevant legislations such as the Environmental Management Act and its 2012 EIA Regulations on Public Consultation. He then explained the significance of obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the proposed project, emphasizing the attendee's crucial role in contributing to the ESA process by offering their insights and feedback regarding the potential environmental, social, and economic impacts of the proposed project.

2.2 Presentation of Potential Project Impacts

To ensure transparency and that the attendees understand both sides of the proposed project activities, the Environmental Consultant also presented the potential pre-identified potential positive & negative environmental and social impacts.

2.3 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)

Mr Mandume allowed the meeting attendees to raise their concerns, issues, and/or comments on the proposed project activities. The concerns/issues and comments recorded are presented in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Comments and issues raised during the public consultation meeting

Comment/ issue No.	Commenter name & issue / comment / question	Response and name of responder:
1.	In the past, a company conducted drilling on our farms, collected samples, but failed to return or provide any follow-up information.	Mr. Silvanus Shigwedha (SS): Only a few companies possess the necessary financial resources and technical expertise to undertake such projects. Even with this EPL of Ms.Namasiku, collaboration with a capable partner will be essential to move forward.
2.	I would appreciate some time to review the Background Information Document thoroughly. Once I have a better understanding, I'll be able to formulate more targeted follow-up questions.	(SS): Certainly, take your time to study the document. Feel free to reach out via phone or email with any questions you might have, and we will gladly address them. Our contact information is listed at the back of the Background Information Document.
3.	If, as a landowner, I choose not to grant access to my property, what would be the implications or next steps in this situation?	(SS): In my experience, landowners often refuse access due to past negative encounters or a lack of understanding about the process. Legally, sub-surface rights belong to the government, but it's crucial to empathize with the farmer's perspective. To address concerns, we can work on mitigating issues. Alternatively, the Ancillary Rights Committee, composed of independent legal experts within the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy, can facilitate a meeting between both parties to find a resolution.

Comment/ issue No.	Commenter name & issue / comment / question	Response and name of responder:
4.	What happens If my farm is identified as a key area of interest for the exploration?	(SS): if it is a target area, that would entail ongoing communication and collaboration. This is not a rushed process, but rather one that evolves with time, allowing for your input and considerations.
5.	What is the nature of the exploration, is it general or targeted?	(SS): The exploration is targeted, specifically focusing on gold deposits.
6.	Do other companies not share their previous exploration data?	(SS): Information for exploration for any work done in a certain area is supposed to be submitted by the Proponent to the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy. So, what happens is most companies do not share data, they usually just share reports. This limited access to detailed information can hinder decision-making, as it's challenging to assess project viability without comprehensive data.
7.	Will the Environmental Assessment team be conducting on-site visits?	Mr Mandume Leonard: Yes, that is correct. Our team will be conducting on-site visits as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment, and Archeological, and Heritage Impact Assessment process. These visits are necessary to gain a thorough understanding of the local environment.

FINAL REMARKS AND CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

Mr. Mandume thanked the attendees for their crucial input through comments and raising their concerns. He indicated to the attendees that all their comments, concerns, and inputs had been noted down for consideration and addressing in the Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) Report as well as incorporating their recommendations into the draft EMP.

Furthermore, Mr. Mandume informed the attendees that the draft meeting minutes, Environmental Assessment Report, and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) will be shared with them for review and further comments. These documents will be made available through emails provided on the attendance register.

Once the review of the draft ESA Report and EMP is done, the documents will be finalized and submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry (DEAF) for evaluation and consideration of an ECC.

The meeting adjourned at 12h11.





PUBLIC NOTICE

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES (UPL No 982)

Notice is hereby placed to inform all potentially Interested and Affected Parties (IAAPs) that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate will be made to the Environmental Commissioner, in line with provisions of Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007 and its Regulations of 2012, in respect of proposed exploration activities for Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals and Precious Metals.

Project Location: Kusini Region (as depicted on map)



Figure 1: Locality Map Coordinates for UPL 982

Proposed Mineral Resource

All Interested and Affected Parties (IAAPs) are invited to register and submit their comments (including request for Background Information Document) before 24th May 2025 to:

Mr. Umaru Karimjee
Environmental Specialist (EAP)
SS Consultants CC
Cell: 081 477 9423 / 081 240 9124
Email: Ukarimjee@ssconsultants.co.za







SS CONSULTANTS

• CORPORATE SERVICES • ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Public Consultation Meeting

For the

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) CONSULTATION FOR THE PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES FOR BASE AND RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, PRECIOUS METALS FOR EPL 9823

Date: 03 November 2025

Venue: Khoi - Khoi Guesthouse

Time: 11 H00



SS CONSULTANTS

• A CONSULTANT FIRM IN ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANCY • ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT FIRM

Attendance Register:

Name:	Organization/Farm	Tell or Cell phone:	Email Address:	Postal Address:	Signature:
1 H N MATONGO	OKAPUTA WEST	08128830824	help@okputa.com	P.O. Box 81615 NYK	
2 P.T. MATONCO	OKAPUTA WEST	0813075132	fmchongay@93@gmail.com	P.O. Box 81615 NYK	
3 P.M. ASINO	OKAPUTA WEST	081124233	TATEDITRISMC@gmail.com	P.O. Box 70023 NYK	
4 S. SITALI	OKAPUTA WEST	081128824	sidistalystheme@gmail.com	P.O. Box 81615 NYK	
5 WO Shipping	EDS	0816137636	Wode.O.Shipping@gmail.com	P.O. Box 26277	
6 M. Leonard	EDS	0818128677	Wendy@okputa.com		
7 Akwae	Okaputa west	0811291423			
8					
9 Penda	Okaputa west	0813904421			
10		0842280214			
11 Hamambo	okaputa west	0814989426			
12 S. Shywech	SS (cons) hnf	0812485717	Silvano G Silvano@hot.com		
13 Visaline Angulaw	ED	0814269536	Visaline@edenomic.com		
14 MARRON	Olonyima	0817304118	maron.sokal@icloud.com	P.O. Box 35901	
15 Steven Van Wyk		0811291403	Wendy@yaho.com	Portmore	
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Name:	Organization/Farm phone:	Tell or Cell	Email Address:	Postal Address:
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For more information about this issue, please contact Mr. Francis Pauderay
or Mr. Lameck Kafuwa on 0811 210 3344 or 0811 210 3345

CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICE ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Notice is hereby placed to inform all potentially interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate will be made to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, in line with the provisions of Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007 and its Regulations of 2012.

Project Location: EPL 8677 is located 80 km southeast of Arandis and about 114 km east of Otavi Bay towns, in the Karas and Swakopmund Districts, Erongo Region.

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 8683 exploration activities for base and rare metals, dimension stone, industrial minerals, precious metals, precious stones and semi-precious stones.

Proponent: Mrs. Tertu Nengula (Retired)

All interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
• Ms. Lameck Kafuwa
• +266 81 240 9124
• UKafuwa@ssconsultants.co



NOTICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Notice is hereby placed to inform all potentially interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate will be made to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, in line with the provisions of Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007 and its Regulations of 2012.

Project Location: Henties Bay, Erongo Region

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 8624 exploration activities for industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 120 km south of Otavi, south of Otavi on the D3808 and D2814 gravel road.

Proponent: Mr. Namatsumi Biering

All interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
• Ms. Lameck Kafuwa
• 0814779623
• UKafuwa@ssconsultants.co



NOTICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Notice is hereby placed to inform all potentially interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate will be made to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, in line with the provisions of Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007 and its Regulations of 2012.

Project Location: Oavi, Ojozondjupa Region

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 8610 exploration activities for industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 50 KM, south of Oavi, on the D3808 and D2814 gravel road.

