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



9th of January 2025

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.

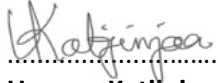
–Declaration for Submission of Assessment Reports : duly completed as per MEFT's requirements.

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: UKatjinjaa@ssconsultant.co.

Yours sincerely,



.....

Uaanao Katjinjaa

Environmental Specialist-SS Consultants CC

ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING AND ASSESSMENT REPORT:
THE PROPOSED MINERAL EXPLORATION OF BASE AND RARE METALS,
DIMENSION STONE, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, AND PRECIOUS METALS ON
EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE NO.9824

OTAVI DISTRICT, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION IN NAMIBIA

ECC APPLICATION NO.: APP No. 250207005312

NOVEMBER 2025

COMPILED BY



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DISCLAIMER

The author of this report has neither shares nor economic interest in EPL 9824. 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

This Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) report has been prepared by SS Consultants CC for the proponent, Ms. Namasiku Bainga, holder of Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) 9824. The project proposes to explore for various minerals, including base metals, rare earth elements, dimension stone, and precious metals, within a 19,982-hectare area in the Otavi District. The assessment aims to identify and evaluate potential environmental and social impacts of the exploration activities to inform decision-making and ensure sustainable practices.

The project is located approximately 50km southwest of Otavi. The proponent is legally required to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) before commencing any exploration. This process ensures that potential environmental effects are assessed and managed. The exploration is needed to meet global mineral demand and aligns with national goals for economic growth and job creation, such as those outlined in Namibia's Vision 2030 and government manifestos.

The project must comply with a comprehensive set of Namibian laws, including the Environmental Management Act, the Minerals Act, and regulations concerning water, soil, heritage, and health and safety. Key authorities include the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) for the ECC and the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) for the mineral license. The project also aligns with Namibia's international environmental commitments.

The exploration will be a phased process over three years. It begins with non-invasive methods like desktop studies, geological mapping, and drone surveys. If results are promising, more invasive techniques like soil sampling, trenching, and drilling may follow. All activities will prioritize minimal environmental disturbance, and no permanent infrastructure is planned for the exploration phase. Strict health, safety, and land access protocols will be followed.

The project will require minimal temporary infrastructure. Water for drilling will be sourced from outside the area to avoid impacting local aquifers. Power will primarily come from solar sources, with diesel generators as a backup. Workers will commute from nearby towns or use established local accommodation. Waste will be carefully managed and removed to approved facilities. All service options were chosen to minimize the environmental footprint.

The "no-go" alternative was considered but would forfeit the potential economic and social benefits of discovering a viable mineral deposit. No alternative location was considered, as the site was selected based on its geological potential. The project is committed to full rehabilitation of all disturbed areas upon completion of exploration activities.

Stakeholder engagement was a core part of the assessment. Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), including landowners, local authorities, and the public, were identified and consulted through meetings, newspaper advertisements, site notices, and direct communication. Their feedback has been considered in this assessment.

The project area is characterized by a semi-arid climate, woodland vegetation, and low-yielding groundwater resources. The local economy is based on livestock farming, charcoal production, and tourism. The region has significant geological potential for minerals like gold. An initial archaeological assessment found no major heritage sites directly in the project area, though a chance finds procedure will be implemented.

The assessment identified several potential impacts, most of which are predicted to be of low to medium significance and can be effectively managed. Key impacts and mitigation measures include:

- Biodiversity & Soil: Limiting vegetation clearance, avoiding sensitive areas, and controlling erosion.
- Water & Pollution: Preventing fuel and chemical spills, proper waste disposal, and monitoring water quality.
- Health & Safety: Providing training and protective equipment for workers, securing open trenches, and maintaining safe vehicle operations.
- Dust & Noise: Using dust suppression techniques and restricting noisy operations to daytime hours.
- Heritage & Visuals: Implementing an archaeological chance finds procedure and rehabilitating exploration scars promptly.
- Social: Prioritizing local employment and community engagement where possible.

A detailed Environmental Management Plan (EMP) in Annexure B provides the full set of mitigation and monitoring actions.

The scoping study concludes that the proposed exploration activities, if conducted in compliance with the recommended mitigation measures and the EMP, can proceed with manageable environmental and social risks. The project has the potential to contribute positively to the local and national economy. It is recommended that the Competent Authority grants the Environmental Clearance Certificate, subject to the implementation of the EMP and all permit conditions. Continuous monitoring and adaptive management are advised throughout the project's lifecycle.

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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 Katjinja)

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	Environnemental Assessment
ECC	Environnemental Clearance Certificate
EIA	Environnemental 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 decide.
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 apply 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 several publics, some of whom may emerge at any time during the process depending on their 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

The license holder Ms. Namasiku Bainga (herein referred to as the *Proponent*) was awarded an Notice to of Preparedness to Grant Applicant for Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) 9824 by the Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy (MIME) on the 23rd of September 2024 with the rights to prospect and explore for base and rare metals, industrial minerals, dimension stone and precious metals Appendix A. The Proponent is required to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) subjected to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process within 12 months of the notice award. Due to challenges with access to various farms to conduct the Archaeological Heritage Access as required by the National Heritage Act (27 of 2004). The proponent has requested for a six (6) month extension which was granted on the 28th of August 2025.

The EIA process ensures that the potential environmental impacts resulting from the project's activities are thoroughly assessed, and suitable measures are identified to mitigate them effectively during exploration. Exploration activities are listed among activities that may not occur without an ECC under Section 27 (1) of the Environmental Management Act (EMA) (No. 7 of 2007) and its 2012 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations. Therefore, individuals or organizations (*Proponent*) may not carry out exploration activities without an EIA undertaken and an ECC awarded.

1.2 Project Locality

The project area is in Otjozondjupa region with, with Otavi being approximately 50 km northwest and Otjiwarongo 70 km southwest. The project area can be accessed via the B1 tarred road, then D2804 gravel road that leads to the tenement, and it covers an area of 19982.3598 Ha. The location of the project area towards the towns- Outjo, Otjiwarongo and Otavi provides accessibility to infrastructure that enables exploration activities. The corner coordinates of the EPL are provided in Table 1-1, while the EPL locality details are provided in Table 1-2.

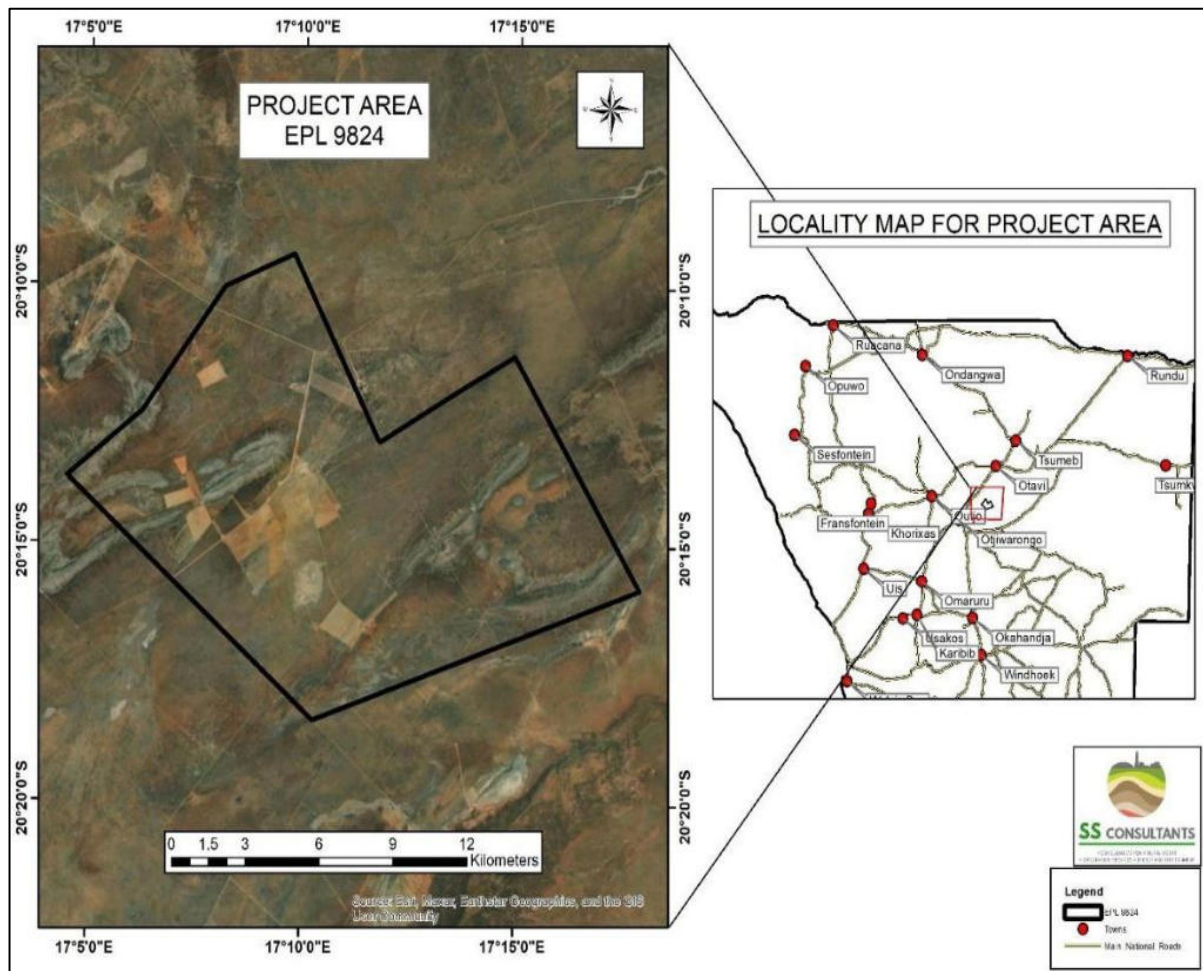


Figure 1-1: Locality map for the project area.

Table 1-1: Corner coordinated for EPL-9824.

Geographic Coordinates		
	Latitude	Longitude
1	20° 09' 23.72" S	17° 09' 45.05" E
2	20° 12' 59.90" S	17° 11' 45.31" E
3	20° 12' 59.48" S	17° 11' 46.11" E
4	20° 13' 01.01" S	17° 11' 46.94" E
5	20° 12' 02.64" S	17° 13' 34.35" E
6	20° 11' 20.25" S	17° 14' 55.09" E

Geographic Coordinates		
	Latitude	Longitude
7	20° 15' 50.76" S	17° 17' 52.67" E
8	20° 18' 24.90" S	17° 10' 15.54" E
9	20° 13' 43.34" S	17° 04' 29.11" E
10	20° 12' 35.00" S	17° 06' 02.74" E
11	20° 12' 27.42" S	17° 06' 13.34" E
12	20° 12' 22.47" S	17° 06' 17.30" E
13	20° 10' 01.83" S	17° 08' 08.89" E
14	20° 09' 48.41" S	17° 08' 42.31" E

Table 1-2: Summary of EPL-9824 location details

Location	Approximately 50 km southwest of Otavi
Area size	19,982.3598 Ha
Constituency	Otavi
Regional Administration	Otjozondjupa Region
Nearest Town	Outjo, Otavi and Otjiwarongo

1.3 Need and Desirability of The Project

Olofsson, T. 2020 research paper demonstrates that mineral exploration is fundamentally a future-oriented enterprise characterized by low probabilities of success, high costs, and long-time horizons. Of which exploration methods use predictions not only to estimate the geological existence of mineral deposits but also to forecast their future mineability, with a concept encompassing economic, technological, environmental, and social feasibility of the

entire project. Therefore, the need to conduct the ESA is to ensure that the geological existence of mineral deposit is found on the project through the exploration methods. This is aligned to part 3 of the Notice to of Preparedness to Grant Applicant for Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) 9824 as seen in Appendix A.

Looking at the global demand for mineral resources, it has dramatically increased in the last 50 years. This demand grew from 26.7 billion tonnes in 1970, to ~100 billion tonnes in 2017, and is expected to reach ~185 billion tonnes by 2050. Global extraction of metal and mineral commodities from 1970 to 2004 grew by more than 75% (I. Gonzalez-Alvarez , M.A. Goncalves , E.J.M. Carranza 2020). Whereas Roger Marjoribanks (2010) highlighted the need for modern mineral exploration is more critical than ever because the era of easily discovering large, outcropping ore bodies is largely over. The readily identifiable prizes that defined discoveries in the 19th and much of the 20th centuries have mostly been found. Consequently, today's exploration must focus on locating deposits that are either subtly exposed or completely hidden beneath cover.

Therefore, the author emphasis that there is a need to conduct exploration for various mineral groups to justify the need and desire for the project. The proposed exploration activities fall under the extractive industry, essential to the search of above-mentioned mineral groups. That may also contribute to the production of goods, services and infrastructure that improves the quality of daily human lives.

The government of Namibia has long recognised the need to enhance the country's economy and continues to strive for economic welfare through amongst others Vision 2030. Additionally, through its manifesto, the ruling party of Namibia-SWAPO in support of sustainable economic activities continues to amplify capitalization of favourable uranium and gold prices to revive exploration and mining activities, which is projected to create over 3,000 permanent jobs within five years.

The Twin Hills gold mine project exemplifies how mining initiative aligns with the Swapo Party Manifesto's goals by creating over 700 temporary jobs during construction and sustaining 400 permanent positions in production directly contributing to the target of 3,000 new mining jobs (Mining and Energy 2025). Additionally, Osino Resources' collaboration with government agencies on environmental compliance and local recruitment underscores the project's

commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), fostering SME inclusion and community development, as advocated in the manifesto."

Key Points Highlighted above are:

- **Job Creation:** Mirrors the manifesto's employment targets.
- **CSR Compliance:** Reflects adherence to social development and local SME support.
- **Real-World Validation:** Uses Twin Hills as a tangible case study for EPL 9824's potential impact.

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

Description	Section of the Report
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 is 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 one hundred 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 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>	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.
Labour Act No. 6 of 1992	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.	The Proponent should ensure that the proposed activity does not compromise the safety and welfare of workers.
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>	The Proponent should be guided by this framework for best practice mining and exploration activities in Namibia.

LEGISLATION/POLICY/ GUIDELINE	PROVISIONS	IMPLICATIONS
National Heritage Act (27 of 2004)	Part V Section 46 of the Act prohibits removal, damage, alteration, or excavation of heritage sites or remains. Section 48 off 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”.	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.

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	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.
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: 1. Each Contracting Party, as far as possible and as appropriate, shall:</p> <p>(a) 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.</p> <p>(b) 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 considered.</p>

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- 1: 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, reconnaissance, prospecting, small scale mining, mineral exploration, large-scale mining, and transfers of mineral licence

Table 2- 2: 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 if 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)

PERMITS/CERTIFICATES	ACTIVITY	VALIDITY	REGULATING AUTHORITY
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)
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 proponent intends to conduct identification of landowners, followed by mineral prospecting as an initial phase prior to exploration, all are aimed at identifying the landowners as well as evaluating the potential mineral resources within the licenses area. The overall project seeks to conduct systematic geological assessments to determine the presence, quality, and quantity of economically viable minerals. Successful exploration results could lead to development of a mine for extraction of the target mineral in market rate quantities, and to the eventual closure of mining. The proposed exploration project activities only commence after issuance of the ECC by the EC.

Prior to mobilizing to site and undertaking any groundwork for the proposed activities on EPL-9824, the Proponent is required to follow through measures that ensure environmental protection. Where the EPL overlies a private farm or part of a farm, the Proponent will be required to sign land access and use agreements with the affected landowner (farmer) according to Section 52 (1) (a) of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act No. 33 of 1992.

Mineral exploration activities can take up to a maximum of seven years, with different projects at various stages of the exploration phase: summarized in three main phases including the Pre-Development Phase, the Exploration Phase, and the Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Phase, (Figure 3-1).

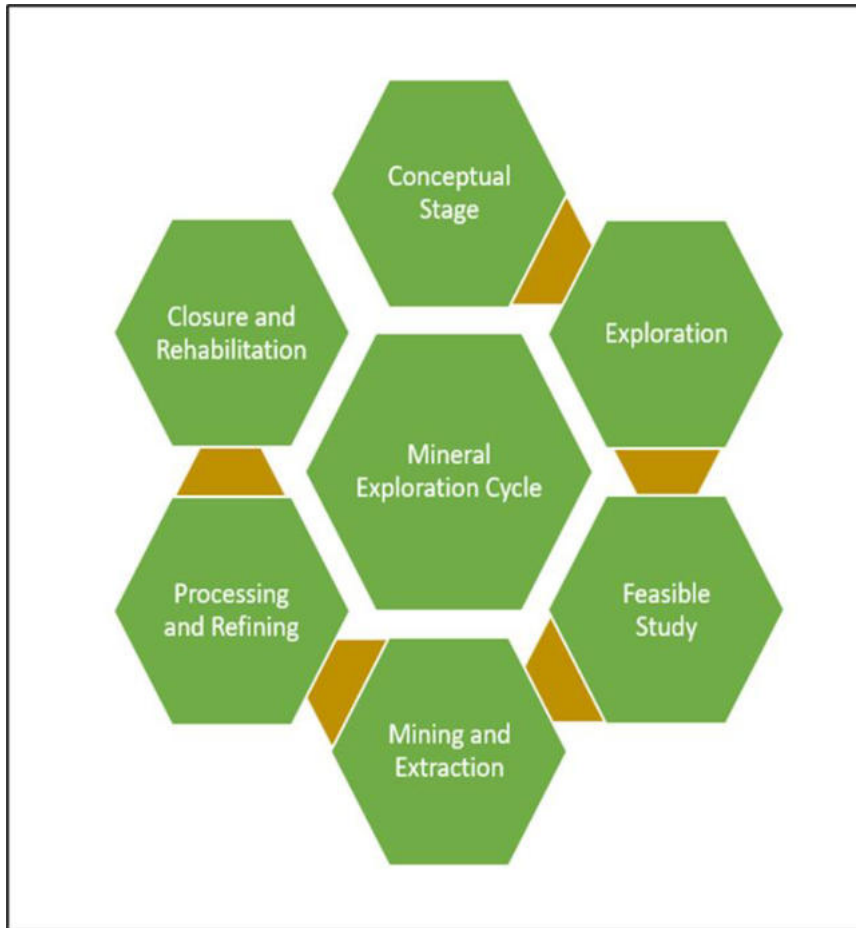


Figure 3-1: The Mineral Exploration Cycle, Adapted from the Association of Mineral Exploration, 2013.

