

Communication with I&APs, and Means of Consultation Employed

Regulation 21 of the EIA Regulations details the steps to be taken during a public consultation process, and these have been used in guiding this process. Communication with I&APs about the proposed activities was facilitated through the following means and in this order:

- A Background Information Document (BID) containing brief information about the proposed project was compiled and uploaded onto the ECC Portal for project registration and shared with registered Interested and Affected parties (I&APs).
- Project Environmental Assessment notices were published in the *New Era* and *Windhoek Observer* newspapers on the 07th of March (in both newspapers), the 10th & 17th of March 2025 (2nd & 3rd runs in the *Windhoek Observer*), and 01st of April 2025 (for the 2nd advert in the *New Era* – due to mishaps from the *New Era* on the requested and required date of the 12 March 2024 (proof of this is provided)) - Appendix C. The consultation period ran from the 07th of March 2025 to the 04th of April 2025.
- EIA posters were pasted at four strategic places in Otjiwarongo (see Figure 1) before the consultation meeting (on the 11th of March 2025). The original EIA poster is attached hereto as Appendix D.

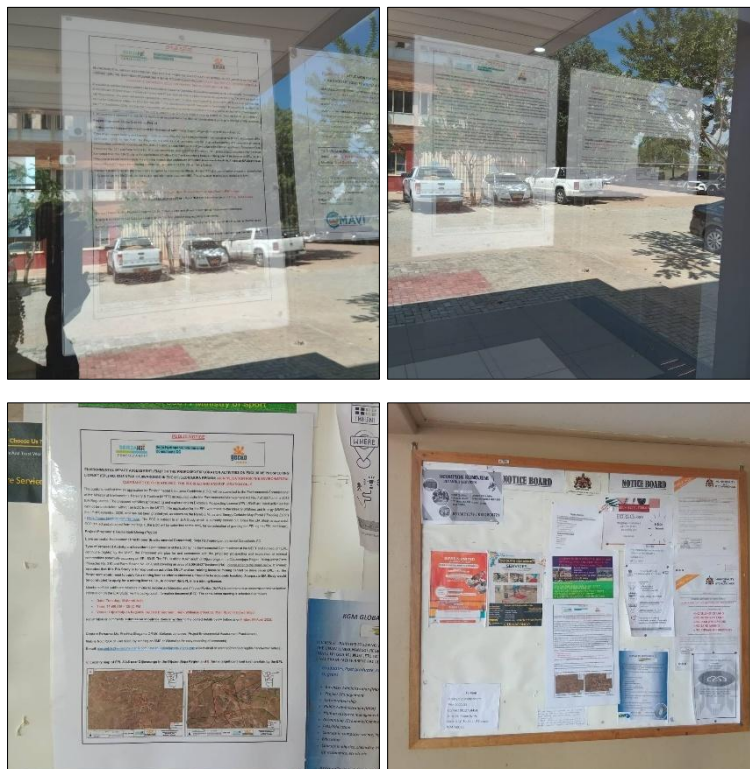




Figure 1: A3 EIA Study Poster in Otjiwarongo at the A- Otjozondjupa Regional Council, B-Otjiwarongo Municipality (head Office), C-Otjiwarongo Municipality Orwetoveni, and D-Super Spar

- A consultation meeting was scheduled and held with available stakeholders (I&APs) in Otjiwarongo on the 18th of March 2025 (see Figure 2 below). The meeting was attended by 10 people. The consultation meeting minutes were taken and are attached hereto as Appendix E, alongside the signed attendance register.



Figure 2: EIA Consultation meeting at the Otjozondjupa Regional Council in Otjiwarongo on the 18th of March 2025

Feedback and Issues Raised by the Stakeholders (I&APs)

Some key issues were raised by I&APs during the consultation period, and these issues have been recorded and incorporated in the Scoping Report and EMP. The summarized key issues are presented in Table 1. The issues and comments are presented in detail under the meeting minutes (Appendix E).

Furthermore, comments were received via email from one I&AP (farmer) on the 09th of April 2025 as presented in Appendix F1 and addressed under Appendix F2.