Proponent: Namatsumi Biering

All interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
• Ms. Lameck Kafuwa
• 0814779623
• UKafuwa@ssconsultants.co



NOTICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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Project Location: Oavi, Ojozondjupa Region

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 8610 exploration activities for industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 50 KM, south of Oavi, on the D3808 and D2814 gravel road.

Proponent: Bauli Investment CC

All interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
• Ms. Lameck Kafuwa
• 0814779623
• UKafuwa@ssconsultants.co



NOTICE ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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Project Location: Oavi, Ojozondjupa Region

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 8610 exploration activities for industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 50 KM, south of Oavi, on the D3808 and D2814 gravel road.

Proponent: Mrs. Tertu Nengula (Retired)

All interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
• Ms. Lameck Kafuwa
• 0814779623
• UKafuwa@ssconsultants.co



NOTICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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Project Location: Henties Bay, Erongo Region

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 8619 exploration activities for nuclear fuel, dimension stone, industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 21 KM, east of Henties Bay, access is via C38 and D1918 gravel road.

Proponent: Husmim Quarrying Services CC

All interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
• Ms. Lameck Kafuwa
• 0814779623
• UKafuwa@ssconsultants.co



NOTICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Notice is hereby placed to inform all potentially interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate will be made to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, in line with the provisions of Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007 and its Regulations of 2012.

Project Location: Oavi, Ojozondjupa Region

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 8623 exploration activities for industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 60 KM, south west of Oavi, access is via B1 turn road.

Proponent: Namatsumi Biering

All interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
• Ms. Lameck Kafuwa
• 0814779623
• UKafuwa@ssconsultants.co



NOTICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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Project Location: Oavi, Ojozondjupa Region

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 8635 exploration activities for dimension stone, industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 18 KM, south of Oavi access is via D3808 and D2817 gravel road.

Proponent: Johannes Gobeni Eric Sondj

All interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
• Ms. Lameck Kafuwa
• 0814779623
• UKafuwa@ssconsultants.co



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Project Location: Oavi, Ojozondjupa Region

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 8623 exploration activities for industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 60 KM, south west of Oavi, access is via B1 turn road.

Proponent: Namatsumi Biering

All interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) are invited to register, request background information document and submit inputs on or before 3rd March 2025. A public consultation date will be communicated to all stakeholders at a later stage.

For any inquiries please contact:
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
• Ms. Lameck Kafuwa
• 0814779623
• UKafuwa@ssconsultants.co



CLASSIFIEDS

Employment

Offered

VACANCY:

Seeking a Married Couple for Remote **BLUEBERRY FARM** Roles

We have two key positions available for a married couple willing to live and work in a remote setting:

Head of Blueberry Agricultural Technology

Leverage AI, precision irrigation, and data analytics to boost blueberry yields and sustainability.

Responsibilities:

- Develop and implement tech-driven strategies.
- Oversee irrigation systems for efficiency.
- Integrate AI and data analytics for improved performance.
- Lead and mentor agricultural teams.
- Ensure compliance, sustainability, and budget management.

Requirements:

- 8–15 years in agricultural tech (blueberry/fruit experience preferred).
- Expertise in irrigation, data management, and AI.
- Proven leadership and problem-solving abilities.
- Relevant tertiary education in agriculture or related field.
- Procurement & Office Manager (Blueberry Farm)
- Oversee procurement of supplies/services, vendor negotiations, and office operations.
- Manage blueberry export/import processes and ensure regulatory compliance.
- Maintain records and collaborate with teams for seamless operations.

Requirements:

- 6+ years in procurement/office management (agriculture preferred).
- Experience with export/import documentation.
- Proficiency in advanced Excel.
- Strong negotiation, organizational, and problem-solving skills.
- High integrity and confidentiality.

Kindly submit CV to:
hello@namibiaberries.com
before 28 February 2024.

Notice

Legal Notice

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIALISATION AND TRADE, LIQUOR ACT, 1998 NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO A COMMITTEE IN TERMS OF THE LIQUOR ACT, 1998 (REGULATIONS 14, 26 & 33)

Notice is given that an application in terms of the Liquor Act, 1998, particulars of which appear below, will be made to the Regional Liquor Licensing Committee, Region:

ZAMBEZI

1. Name and postal address of applicant, **NEO MOSCOW**
2. Name of business or proposed business to which applicant relates: **SIYUNGHE SHEBEEB**
3. Address/Location of premises to which application relates: **MASOKOTWANI AREA**
4. Nature and details of application:

SHEBEEB LIQUOR LICENSE
5. Clerk of the court with whom Application will be lodged:

KATIMA MULILO MAGISTRATE'S COURT

6. Date on which application will be Lodged:

18 FEBRUARY 2025

7. Date of meeting of Committee at which application will be heard:

14 MAY 2025

Any objection or written submission in terms of section 28 of the Act in relation to the applicant must be sent or delivered to the Secretary of the Committee to reach the Secretary not less than 21 days before the date of the meeting of the Committee at which the application will be heard

Notice

Legal Notice

Notice

Legal Notice

(061) 208 0800/44

(061) 220 584

classifieds@nepc.com.na

Notice

Legal Notice

'Worst'...

Ademola Lookman

Photo: Getty Images



Gasperini blasts Lookman for missing penalty

Atalanta coach Gian Piero Gasperini said his striker Ademola Lookman is "one of the worst penalty-takers he has ever seen" after his miss from the spot hindered a comeback in their home 3-1 defeat to Club Brugge in the Champions League.

Lookman pulled back one goal early in the second half after Brugge took a 3-0 halftime lead, but then had a penalty saved by goalkeeper Simon Mignolet, as the Serie A side were knocked out with a 5-2 aggregate defeat.

Gasperini singled out the Nigeria international for criticism, adding offensive midfielder Charles de Ketelaere or striker Mateo Retegui should have taken the penalty instead.

"Lookman was not supposed to take that penalty, he is one of the worst penalty-takers I've ever seen. He has a frankly terrible record, even in training, he converts very few of them."

Retegui and De Ketelaere were there, but Lookman in a moment of enthusiasm after scoring decided to take the ball, and that was a gesture I did not appreciate at all," the Italian manager told a post-match press conference.

Gasperini also criticised Atalanta captain Rafael Toloi, who was shown a straight red card for a shove on Maxim de Cuyper after an argument over a throw-in.

"That was an ugly incident, and we must never lose our heads. Atalanta must leave the Champions League with dignity, having played great games against the likes of Real Madrid, Arsenal and Barcelona," he said.

Atalanta, third in Serie A, became the second Italian side to exit the Champions League, following AC Milan, who drew 1-1 with Feyenoord, losing 2-1 on aggregate.

-Supersport.com

Property

Offered



PROPERTY WANTED

Twahefa Real Estate We are urgently in need of **FOR SALE HOUSES** in Windhoek 0816534437 twhafasins@gmail.com



SUPERCARE DENTAL PRACTICE-RUACANA is looking for a **Dental Therapist** with a minimum experience of 2 years. He/She must be able to work without supervision. First priority shall be given to a Namibian. Email your CVs to dentalsupercare@gmail.com













RE: EPL 9823= NB! FW: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

From vaugustus@edsnamibia.com <vaugustus@edsnamibia.com>

Date Wed 10 Sep 2025 12:05

To oshikulonam@gmail.com <oshikulonam@gmail.com>

Cc 'Mandume Leonard' <mleonard@edsnamibia.com>

Dear Mr Nahas Angula,

Thank you for registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for the proposed project.

We are finalizing the details for the stakeholders engagement meeting and will share the information with you as soon as it's available.