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.

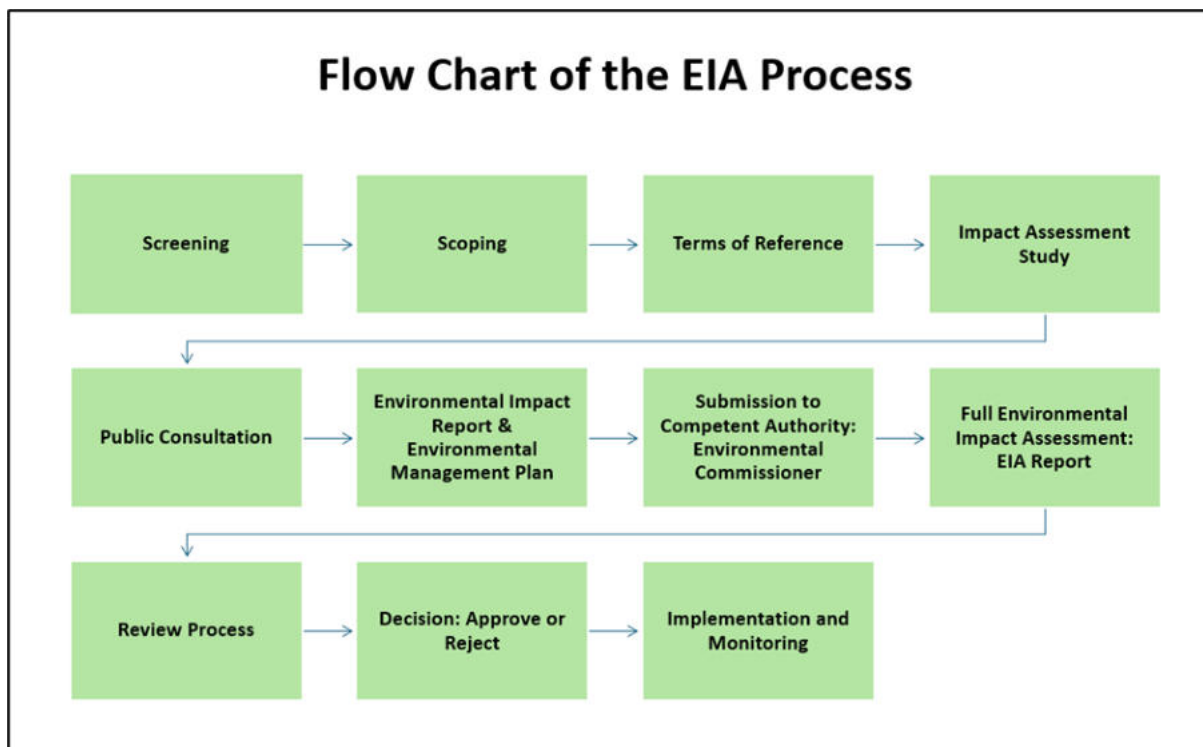


Figure 3-2: Flow chart of the EIA process in Namibia as adopted from MEFT, 2008.

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 must 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 Envisaged 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. In mineral exploration the norm is always to conduct the cheapest methods, hence below Figure 3-3 indicated the cheapest to the most expensive methods of exploration.

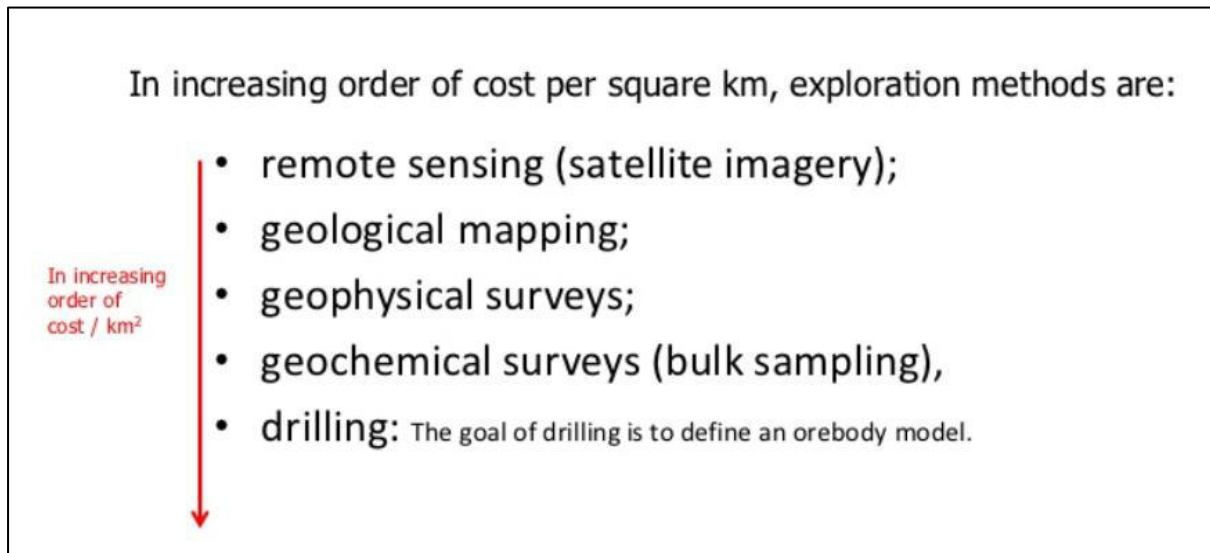


Figure 3-3: Depicts the cost of exploration methods from cheapest per square km to the most expensive methods.

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, seismic, radiometric, magnetic, electromagnetic and gravity data as well as Hyperspectral & Multispectral Imaging.

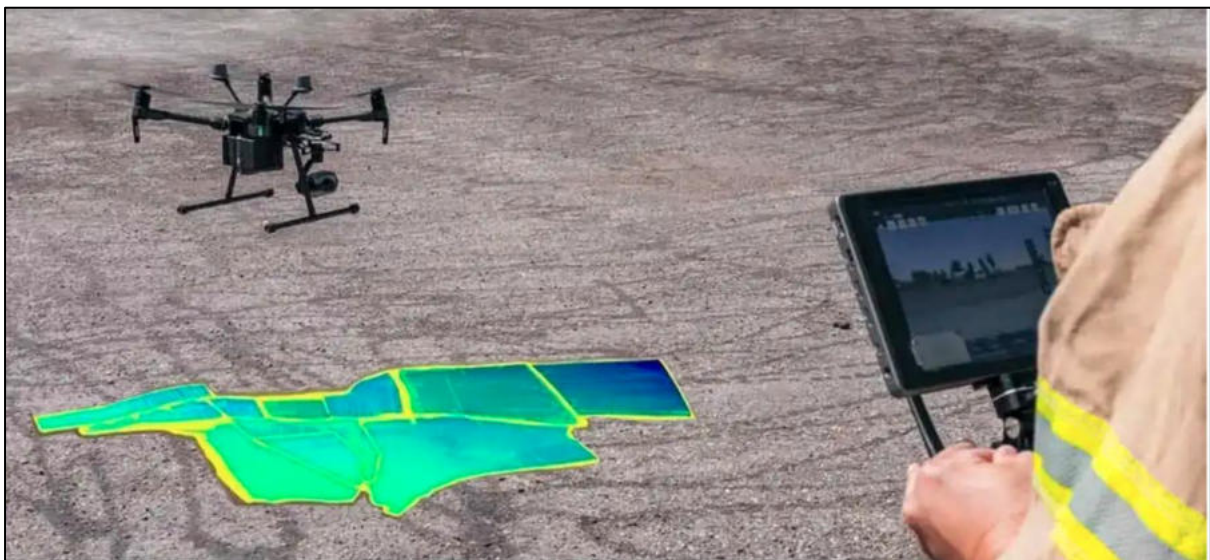


Figure 3-4: Drone pilot conducting a survey using a drone.

- 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.



Figure 3-5: Geology students conducting a field mapping exercise.

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 prospectively of the target/s delineated during the initial surveys.



Figure 3-6: two geo-technicians conducting a geochemical soil sampling exercise.

- 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.



Figure 3-7: An example of a trenching exercise during mineral exploration phase.

- 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.



Figure 3-8: Image depicting the drilling phase in mineral exploration.

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. Only phase 3 (exploration drilling) will require most of these services daily.

4. INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

The required infrastructure services are water, electricity, roads network, accommodation and transportation needed for this project are vital and were considered during this EA. It should be noted that depending on the technique demand for infrastructures and services varies. Therefore, during the non-invasive techniques not much infrastructure and services will be needed and during the invasive techniques i.e. ground geophysical, pitting/trenching and drilling this will require most of these services daily. As mentioned in the previous chapter, to meet the increased infrastructure and service requirements, a temporary campsite will be established within the EPL-9824. The campsite will adhere to the provisions outlined in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) to mitigate any potential harm to the environment. During the exploration phase, efforts will be made to minimize the campsite's footprint and its impact on the surroundings.

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 bowzers 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/land owner/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 several farms as such there are existing gravel roads which can allow access to the EPL. Access agreements would need to be negotiated and entered 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 always using a diesel generator.</p>	<p>Electric drives and generators will alternatively be used in cases when there is not 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. 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 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

One of the major components of the EIA process is public consultation. It can be described by a spectrum or continuum of increasing levels of engagement in the decision-making process regarding the exploration (Chikova & Chilunjika, 2021). This is because, in the extractive industry, the engagement provides an opportunity for all the I&APs to comment on and raise any concerns they may have regarding the project.

Regarding public engagement, the principles set out in subsection (2) of the EMA and its 2012 EIA regulations is that.

- i. Community involvement in natural resources management and the sharing of benefits arising from the use of the resources, must be promoted and facilitated and
- ii. The participation of all interested and affected parties must be promoted and decisions must consider the interest, needs and values of interested and affected parties.

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.

Figure 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• Ethical behaviour• Environmental protection• Transparency• Risk management• On time tax payments and other fees
Ministry of Mines and Energy	
Ministry of Health and Social Services	
Regional, Local and Traditional Authorities	
Otavi Town Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ethical behaviour• Transparency• Mutual benefits and continuity• Significant development of local environment and communities.
Constituency office	
General Public	
Farm and or Land owners /Interested members of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ethical behaviour• Transparency• Job security• No excess noise and emissions

ii. **A Background Information Document (BID)**

A summarized document containing descriptive information about the proposed exploration activities was compiled (**Annexure I**) and shared upon request to the identified and registered interested and affected (I&APs) on the 14th of July 2024.

iii. **Advertisements**

Newspaper adverts were placed in local newspapers; the Confidante and the New Era dated (14th and 20th February 2025) (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, one is attached, 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@confidentenamibia.com C: +264 81 231 7332

CLASSIFIEDS













<p>NOTICE ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Project Location: EPL 9677 is located 81km southeast of Arandis and about 114 km east of Walvis Bay towns, in the Karibib and Swakopmund Districts, Erongo Region.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Proponent: Mrs. Tertu Nangula Katondoka</p> <p>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.</p> <p>For any inquiries please contact: Consultant: SS Consultants CC • Ms. Uaanao Katjinjaa • +264 81 240 9124 • UKatjinjaa@ssconsultants.co</p> 	<p>NOTICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Project Location: Ombuku village, Epupa Constituency, Kunene Region.</p> <p>Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for the establishment of mining activities for base and rare metals and precious metals on proposed mining claims no. 74211, 74212, 74213, 74214, 74215 & 74216 situated approximately 120 KM North of Opuwo, when using the C43 road.</p> <p>Proponent: Mr. Peihama Tjindunda</p> <p>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.</p> <p>For any inquiries please contact: Consultant: SS Consultants CC • Ms. Uaanao Katjinjaa • 0814779623 • UKatjinjaa@ssconsultants.co</p> 	<p>NOTICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Project Location: Otavi/Otiwarongo Otjozondjupa Region.</p> <p>Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 9624 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.</p> <p>Proponent: Namasku Bainga</p> <p>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.</p> <p>For any inquiries please contact: Consultant: SS Consultants CC • Ms. Uaanao Katjinjaa • 0814779623 • UKatjinjaa@ssconsultants.co</p> 	<p>NOTICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Project Location: Otavi, Otjozondjupa Region.</p> <p>Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 9610 exploration activities for industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 50 KM, south of Otavi on the D2808 and D2814 gravel road.</p> <p>Proponent: Bluliv Investment</p> <p>CCAI 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.</p> <p>For any inquiries please contact: Consultant: SS Consultants CC • Ms. Uaanao Katjinjaa • 0814779623 • UKatjinjaa@ssconsultants.co</p> 
<p>NOTICE ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Project Location: EPL 9083 is located 50 km northwest west of Usakos town, in the Karibib District, Erongo Region.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Proponent: Mrs. Tertu Nangula Katondoka</p> <p>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.</p> <p>For any inquiries please contact: Consultant: SS Consultants CC • Ms. Uaanao Katjinjaa • +264 81 240 9124 • UKatjinjaa@ssconsultants.co</p> 	<p>NOTICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Project Location: Henties Bay, Erongo Region.</p> <p>Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 10019 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 C35 and D1918 gravel road.</p> <p>Proponent: Hushimi Quarrying Services CC</p> <p>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.</p> <p>For any inquiries please contact: Consultant: SS Consultants CC • Ms. Uaanao Katjinjaa • 0814779623 • UKatjinjaa@ssconsultants.co</p> 	<p>NOTICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Project Location: Karibib Erongo Region.</p> <p>Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 10093 exploration activities for nuclear fuel, dimension stone, industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 68KM, south of Karibib, access is via C32 gravel road.</p> <p>Proponent: Sirkka Latenda Nakashole</p> <p>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.</p> <p>For any inquiries please contact: Consultant: SS Consultants CC • Ms. Uaanao Katjinjaa • 0814779623 • UKatjinjaa@ssconsultants.co</p> 	<p>NOTICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Project Location: Otavi, Otjozondjupa Region.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Proponent: Namasku Bainga</p> <p>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.</p> <p>For any inquiries please contact: Consultant: SS Consultants CC • Ms. Uaanao Katjinjaa • 0814779623 • UKatjinjaa@ssconsultants.co</p> 
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Figure 6-2: advert in the Confidante Newspaper dated 14-20 February 2025.

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 to inform the

I&AP on any communications with regards to the project. Mostly were local business owners (eco-tourism) who raised concerns ranging from water resources, land use conflicts and potential environmental degradation hindering their business operations.



Figure 6-3: Public consultation meeting at Khoi Khoi Lodge and the I &AP farms house.



Figure 6-4: Public consultation meeting at one of the I &AP farms house

v. Site Notices

Various site notices were placed at relevant site on the project area i.e. farm gates and near by towns mainly at the public notice boards.



Figure 6-5: Project Site notices.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL BASELINES

7.1 Introduction

The proposed exploration activities will be undertaken in an environment with specific conditions; the environment will be affected in one way or another. It is therefore vital that prior to the project development, there is a thorough understanding of the pre-project conditions and use it as a reference point in assessment. It is equally important to form a baseline understanding of the area and make sound conclusions on certain issues that may arise during or after the projects.

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 9824, based on the provided map and map sheet explanations, comprises units ranging from recent Cenozoic deposits to Neoproterozoic metasediments. From youngest to oldest, the geological units are described as follows:

The youngest units are the Quaternary unconsolidated sediments, represented by Qa (Alluvium) and Qs (Surficial deposits), which consist of sand, soil, calcrete, and pan deposits

typically found along ephemeral river courses or covering flat-lying terrains. Moving into the Mesozoic Karoo Supergroup, the JEj (Etjo Formation) is a Jurassic unit composed of fine- to medium-grained aeolian sandstones that vary in colour from cream to brick-red and often form prominent topographic cliffs. This is underlain by the Triassic TrOg (Omingonde Formation), which consists of alternating reddish-brown to yellowish siltstones, mudstones, and sandstones, with localized lenses of conglomerate and conglomeratic sandstone deposited in fluvial and floodplain environments.

The older basement rocks belong to the Neoproterozoic NDA (Damara Supergroup), specifically within the NSW (Swakop Group). The uppermost stratigraphic unit of this group is the NKs (Kuseb Formation), which is characterized by widespread metapelites and metagreywackes, often appearing as quartz-albite-chlorite-muscovite schists. Finally, the oldest specific formation identified in the area is the NKb (Karibib Formation), which consists of a thick succession of bluish grey bedded to flaggy limestones, marbles, and minor amounts of metapelite or dolomite.

To visualize the geological history of this area, imagine a multi-layered cake where the bottom layers are ancient, folded marbles and schists, the middle layers are desert sands and river silts from the age of dinosaurs, and the top is a light dusting of modern sand and soil.