Table 1: Summary of main issues and comments raised in the consultation meeting

Key aspect	Summary of key issues or concerns/comments	Response
Comments and issues raised in the consultation meeting		
Water availability	There is a water problem in the area owing to low groundwater potential in the EPL area.	This is well noted and known that the area has low groundwater potential, as also shown on the geohydrological map of the area under (section 5.2.6 and Figure 5-7 of the Scoping Report).
Local labourers and poaching (illegal hunting)	Local casual labourers are not allowed on farms (as part of the exploration workforce) as they may be too familiar with the area, and farmers have experienced theft and poaching locally.	This is well noted for consideration in the EMP.
Security of the farm during exploration	A suggestion to have a security guard whereby the farmer pays 50% and Gecko Gold Mining pays 50% for the service. The farm gates should be locked at specific times (open at 08:00 and close at 17:00).	This is well noted and has been included in the EMP.
Maintaining water quality	Farmers suggest water quality and levels testing before and after exploration work is done.	This is well noted and has been included in the EMP.
Non-compliance with the set rules (by farmers) and in the project EMP	Enquiry on the consequences of breaking the farm rules and EMP measures by project workers, e.g., oil spill	The rules and conditions contained in individual farm access agreements for exploration and the EMP will be adhered to, and if not, work will cease until non-compliance is corrected. There will be bi-annual environmental monitoring of the sites by an independent consultant and submit such findings to the Environment Commissioner, who would order cessation of work until compliance is restored.
Timely planning for farm visits	Farmers requested to be informed of site visits well in advance.	This is well noted and has been included in the EMP.
Protection of vegetation species	Some farms have <i>omborombongo</i> (leadwood) and camelthorn that are protected under the Forestry Act. They need to be protected, especially from use as firewood by the project personnel on-site.	Well noted and has been included in the EMP.

The EIA consultation started from the 07th of March 2025 to the 04th of April 2025. Key comments were submitted to Serja Consultant during the consultation meeting as well as through some follow-up emails, as summarized above and also indicated in the meeting minutes. The comments period was further

extended to the 27th of May 2025 to allow for the review of the draft Scoping Report and EMP and submission of further comments (see the section below).

Feedback on the Draft Scoping Assessment Report Review

For review and further comments, the draft Scoping Report, Environmental Management Plan (EMP), as well as the associated appendices, were circulated to the registered stakeholders/I&APs from the 14th of May 2025 to the 27th of May 2025 – Figure 3. There were no comments received on the circulated documents.