If you have any queries or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,



Vistolina Augustus

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Office. 5th Floor Maerua Mall | Office Block B

Cel. +264 81 4269536

Tel. +264 61 259 530

Email. vaugustus@edsnamibia.com

From: Stoman EC [mailto:stoman@afol.com.na]

Sent: Wednesday, September 10, 2025 10:40 AM

To: vaugustus@edsnamibia.com

Subject: FW: EPL 9823= NB! FW: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

Dear Vistolina

He accidentally sent his info to me.

See below.

Regards

Christine

From: Nahas Angula <oshikulonam@gmail.com>

Sent: 10 September 2025 09:35

To: Stoman EC <stoman@afol.com.na>

Subject: Re: EPL 9823= NB! FW: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

Farm Stark 565: contact person: Mr N Angula, 0811288222

On Wed, 10 Sept 2025 at 08:30, Stoman EC <stoman@afol.com.na> wrote:

From: vaugustus@edsnamibia.com <vaugustus@edsnamibia.com>

Sent: 09 September 2025 13:16

To: 'Stoman EC' <stoman@afol.com.na>

Cc: 'Mandume Leonard' <mleonard@edsnamibia.com>; public@edsnamibia.com

Subject: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

Dear Esteemed Interested & Affected Party,

Namasiku Bainga (The Proponent) proposes to undertake prospecting and exploration activities on **Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi, Otjozondjupa Region.**

Mineral prospecting and exploration is one of the listed activities that cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) as per the 2012 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007.

As part of the project's environmental assessment process, **SS Consultants has subcontracted Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd**, an independent environmental consulting firm, to conduct the required Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) process and apply for the ECC.

Furthermore, Sections 21 to 24 of the EIA Regulations require that Public Consultation is undertaken as one of the crucial components of the Environmental Assessment, which involves the pre-identification of potential Interested & Affected Parties (I&APs) or Stakeholders and ongoing registration of new I&APs and subsequent consultation. You have therefore been identified as a potential I&AP for this proposed activity, and the reason you are receiving this communication.

Please find the attached the Background Information Document (BID) and land use map for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities.

The EPL covers multiple farms, including: Okanjima No.3, Klein Okaputa No.381, Okaputa-Sud-West No.567, Fisher No.564, Stark No.565 and Okaputa West.

We would greatly appreciate if the landowners could kindly provide us with their names, farm names, and contact details so that we can register them as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs).

We are currently working to finalize the date for the stakeholders engagement meeting and will provide further details once this information is available.

Kind regards,



Vistolina Augustus

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Office. 5th Floor Maerua Mall | Office Block B

Cel. +264 81 4269536

Tel. +264 61 259 530

Email. vaugustus@edsnamibia.com



Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region

From vaugustus@edsnamibia.com <vaugustus@edsnamibia.com>

Date Tue 14 Oct 2025 10:45

To ranga@afol.com.na <ranga@afol.com.na>

2 attachments (11 MB)

Background Information Document BID_for EPL_9823.pdf; EPL 9823 LAND USE MAP.PNG;

Dear Esteemed Interested & Affected Party,

Namasiku Bainga (The Proponent) proposes to undertake prospecting and exploration activities on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi, Otjozondjupa Region.

Mineral prospecting and exploration is one of the listed activities that cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) as per the 2012 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007.

As part of the project's environmental assessment process, **SS Consultants has subcontracted Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd**, an independent environmental consulting firm, to conduct the required Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) process and apply for the ECC.

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Please find the attached the Background Information Document (BID) and land use map for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities.

The EPL covers multiple farms, including: Okonjima No.3, Klein Okaputa No.381, Okaputa-Sud-West No.567, Fisher No.564, Stark No.565 and Okaputa West.

Please note that the Public Consultation meeting is scheduled as follows:

Date: 3rd November 2025

Time: 11h00

Venue: Khoi-khoi Guesthouse, Otavi

We would like to remind landowners that the EPL application is still in the process of obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate and we strongly encourage landowners to attend this meetings which provides an open forum to share their concerns, ask questions, and understand the proposed project in detail.

Following the public consultation meetings, the Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd consultant teams will require permission to access the farms for the Environmental and Heritage Assessment. This assessment is an important part of the EPL application process, and will provide additional information about the potential impact of the proposed project on the local environment and heritage.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

Kind regards,





Re: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

From vaugustus@edsnamibia.com <vaugustus@edsnamibia.com>

Date Fri 31 Oct 2025 15:21

To Stoman EC <stoman@afol.com.na>

Dear Valued Stakeholder,

This email serves as a reminder that the public consultation meeting is still set as follows:

Date: 3rd November 2025 (Monday)

Time: 11h00

Venue: Khoi-khoi Guesthouse, Otavi

The EPL covers multiple farms, including: Okanjima No.3, Klein Okaputa No.381, Okaputa-Sud-West No.567, Fisher No.564, Stark No.565 and Okaputa West.

We would like to remind landowners that the EPL application is still in the process of obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate and we strongly encourage landowners to attend this meetings which provides an open forum to share their concerns, ask questions, and understand the proposed project in detail.

Following the public consultation meetings, the Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd consultant teams will require permission to access the farms for the Environmental and Heritage Assessment. This assessment is an important part of the EPL application process, and will provide additional information about the potential impact of the proposed project on the local environment and heritage.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

Kind Regards,



Vistolina Augustus

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Office. 5th Floor Maerua Mall | Office Block B

Cel. +264 81 4269536

Tel. +264 61 259 530

Email. vaugustus@edsnamibia.com

From: vaugustus@edsnamibia.com <vaugustus@edsnamibia.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 14, 2025 07:58
To: Stoman EC <stoman@afol.com.na>

Subject: Re: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

Thank you so much Mrs Stoman, truly appreciate the effort.

Kind regards,
Vistolina

From: Stoman EC <stoman@afol.com.na>
Sent: Tuesday, 14 October 2025 07:56
To: vaugustus@edsnamibia.com <vaugustus@edsnamibia.com>
Subject: RE: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

Thank you, Vistolina.
My husband reminded me that it is Ranga Haikali's farm.
I have sent him a Whatsapp.
CS the PO

From: vaugustus@edsnamibia.com <vaugustus@edsnamibia.com>
Sent: 14 October 2025 06:50
To: Stoman EC <stoman@afol.com.na>
Subject: Re: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

Good day Mrs Stoman,
I trust you are well.
It's actually Okonjima No.3, it was just a spelling error.

Kind regards,
Vistolina

From: Stoman EC <stoman@afol.com.na>
Sent: Monday, 13 October 2025 19:26
To: vaugustus@edsnamibia.com <vaugustus@edsnamibia.com>
Subject: RE: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

Dear V
Who is on Okanjima?
I have no contact there.
CS

From: vaugustus@edsnamibia.com <vaugustus@edsnamibia.com>
Sent: 13 October 2025 15:23
To: Stoman EC <stoman@afol.com.na>
Cc: Mandume Leonard <mleonard@edsnamibia.com>; public@edsnamibia.com
Subject: Re: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

Dear Valued Stakeholder,

Please note that the Public Consultation meeting is scheduled as follows:

Date: 3rd November 2025

Time: 11h00

Venue: Khoi-khoi Guesthouse, Otavi

The EPL covers multiple farms, including: Okanjima No.3, Klein Okaputa No.381, Okaputa-Sud-West No.567, Fisher No.564, Stark No.565 and Okaputa West.

We would like to remind landowners that the EPL application is still in the process of obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate and we strongly encourage landowners to attend this meetings which provides an open forum to share their concerns, ask questions, and understand the proposed project in detail.