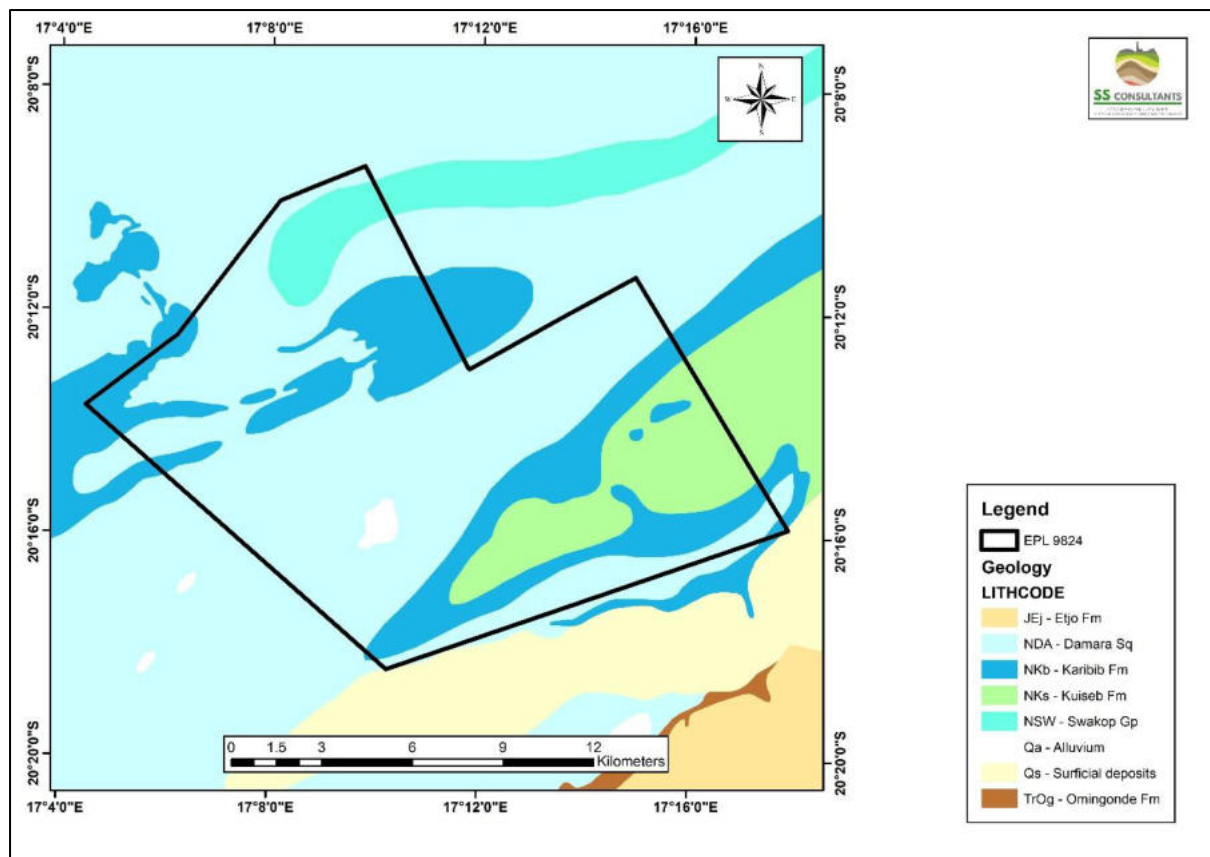


Figure 7-1: Geological map for the project area.

7.2.2 Mineral Prospectivity

Namibia's most prospective gold provinces are the Damara Province and the Otavi Mountainland. Gold deposits within these regions are predominantly structurally controlled, occurring in association with shear zones, thrust zones, breccia zones, and syn-orogenic hydrothermal mineralization systems. The project area is situated within the Damara Province, which trends southwest to northeast across Namibia. This province hosts several prominent gold operations, including the Otjikoto Mine operated by B2Gold, the Navachab Mine managed by QKR, and Osino Resources' Twin Hills Gold Mine.

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 of the project area is generally known for receiving higher rainfall than the rest of the country, between 500 and 600 mm of rain per year. Maximum temperatures average around 32 - 34°C, mainly recorded during the afternoons between November and January, while minimum temperatures are around 6 - 8°C and are normally recorded during nights in June and July whereas maximum temperatures are recorded at an average of 32-34°C (Mendelsohn et al., 2002).

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).

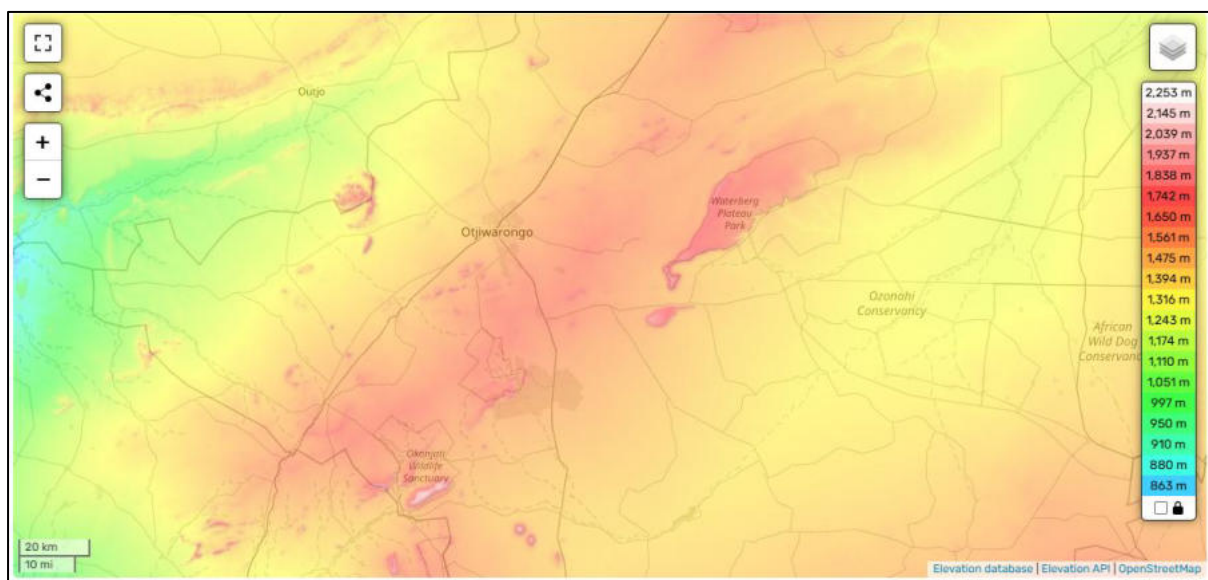


Figure 7-2 Otjozondjupa topographic map

7.3.6 Water Resources: Surface and Groundwater

While the primary objective of the project is to delineate a potential mineral deposit, a review of water resources is pertinent given that advanced exploration phases notably drilling may require significant water. This overview is based on data from the Geological Survey of Namibia (GSN), which provides a regional scale understanding of water potential, as illustrated in Figure 7-3.

As seen by the topographic map in the subsequent chapter, surface water flow within the area is primarily controlled by topographical valleys. The region, especially within the Otavi Mountain Lands, is characterized by significant karstification resulting from the dissolution of

limestone and dolomite along joints and fractures. This geomorphological process has formed subsurface conduits, giving rise to features such as springs and caves.

The hydrogeological potential across EPL 9824 is assessed as primarily low, due to the poor primary porosity of the dominant geological units, which limits regional groundwater storage. Consequently, groundwater occurrence is structurally controlled and highly localized, with meaningful accumulation restricted to discrete zones associated with fractures, faults, and lineaments that provide secondary permeability. Available water quality data also indicates that groundwater in the area may not be consistently suitable for domestic use without treatment.

In summary, the potential for groundwater development across most of the license area is minimal. Should water be required for drilling or other operations, targeted exploration would need to focus on isolated, moderate-yield zones associated with major structural features.

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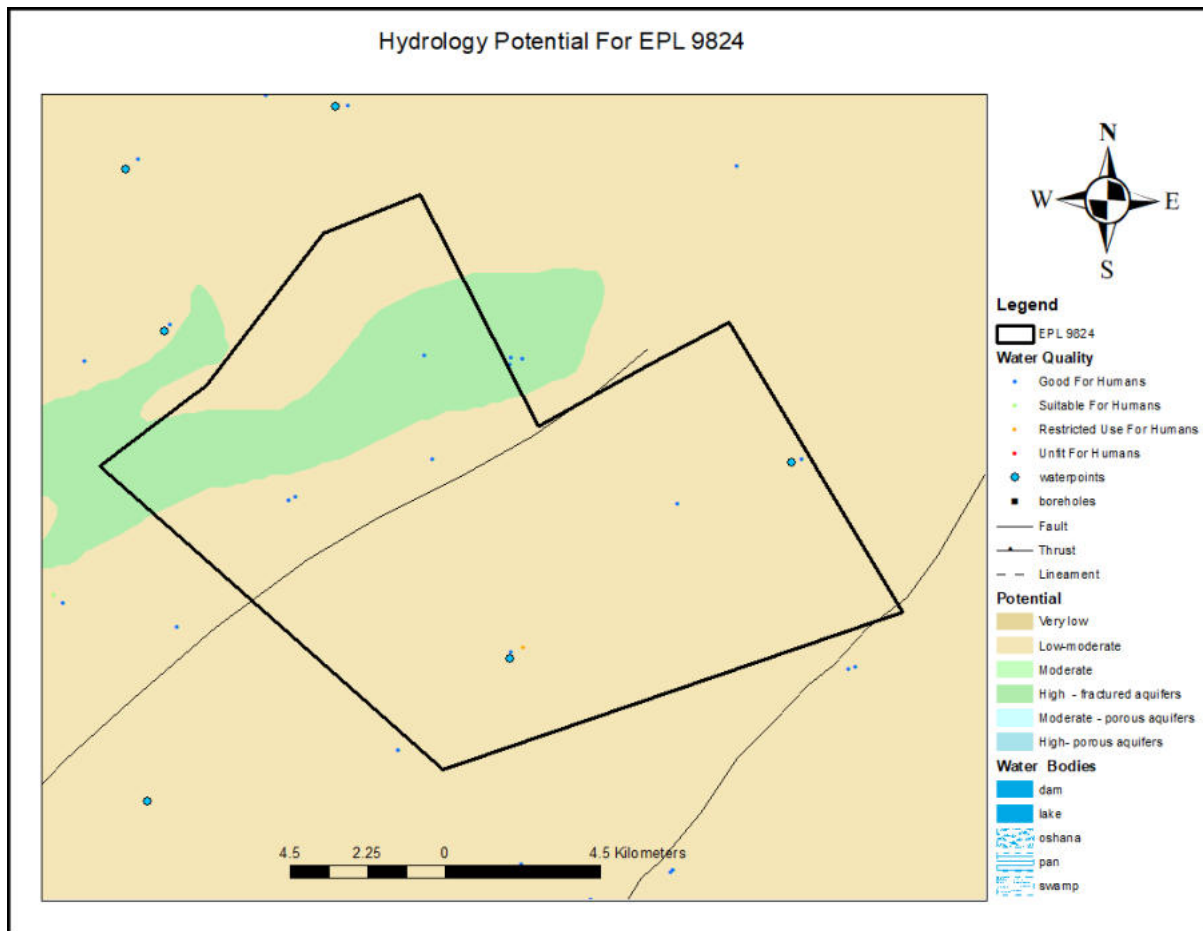


Figure 7-3: Water resources map for the project area, indicating the water quality, existing water points, location of potential water points as well the existing water bodies.

5.3.7 Fauna and Flora

The area of interest It is broadly classified as a woodland, with vegetation dominated by relatively dense stands of woody shrubs and trees. In some places plant growth become progressively shrubby, especially where the soils are shallower, slopes are steeper and where it is hillier and rockier (Mendelsohn et al, 2002). Most of the woody vegetation vary between 1m and 3m in height. Thorny Acacia species dominate but several species are closely associated with the higher elevations only. Thornbush thickets dominate on the sandy parts and calcrete-rocky parts.



Figure 7-4: Image showing some of the Vegetation within the EPL area.

7.4 Socio-Economic Settings

7.4.1 Introduction

Otavi is a small town in the Otjozondjupa Region of central Namibia, with a population of around 4,000-5,000 people inhabitants. Several district roads traverse the Otjozondjupa Region, with a network of farm access roads and tracks towards the EPL. Most people within the town are mine workers, with a few civil servants. However, the farmers within and around the EPL depends on their farms for wages. They mostly use their land for communal farming. There are also opportunities for tourism within the area.

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.

7.4.4 Mining Activities

The region is also known to host mining activities, noticeable establishments is the Otjikoto Gold Mine of B2Gold, Cheetah cement and Ohorongo cement. This has contributed largely to employment in the country, with mining being one of the largest contributors to the country's GDP. Other than this advanced exploration projects from junior mining companies like Midas Minerals, Osino Resources Corp /Shanjin International, Ongwe Mineral Resources, Antler

Gold and Aldoro Resources have contributed to the mineral resource base of REE, gold, others.

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-9824. 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 during construction work the client is advised to adopt the Chance Finds Procedure. At the time of publishing this report how ever the proponent did not have the final report hence this will be shared once it is completed.

8. IMPACT IDENTIFICATION, ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION MEASURES

8.1 The Impact Assessment Process

The purpose of this section is to assess and identify the most permanent environmental impacts by listing and addressing certain quantifiable aspects of these impacts. In addition to the environmental impacts, the proposed activities are also usually associated with different potential positive and/or negative impacts however, the focus is placed mainly on the negative impacts. This is done to ensure that these impacts are addressed by providing adequate mitigation measures such that an impact's significance is brought under control, while maximizing the positive impacts during exploration.

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 8-1, Table 8-2, Table 8-3, Table 8-4 and Table 8-5.

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 site 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 processes, extinction of rare species	Substantial deterioration, death, illness or injury, loss of habitat / diversity or resource, severe alteration, or disturbance of important processes	Moderate deterioration, discomfort, partial loss of habitat / biodiversity or resource, moderate alteration	Low deterioration, slight noticeable alteration in habitat and biodiversity. Little loss in species numbers	Minor deterioration, nuisance or irritation, minor change in species / habitat / diversity or resource, no or very little quality deterioration

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 natural or 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

SIGNIFICANCE	ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE POINTS	COLOUR CODE
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 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 deem 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, if 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
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 during 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 with 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 8-13.

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

	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 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.

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.

	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

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 aim of this environmental scoping assessment was to identify the potential impacts associated with the proposed exploration activities on the EPL area, to assess their significance and recommend practical mitigation measures. The central potential biophysical impact related to the pre-operational, operational and maintenance and decommissioning phases of the proposed project activities have been identified and assessed. The overall severity of potential environmental impacts of the proposed project activities on the receiving environment will be of medium magnitude.

9.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

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) 9824



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF MINES AND ENERGY

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1 Aviation Road
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Enquiries: Mr. S.J. Simon
Reference No: 14/2/4/1/9824

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

Ministry of Mines and Energy
Mining Commissioner

2024-10-08

Received

Department of Mines

NOTICE TO APPLICANT OF PREPAREDNESS TO GRANT APPLICATION FOR EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE No. 9824.

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 **Dimension Stone, 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.

Isabella Chirchir 23/09/2024

Ms ISABELLA CHIRCHIR
MINING COMMISSIONER

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

I, NIMASIKU BINGA.....(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

27 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. 9824 (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.

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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.

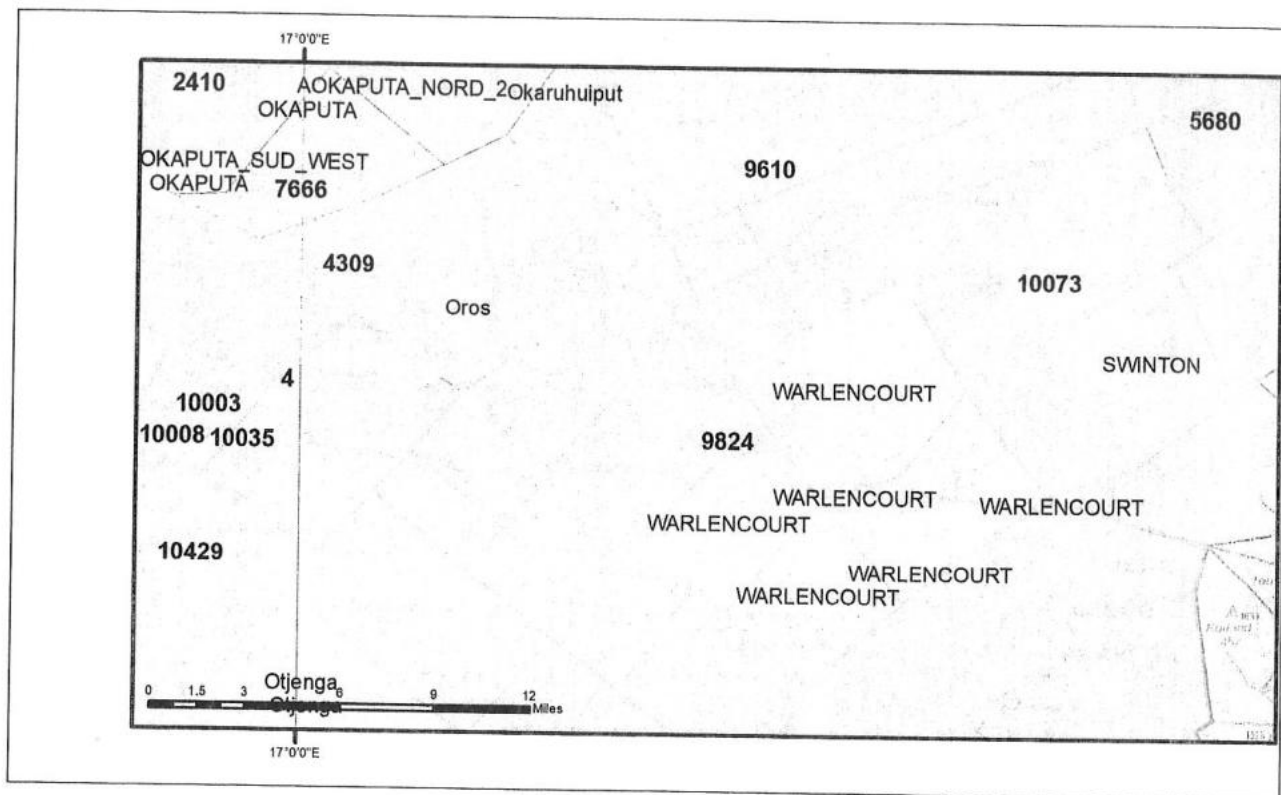


Ms ISABELLA CHIRCHIR
MINING COMMISSIONER

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DIAGRAM – EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE – 9824