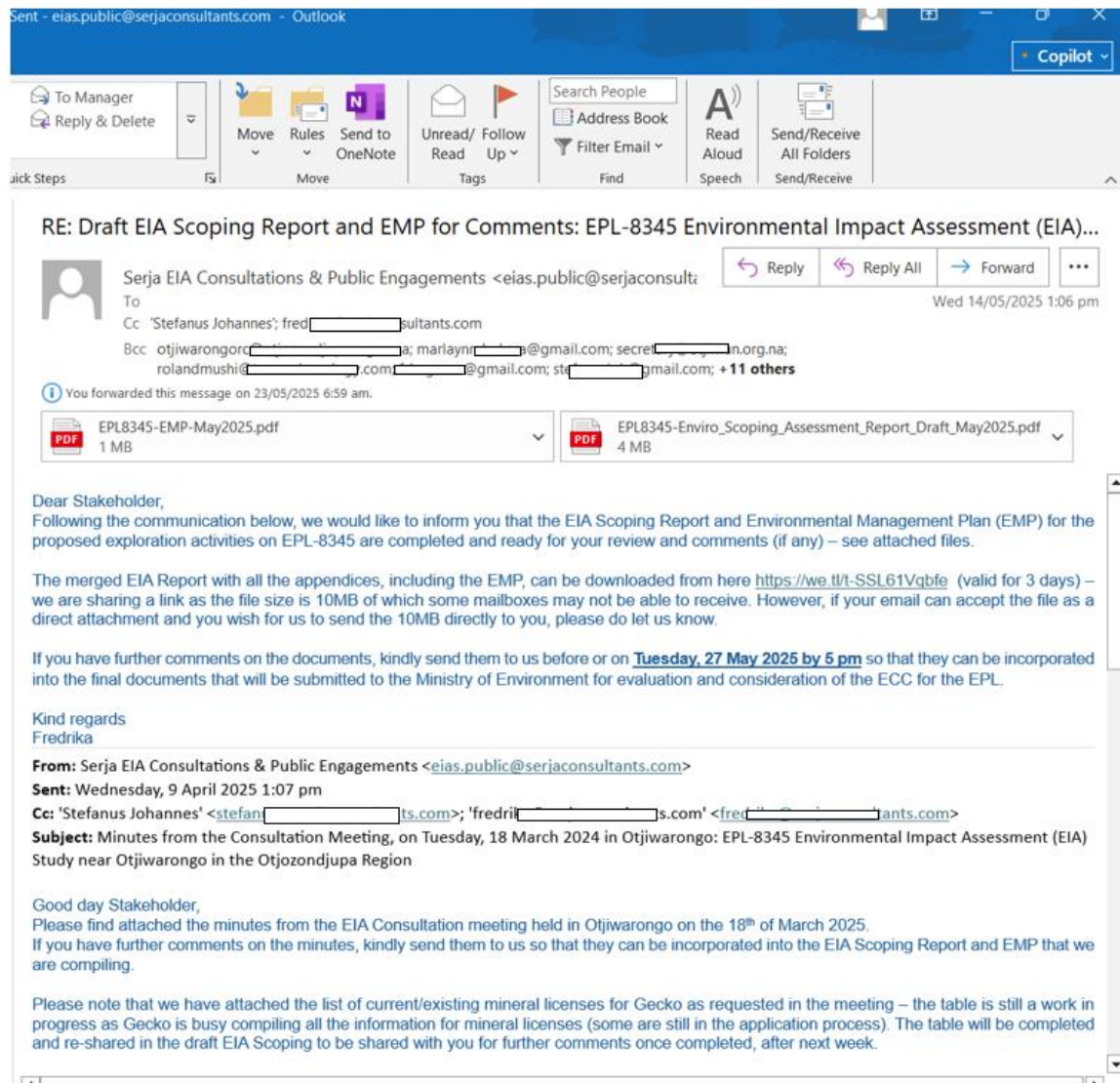


Figure 3: Email communication for the circulation of the draft Scoping Report, EMP, and appendices on 14 May 2025

**APPENDIX C: EIA NOTIFICATION IN THE
NEWSPAPERS (*NEW ERA* AND *WINDHOEK
OBSERVER*)**

Endurance, commitment keep Ongoro Nomundu afloat

■ Paheja Siririka

The management of Ongoro Nomundu Concert Group (OCG) attributed its more than two decades of existence in the Oviritje music industry to endurance, discipline and commitment.

Manager Sello Kaunata Marenga said the group had and still has young, energetic and dedicated creatives who love the genre and will continue to occupy space in the genre.

“The group has an influential culture of appealing to its audience through music and dance. These are individuals who become part of the family. I believe that’s why we can’t disappoint or let them down. We owe them that much. The support has been overwhelming over the years,” said the leader, who is the pianist in the group.

Ongoro Nomundu Joruvanda in Otjiherero, means the horse and the rider.

The group was established in 2000 under the leadership of then-manager Justice Kapitango.

“Over the years, we have been working with about 15 to 18 members. It fluctuates around there, so it’s quite a big number. That also goes to show that there is an interest in the genre.

We have also released more than 15 albums over the years,” he stated.

A name that is synonymous with Ongoro Nomundu is Etoo Vekupahera Makono, a vibrant

energetic dancer who has been part of the group since 2005.

“The late Karitjindire Tjikurame gave me the name Etoo when I joined the group. Nguruvi Uanivi, a notable member of the group, brought me here. I have never left. The group embodies discipline and endurance. I think that’s why I stayed,” said the dancer.

Makono stated that one of the reasons why the group has existed for 25 years is because of clear communication.

“The communication strategy, ability to caucus and ensure everyone is on the same page – and most importantly, respect for one another can take institutions far. All of that is in the group. That is why we are still standing tall,” he said.

Not far from him is Makono’s older brother McSean Makono, who has now ventured into civil service in north western parts of the country.

McSean served as the manager of the group once upon a time, recalling the great and memorable times he shared and continues to share with the group.

“When I came on board, it was for the sole purpose of enhancing the amazing sound they had. I came from a sound engineering background. I was needed to render my services to enhance that,” he said.

Reminiscing on what kept the singing band afloat, he addressed the elephant in the room – alcohol.

“When you carefully observe groups or individuals nowadays, the biggest problem in the industry in this country is alcohol. They hardly last because of substance abuse. I don’t remember where an Ongoro Nomundu member performed on stage drunk or was seen consuming alcohol before a show.

“We were very strict with that. Yes, we do have members who consume alcohol, but there is a time to play and a time to be serious,” he said with a serious and stern tone.