Following the public consultation meetings, the Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd consultant teams will require permission to access the farms for the Environmental and Heritage Assessment. This assessment is an important part of the EPL application process, and will provide additional information about the potential impact of the proposed project on the local environment and heritage.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

Kind regards,



From: vaugustus@edsnamibia.com <vaugustus@edsnamibia.com>

Sent: Monday, October 13, 2025 14:29

To: Vistolina Augustus <vistolinaaugustus@gmail.com>

Subject: Fw: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

From: vaugustus@edsnamibia.com <vaugustus@edsnamibia.com>

Sent: Tuesday, 09 September 2025 13:16

To: 'Stoman EC' <stoman@afol.com.na>

Cc: 'Mandume Leonard' <mleonard@edsnamibia.com>; public@edsnamibia.com <public@edsnamibia.com>

Subject: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

Dear Esteemed Interested & Affected Party,

Namasiku Bainga (The Proponent) proposes to undertake prospecting and exploration activities on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi, Otjozondjupa Region.

Mineral prospecting and exploration is one of the listed activities that cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) as per the 2012 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007.

As part of the project's environmental assessment process, **SS Consultants has subcontracted Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd**, an independent environmental consulting firm, to conduct the required Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) process and apply for the ECC.

Furthermore, Sections 21 to 24 of the EIA Regulations require that Public Consultation is undertaken as one of the crucial components of the Environmental Assessment, which involves the pre-identification of potential Interested & Affected Parties (I&APs) or Stakeholders and ongoing registration of new I&APs and subsequent consultation. You have therefore been identified as a potential I&AP for this proposed activity, and the reason you are receiving this communication.

Please find the attached the Background Information Document (BID) and land use map for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities.

The EPL covers multiple farms, including: Okanjima No.3, Klein Okaputa No.381, Okaputa-Sud-West No.567, Fisher No.564, Stark No.565 and Okaputa West.

We would greatly appreciate if the landowners could kindly provide us with their names, farm names, and contact details so that we can register them as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs).

We are currently working to finalize the date for the stakeholders engagement meeting and will provide further details once this information is available.

Kind regards,





RE: EPL 9823= NB! FW: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

From vaugustus@edsnamibia.com <vaugustus@edsnamibia.com>

Date Wed 10 Sep 2025 12:05

To oshikulonam@gmail.com <oshikulonam@gmail.com>

Cc 'Mandume Leonard' <mleonard@edsnamibia.com>

Dear Mr Nahas Angula,

Thank you for registering as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for the proposed project.

We are finalizing the details for the stakeholders engagement meeting and will share the information with you as soon as it's available.

If you have any queries or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,



Vistolina Augustus

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Office. 5th Floor Maerua Mall | Office Block B

Cel. +264 81 4269536

Tel. +264 61 259 530

Email. vaugustus@edsnamibia.com

From: Stoman EC [mailto:stoman@afol.com.na]

Sent: Wednesday, September 10, 2025 10:40 AM

To: vaugustus@edsnamibia.com

Subject: FW: EPL 9823= NB! FW: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

Dear Vistolina

He accidentally sent his info to me.

See below.

Regards

Christine

From: Nahas Angula <oshikulonam@gmail.com>

Sent: 10 September 2025 09:35

To: Stoman EC <stoman@afol.com.na>

Subject: Re: EPL 9823= NB! FW: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

Farm Stark 565: contact person: Mr N Angula, 0811288222

On Wed, 10 Sept 2025 at 08:30, Stoman EC <stoman@afol.com.na> wrote:

From: vaugustus@edsnamibia.com <vaugustus@edsnamibia.com>

Sent: 09 September 2025 13:16

To: 'Stoman EC' <stoman@afol.com.na>

Cc: 'Mandume Leonard' <mleonard@edsnamibia.com>; public@edsnamibia.com

Subject: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

Dear Esteemed Interested & Affected Party,

Namasiku Bainga (The Proponent) proposes to undertake prospecting and exploration activities on **Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 9823 located northeast of Otavi, Otjozondjupa Region.**

Mineral prospecting and exploration is one of the listed activities that cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) as per the 2012 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007.

As part of the project's environmental assessment process, **SS Consultants has subcontracted Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd**, an independent environmental consulting firm, to conduct the required Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) process and apply for the ECC.

Furthermore, Sections 21 to 24 of the EIA Regulations require that Public Consultation is undertaken as one of the crucial components of the Environmental Assessment, which involves the pre-identification of potential Interested & Affected Parties (I&APs) or Stakeholders and ongoing registration of new I&APs and subsequent consultation. You have therefore been identified as a potential I&AP for this proposed activity, and the reason you are receiving this communication.

Please find the attached the Background Information Document (BID) and land use map for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities.

The EPL covers multiple farms, including: Okanjima No.3, Klein Okaputa No.381, Okaputa-Sud-West No.567, Fisher No.564, Stark No.565 and Okaputa West.

We would greatly appreciate if the landowners could kindly provide us with their names, farm names, and contact details so that we can register them as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs).

We are currently working to finalize the date for the stakeholders engagement meeting and will provide further details once this information is available.

Kind regards,



Vistolina Augustus

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Office. 5th Floor Maerua Mall | Office Block B

Cel. +264 81 4269536

Tel. +264 61 259 530

Email. vaugustus@edsnamibia.com

ANNEXURE E: CONFIRMATION OF SCREENING NOTICE RECEIVED



Your application is verified

From Ministry of Environment and Tourism <noreply@meft.gov.na>

Date Mon 2/10/2025 4:13 PM

To SS Consultants <info@ssconsultants.co>



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism

2025-02-10

Dear Silvanus Shigwedha,

This email serves to inform you that your application **APP-005311** has been verified

Taking the following into considerations:

- Location of the project
- Pollution potential
- Scale of operation of the project

Please upload the following documents:

- Scoping Report
- EMP
- Consent letter or support doc from relevant Authority
- Proof of Consultation (Minutes, Newspaper adverts, etc)
- Confirmation of screening notice received (through email) in terms of assessment procedures (Section 35 (1)(a)(b) of the Environmental Management Act, No 7 of 2007)
- Preliminary Site Map with coordinates (decimal degrees) and a Legend
- CV of Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)

- Consent from the National Heritage Council for protection of archaeological artefacts, paleontological and rare geological specimens, meteorites and any other object which holds cultural significance
- Declaration for the Submission of Assessment Reports and other Support Documents (upload Declaration Form from www.eia.met.gov.na (downloads)

Please login onto our portal to upload required documents, if any

<https://eia.met.gov.na>

NB- for the purpose of Section 38 of the Environmental Management Act, 2007 read with Regulation 4(d), kindly forward copies of all relevant documents i.e (application forms, EIA, Scoping reports, EMP etc) to the office of the Environmental Commissioner

Thank you

Phillip Troskie Bulding
P/Bag 13306, Windhoek | Tel: +264 61 284 2111 | DEA: +264 61 284 2701

Please do not reply directly to this email. It was sent from an unattended mailbox.