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
ML - Application	RL - Application	Environmentally Sensitive	Division
ML - Active	RL - Active		
MC - Application	MDRL - Application	Projection: Albers Conic Equal Area Spheroid: Bessel 1841 Central Meridian: 17 Deg. E	
MC - Active	MDRL - Active		

AREA: 19982.3598 Hectares

MAP(S):

LOCALITY:

*Regions(s): **Otjozondjupa**

*Magisterial District(s): **Otiwarongo, Grootfontein**

*Registration Division(s): **B**

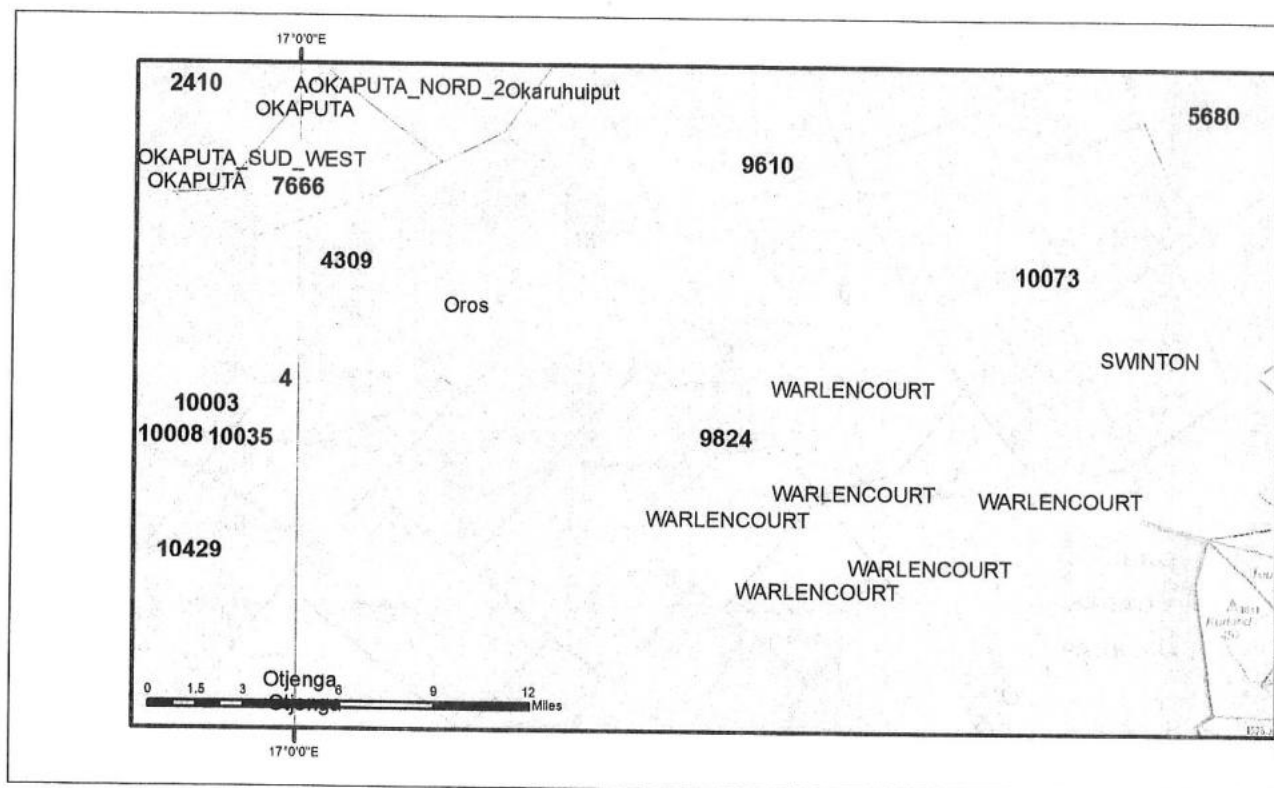
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Order	Lat Deg	Lat Min	Lat Sec		Long Deg	Long Min	Long Sec	
1	- 20	09	23.72	S	17	09	45.05	E
2	- 20	12	59.90	S	17	11	45.31	E
3	- 20	12	59.48	S	17	11	46.11	E
4	- 20	13	1.01	S	17	11	46.94	E
5	- 20	12	2.64	S	17	13	34.35	E
6	- 20	11	20.25	S	17	14	55.09	E
7	- 20	15	50.76	S	17	17	52.67	E
8	- 20	18	24.90	S	17	10	15.54	E
9	- 20	13	43.34	S	17	04	29.11	E
10	- 20	12	35.00	S	17	06	2.74	E
11	- 20	12	27.42	S	17	06	13.34	E
12	- 20	12	22.47	S	17	06	17.30	E
13	- 20	10	1.83	S	17	08	8.89	E
14	- 20	09	48.41	S	17	08	42.31	E

Certified by:.....*Shrir*.....
Mining Commissioner

DIAGRAM – EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE – 9824

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
ML - Application	RL - Application	Environmentally Sensitive	Division
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MC - Active	MDRL - Active		

AREA: 19982.3598 Hectares

MAP(S):

LOCALITY:

*Regions(s): **Otjozondjupa**

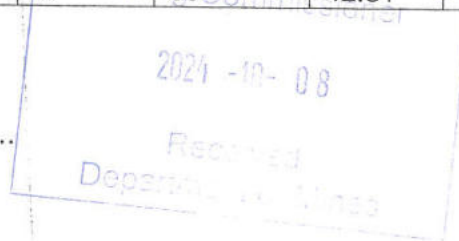
*Magisterial District(s): **Otjiwarongo, Grootfontein**

*Registration Division(s): **B**

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Order	Lat Deg	Lat Min	Lat Sec		Long Deg	Long Min	Long Sec	
1	- 20	09	23.72	S	17	09	45.05	E
2	- 20	12	59.90	S	17	11	45.31	E
3	- 20	12	59.48	S	17	11	46.11	E
4	- 20	13	1.01	S	17	11	46.94	E
5	- 20	12	2.64	S	17	13	34.35	E
6	- 20	11	20.25	S	17	14	55.09	E
7	- 20	15	50.76	S	17	17	52.67	E
8	- 20	18	24.90	S	17	10	15.54	E
9	- 20	13	43.34	S	17	04	29.11	E
10	- 20	12	35.00	S	17	06	2.74	E
11	- 20	12	27.42	S	17	06	13.34	E
12	- 20	12	22.47	S	17	06	17.30	E
13	- 20	10	1.83	S	17	08	8.89	E
14	- 20	09	48.41	S	17	08	42.31	E

Certified by:.....
Mining Commissioner



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ANNEXURE B: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN:

**FOR THE PROPOSED MINERAL EXPLORATION OF BASE AND RARE METALS, DIMENSION STONE,
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, AND PRECIOUS METALS ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE NO.9824**

OTAVI DISTRICT, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION – NAMIBIA

ECC APPLICATION NO.: APP No. 250207005312

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. 9824 (EPL-9824) 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-9824. 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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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

DEAF	Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry
DWA	Department of Water Affairs
ECC	Environmental Clearance Certificate
ECO	Environmental Control Officer
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMA	Environmental Management Act
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EPL	Exclusive Prospecting License
GG & GN	Government Gazette & Government Notice
MAWLR	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform
MEFT	Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism
PPE	Personal Protection Equipment

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Overview

SS Consultants CC (herein referred to as the Consultant) has been appointed by Namasiku Bainga (herein referred to as *the Proponent*) to apply for and obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). The Proponent intends to explore for base and rare metals, dimension stone, industrial minerals, and precious metals on EPL No.9824. Prior to commencing with proposed exploration activities, an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process undertaken by the Proponent is required, thus the 'pending' status for the application rights for the proposed exploration activities for base and rare metals, dimension stone, industrial minerals, and precious metals on EPL No.9824 as shown in **Figure 1-1** below.

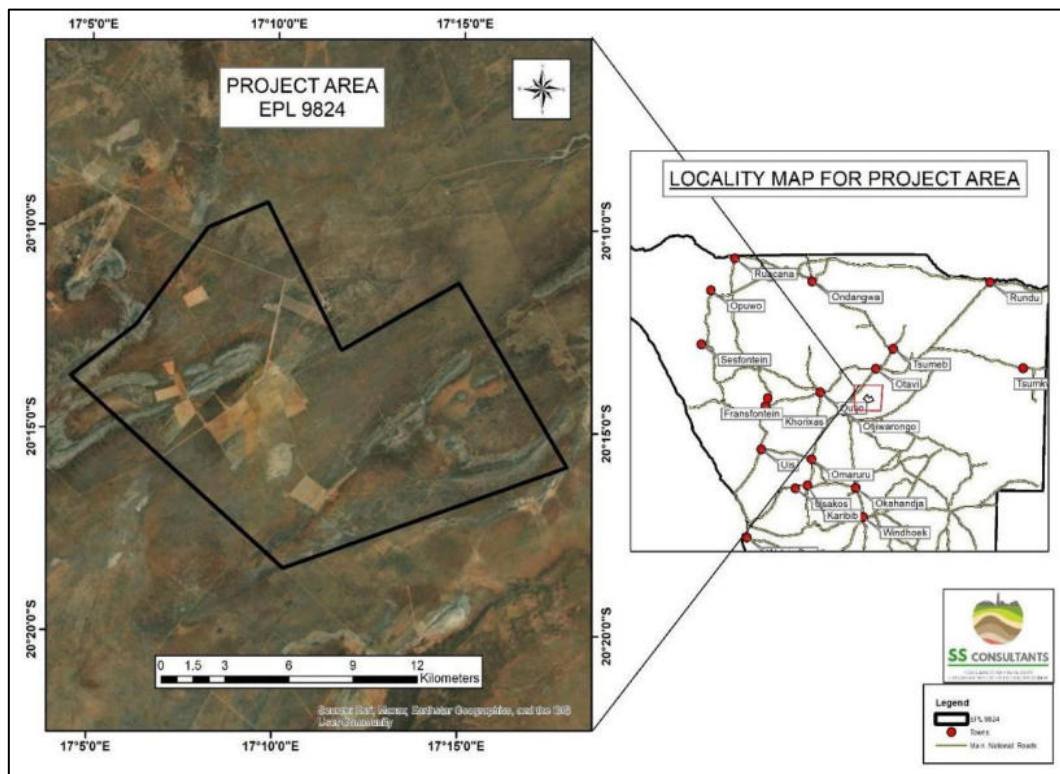


Figure 1-1: Locality Map for the project area.

The project area is located in Otjozondjupa region with, with Otavi being approximately 50 km northwest and Otjiwarongo 70 km southwest. The project area can be accessed via the B1 tarred road, then D2804 gravel road that leads to the tenement and it covers an area of 19982.3598 Ha. The location of the project area towards the towns- Otavi and Otjiwarongo, Otjiwarongo and Otavi provides accessibility to infrastructure that enables exploration activities.

The Proponent plans to conduct an exploration program on EPL-9824, which will include both non-invasive and invasive exploration methods. Non-invasive exploration methods will include activities such as geological desktop studies, interpretation of aeromagnetic and remote sensing images, field mapping, ground geophysical surveys, and sampling of surface rock and soil. Invasive exploration methods, include drilling (reverse circulation or diamond drilling) and pitting/trenching. The EPL is relatively flat with small undulating hills and is therefore easily accessible via minor car tracks within the area. This minimises the clearance of vegetation in the area needed for the access routes and working sites and for the installation and development of exploration drill holes. Noteworthy, the duration of exploration activities will be over the license tenure, which is valid for three (3) years, once an ECC has been issued for EPL-9824.

1.2 Purpose of the Environmental Management Plan

This document, the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) is prepared as part of the Environmental Scoping and Impact Assessment for the proposed exploration which was conducted in terms of the Environmental Management Act, 2007 (EMA) (Act No. 7 of 2007). This EMP serves as a vital tool for ensuring sustainable development and the protection of natural resources. Its sole purpose is to guide and regulate human activities to minimize negative environmental impacts and promote the conservation of Namibia's unique ecosystems. It provides a link between the impacts identified in the EA process and the required mitigation measures to be implemented during exploration.

This EMP aims to safeguard the diverse ecosystems, including its rich wildlife, sensitive habitats, and environment. It identifies potential environmental risks associated with development projects and outlines measures to mitigate these risks, ensuring the long-term health and resilience of the environment. It provides management measures to address the environmental effects that have been identified in the Environmental Scoping Assessment report and to provide possible mitigation measures/recommendations to address these impacts.

1.3 Phases of the proposed exploration activities

The core purpose of the Environmental Management Plan is to guide environmental management throughout the phases of the proposed exploration activities namely; planning, prospecting & exploration, and decommissioning & rehabilitation phase:

Table 1-1: Phases involved in an exploration program.

Phase	Management Requirement
Planning	<p>The Proponent prepares all the administrative and technical requirements needed for the actual works on the ground.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Obtaining the necessary permitting and authorization from relevant national and local stakeholders, ▪ Facilitating the recruitment and procurement processes in preparation for the exploration activities (and site maintenance).
Prospecting & Exploration	<p>Facilitating the recruitment and procurement processes in preparation for the exploration activities (and site maintenance).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Detailed search for and assessment of mineral resources, ▪ Maintenance of the area, equipment and machinery is done by the Proponent.
Decommissioning	<p>The exploration activities on the EPL area cease</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The decommissioning of the EPL exploration activities may be considered due to poor results or declines in the focus commodity market price, ▪ Before the decommissioning phase, the Proponent would need to put site rehabilitation measures in place.

The next chapter summarises the proposed project activities, entailing the systematic approach of the exploration techniques.

2 EXPLORATION TECHNIQUES

The Proponent plans to conduct an exploration program on EPL-9824, focusing on dimension stones and nuclear fuel minerals (commodity addition). The program includes both non-invasive and invasive exploration techniques. Non-invasive techniques involve geological desktop studies, interpretation of aeromagnetic and remote sensing images, field mapping, ground geophysical surveys, and sampling of surface rock and soil. These methods aim to gather geological information without significant disturbance. The primary goal of non-invasive methods is to assess the need for more invasive exploration.

The exploration program will follow a systematic approach, starting with non-invasive methods to determine if invasive techniques are necessary. If non-invasive exploration yields positive results, indicating promising mineralization, detailed site-specific drilling, trenching, and sampling will be conducted. Throughout the program, environmental impacts will be minimized by using non-invasive techniques initially and following safety protocols for drilling and excavation activities. The exploration program aims to identify economically viable mineral deposits while ensuring responsible environmental management and adherence to regulations.

The proposed exploration activities will be implemented through the following sequential phases:

Table 2-1: Description of exploration techniques phases.

Phase	Exploration technique	Description
Phase 1	Desktop study and geological mapping	Thorough review of geological map data, on-site visual assessments of rocks, and the use of geospatial data to identify lithological units, geological structures, mineralization zones, and alteration zones.
Phase 2	Geophysical Surveys	Using various sensing technologies to collect subsurface data to detect and assess geological features, including mineralization
Phase 3	Geochemical Sampling	Collecting earth materials (rocks, soils, sediments) for analysis to determine the presence and quantities of different minerals.

Phase 4	Trenching and Pitting	Excavating an area to obtain a bulk sample of mineralization to understand its characteristics
Phase 5	Drilling and Core Sampling	Penetrating the ground and extracting rocks from different depths to verify the geology or obtain samples for further chemical analysis

3 POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The key environmental aspects that could be impacted by exploration activities include:

3.1 Impact on Biodiversity (vegetation and wild animals in the area)

Vegetation removal to enable drill pads, access tracks on the EPL and establishment of project infrastructures and machinery may result in vegetation and animals' disturbance as well as habitat destruction.

3.2 Soil erosion and compaction

Increased compaction of already sensitive desert soils and leaving them prone to erosion potential due to removal of already scarce vegetation and vehicle movements.

3.3 Air Quality

The potential dust and emissions emanating from project activities such as drilling, excavations as well as heavy vehicles moving on and around the site.

3.4 Visual

If done close to the roads, the unrehabilitated explored areas within the EPL may cause a contrast to the surrounding environment which may be visual nuisance to the travellers on the available road tracks. The presence of exploration vehicles and machinery close to roads may also be visually unappealing to travellers.

3.5 Noise

The noise from exploration activities such as drilling and excavation may be a nuisance to neighbouring farms as well as wildlife (animals) within the area resulting in the animals migrating away from noise areas of the EPL.

3.6 Soil and Water resources

Potential contamination of site soils, surface and groundwater sources from fuel/chemical spills or poor management of wastewater (effluent), i.e., irresponsible and unauthorized discharge of wastewater.

3.7 Cultural heritage

Potential disturbance of archaeological or sacred sites, particularly the unmarked ones or in the subsurface.

4 LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK: PERMITS AND LICENSES

This chapter outlines all the relevant Namibian legislation, policies and guidelines that need to be adhered to for an effective EIA process. The review of the legal framework helps to inform the Proponent, affected, and interested communities, and the decision makers at the MEFT: DEAF about the requirements and expectations, as laid out in terms of these instruments, to be met so that the exploration activities could be conducted. This EMP was carried out based on the EMA No. 7 of 2007 and its EIA Regulations of 2021 (GG No. 4878 GN No. 30), and following the conditions set by EMA for obtaining an ECC for permission to conduct certain listed activities. The Proponent must equally ensure adherence to the regulations put in place by the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act No. 33 of 1992 with regards to the exploration activities. The list of legal and regulatory requirements governing the project activities is provided in the Scoping Report. Thus, the legal section in the EMP as stipulated by Section 8 (e) of the EIA Regulations, primarily on specific approvals and permits that may be required for the activities required on the EPL.