McSean said oviritje music is a unifier.

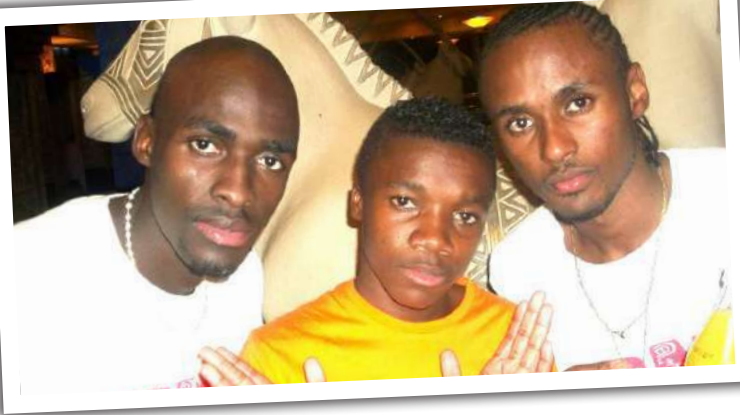
The group did not hesitate to get parents involved in their children’s passion.

“We started inviting parents to be part of the show. We sought permission, and would always inform them of events so that they could be aware. We ended up having the likes of Rapama Kamehozu and Hoze Riruako as patrons of Ongoro Nomundu,” he said.

He compared Ongoro Nomundu to the football team African Stars, saying these two entities are national teams that are there to enhance the potential of individuals and bring the best out of them.

The growth of the group has led to it being registered as a business.

They engaged creatives like Stanley Mareka to spice up their choreography.



Teamwork... This year marks 25 years of existence for the Ongoro Nomundu Concert Group. Photos: Contributed

Mareka yesterday said Ongoro Nomundu is one of the roots of the nation when it comes to the true rhythm of Oviritje.

“The group has been existing for years, always having a young vibrant team. They were the only ones who were keeping up with the operation styles and mixing up with their storylines of cultural diversity through the Ovaherero tradition – doing it through dancing,” said the choreographer.

He added that he is a huge fan of Oviritje and Ma/gaisa, hence when requested to assist the group in coming up with new dance moves, he didn’t hesitate.

“Their music speaks loudly. I feel like they need to be at the level of representing Namibia abroad because they speak more unique sounds.

They have that authenticity of what Namibia means,” he remarked, brimming with pride at how far the group has come.



PUBLIC NOTICE:
A CALL FOR PARTICIPATION & COMMENTS SUBMISSION

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) NO. 8345 NEAR OTJIWARONGO IN THE OTJOZONDJUPA REGION – APPLICATION FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC)

The public is hereby notified that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as required under the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The proposed prospecting and exploration on EPL-8345 (the Project) is a listed activity in the EIA Regulations that cannot be undertaken without an ECC, which is subject to an EIA Study, approval of EIA Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP).



Project Proponent: Gecko Gold Mining (Pty) Ltd

Project Nature and Location: Upon issuance of the ECC and subsequent EPL certificate (rights), the Proponent will plan for and commence with the proposed prospecting and exploration of mineral commodities on EPL-8345. The EPL covers an area of 5,094.6427 hectares and is about 10km south of Otjiwarongo in the Otjozondjupa Region. It should be noted that this EIA Study is for exploration activities ONLY and not mining because mining cannot be done on an EPL, i.e., the Proponent would need to apply for a mining license after exploration (if found to be economically feasible). A separate EIA Study would be conducted to apply for a mining license, i.e., to convert the EPL into a mining license.

Environmental Assessment Practitioner: Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

The public is invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), submit comments, and receive further information on the EIA process. A consultation meeting will be held in Otjiwarongo on Tuesday, 18 March 2025 @11h00, in the Otjozondjupa Regional Council Boardroom. The deadline for registration as an I&AP and submission of comments, issues or concerns is Friday, 04 April 2025.

Contact Person: Ms. Fredrika Shagama and/or Mr. Stefanus Johannes
Mobile No.: +264 (0) 81 749 9223
(comments in writing, i.e. SMS or WhatsApp)
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TENDERS



TENDER ENQUIRY NO. E009-ND-2025

INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY, REPAIR & MAINTENANCE OF FIRE EXTINGUISHERS, FIRE HOSE REELS, FIRE HYDRANTS & FIRE DETECTION AND SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS

1. OVERVIEW

Namdeb Diamond Corporation (Pty) Ltd (Namdeb) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Namdeb Holdings (Pty) Ltd, and performs land-based prospecting (exploration), mining and rehabilitation operations.