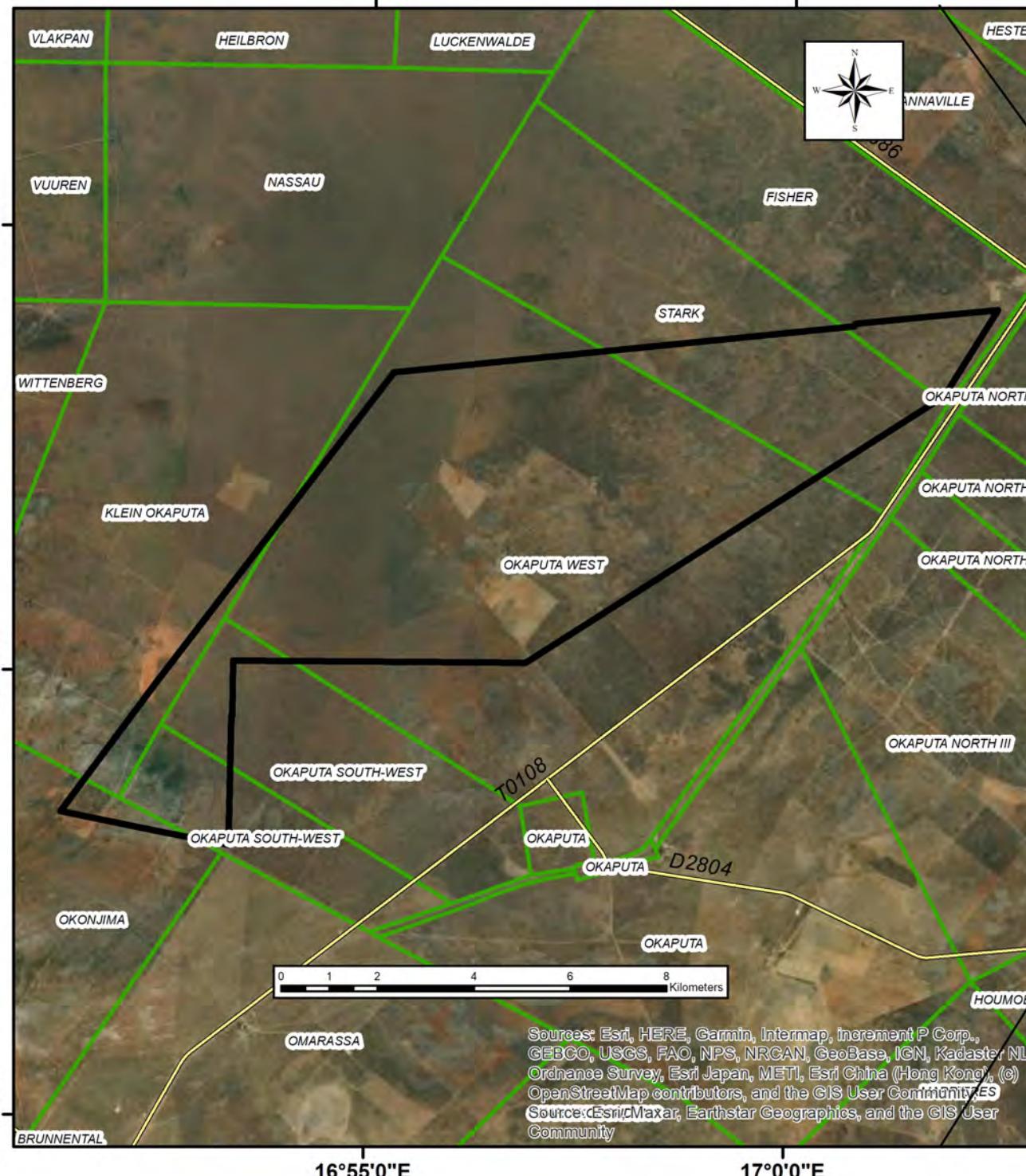
Correspondences can be done on the portal or please use

eia@met.gov.na

ANNEXURE F: PRELIMINARY SITE MAP

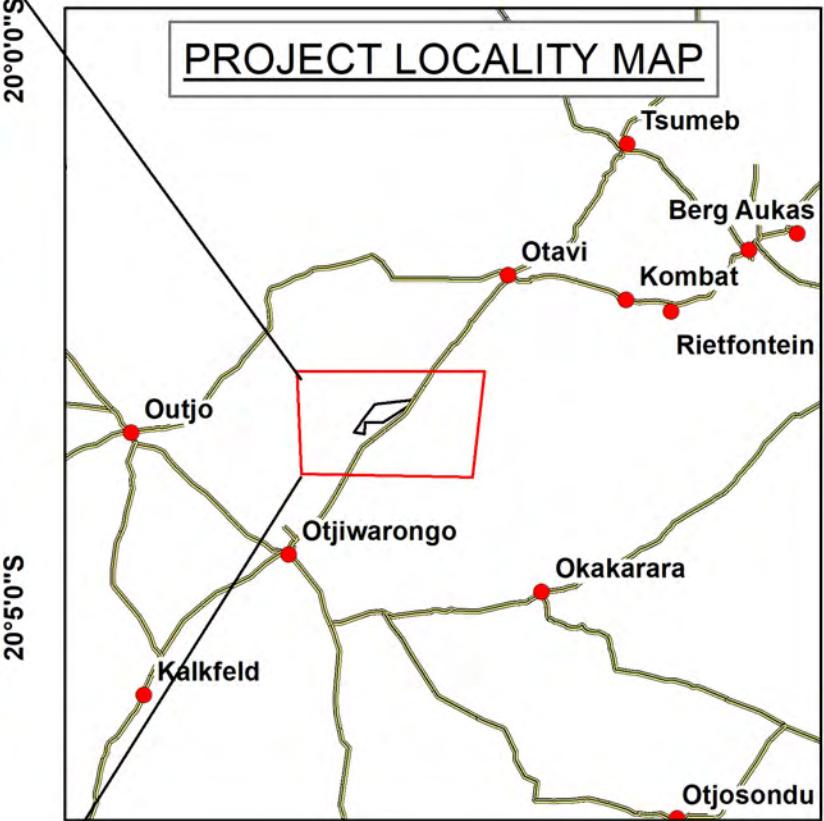
16°55'0"E

17°0'0"E



Legend

- EPL 9823
- Towns
- Primary National Roads
- Farm Boundaries



ANNEXURE G: CV OF THE RESPONSIBLE EAP_UAANAO KATJINJAA

CURRICULUM VITAE

UAANAO KATJINJAA

Email: ukatjinjaa@gmail.com Mobile: +264 081 4779623 Address: P.O Box 60497, Windhoek

Personal Statement

Committed individual willing to learn from more experienced personnel. Comfortable working in large scale environments and possesses comprehensive understanding of venture management principles. Capable to actively participate in business case study analysis and research projects; skills gained in team and group work at college.

Academic Background

Candidate for MSc. Integrated Environmental Management and Sustainable Development (2024)

(International University of Management)

- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Ecosystem Management and Conservation
- Research Methodology
- Environmental Legislations
- Mini Dissertation: *An Assessment of the Factors Affecting Sustainable Entrepreneurship Development in the Renewable Energy Sector in Windhoek, Namibia*

Bachelor of Business Administration- Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development (2018)

(University Of Botswana)

- Strategic Management
- Management Consulting
- Business Plan Development
- Research Report: *An Assessment of Trends in Entrepreneurial Behavior of the Youth in Gaborone, Botswana*

Competencies

- Good Verbal and Written Communication Skills
- Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Report Preparation
- Data Collection and Analysis

Experience

Junior Environmental Specialist SS- Consultants CC-2024

- Compilation and review of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) report
- Compilation of Environmental Clearance Certificate application
- Conduct public consultation and engagements with stakeholders
- Environmental Audit Compliance on various projects

Administration and Accounts Clerk- Chemspect Botswana- 2018-2019

- Receive and process invoices, expense forms
- Request for payments and handle KYC documents
- Handle daily banking reconciliation
- Attending emails and customers' enquiries

Activities and other

- Participant in Tertiary Training Education Students Dialogue and Training on the Three Rio Conventions; Network and Learning Workshop (UNDP,2022).
- Business incubation and implementation through a small enterprise project; Creation of a mobile application (AccomoMe) with a database that links landlords to suitable tenants. (Global Business Labs, 2018).
- Article on Women Empowerment through Beauty Pageants (The Ngamitimes Newspaper, 2017).
- Documentary on Pursuit of Happiness (Media Studies, University of Botswana, 2016).