Table 4-1: Legal and Regulatory Frameworks in terms of permits and licenses for the project activities.

Legislation/Policy/ Guideline	Relevant Provisions	Implications for this project
Environmental Management Act EMA (No 7 of 2007)	Requires that projects with significant environmental impacts are subject to an environmental assessment process (Section 27). Details principles which are to guide all EAs.	The EMA and its regulations should inform and guide this EA process. Should the ECC be issued to the Proponent, it should be renewed every 3 years, counting from the date of issue. For ECC amendment or cancelation, the MEFT should be notified.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations GN 28-30 (GG 4878)	Details requirements for public consultation within a given environmental assessment process (GN 30 S21).	Contact details at the Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry (DEAF), Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT), Office of the Environmental Commissioner: Mr. Timoteus Mufeti

Legislation/Policy/ Guideline	Relevant Provisions	Implications for this project
	Details the requirements for what should be included in a Scoping Report (GN 30 S8) and an Assessment Report (GN 30 S15).	Tel: +264 61 284 2701
Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act (No. 33 of 1992)	Section 48 (3): To enable the Minister to consider any application referred to in section 47 the Minister may (b) require the person concerned by notice in writing to (i) carry out or cause to be carried out such environmental impact studies as may be specified in the notice.	The Proponent should ensure that all necessary permits/authorizations, including the certificate for the EPL are obtained from the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME). Contact person and details at the MME (Mining Commissioner): Mrs. Isabella Chirchir Tel: +264 61 284 8251.
	Section 52 (1) (a) requires mineral license holders to enter into a written agreement with affected landowners before exercising rights conferred upon the license holder.	The Proponent should timely enter into and sign access and land use agreement (consent) with the land user (custodian) MEFT's Wildlife & National Parks and affected farmer prior to undertaking any activities on the EPL (including mobilization).

Legislation/Policy/ Guideline	Relevant Provisions	Implications for this project
Water Resources Management Act (No 11 of 2013)	<p>Ensure that the water resources of Namibia are managed, developed, used, conserved, and protected in a manner. Therefore, a Groundwater Abstraction & Use Permit should be applied for. The Permit is required for all commercial and industrial water uses. Although, exploration is not entirely commercial, the associated activities such as drilling fall under industrial activities, thus, the need to apply for an abstraction permit (this would apply if the Proponent abstracts water outside the EPL area)</p> <p>For any project wastewater planned for discharge into the environment, a discharge permit should be applied for and obtained.</p>	<p>The Water Permit should be applied from the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR)</p> <p>Department of Water Affairs (DWA): Contact: Mr. Franciskus Witbooi Division: Water Policy and Water Law Administration Division Tel: +264 61 208 7158</p> <p>MAWLR, DWA' Water Environment Division Contact: Ms. Elise Mbandeka Tel: +264 61 208 7167</p>
Nature Conservation Ordinance 4 of 1975	The conservation of nature; given that the exploration activities will be done in proximity to protected areas or conservation areas.	Adhere to the operational rules and regulation of the conservancy areas and ensure that consent is obtained from MEFT to carry out exploration.

Legislation/Policy/ Guideline	Relevant Provisions	Implications for this project
		MEFT's Directorate of Wildlife & National Parks
Petroleum Products and Energy Act (No. 13 of 1990) Regulations (2001)	Regulation 3(2)(b) states that "No person shall possess or store any fuel except under authority of a licence or a certificate, excluding a person who possesses or stores such fuel in a quantity of 600 litres or less in any container kept at a place outside a local authority area"	<p>The Proponent should obtain the necessary authorisation from the MME for the storage of fuel on-site (Consumer Installation Permit).</p> <p>Mr. Carlo Mcleod (Ministry of Mines and Energy: Acting Director – Petroleum Affairs)</p> <p>Tel: +264 61 284 8291</p>
National Heritage Act No. 76 of 1969	Call for the protection and conservation of heritage resources and artefacts.	<p>For any archaeological material, such as bones, unknown graves, old weapons/equipment etc. that may be found on the EPL, work should stop immediately, and the National Heritage Council (NHC) of Namibia must be informed as soon as possible. The Heritage Council will then decide to clear the area or decide to conserve the site or material.</p> <p>Contact Details at the NHC of Namibia: Mrs. Erica Ndalikokule – NHC Director Ms. Agnes Shiningayamwe (Heritage Officer)</p> <p>Tel: +264 61 301 903</p>

4.1 Biodiversity protection and conservation

The region values biodiversity protection and conservation due to its rich ecological diversity and unique wildlife. The town and its surroundings are home to various plant and animal species, making it a significant area for conservation efforts.

Biodiversity protection and conservation is primarily carried out through several key initiatives:

- **Conservation Areas:** Otavi and Otjiwarongo has established protected areas and wildlife reserves to safeguard critical habitats and the species residing within them. These areas are carefully managed to prevent human encroachment and maintain ecological balance.
- **Community Involvement:** Local communities in Otavi and Otjiwarongo actively participate in biodiversity conservation initiatives. By engaging with residents, conservation organizations foster a sense of responsibility and stewardship towards the environment, ensuring sustainable practices are embraced.
- **Wildlife Monitoring and Research:** Ongoing wildlife monitoring and research help understand the region's biodiversity and ecosystem dynamics better. This data-driven approach guides conservation strategies and enables informed decision-making.
- **Habitat Restoration:** Efforts are made to restore and rehabilitate degraded habitats in Otavi and Otjiwarongo. Replanting native vegetation and removing invasive species support ecosystem health and biodiversity.
- **Anti-Poaching Measures:** Otavi and Otjiwarongo places a strong emphasis on anti-poaching measures to protect vulnerable and endangered species from illegal hunting and trade.
- **Environmental Education:** Promoting environmental education in schools and communities' fosters awareness and appreciation for the region's biodiversity. It instils a sense of responsibility for protecting the environment among the younger generations.
- **Sustainable Tourism:** Otavi and Otjiwarongo promotes responsible and sustainable tourism practices that minimize environmental impact while providing opportunities for visitors to experience the area's natural beauty and wildlife.
- **Partnerships and Collaboration:** Collaborating with governmental agencies, NGOs, and international organizations strengthens conservation efforts by combining resources, expertise, and knowledge.

The commitment to biodiversity protection and conservation is crucial for maintaining the ecological balance and preserving the unique natural heritage of the region for future generations. By implementing these initiatives and fostering a culture of environmental stewardship, Otavi and Otjiwarongo aims to ensure the sustainability of its rich biodiversity and ecosystems.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIFICATIONS AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

5.1 Compliance with the Environmental Specifications

The activities will be conducted in an environmentally and socially responsible manner. The Proponent and all site personnel (drilling including contractors) will comply with the environmental specifications contained in this section.

- EMP trainings should be provided to all workers on site.
- All site personnel should be aware of necessary health, safety, and environmental considerations applicable to their respective work.
- The implementation of this EMP should be monitored bi-annually.
- The site should be inspected, and a compliance audit done throughout the project activities, monthly and bi-annually for overall EMP implementation.
- An EMP non-compliance penalty system should be implemented.
- The ECC should be renewed every 3 years. An application should be submitted at least 1 month before expiry date.

5.2 Training and Awareness

- All site personnel and site contractors will receive the training to equip them with the necessary knowledge to comply with the environmental specifications. The Exploration Manager will ensure that an appropriate level of training is provided at all levels of site personnel.

5.3 Stakeholder Relations

- All site personnel should maintain good relations with the land custodians and members of the public. Any complaints received by the ECO should be addressed.
- Compile a clear communication procedure / plan which should include a grievance and response mechanism and shared with stakeholders (nearby farms and other land users).
- Engagement for land use where necessary, farm access agreements should be done prior to mobilizing to site. This should be communicated at least 2 months before commencement of exploration activities.

- Stakeholders (land custodian) and neighbouring farmers (land users) should be kept posted on any changes, progress or delays on the project activities communicated or agreed upon.
- The issues or complaints raised by the stakeholders should be effectively attended to timely, and resolved amicably.

5.4 Permits

All relevant permits shall be obtained from relevant authorities. These include:

- Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) by the Environmental Commissioner at MEFT: DEAF, and should be timely renewed, amended (if changes arise in the project description), if needed, transfer the ECC by submitting the application to the Environmental Commissioner and or cancel it if the project is discontinuing.
- EPL certificate from MME and should be timely renewed as required.
- Wastewater (effluent) handling and discharge permit from the Water Environment Division at MAWLR.
- Fuel Storage onsite (Consumer installation certificate) in excess of 600 litres from the MME.
- The removal or relocation of rare and endangered plants will be conserved, and should it be removed or relocated it shall be done with the required permits from the Directorate of Forestry at MEFT.

5.5 Road Safety

The access roads can be dangerous at times due to dust from passing vehicles, poor camber, patches of loose sand, careless drivers and other external factors.

All drivers must be aware of these hazards and take precautions to avoid them. Such precautions will include, but not be limited to:

- Complying with speed limits onsite (maximum 40km/hour),
- All vehicle drivers should be appropriately licensed to operate such vehicles and operating machinery,
- No driver is allowed to operate a vehicle while under influence of alcohol or narcotic substances,
- Reducing speed considerably when visibility is poor,
- Being wary of other vehicles,
- Travelling with lights on even in daylight,

- Slowing down for animals and birds on the road, and
- Being cautious of other road users– taking into account reduced visibility due to dust.
- Drivers should drive slowly (40km/hour or less) and be on the lookout for wildlife.

5.6 Access Tracks and Soil disturbance

- No new tracks should be made unless there are no pre-existing tracks, any new tracks or extensions should be established with the permission of the MEFT and where the EPL overlies a farm, the landowner should give consent prior to creating a track.
- The selected access and site roads should be clearly marked. A single road only should be used to and from each destination of the EPL site. Turning points for vehicles should also be pre-selected and marked. Care to be taken to avoid damage to plants.
- Any elevated sites, or sites away from existing tracks should be accessed on foot instead of driving there (in a vehicle).
- Stockpiled topsoil and drill materials should be used to backfill the excavated and disturbed site areas.
- The topsoil that was stripped from active sites should be returned to where it was taken.
- Avoid soils that are not within the intended footprints of the EPL should be left undisturbed and soil conservation implemented as far as possible.

5.7 Fauna and Flora

The project area of EPL-9824 is situated in the Otjozondjupa Region, approximately 50 km southeast of Otavi and 70 km northeast of Otjiwarongo. The site is accessible via the B1 tarred road and the D2804 gravel road, which facilitates logistical support for exploration activities. Covering an area of 19,982.36 hectares, the terrain is relatively flat with minor undulating hills, and includes sparse tracks that allow for access with minimal disturbance to vegetation. The accessibility and low topographical relief reduce the need for extensive vegetation clearance, particularly in relation to drill hole installation, trenching, and site preparation.

5.7.1 Flora

The vegetation in the EPL-9824 area reflects the transitional characteristics of north-central Namibia, lying between dry savanna and woodland ecosystems. The landscape is dominated by Miombo-Mopane woodlands, interspersed with open grasslands and shrublands. Common plant species observed in the region include:

- **Mopane (*Colophospermum mopane*):** Widespread in low-lying areas, forming dense woodlands that provide critical habitat and forage for herbivorous wildlife.
- **Acacia species (*Acacia spp.*):** Present along drainage lines and rocky outcrops, contributing to soil stabilization and biodiversity support.
- ***Terminalia sericea* and *Combretum* species:** Typical of woodland margins, providing shade and habitat for fauna.
- **Grass species:** Various savanna grasses dominate the understory, offering grazing material for local wildlife and livestock.

Special attention will be given to the protection of any rare, protected, or slow-growing species, including aloes and other endemic flora. Pre-clearance surveys will be conducted prior to any drilling or invasive activity to identify sensitive species, and where necessary, permits will be obtained from the Directorate of Forestry before any disturbance occurs. Topsoil will be carefully stripped, stockpiled, and used during progressive rehabilitation to restore cleared areas.

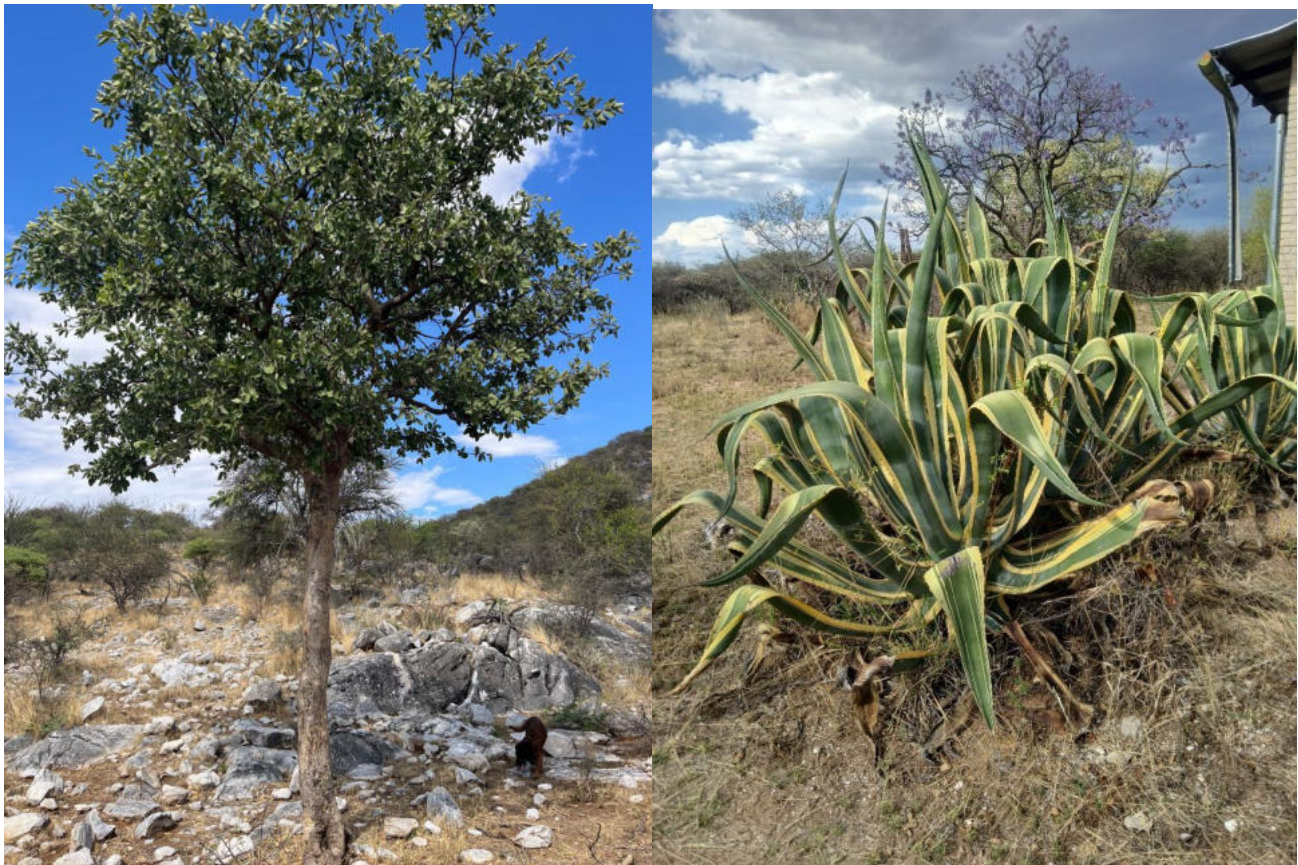


Figure 5-1 Vegetation

5.7.2 Fauna

The project area supports a diverse assemblage of wildlife, reflecting the ecological characteristics of the Otjozondjupa region. The fauna includes a mix of small and medium-sized mammals, birds, reptiles, and invertebrates. Notable species potentially occurring in the area include:

- **Mammals:** Small antelope species such as steenbok (*Raphicerus campestris*) and duiker (*Sylvicapra grimmia*), as well as hares, jackals, and small carnivores. Larger species are less common due to land use patterns and agricultural activities.
- **Birds:** A variety of savanna and woodland bird species, including weavers, hornbills, and raptors. The presence of ground-nesting birds may be affected by track development and field operations if not managed carefully.
- **Reptiles and Amphibians:** Lizards, snakes, and amphibians occupy the shrubland and woodland habitats, contributing to ecosystem balance and insect population control.
- **Invertebrates:** Diverse invertebrate communities, including pollinators and soil biota, are integral to ecosystem functioning.

All exploration activities will adopt a low-impact approach to minimize disturbance to local fauna. Vehicle movement will be restricted to existing tracks, and clearance of vegetation will be limited to essential areas only. Where trenches or drill sites intersect animal movement corridors, monitoring and mitigation measures will be implemented to reduce potential harm. Progressive rehabilitation will restore habitats to support the return of local species following exploration activities.



Figure 5-2 Species in project area

5.7.3 Conservation of Biodiversity (Fauna and Flora)

Damage to all plants will be avoided at all costs.

- Vegetation should only be cleared when absolutely 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
- Animals on and around the site should not be disturbed, trapped nor killed.
- No killing of small soil and rock outcrops' species found on site.
- Ensure that exploration trenches and holes are secured (temporary fenced off) then backfilled after completing exploration works on them to prevent injuries to animals (by falling in trenches or holes).
- The project workers and vehicles should be limited to the actual EPL active sites only but not unnecessarily wander and drive around the area resulting in unnecessary faunal and floral disturbance.
- 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. In other words, no exploration to be carried out between 6pm and 07am, in other words no activities to be carried during the night or early morning hours (at least not until 07h00). No food stuff should be left lying around as this will attract animals which may result in human-animal conflict onsite.