2. SPECIFICATION OF THE SERVICES

Namdeb hereby invites reputable and qualified service providers to submit tenders for the **Supply, Repair and Maintenance of Fire Extinguishers, Fire Hose Reels, Fire Hydrants, Fire Detection & Suppression Systems**

The scope of services shall without limitation include

The onsite provision (supply & delivery) of Namdeb's fire extinguishers, fire hose reels, fire hydrants and fire detection and suppression systems.
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3. TENDER ENQUIRY DOCUMENT

Interested parties may contact the following person to obtain a copy of the tender enquiry document. **It is recommended that the tender enquiry document be obtained before 12th February 2025.**

Contact: Ms Elizabeth Markowitz
Email: elizabeth.markowitz@namdeb.com
Tel.: +264 (63) 238502

4. COMPULSORY PHYSICAL SITE INSPECTION

A compulsory physical site inspection (as further detailed in the tender enquiry) shall be conducted on **Wednesday, 19th March 2025.**

Only Tenderers that attended the compulsory physical site inspection shall be eligible to participate in the tender process.

5. CLOSING DATE


The closing date for the tender is **10h00 on Monday, 31st March 2025**, and tender submissions must only be delivered to the address as specified in the tender enquiry document.



PUBLIC NOTICE - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS

Notice is hereby given that an **Environmental Scoping Impact Assessment (ESIA)** and **Public Consultation Process (PCP)** are being conducted in terms of the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) and related EIA regulations for the activity listed below.

On completion of the aforesaid ESIA and PCP, a formal application will be submitted to the Office of the Environmental Commissioner for consideration to grant an **Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC)** allowing for the project development to start.

Activity	Construction, Operation, Maintenance and Decommissioning of a Fuel Service Station and related amenities.	
Project Location	Little Sossus Lodge Hardap Region GPS Coordinates : -24.658965 S 15.991054 E	
Proponent	Sossus Express CC	
Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs)	AIPs are hereby invited to register for the EIA and to submit written comments, objections and or concerns with respect to the envisaged development. A Background Information Document (BID) is available upon request on registration.	
Consultation Period	The duration to receive written submissions from IAPs starts from 28 February 2025 to 28 March 2025.	
EIA Consultant:		Cell: 081 127 3027 Fax: 088 645 026 Email: ekwao@iway.na (Joel Shafashike)

PUBLIC NOTICE: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF WATER AND SEWER RETICULATION SERVICES AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES IN A NEW EXTENSION IN THE OKANGUATI SETTLEMENT AREA OF THE KUNENE REGION

The public is notified that an application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as required under the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The proposed project and associated activities are listed in the EIA Regulations that cannot be undertaken without an ECC, which is issued upon approval of an EIA Study (EIA Scoping and Environmental Management Plan (EMP)).

Project Proponent: Kunene Regional Council

Appointed Environmental Consultant: Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

Project Description: The proposed project is the installation and subsequent operations of water and sewer reticulation services as well as associated activities in a new extension on the northeastern edge of Okanguati Settlement which is located about 110km northwest of Opuwo Town in the Kunene Region. The new extension will consist of 593 ervens of which 545 ervens are planned for residential, i.e., residential (545), agriculture (4), urban agriculture (1), SME park (2), business (15), institutional (5), public open space (17), open market (1), and 3 civic ervens. The extension layout area to be serviced is 44.5 hectares (Ha) - the area/length of the services will only be provided once the project design is completed by the project consulting and design engineers (Arovar Project Engineers).

The public is therefore invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and submit comments, and concerns (**in writing**), and or receive further information on the EIA Study. The deadline for registration as I&APs and submission of comments, issues, or concerns is **Friday, 28 March 2025.**

Please note that a public consultation meeting is scheduled in Okanguati in March 2025. The meeting details will be communicated to all registered I&APs:

Contact Person: Ms. F. Shagama / Mr. S. Johannes

Mobile No.: +264 (0) 81 749 9223 (SMS or WhatsApp)

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CALL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR
MINERAL EXPLORATION ON EPL 9398

This notice serves to inform all interested and affected parties that an application for the environmental clearance certificate will be launched with the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No.7 of 2007) and the Environmental Regulations (GN 30 of 2012).