References

Mr. Sioni Iikela

Faculty Dean

Int. University of Management

+264 81 225 7526

Ms. Jacqueline Hehir

Director

Chemspect Botswana

jackie@chemspec.co.bw

Mr. Silvanus Shigwedha

Managing Member

SS Consultants CC

+264 81 240 9124

ANNEXURE H: ARCHEOLOGICAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT



National Heritage Council of Namibia

52 Robert Mugabe Avenue • P/Bag 12043 • Ausspannplatz • Windhoek • Namibia
Tel: (061) 244 375 • Fax: (061) 246 872 • E-mail: finance@nhc-nam.org

Secretariat

Receipt No. **6409**

CASH RECEIPT

Customer

Date: 13/01/2026

Full Name: Ms NAMASIKU BAIWA

Postal Address: BOX 2670, NGEZO

City: KATIMA MUICO

Phone: +264 813 257 930



Quantity	Description	Unit Price	TOTAL
	<u>APPLICATION FEES - HIA</u>		
	<u>CONSENT LETTER FOR EPL</u>		
	<u>NO: 9823, OTJOZONJUPA</u>		
			<u>N\$ 150 -00</u>

Amount in Words: ONE FIVE ZERO N\$ Only

Receipt Issued by: LI

studio print 30155



National Heritage Council of Namibia

Technical Department

52 Robert Mugabe Avenue, Windhoek
Private Bag 12043, Ausspannplatz, Windhoek
Tel: (061) 244375 • Fax: (061) 246 872 • Email: info@nhc-nam.org

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

APPLICATION FOR CONSENT

(Sections 53(7) and 55(8) of the National Heritage Act, 2004 (Act No.27 of 2004))

CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS

1. The receipt issued serves as a reference when making enquiries.
2. Works and activities applied for under section C, of this application, is subject to an environmental impact assessment at the applicant's expense.
3. Instructions for completion:

Applicants must complete the relevant parts of this application.

A. APPLICANT'S DETAILS

1. Name and address of applicant

Contact Person: Namasiku Bainga
P. O. Box 2670, Ngeze, Katimo Mulilo

Telephone: +264 813251930

Email: baingaivy@gmail.com



2. Full name and designation of the person in charge of undertaking the works or activities:

Managing Representative: Namasiku Bainga

3. Full name and personal details of researcher, contractor or person in charge of the proposed works or activities:

NKOSANA HLABANGANA
0814650075 / 0852650075

hlabanganankosana@gmail.com

4. Academic qualifications, skills, occupation and competencies of the person in charge mentioned under A2 above.

BACHELOR OF ARTS ARCHAEOLOGY, CULTURAL HERITAGE AND MUSEUM STUDIES (HONS) –MIDLANDS STATE UNIVERSITY

5. Previous permits issued in Namibia:

NONE

6. Period for which permit is required: From _____
to _____

7. Date by which permit is required: _____

B: WORKS OR ACTIVITIES

15. Geographic location and address (farm, village, settlement, town, region, magisterial district, constituency, Global Positioning System coordinates) of the site, protected place or protected object where works or activities are proposed:

EPL 9823 Is located between Otavi and Otjiwarongo, with Otavi being approximately 55km northwest and Otjiwarongo being 76km southwest in the Otavi District, In the Otjozondjupa Region.

20 Government Gazette 1 September 2005 No. 3490

16. Detailed description of the nature of works or activities for which the permit is applied for: (e.g. excavation, construction, filming etc) (*Attach additional and supporting information if the space on the form is insufficient.*)

EXPLORATION _____

C: UNDERTAKING BY APPLICANT

17. I Mr. Namasiku Bainga (the person in charge of undertaking the works or activities) and (where applicable) being representative of the N/A
hereby undertake to strictly observe the terms and conditions under which the National Heritage Council may issue the permit.

Signature  dated 13/01/2026

Consent No.....
(Consecutive number & year of issue)

CONSENT

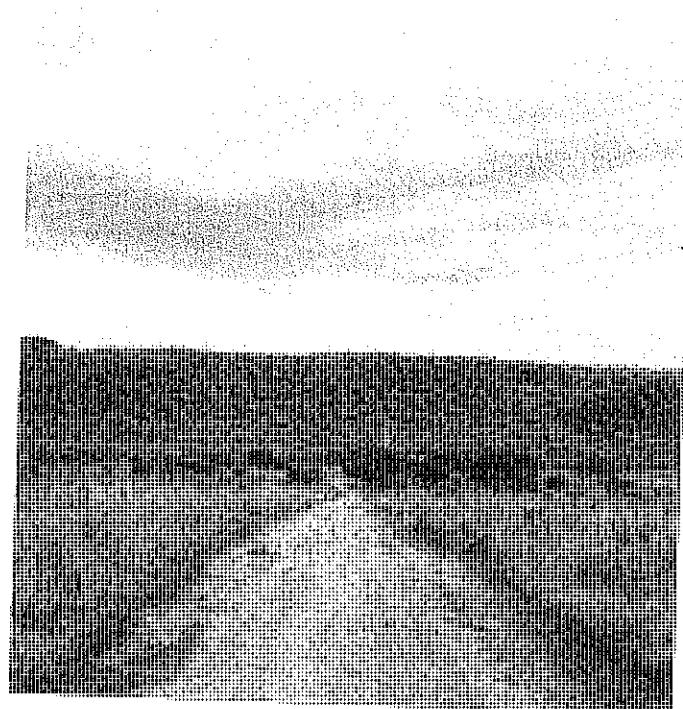


ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DIMENSION STONE,
BASE AND RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, AND PRECIOUS METALS.
EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE NO.9823
LOCATED IN THE OTAVI DISTRICT IN THE OTJOZONDJUPA REGION

Compiled by:

Excel Dynamics Solutions (Pty) Ltd



Prepared for:

NAMASIKU BAINQA



As required under Section 53 (7) and Section 54 (7) of the National Heritage Act (No. 27 of 2004).

ANNEXURE I: BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT



BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR THE PROPOSED DIMENSION STONE, BASE AND RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, AND PRECIOUS METALS EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE No.9823 OTAVI, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION, NAMIBIA PUBLIC INVITATION TO REGISTER AND COMMENT

PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

The purpose of Background Information Document (BID), is to provide basic detailed information about the proposed listed activities and is to be shared with all registered potential Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) before public consultation as part of the EIA process. Furthermore, the BID aims to outline the EIA process and methods of public consultations approaches to be followed.

Hence, the BID aims to provide:

- An overview of the proposed mineral exploration activities on **EPL No.9823 for dimension stone, base and rare metals, industrial minerals, and precious metals**
- An overview of the Environmental Impact Assessment process; and
- Guidance on how members of public can participate in the process as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs).

I&APs comments and concerns are vital to the success of the EIA process and potential public members are encouraged to register and participate.

Please register / complete registration form and submit to SS Consultants CC on or before **23rd May 2025**.

Attention : Ms. Uaanao Katjinja

Address: Unit 24B, Bougain Villa, Sam Nuuyoma Road, Windhoek, Namibia

Email: UKatjinja@ssconsultants.co

Cell: +264812409124// 0814779623

INTRODUCTION

SS CONSULTANTS CC (hereafter referred to as the Consultant), an independent mineral resource and environmental consulting company has been appointed by **Namasiku Bainga** (here after referred to as the Proponent) to undertake an environmental assessment process and obtain an environmental clearance certificate from the Environmental Commissioner on behalf of the latter for the proposed mineral exploration activities on **EPL No.9823**.

The proposed exploration activities fall in the listed activities under the Environmental Management Act 7 of 2007 – activities which may not be undertaken without Environmental Clearance Certificate. Hence the proponent is expected to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate from the Environmental Commissioner prior to the commencing of these exploration activities.