5.8 Soils and water resources

- 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.
- Appropriate storage and handling of hydrocarbons on site are essential.
- Potential contaminants such as hydrocarbons and wastewater should be contained on site and disposed of responsibly 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.
- Polluted soil should be removed immediately and put in a designate waste type container for later disposal.
- All vehicles should be equipped with drip trays and where generators are used. These fuel consuming vehicles and machinery should be monitored to ensure that accidental fuel spills along are cleaned up immediately.
- Polluted soil must be collected and transported away from the site to an approved and appropriately classified hazardous waste treatment facility.

No washing of hydrocarbons contaminated equipment onsite. The washing and servicing of vehicles is prohibited onsite.

5.9 Wildlife Poaching

- No animal or bird is to be captured, killed or harmed in any way. Anyone caught violating this law will face suspension from the project and could be liable for prosecution. In a likewise manner, livestock at nearby farms may also not be harmed.

- Poaching of wildlife is strictly prohibited and is punishable by law. Incorporate a No-tolerance rule for poaching in every employment contract and ensure that the workers understand the seriousness of this.

5.10 Occupational 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.
- Ensure that all project personnel are provided with adequate and appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) such as coveralls, gloves, safety boots, earplugs, dust masks, safety glasses. These are crucial to prevent potential injuries and excessive inhalation of dust or harmful gases.
- Eating, drinking, and smoking while working with any materials that are flammable should be forbidden.
- Good personal hygiene is encouraged (e.g., washing hands before eating) to prevent ingestion of potentially hazardous or radioactive materials.
- The project site should be equipped with fully first aid kit onsite and two to three people should be trained on how to administer first aid on others.
- Marking disturbance areas and buffer zones to avoid unnecessary impacts.
- Installing sediment controls around holes and access roads
- Implement a spill response plan and providing spill kits at all work sites and ensure that two to three personnel are trained on how to use it.
- All risk exposure areas should be temporarily fenced off and marked as such.
- All loads should be securely fastened on vehicles when transported or structures where loads are stored.
- Engage workers in sexual health talks and training about the dangers of engaging in unprotected sexual relations which results in contracting HIV/AIDS and other sexual related infections.
- The site should be provided with condoms and sex education through distribution of pamphlets and health trainings. These pamphlets can be obtained from the nearest local health facility.

5.11 Visual impact

- The EPL portions or areas close to the roads (M63 and C39) should be progressively rehabilitated during exploration over the shortest timescale possible to ensure that there is no prolonged visible and excessive land disturbances.
- All access roads leading to the EPL should have speed limits of no more than 40km/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, which importantly includes the C38 highway.
- 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

5.12 Waste management

- Sensitize workers to dispose of waste in a responsible manner and not to litter.
- No wastes should be left onsite or scattered around.
- All solid waste should be contained onsite until such that time it will be transported to designated waste sites.
- No waste may be buried or burned on site or anywhere else.
- The site should be equipped with separate waste bins for hazardous and general/domestic waste.
- Oil spills should be taken care of by removing and treating soils affected by the spill.
- Implement a penalty system for irresponsible disposal of waste on site and anywhere in the area.
- Ensure careful storage and handling of hydrocarbons onsite.
- Implement an emergency plan for major/minor spills onsite.
- No open defecation is allowed on and around the site.
- Sewage waste should be stored as per the portable chemical toilets supplied on site and regularly disposed of at the nearest treatment facility
- Provide sufficient portable toilet facilities for workers onsite.

5.13 Air quality

- Vehicles should not be driven at a speed more than 40km/h onsite to avoid dust generation.

- A reasonable amount of water should be used on gravel roads, using regular water sprays on gravel routes and near exploration sites to suppress the dust onsite.
- Dust masks, eye protective glasses and other respiratory personal protective equipment (PPE) such as face masks should be provided to the workers at drilling sites.

5.14 Fire outbreaks

- Portable and serviced fire extinguishers should be provided onsite.
- No open fires to be created by project personnel onsite or anywhere in the environment.
- Open fires are prohibited onsite.
- Smoking personnel should be provided with a designated for such and ensure that the cigarettes' fire is completely put out to and disposed of in allocated bins and not in the environment.
- Potential flammable structures like fuel storage tanks should be marked as such with clearly visible signage.
- Raise awareness to workers on the impact of careless handling of fires and flammable substances in the fire.

5.15 Noise

- Noise from operations' vehicles and equipment on the sites should be at acceptable levels.
- When operating the drilling machinery onsite, workers should be equipped with personal protective equipment (PPE) such as earplugs to reduce exposure to excessive noise.
- Exploration activities should only take place 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.

5.16 Archaeology and heritage resources

- A "No-Go-Area" should be put in place where there is evidence of sub-surface archaeological materials, archaeological sites, gravesites, historical, rock paintings, cave/rock shelters or past human dwellings. It can be a demarcation by fencing off or avoiding the site completely by not working closely or near the known site.

- Avoid intentional damage to or destruction of any outcrop that harbours caves or rock shelters, painting. These should be marked and the sites should be adjusted to avoid them.
- 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 onsite.
- The project should adopt an Archaeological Chance Finds Procedure (Appendix I) to cater for unexpected discoveries of archaeological remains in the course of exploration.
- The National Heritage Council of Namibia (NHCN) should be consulted/engaged to advice on the removal, packaging and transfer of the potential archaeological resource.

5.17 Compliance Monitoring

During exploration activities, the company ECO will conduct site compliance inspections at least once a month. After each inspection the ECO will compile an EMP compliance report for regular submission to the Exploration Manager and biannually to the MEFT or as required.

6 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

The Proponent commits to implementing all exploration activities on EPL 9824 in an environmentally responsible, socially acceptable, and legally compliant manner, consistent with the findings of the Environmental Scoping Assessment and the requirements of the Environmental Management Act, 2007. These principles apply to all employees, consultants, contractors, subcontractors, service providers, transport operators, and visitors accessing the licence area.

All project participants shall be required to conduct their activities in a manner that recognises the ecological and socio-economic sensitivities identified in the ESA, including the semi-arid environment, dependence on groundwater resources, existing livestock farming activities, and the presence of woodland vegetation and wildlife typical of the Otavi Highlands.

In particular, the Proponent commits to the following principles:

- Conducting all exploration activities in an ecologically and socially responsible manner, ensuring that unnecessary disturbance to land, vegetation, wildlife, and surrounding land uses is avoided.
- Protecting the health and safety of project personnel and the public through the implementation of appropriate site controls, including road safety measures, restricted access to active work areas, and the management of operational hazards.
- Maintaining constructive and respectful relationships with surrounding landowners, local communities, and other stakeholders, and minimising disruption to existing land use activities identified in the ESA.
- Promoting the efficient and responsible use of natural resources, with particular emphasis on soil protection, vegetation retention, and groundwater conservation for the benefit of present and future users.
- Preventing or minimising environmental impacts through careful planning, phased exploration activities, and the application of progressive rehabilitation measures.
- Minimising air, water, and soil pollution through effective waste management, proper handling and storage of fuels and hazardous substances, and immediate response to spills or environmental incidents.

- Conserving biodiversity by protecting mature trees, avoiding disturbance to protected plant species, and reducing impacts on wildlife habitats and movement corridors.

Through the consistent application of these principles and the mitigation measures prescribed in this EMP, the Proponent aims to ensure that environmental and social impacts associated with exploration activities on EPL 9824 remain localised, temporary, and reversible.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

This section outlines actionable environmental management procedures that must be followed during exploration activities on EPL 9824. Procedures are structured to align with ESA recommendations and are designed to minimize negative environmental and social impacts.

Table 7-1 Table of the Environmental Management Procedures.

Activity/Aspect	Procedure/Requirement	Responsible Party	Reference/Notes
Pre-Operational Planning & Land Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain signed Land Access Agreements before any personnel or vehicles enter private land (Minerals Act Section 52). • Identify and demarcate “No-Go Zones” including drainage lines, dense vegetation, and areas near homesteads. • Share schedule of planned activities with landowners and Local Authority ≥14 days in advance. 	MFO, ECO, Proponent	No-Go Zones must be clearly marked on maps and in the field.
Access, Track Management & Erosion Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrict vehicles to existing tracks; off-road driving is prohibited. • Any new track requires written approval from landowner and ECO. • New tracks must follow natural contours, avoid drainage lines, and be 	Site Manager, Contractors, ECO	All track modifications must be documented.

	rehabilitated immediately. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement erosion control measures (brush packing, sediment fences) at all cleared sites. 		
Biodiversity & Flora Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit vegetation clearance to minimum required. • Conduct pre-clearance survey for protected species; obtain Forestry permit before disturbance. • Strip top 150–200mm of topsoil in disturbed areas, store separately, and protect for rehabilitation. 	ECO, Contractors	Focus on sensitive species like <i>Aloe littoralis</i> .
Waste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply “Take it in, take it out” principle for non-organic waste. • Provide labeled bins for general, recyclable, and hazardous waste. • Store hazardous waste (oils, filters, chemicals) in bunded area; use licensed waste carriers; keep disposal receipts. 	Contractors, Site Manager, ECO	Hazardous waste management must comply with EMA and DEA standards.
8.5 Pollution Prevention & Hazardous Substances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Store fuels/oils in labelled containers in 110% bunded areas. • Conduct 	Contractors, Site Manager, ECO	Drip trays and bunded areas must be inspected daily.

	<p>maintenance/refueling over drip trays $\geq 50\text{m}$ from drainage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep Spill Response Kit on all service vehicles; train staff. • Report spills $>25\text{L}$ to MFO, ECO, MAWLR within 24h. 		
8.6 Water Resource Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not abstract groundwater without valid MAWLR permit. • Source water from bulk suppliers outside project area. • Properly decommission drillholes using bentonite/cement plugs and backfilling; submit Drillhole Decommissioning Record to ECO and MEFT. 	MFO, Contractors, ECO	Drillhole decommissioning must prevent contamination in karst environments.
8.7 Air Quality, Dust & Noise Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suppress dust on unsealed tracks/work areas with water; speed limit: 30 km/h. • Restrict noisy activities to weekdays 07:00–18:00; ensure machinery has mufflers. 	Contractors, Site Manager, ECO	Dust and noise monitoring records should be maintained.

8.8 Heritage & Archaeological Resources	<p>Impact Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area has medium pre-mitigation significance for archaeological risk; low post-mitigation. <p>Mitigation Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appoint qualified archaeologist for detailed survey prior to ground disturbance. • Stop all activities immediately if artefacts, remains, or graves are found. • Follow Archaeological Chance Finds Procedure (Appendix K). <p>Chance Finds Procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STOP work, SECURE area, INFORM MFO/ECO. • ECO notifies National Heritage Council (NHC) immediately. • Resume work only with written NHC approval. 	<p>Contractors, MFO, ECO, Archaeologist</p>	<p>All finds must be documented and reported to NHC as per National Heritage Act.</p>
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7.1 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 authorization 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.

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

Table 7-2: Archaeological & Heritage Resources Mitigation.

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

	<p>Chance Finds Procedure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Immediately stop all work if artefacts, remains, or suspected graves are discovered. - Secure the area and notify the ECO and MFO. - ECO to notify the National Heritage Council (NHC) for guidance. - Resume activities only with written approval from the NHC. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication records with NHC. - No unauthorised disturbance of heritage materials.

8 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

On principle, the EMA provides for the promotion of sustainable management of the environment and the use of natural resources by establishing principles for decision making on matters affecting the environment. In this manner, this section of the EMP presents the principles to be adhered by the Proponent and involved personnel. The participants to the exploration activity will be expected to conduct all their activities in an environmentally and socially responsible manner. This includes all consultants, contractors, and subcontractors, as well as transport drivers, visitors, and individuals involved in the mineral exploration project who enters the exploration regions.

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,
- 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 and potential hazards,
- 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, and
- Minimize air, water, and soil pollution, and conserve biodiversity.

8.1 Environmental Management Roles and Responsibilities

8.1.1 The Operating Company (the Proponent)

The Proponent is ultimately responsible for all stages of the project and the impacts resulting from those activities. It is also the Proponent's responsibility to appoint an Environmental Control Officer (ECO) and their responsibility to ensure that:

- The EMP and its environmental specifications are included in contractual documents and it is required that contractors, and subcontractors, consultants etc. do meet the EMP requirements,
- The company and all its subcontractors, consultants etc. comply with all Namibian legislation and policies and any relevant International Conventions,

- Compliance with the environmental specifications is enforced on a day-to-day basis,
- Environmental audits are conducted periodically by a suitably qualified ECO to confirm that the environmental requirements are properly understood and effectively implemented,
- Sufficient budget is provided to implement those measures that have cost implications,
- The site manager must commission tree surveys well in advance of planned road construction or drill pad preparation so that the necessary site visits by forestry personnel and forestry permits are acquired, and
- Open an effective communication between all parties concerning environmental management on the project.

8.1.2 Exploration (Operations) Manager

The day-to-day responsibility for environmental management will be assigned to the ECO and Exploration Manager for the duration of all operational activities. The responsibilities for the Exploration Manager will be to:

- Be accustomed with the contents of the EMP and applicable sections of the EIA and the measures recommended therein,
- Monitor compliance with the environmental specifications on a daily basis and enforce the environmental compliance on site by communicating the ECO's directions to all personnel involved,
- In the event of any infringements leading to environmental damage, personnel need to consult with the ECO and seek advice on any remedial measures to limit or rectify the damage,
- Maintain a record (photographic and written) of "before-and-after" conditions on site, and
- Facilitate communication between all role players in the interests of effective environmental management.

8.1.3 Environmental Control Officer (ECO)

A suitably qualified ECO will be appointed and will be responsible for:

- Undertaking environmental audits of overall compliance with the environmental specifications. This should be done at least bi-annually.
- Submitting a site inspection report to the Exploration Manager;
- Advising the Exploration Manager on interpretation and implementation of the environmental specifications as required, and

- Making recommendations for remedial action in cases of non-compliance with the environmental specifications or the EMP requirements in general.

8.2 Environmental Management System Framework

The Proponent and its contractors will create and implement an Environmental Management System (EMS) to apply Environmental Management Practices. The structure for compiling a project EMS is established in this section. All environmental management paperwork will be kept in a paper and/or electronic system by the applicable exploration EMP.

These may include, but are not limited to:

- Standard operating procedures for the implementation of the environmental action plan and management program,
- Procedures for dealing with incidents and emergencies,
- Procedures for auditing, monitoring, and reporting, and
- EMP compliance method statements for ad hoc actions not explicitly covered in the EMP action plans.

8.3 Register of Roles and Responsibilities

Relevant roles and duties will be identified during project planning and risk assessments. All environmental commitment duties and obligations must be documented in a register. The register must include pertinent contact information and be updated as needed.

8.4 Communication between Parties

Emphasis will be put towards open communication between all parties to reach a proactive approach towards potential environmental issues deriving from the project. This approach should guarantee that environmental impacts are anticipated and prevented, or minimised, rather than adopting a negative “policing” approach after negative impacts have already occurred. The importance of a proactive approach cannot be overemphasised, particularly in relation to preventing unnecessary tracks, and damage to vegetation (i.e. protected and endemic species) as these impacts cannot easily be remedied.

9 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING PLAN

The project monitoring is conducted under the EMP and includes:

9.1.1 Project readiness monitoring

Monitoring to check progress on project readiness and close gaps through corrective actions.

9.1.2 Operational monitoring

This is required as part of the operations of the subproject and will be undertaken by the relevant government department or a nominated private sector operator.

9.1.3 EMP and Environmental quality compliance monitoring

To be conducted by the appointed external Environmental Consultants to verify EMP compliance during project implementation. To be conducted by a competent authority or person appointed by the Proponent, involving the collection and analyses of air quality, noise and water quality data at designated monitoring locations for assessing compliance with applicable environmental quality and emission standards.

10 RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the comprehensive assessment and the management framework detailed in this Environmental Management Plan (EMP), the following formal recommendations are provided to ensure that exploration activities on EPL 9824 are conducted responsibly and in full compliance with environmental and social requirements:

- **Issuance of Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC)** - It is recommended that the Environmental Commissioner issue an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) to the Proponent for the proposed exploration activities on EPL 9824. Granting of the ECC should be contingent upon the Proponent's commitment to fully implement all mitigation measures, monitoring protocols, and management actions specified within this EMP.
- **Pre-Operational Compliance Verification** - Prior to commencing any ground-disturbing activities, the Proponent must provide evidence to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) confirming:
 - Execution of signed Land Access Agreements with all relevant landowners or occupiers, in accordance with the Minerals Act.
 - Appointment of a suitably qualified Environmental Control Officer (ECO) approved by MEFT.
 - Submission of contractor environmental management plans and proof that all personnel have received environmental induction training.
 - Acquisition of all necessary subsidiary permits from relevant authorities, including Forestry and Water Affairs.
- **Progressive Monitoring and Auditing** - The Proponent must adhere to the monitoring and auditing program outlined in this EMP. This includes the timely submission of bi-annual audit reports and annual performance reports by the ECO to MEFT. These reports are essential for demonstrating compliance, evaluating the effectiveness of mitigation measures, and informing any required adaptive management actions.
- **Adaptive Management Commitment** - This EMP is a living document. The Proponent is required to review and, where necessary, update the plan in response to monitoring outcomes, audit findings,

changes in operational methods, or the identification of unforeseen environmental sensitivities. Any material amendments to the EMP must be submitted to MEFT for review and approval prior to implementation.