The proposed development is therefore related to the specific listed activities as outlined by relevant sections in EMA Regulations of 2012:

- *Construction of facilities for any process or activities which requires a license, right or other form of authorization, and the renewal of a license, right or other form of authorization, in terms of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining Act), 1992 (Section 3.1);*
- *Other forms of mining or extraction of any natural resources whether regulated by law or not (Section 3.2);*
- *Resource extraction, manipulation, conservation, and related activities (Section 3.3);*
- *Abstraction of ground or surface water for industrial or commercial purposes (Section 8.1).*
- *Manufacturing, storage, handling, or processing of a hazardous substance defined in the Hazardous Substances Ordinance, 1974 (Section 9.1).*
- *Any process or activity which requires (Section 9.2).*

1. Project Description

Namasiku Bainga applied for EPL 9823 on 17 November 2023, through the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME). Under the Environmental Management Act (EMA) (2017) and its 2012 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) of the Ministry of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism (MEFT) is required before any exploration activities can commence. The ECC will authorize the exploration of the applied group of commodities within the EPL.

The proposed exploration program will employ both non-invasive and invasive methods. Non-invasive techniques include remote sensing, geological field mapping, ground geophysical surveys, and surface soil and rock sampling. If initial results are promising, more invasive methods such as reverse circulation or diamond drilling and trenching will be conducted.

The EPL area is well-served by existing infrastructure, including water supply, power lines, national roads, and telecommunication networks. The project will utilize these resources where feasible, subject to agreements with landowners and relevant permits from various authorities. To ensure effective implementation, geological consultants and contractors will be engaged at various stages of the exploration process. A geophysics expert may be contracted for geophysical surveys as needed, and drilling operations will be carried out by a registered drilling contractor providing its own crew. Rehabilitation efforts will be conducted in compliance with the National Policy on the Prospecting and Mining of Mineral Resources, which mandates responsible environmental restoration throughout and upon completion of activities.

The exploration activities on EPL 9823 have the potential to create direct and indirect employment opportunities, stimulating economic growth in Otavi and Otjiwarongo and surrounding areas. Competitive wages offered by the project are expected to benefit the local workforce, particularly from nearby towns such as Otavi and Otjiwarongo, where unskilled labor may be sourced. Workers will either be accommodated in temporary site camps or reside in nearby towns for the duration of the exploration program. Additionally, the discovery of economically viable ore deposits could contribute to long-term employment, wealth creation, and national economic development through mineral extraction.

2. Project Location

The project area is located between Otavi and Otjiwarongo, access is via B1 road, that leads to the tenement and it covers an area of 7468.7708 Ha.

COORDINATES AND LOCALITY MAP

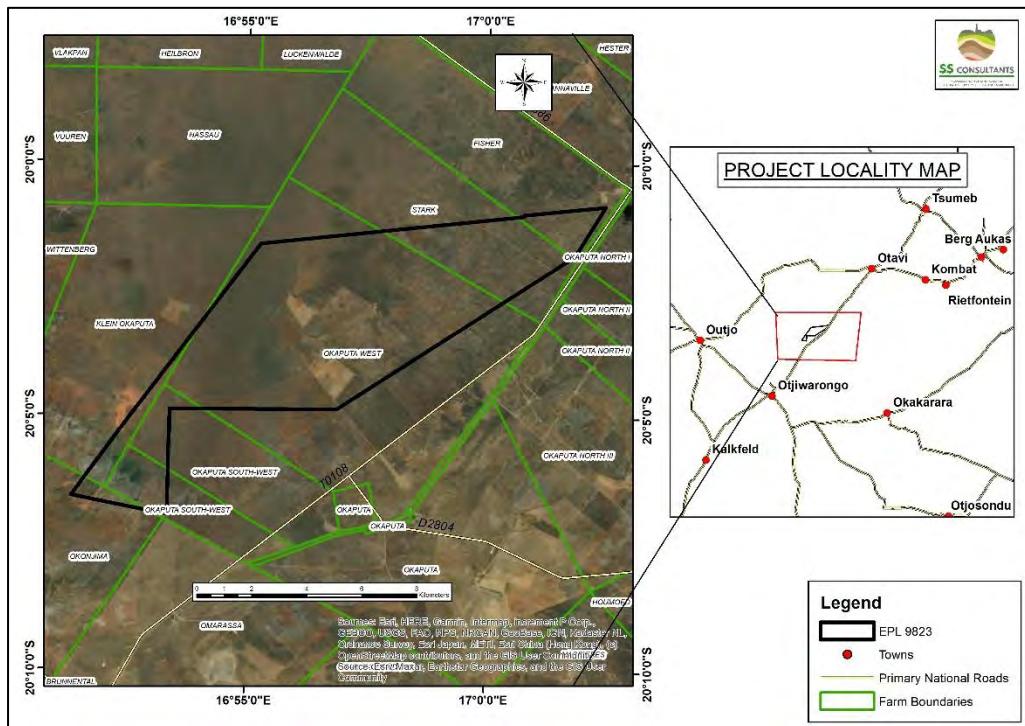


Figure 1: Corner coordinates for the project area.

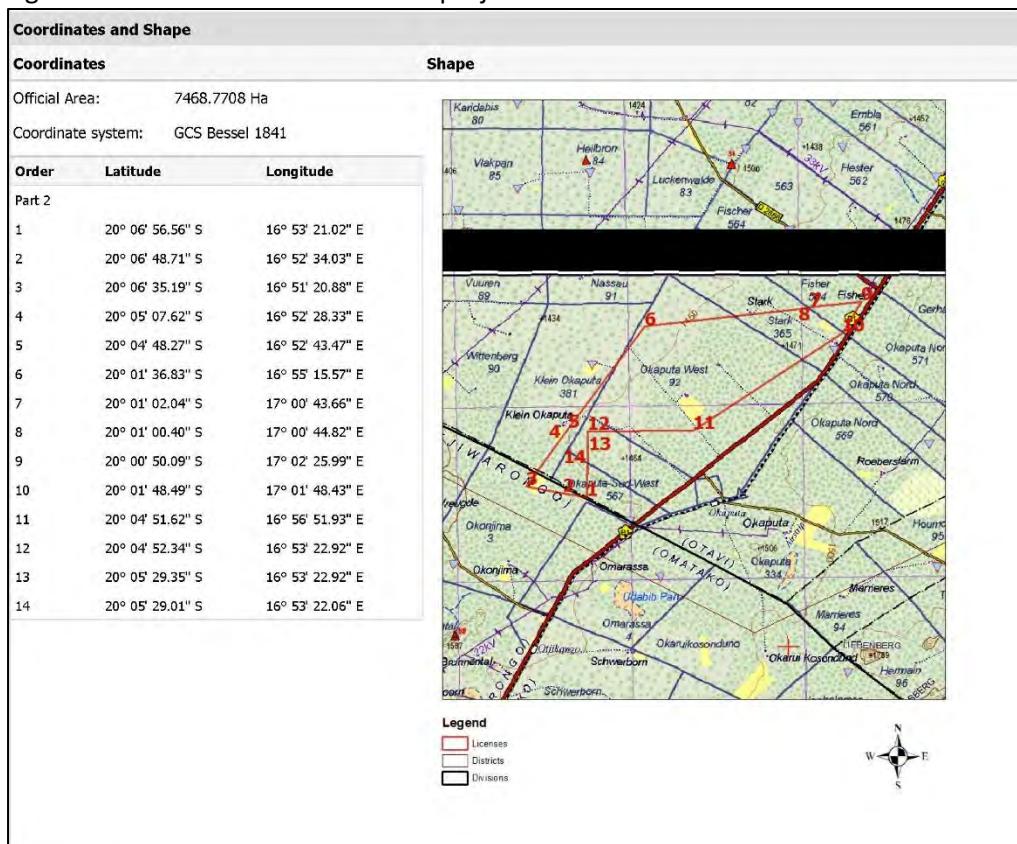


Figure 2: Locality map for the project area.