- **Continuous Stakeholder Engagement** - The Proponent should maintain proactive and transparent communication with registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), local authorities, and landowners throughout all exploration phases. Updates should include planned activities, environmental performance, and any changes in operations that could affect stakeholders.
- **Requirement for Future Development Assessments** - Should exploration activities progress beyond the scope defined in this EMP and reveal economically viable mineral resources, it is mandatory to conduct a separate, full Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) prior to any advanced exploration, test-mining, or mining activities. This ESIA must specifically address the expanded project footprint and potential environmental and social impacts, and a new application for environmental authorization will be required.

These recommendations collectively ensure that exploration activities are undertaken responsibly, in compliance with national legislation, and with due consideration for environmental protection, social well-being, and long-term sustainability.

11 CONCLUSION

The Environmental Management Plan (EMP) developed for EPL-9824 establishes a detailed and proactive framework to manage and mitigate the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed exploration and potential test-mining activities. It provides a comprehensive strategy that integrates practical operational controls, monitoring protocols, and mitigation measures, ensuring that all project activities are conducted responsibly, sustainably, and in compliance with Namibia's environmental legislation.

By aligning with the Environmental Regulations of 2012 and the commitments of the project Proponent, the EMP ensures a rigorous and methodical approach to environmental assessment and management. It translates environmental and social considerations into clear, actionable measures that can be applied consistently throughout the project lifecycle, from pre-operational planning through exploration and rehabilitation.

The EMP emphasizes both the protection of natural ecosystems and the promotion of socio-economic benefits. Its implementation will minimize negative impacts on soil, water, air quality, biodiversity, and cultural heritage, while simultaneously enhancing positive outcomes such as local employment, skills development, and community engagement. By applying best practices, environmentally innovative technologies, and stringent safeguards, the project aims to maintain ecosystem integrity and support sustainable development in and around EPL-9824.

Through diligent adherence to the EMP, the project will conserve and protect critical resources—including biodiversity, water systems, and heritage sites—while allowing responsible mineral exploration to proceed. The plan embodies the Proponent's commitment to environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and transparent governance, ensuring that exploration activities are conducted in harmony with the surrounding natural and human environments.

Ultimately, this EMP provides a robust and actionable blueprint for sustainable exploration on EPL-9824. Its successful implementation will demonstrate that resource development can coexist with environmental conservation and community well-being, supporting long-term ecological resilience and contributing to Namibia's sustainable development goals. The plan thus provides a strong foundation for regulatory approval and establishes a clear pathway for the project to achieve responsible, safe, and environmentally conscious operations.

APPENDIX I: CHANCE FINDS PROCEDURE

Areas of proposed development activity are subject to heritage survey and assessment at the planning stage. These surveys are based on surface indications alone, and it is therefore possible that sites or items of heritage significance will be found during development work. The procedure set out here covers the reporting and management of such finds.

Scope: The “chance finds” procedure covers the actions to be taken from the discovery of a heritage site or item, to its investigation and assessment by a trained archaeologist or other appropriately qualified person.

Compliance: The “chance finds” procedure is intended to ensure compliance with relevant provisions of the National Heritage Act (27 of 2004), especially Section 55 (4): “a person who discovers any archaeological objectmust as soon as practicable report the discovery to the Council”. The procedure of reporting set out below must be observed so that heritage remains reported to the NHC are correctly identified in the field.

Responsibility:

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

Procedure:

Action by person identifying archaeological or heritage material

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

Action by foreman

- a) Report findings, site location and actions taken to superintendent

PREPARED BY SS CONSULTANTS CC

b) Cease any works in immediate vicinity

Action by superintendent

a) Visit site and determine whether work can proceed without damage to findings

b) Determine and mark exclusion boundary

c) Site location and details to be added to project GIS for field confirmation by archaeologist

Action by Archaeologist

a) Inspect site and confirm addition to project GIS

b) Advise NHC and request written permission to remove findings from work area

c) Recovery, packaging and labelling of findings for transfer to National Museum

In the event of discovering human remains

a) Actions as above

b) Field inspection by archaeologist to confirm that remains are human

c) Advise and liaise with NHC and Police

d) Recovery of remains and removal to National Museum or National Forensic Laboratory, as directed.

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



SS CONSULTANTS

MINERAL RIGHTS EXPLORATION
RENEWABLE ENERGY &
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANCIES

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.

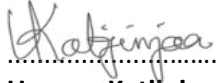
–Declaration for Submission of Assessment Reports : duly completed as per MEFT's requirements.

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: UKatjinjaa@ssconsultant.co.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'Uaanao Katjinjaa', followed by a dotted line.

Uaanao Katjinjaa

Environmental Specialist-SS Consultants CC

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



Public Consultation Meeting

For the

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) CONSULTATION FOR THE PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES FOR BASE AND RARE METALS, DIMENSION STONE, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, PRECIOUS METALS FOR EPL 9824

Date: 06 November 2025, 08 November 2025, 09 November 2025

Venue: Farm to Farm Visit

Time: 13H00, 09H00, 16H00 (respectively)



SS CONSULTANTS

* CONSULTANTS FOR MINERAL RIGHTS
* EPI/PERMIT SERVICES, MINING AND EXPLORATION

Attendance Register:

	Name:	Organization/Farm	Tell or Cell phone:	Email Address:	Postal Address:
1	H. Erpf	Ojenga/Ojenga Sio/Owar	0812934258	ojenga@gmail.com	P.O. Box 443 Ojwara
2	H.R. Erpf		081285072		
3	H.P. Krings +	Gross warlen court	081-2850609	izriagmonibic@gmail.com	Box 1143 Ojwara
4	A. Krings				
5	RHOFFEN + DN	OROS	081299509	MAILTO:FARM@JMAIL.COM	Box 2028 Ojwara
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Handwritten signatures and notes at the top of the page, including "Ojwara" and "Box 443".

	Name:	Organization/Farm	Tell or Cell phone:	Email Address:	Postal Address:
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Outlook


Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9824 located north of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

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

Date Tue 09 Sep 2025 13:16

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

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

 2 attachments (12 MB)

Background Information Document BID_for EPL_9824.pdf; EPL 9824 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. 9824 located north 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: Oros No.1252, Erpfsfarm No.1440, Gorsswarlencourt No.1141 and Warlencourt No.99

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,





Outlook

Request for Contact Details of Farmers Affected by Exclusive Prospecting License

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

Date Tue 23 Sep 2025 09:24

To Jafet.Shiikwa@mlr.gov.na <Jafet.Shiikwa@mlr.gov.na>

Cc Mandume Leonard <mleonard@edsnamibia.com>

 1 attachment (125 KB)

Farms affected by the EPL.pdf;

Dear Jafet,

As we previously discussed, I am an Environmental Assessment practitioner from Excel Dynamic Solutions, a consultancy firm that specializes in assessing the environmental impacts of Exclusive Prospecting Licenses (EPLs), I am reaching out to request the contact details of the farmers listed in the attached document.

The farmers listed in the attached document own land in the Otjozondjupa region that falls within the area affected by the EPL, and it is crucial that we engage with them to ensure their input in the assessment process.

I have already established contact with some of the farmers through their representative union.

However, I am still missing the contact details of several farmers whose farms fall within the EPL area.

I greatly appreciate your assistance in this matter. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind regards,





Outlook

Re: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9824 located north of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

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

Date Tue 04 Nov 2025 06:53

To Maximilian Krings <maximiliankrings2@gmail.com>

Dear Dr.Krings,

Unfortunately, I apologize, but we don't have a virtual meeting option available for this meeting.

Following the public consultation meeting, we kindly request permission to visit your farm for an Archeological heritage impact assessment. This assessment is vital for understanding the project's impact on the local heritage as well.

We are also flexible and can arrange the Heritage Assessment at a time and day that suits you Dr. Please note that the assessment typically takes no longer than 30 minutes.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

We look forward to conducting the assessment at your convenience and appreciate your support in this process.

Kind regards,



From: Maximilian Krings <maximiliankrings2@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, November 03, 2025 12:47

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

Subject: Re: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9824 located north of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

Dear Vistolina,

Thank you for your response.

Please note that I won't be able to attend the meeting. Is it possible to attend virtually?

Kind regards

Maximilian

On 02 Nov 2025, at 07:35, vaugustus@edsnamibia.com wrote:

Dear Dr. Maximilian Krings,

Thank you, your letter has been well received.

It will be included as part of the appendix of the submissions to both the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism and the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy for their review and consideration.

Just a reminder that the public consultation meeting is still set as follows:

Date: 4th November 2025 (Tuesday)

Time: 12h00

Venue: Khoi-khoi Guesthouse, Otavi

Kind regards,

<image.png>

From: Maximilian Krings <maximiliankrings2@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, November 01, 2025 12:29

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

Subject: Re: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9824 located north of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

Dear Vistolina,

I trust this email finds you well.

We were on the phone a while ago about the environmental impact that prospecting might have on the area we live in.

please find the attached letter for your attention.

Feel free to contact me at any time on WhatsApp under +27 81 5955 069

Kindest regards

Dr. Maximilian Krings

On Fri, 17 Oct 2025 at 10:35,

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

Dear Valued Stakeholder,

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

Date: 04th November 2025

Time: 12h00-13h00

Venue: Khoi-khoi Guesthouse, Otavi

The EPL covers multiple farms, including: Oros No.1252, Erpfsfarm No.1440, Gorsswarlencourt No.1141 and Warlencourt No.99

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,

<image.png>

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

Sent: Tuesday, September 09, 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. 9824 located north of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

Dear Esteemed Interested & Affected Party,

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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.

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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.

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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,

<image002.jpg>



Outlook

Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9824 located north of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

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 2 attachments (12 MB)

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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,



**Excel Dynamic
Solutions (Pty) Ltd**

[in](#) [f](#) [t](#) [@](#) excel_dynamic_solutions

www.edsnamibia.com

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



Outlook

Re: Stakeholders identification for the proposed prospecting and exploration activities on EPL No. 9824 located north of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

From vaugustus@ednamibia.com <vaugustus@ednamibia.com>

Date Fri 17 Oct 2025 10:35

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

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

Dear Valued Stakeholder,

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

Date: 04th November 2025

Time: 12h00-13h00

Venue: Khoi-khoi Guesthouse, Otavi

The EPL covers multiple farms, including: Oros No.1252, Erpfsfarm No.1440, Gorsswarlencourt No.1141 and Warlencourt No.99

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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@ednamibia.com <vaugustus@ednamibia.com>

Sent: Tuesday, September 09, 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. 9824 located north of Otavi in the Otjozondjupa region.

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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,



Dr. Maximilian Krings
Kringshof No.1, Otjiwarongo
maximiliankrings2@gmail.com
Phone: +264 81 76 00577
Whatsapp: +27 81 5955069
1st November 2025

Vistolina Augustus
5th Floor Maerua Mall, Office block B
Windhoek

Dear Vistolina Augustus,

Re: Exclusive Mining License (EPL) Application No. 9824 - Concerns regarding Environmental Impact

I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding the proposed prospecting activities on our property, Farm Grosswarlencourt No. 1141 and Portion 4 called Severin of the farm Warlencouert No. 99. The property holds significant ecological value and is home to several endangered wildlife species, many of which breed on the property. According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the property is a habitat for 1 critically endangered, 5 vulnerable, and 2 near-threatened mammal species. Additionally, it is home to 3 vulnerable and 3 near-threatened bird species, all of which breed on the property.

Furthermore, our property falls under the purview of the Nature Conservation Ordinance 4 of 1975 (NCO), which protects 14 mammal species, 81 bird species, and 5 reptile species found on our land. The Forest Act 12 of 2001 (FA) also applies, allowing for the declaration of Protected Plant Species, as per the list published in Government Notice 170 in Government Gazette 5801 of 3 August 2015. Notably, 18 protected plant species grow on our property as well.

The introduction of mining prospecting activities would inevitably lead to significant disturbances to the delicate ecosystem, causing disruptions to the natural behavior, habitat, and breeding patterns of these endangered species. The increased human

presence, noise, and habitat destruction would likely drive these animals away from their natural habitats, exacerbating their vulnerability to extinction.

Given the importance of preserving these species and maintaining ecological balance, I strongly urge you to reconsider the Exclusive Mining License application and prioritize environmental conservation over potential economic gains. I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this matter further and explore alternatives that prioritise environmental stewardship.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Best regards,

Dr. Maximilian Krings

To place a classifieds advert with us, please contact Ms. Fransina Fredericks

T: +264 (61) 246 136 E: fransina@confidentenamibia.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 81km 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 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 Katjinjaa
• +264 81 240 9124
• UKatjinjaa@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: Ombuku 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 metals on proposed mining claims no: 74211, 74212, 74213, 74214, 74215 & 74216 situated approximately 120 KM, North of Opuwo, when using the C43 road.

Proponent: Mr. Peihama 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 Katjinjaa
• 0814779623
• UKatjinjaa@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/Otjiwarongo Otjozondjupa Region.

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 9824 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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Project Location: Otavi, Otjozondjupa Region.

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 9610 exploration activities for industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 50 KM, south of Otavi on the D2808 and D2814 gravel road

Proponent: Bluliv Investment CCAI 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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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 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 Katjinjaa
• +264 81 240 9124
• UKatjinjaa@ssconsultants.co



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Project Location: Henties Bay, Erongo Region.

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 10019 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 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.

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Project Location: Karibib Erongo Region.

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 10093 exploration activities for nuclear fuel, dimension stone, industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 68KM, south of Karibib, access is via C32 gravel road.

Proponent: Sirkka Latenda Nakashole

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.

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Project Location: Otavi, Otjozondjupa 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

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Project Location: Otavi, Otjozondjupa 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 D2809 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.

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NOTICE ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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Project Location: EPL 9677 is located 81km 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 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.

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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

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Proponent: Johannes Gideon Erica Sunday

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Proponent: Mr. Peihama 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.

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Proponent: Namasiku Bainga

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Proponent: Bluliv Investment CCAI
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Proponent: Hushimi Quarrying Services CC

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Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 10093 exploration activities for nuclear fuel, dimension stone, industrial minerals, base, rare metals and precious metals, approximately 68KM, south of Karibib, access is via C32 gravel road.

Proponent: Sirkka Latenda Nakashole

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Proponent: Mr. Peihama Tjindunda

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● 0814779623
● UKatjinjaa@ssconsultants.co



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- 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.

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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**

- Name and postal address of applicant, **NEO MOSCOW**
 - Name of business or proposed business to which applicant relates: **SIYUNGE SHEBEEN**
 - Address/Location of premises to which Application relates: **MASOKOTWANI AREA**
 - Nature and details of application: **SHEBEEN LIQUOR LICENSE**
 - Clerk of the court with whom Application will be lodged: **KATIMA MULILO MAGISTRATE'S COURT**
 - Date on which application will be lodged: **18 FEBRUARY 2025**
 - 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 FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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Proponent: Mr. Peihama Tjindunda

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For any inquiries please contact;
Consultant: SS Consultants CC
📞: Ms. Uaanao Katjinjaa
☎: +264 81 240 9124
✉: UKatjinjaa@ssconsultants.co



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Proponent: Bluliv Investment CC

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Project Location: Otavi, Otjozondjupa 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;
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Project Location: Otavi/Otjiwarongo Otjozondjupa Region.

Project Description: The project involves conducting an EIA for EPL 9824 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

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Proponent: Johannes Gideon Erica Sunday

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Project Location: Karibib Erongo Region.

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Proponent: Sirkka Latenda Nakashole

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'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 at 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.

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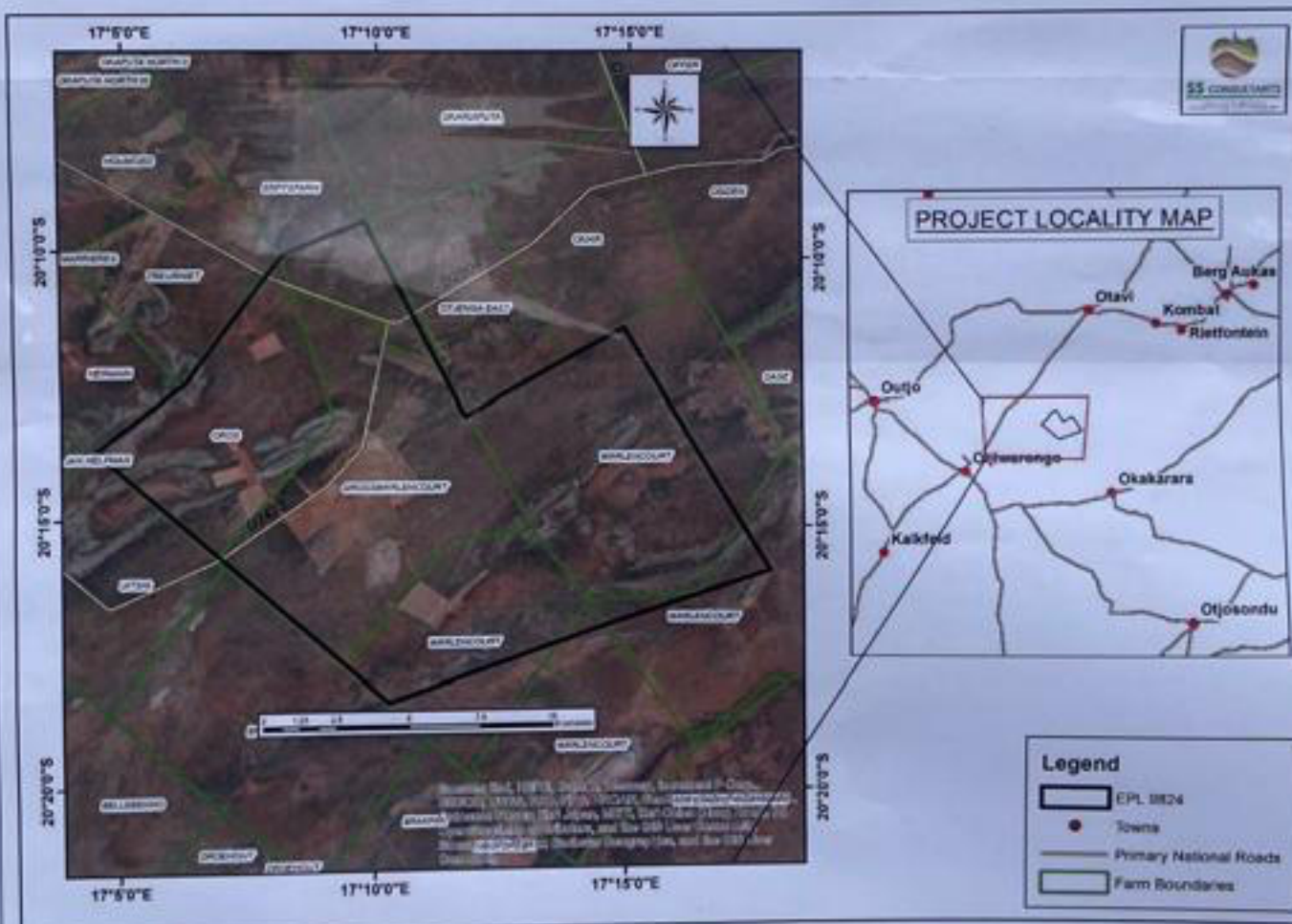


PUBLIC NOTICE

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES (EPL No. 9824)

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 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, Dimension Stone, Industrial Minerals, Precious Metals.

Project Location: Otjozondjupa Region (as depicted on map)



Proponent: Namasiku Bainga

All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are invited to register and submit their comments (including request for Background Information Document) before 26th May 2025 to:

Ms. Uaanao Katjinjaa
Environmental Specialist (EAP)
SS Consultants CC
Cell: 081 477 9623 | 081 240 9124
Email: UKatjinjaa@ssconsultants.co





ENTRY AT OWN RISK

RIGHT OF





20 November 2025

PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING MINUTES:

PROJECT: Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) for Proposed Exploration Activities on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 9824 located of in the Otjozondjupa region, Namibia.

Date: 06 November 2025, 08 November 2025, 09 November 2025

Time: 13H00, 09H00, 16H00 (respectively)

Venue: Farm to farm visits (Farm Grosswarenlencourt, Farm Warlencourt, Farm Oros)

Our team, consisting of Environmental Consultants Mr. Mandume Leonard and Ms. Vistolina Augustus, along with Archaeologist Ms. Loide Shipingana from Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd, carried out farm-to-farm visits to engage with the affected farmers/landowners.

These minutes encompass feedback and discussions gathered from subsequent farm-to-visits.

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 9824**.

During the farm visits, a registration form was shared with the farmers enabling them to register their names and contact details, which would be used to maintain communication and provide updates regarding the proposed project.

2. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION

The agenda of the meeting included the following main points:

2.1 Brief Description of the Project

The Environmental Consultants provided the landowners 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 stakeholder'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 stakeholders understand both sides of the proposed project activities, the Environmental Consultants also presented the potential pre-identified potential positive & negative environmental and social impacts.

2.3 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)

The Consultants 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.	Can you provide any information on the potential area of exploration?	Mr. Mandume Leonard (ML): At this stage, we are unable to define the exact area of exploration as the proponent has not yet conducted any onsite prospecting activities. Once the exploration begins, the area will be better defined based on the geology of the area and the results of the prospecting activities.
2.	What happens during the first phase?	(ML): In the first phase, the team conducts geological mapping to identify potential mineral deposits. They may utilize advanced technologies like drones to gather data. By analyzing this data, they pinpoint target areas with higher mineralization prospects, guiding further exploration efforts.
3.	What does exploration mean, is it only drilling boreholes or are they going to open up a certain area?	(ML): The techniques used during exploration can vary depending on the target mineral.
4.	How does the proponent determine the location and boundaries of the proposed exploration area? Is this based on previously conducted exploration activities.	(ML): The proposed exploration area identified based on data available from the Ministry of Mines and Energy. Anyone interested in applying for an Exploration Permit can access this data to assess the geological potential of a particular area, and based on the target commodity, can then map out an area of interest.

Comment/ issue No.	Commenter name & issue / comment / question	Response and name of responder:
5.	When should we expect to receive and sign the land access agreement with the Proponent?	<p>Vistolina Augustus (VA): The land access agreement will be shared before any on-site exploration activities begin.</p> <p>Stakeholders will have the opportunity to review the agreement, seek clarification, and, if necessary, obtain legal advice before signing. Once the Proponent has received the Environmental Clearance Certificate, they will begin drafting the access agreement, which will then be sent to you for review. You will have the opportunity to review and provide any necessary feedback or additional conditions to ensure that the agreement reflects your interests and concerns. After these discussions, the agreement will be finalized and executed prior to the commencement of any exploration activities on your farms.</p>
6.	If we, as farmers, are unable to reach an agreement with the Proponent?	<p>(VA): You can seek assistance from the Office of Ancillary Rights within the Ministry of Mines and Energy. This office acts as a mediator, facilitating discussions between the Proponent and the affected landowners to ensure that an agreement is reached that is mutually beneficial and respects the interests of all parties.</p>
7.	Our farms are already experiencing water scarcity. Will the proposed exploration activities exacerbate this issue by drawing on our limited water resources?	<p>(VA): In order to minimize the impact on the water resources of the area, the Proponent may choose to outsource water from other locations and transport it to the exploration site, rather than abstracting water directly from the local resources. This strategy can be an effective way to mitigate the potential impact on the water resources in</p>

Comment/ issue No.	Commenter name & issue / comment / question	Response and name of responder:
		the vicinity of your farms while still enabling the Proponent to carry out their exploration activities.
8.	So, the proponent does not have the right to conduct the mining activities yet?	(VA): It is important to note that the Proponent has not yet been granted any rights to conduct mining activities. They have applied for an Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL), but this permit will not be issued by the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy (MIME) until the Ministry of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism (MEFT) has issued an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). Only when the ECC has been granted, indicating that the project has been deemed environmentally acceptable, will the MIME consider issuing the EPL.
9.	Will the farmers be responsible for covering the expenses related to the prospectors' work?	(VA): No, the farmers are not expected to pay.
10.	What is the expected timeline for the proposed exploration activities?	(VA): The process of obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) typically takes approximately six months or more. Once the ECC is issued, the Proponent can begin exploration activities for a period of up to three years.

FINAL REMARKS AND CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

The Consultants thanked the stakeholders for their crucial input through comments and raising their concerns. He stated 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, the Consultants informed the stakeholders 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.

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 4:11 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-005312** 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.meft.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

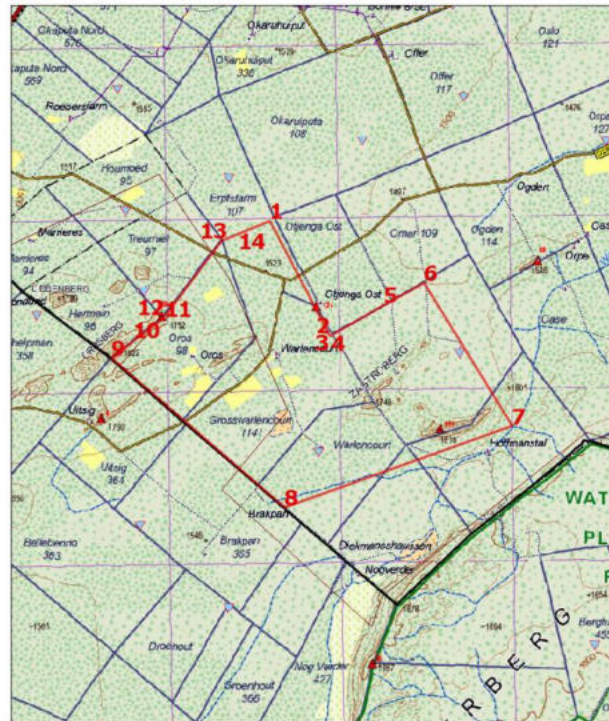
EPL-9824 (9824)**Exclusive Prospecting Licence****Coordinates and Shape****Coordinates**

Official Area: 19982.3598 Ha

Coordinate system: GCS Bessel 1841

Shape

Order	Latitude	Longitude
Part 1		
1	20° 09' 23.72" S	17° 09' 45.05" E
2	20° 12' 59.90" S	17° 11' 45.31" E
3	20° 12' 59.48" S	17° 11' 46.11" E
4	20° 13' 01.01" S	17° 11' 46.94" E
5	20° 12' 02.64" S	17° 13' 34.35" E
6	20° 11' 20.25" S	17° 14' 55.09" E
7	20° 15' 50.76" S	17° 17' 52.67" E
8	20° 18' 24.90" S	17° 10' 15.54" E
9	20° 13' 43.34" S	17° 04' 29.11" E
10	20° 12' 35.00" S	17° 06' 02.74" E
11	20° 12' 27.42" S	17° 06' 13.34" E
12	20° 12' 22.47" S	17° 06' 17.30" E
13	20° 10' 01.83" S	17° 08' 08.89" E
14	20° 09' 48.41" S	17° 08' 42.31" E



Legend

- Licenses
- Districts
- Divisions



ANNEXURE G: CV OF THE RESPONSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (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- Chemspec 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	Ms. Jacqueline Hehir	Mr. Silvanus Shigwedha
Faculty Dean	Director	Managing Member
Int. University of Management	Chemspec Botswana	SS Consultants CC
+264 81 225 7526	jackie@chemspec.co.bw	+264 81 240 9124

ANNEXURE H: ARCHEOLOGICAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT



National Heritage Council of Namibia

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

Secretariat

Receipt No. 6410

CASH RECEIPT

Customer

Date: 13/01/2026

Full Name: NAMASIKU BAINGA

Postal Address: BOX 2670, NQEBG

City: KATIMA MUULO

Phone: +264 813 257 930



Quantity	Description	Unit Price	TOTAL
	APPLICATION FEES - HIA		
	CONSENT LETTER FOR EPL		
	NO: 9824, OTAXI, OTJOZO-		
	NOJUPA		
			N\$ 150-00

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 9824 Is located between Otavi and Otjiwarongo, with Otavi being approximately 50km northwest and Otjiwarongo being 70km 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

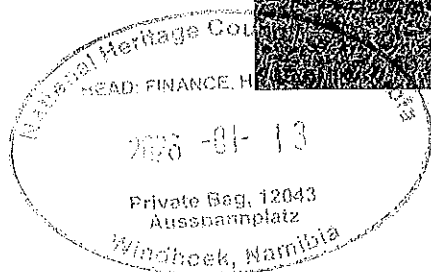
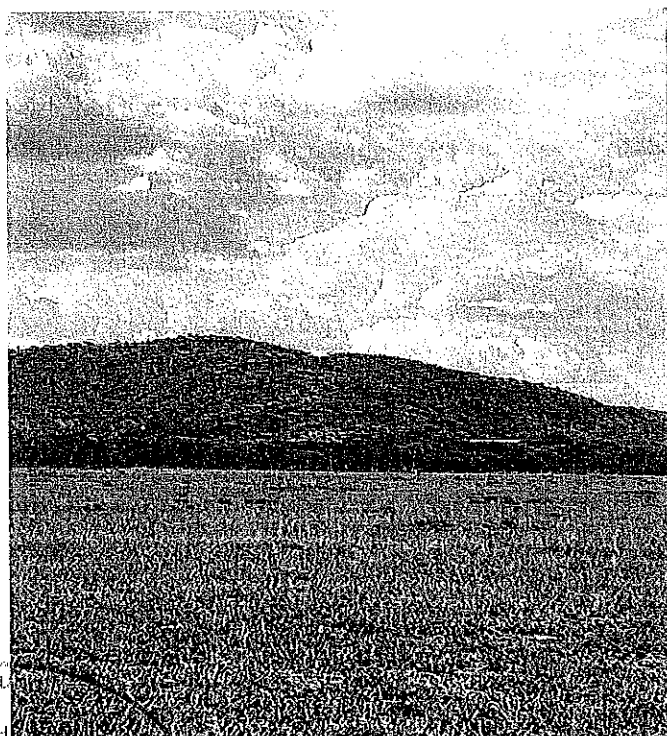


ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DIMENSION STONE, BASE AND RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS, AND PRECIOUS METALS. EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE NO.9824 LOCATED IN THE OTAVI DISTRICT IN THE OTJOZONDJUPA REGION

Compiled by:

Excel Dynamics Solutions (Pty) Ltd



Prepared for:

NAMASIKU BAINGA

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

ANNEXURE I: BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)



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.9824 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.9824 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 **3rd March 2025**.

Attention : Ms. Uaanao Katjinjaa

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

Email: UKatjinjaa@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.9824**.

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 9824 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 9824 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 Grootfontein and Okakarara, 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, then D2804 gravel road that leads to the tenement and it covers an area of 19982.3598 Ha.

Coordinates

Official Area: 19982.3598 Ha

Coordinate system: GCS Bessel 1841

Order	Latitude	Longitude
Part 1		
1	20° 09' 23.72" S	17° 09' 45.05" E
2	20° 12' 59.90" S	17° 11' 45.31" E
3	20° 12' 59.48" S	17° 11' 46.11" E
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13	20° 10' 01.83" S	17° 08' 08.89" E
14	20° 09' 48.41" S	17° 08' 42.31" E

Legend

- Licenses
- Districts
- Divisions

3

3 Legal Requirements

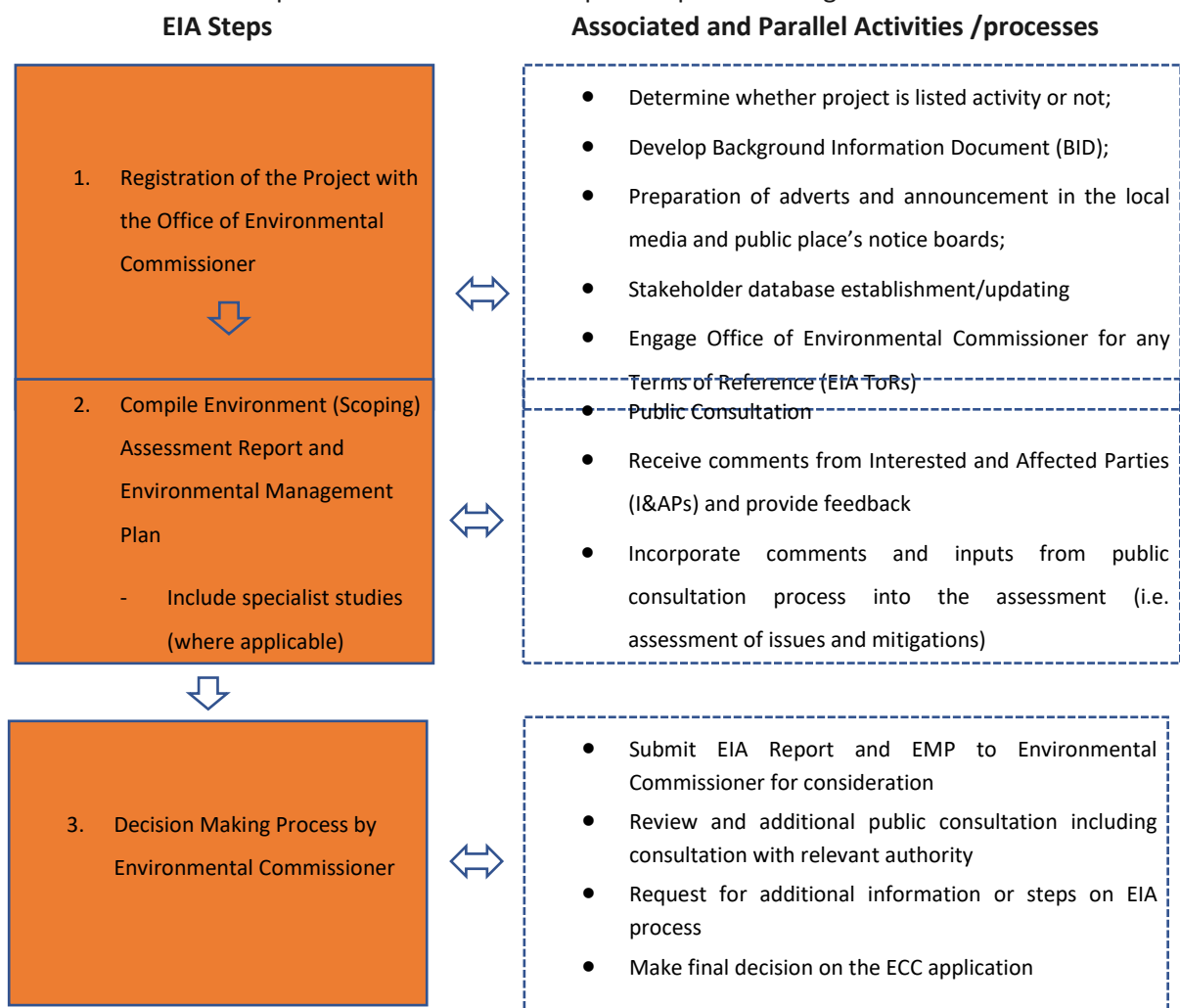
Apart from the Environmental Management Act, the project will also be guided and comply to the following national regulatory requirements:

- 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 7. 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 EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES FOR
DIMENSION STONE, BASE AND RARE METALS, INDUSTRIALS MINERALS AND PRECIOUS METALS ON EPL**

NO. 9824 LOCATED IN OTAVI, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION, NAMIBIA NAMIBIA

PUBLIC INVITATION TO REGISTER AND COMMENT

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)			