3 Legal Requirements

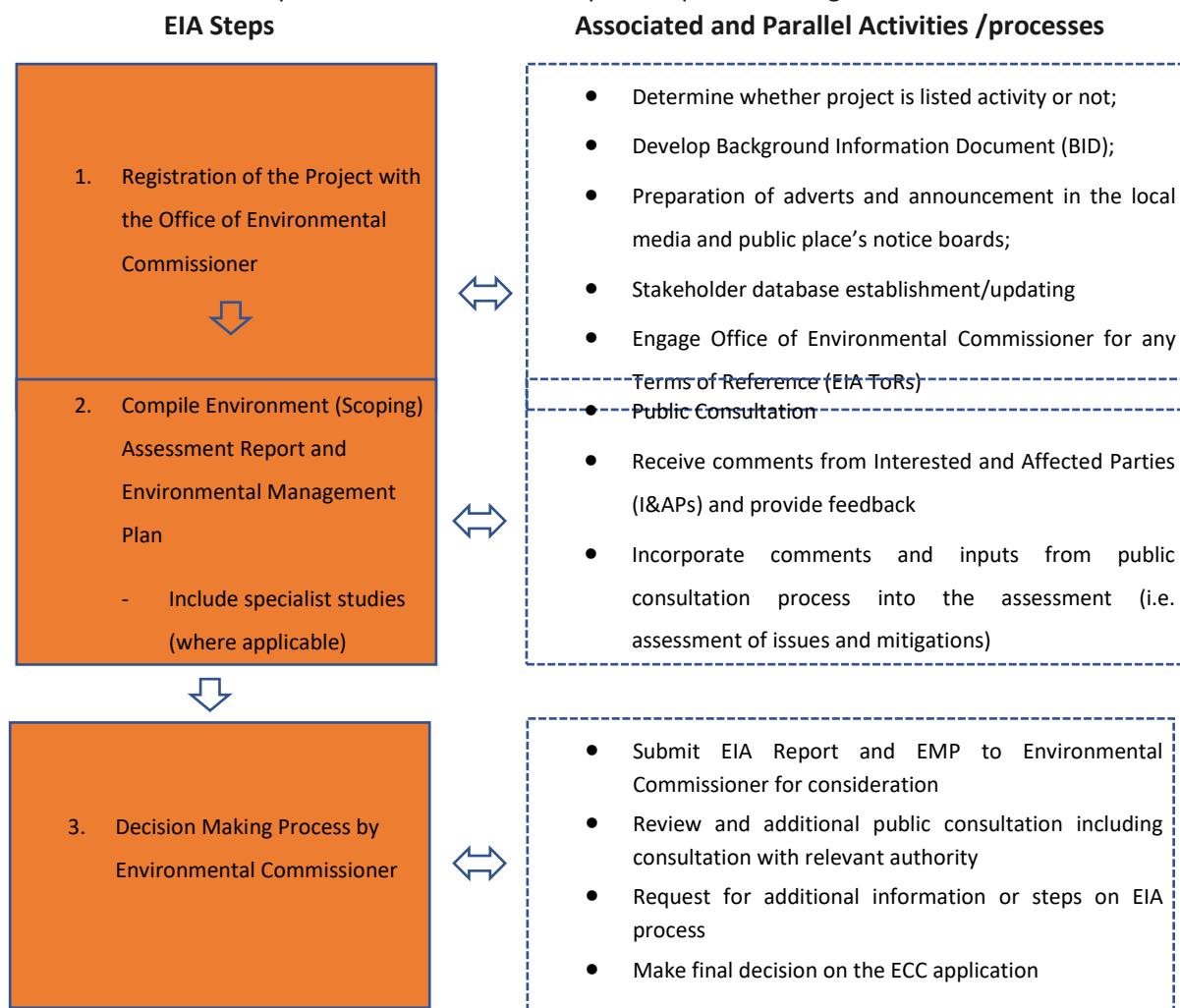
Apart from the Environmental Management Act, the project will also be guided and comply to the following national regulatory requirements:

- Water Act 54 of 1956 (including Water Resource Management Act 11 of 2013 – not yet in force)
- National Heritage Act 27 of 2004
- Mineral (Prospecting and Mining) Act 33 of 1992
- Forest Act 12 of 2001
- Agricultural (Commercial) Land Reform Act 6 of 1995 (including relevant amendments)
- Labour Act 11 of 2007
- Nature Conservation Ordinance 4 of 1975 (including relevant amendments)

4 Environmental Impact Assessment Process

The EIA process follows the general guideline as outlined in the EMA Regulations of February 2012.

An outline of the EIA steps and the associated and parallel processes is given below:



N.B: Once the Environmental Commissioner makes a decision on the application whether in favor of the proponent or not, the Environmental Management Act as guided by its Regulations also provide for the Process of Appeal. Therefore I&APs if not satisfied with the decision made, will still have an opportunity to raise their concern on the decision.

5 Potential Impacts

Below are the potential impacts that have been identified from the proposed exploration activities on the license area:

5.1 Possible positive impacts

- **Temporary job creation:** this is the hiring of workers non-skilled to skilled workers from the area to be involved during the clearing of the fauna and flora in order to access target sites, and to also assist during pitting and trenching as well as drilling and associated exploration works.
- **Knowledge and skills transfer:** Ad-hoc training programmes during implementation phase enables the hired personnel with certain potential skills.
- **Operating levies payable to authorities:** potential revenue collection.

5.2 Possible negative impacts

- **Impact on vegetation and fauna:** some vegetation may need to be removed to create access roads, pitting and trenching, geophysical lines as well as drilling sites. This may also lead to habitat destruction for some fauna.
- **Traffic safety:** very slow drilling rigs and associated vehicles may compromise traffic safety in the area.
- **Environmental degradation:** through different types of waste generated on the site.
- **Soil and water contamination:** from chemicals and other substances used in drilling fluids.
- **Noise and dust** generated by pitting and trenching as well as drilling vehicles and activities.
- **Health and safety risks** which may result to workers operating on site.
- **Conflict with small scale miners, farmers or land owners:** The proposed operations may be conflicted with this activity, but there could also be synergies for collaboration.

6 Public Consultation

Public participation is an essential part of any Environmental Assessment process. Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) include any person or organization that will be directly or indirectly involved and/or affected by the project. Appropriate national, regional, and municipal authorities and interested members of the public were identified.

Registered I&APs will be kept informed of the Public Participation Process throughout the Environmental Assessment process, they will be given the opportunity to review and comment on the EIA reports and documents and, will also receive feedback on how comments have been considered, and will be informed of the outcome of the assessment. All comments will be recorded and presented to the project team and competent authority by means of the Project Comments and Responses Register (CRR).

Notices for public invitation to participate in the process will still be placed in the local newspaper as well as at strategic public places (notice boards). The date and venue for the public consultation meeting will be communicated.

If you categorize yourself as an I&AP who wishes to receive information regarding the above-mentioned project and/or provide input into the Environmental Impact Assessment process, you are hereby invited to register using the form on Page 6. You may also communicate with SS Consultants via email, or telephone to obtain further information or comment on the proposed project.



REGISTRATION OF INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES (I&APs)

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR THE PROPOSED DIMENSION STONE, BASE AND RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, AND PRECIOUS METALS EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE No.9823

OTAVI, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION, NAMIBIA

Ms. Uaanao Katjinjaa

Environmental Specialist (Environmental Assessment Practitioner)

SS Consultant CC

Physical Address: Unit 24B, Bougain Villa, Sam Nuuyoma Road, Windhoek, Namibia

Email: UKatjinjaa@ssconsultants.co

Cell: +264 81 240 9124/ 0814779623

Title (Mr/Ms/Dr/Prof)		Name/Initials	
Surname			
Interested Parties or		Affected Parties?	
Physical Address and or Postal Address			
Tel No:		Cell No:	
Email Address:			
Comments/Issues/Concerns (Please if the space is not enough, use additional separate sheet)			