Location: The license area is located about 51 km south of Karibib. The proponent intends to explore for Lithium. Exploration methods may include geological mapping, geophysical surveys, sampling and drilling.

Proponent: Fishlab Investments CC

All interested and affected parties are hereby invited to register and submit their comments regarding the proposed project on or before **31/03/2025**. Contact details for registration and further information:

Impala Environmental Consulting

Mr. S. Andjamba
Email: public@impalac.com, Tel: 0856630598



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Project Nature and Location: Upon issuance of the ECC and subsequent EPL certificate (rights), the Proponent will plan for and commence with the proposed prospecting and exploration of mineral commodities on EPL-8345. The EPL covers an area of 5,094.6427 hectares and is about 10km south of Otjiwarongo in the Otjozondjupa Region. It should be noted that this EIA Study is for exploration activities ONLY and not mining because mining cannot be done on an EPL, i.e., the Proponent would need to apply for a mining license after exploration (if found to be economically feasible). A separate EIA Study would be conducted to apply for a mining license, i.e., to convert the EPL into a mining license.

Environmental Assessment Practitioner: Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

The public is invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), submit comments, and receive further information on the EIA process. **A consultation meeting will be held in Otjiwarongo on Tuesday, 18 March 2025 @11h00, in the Otjozondjupa Regional Council Boardroom. The deadline for registration as an I&AP and submission of comments, issues or concerns is Friday, 04 April 2025.**

Contact Person: Ms. Fredrika Shagama and or Mr. Stefanus Johannes

Mobile No.: +264 (0) 81 749 9223 (comments in writing, i.e. SMS or WhatsApp)

Email: eias.public@serjaconsultants.com / stefanus@serjaconsultants.com



PUBLIC NOTICE: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF WATER AND SEWER RETICULATION SERVICES AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES IN A NEW EXTENSION IN THE OKANGUATI SETTLEMENT AREA OF THE KUNENE REGION

The public is notified that an application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as required under the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The proposed project and associated activities are listed in the EIA Regulations that cannot be undertaken without an ECC, which is issued upon approval of an EIA Study (EIA Scoping and Environmental Management Plan (EMP)).

Project Proponent: Kunene Regional Council

Appointed Environmental Consultant: Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

Project Description: The proposed project is the installation and subsequent operations of water and sewer reticulation services as well as associated activities in a new extension on the northeastern edge of Okanguati Settlement which is located about 110km northwest of Opuwo Town in the Kunene Region. The new extension will consist of 593 ervens of which 545 ervens are planned for residential, i.e., residential (545), agriculture (4), urban agriculture (1), SME park (2), business (15), institutional (5), public open space (17), open market (1), and 3 civic ervens. The extension layout area to be serviced is 44.5 hectares (Ha) - the area/length of the services will only be provided once the project design is completed by the project consulting and design engineers (Arovar Project Engineers).

The public is therefore invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and submit comments, and concerns (**in writing**), and or receive further information on the EIA Study. The deadline for registration as I&APs and submission of comments, issues, or concerns is **Friday, 28 March 2025.**

Please note that a public consultation meeting is scheduled in Okanguati in March 2025. The meeting details will be communicated to all registered I&APs:

Contact Person: Ms. F. Shagama / Mr. S. Johannes

Mobile No.: +264 (0) 81 749 9223 (SMS or WhatsApp)


Email: eias.public@serjaconsultants.com / stefanus@serjaconsultants.com (direct emails or scanned/photo of legible handwritten letters)



PUBLIC NOTICE - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS

Notice is hereby given that an **Environmental Scoping Impact Assesment** (ESIA) and **Public Consultation Process** (PCP) are being conducted in terms of the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) and related EIA regulations for the activity listed below.

On completion of the aforesaid ESIA and PCP, a formal application will be submitted to the Office of the Environmental Commissioner for consideration to grant an **Environmental Clearance Certificate** (ECC) allowing for the project development to start.

Activity	Construction, Operation, Maintanance and Decommssioning of a Fuel Service Station and related amenities.	
Project Location	Little Sossus Lodge Hardap Region GPS Coordinates : -24.658965 S 15.991054 E	
Proponent	Sossus Express CC	
Intereted and Affected Parties (IAPs)	AIPs are hereby invited to register for the EIA and to submit written comments, objections and or concerns with respect to the envisaged development. A Background Information Document (BID) is available upon request on registration.	
Consultation Period	The duration to receive written submissions from IAPs starts from 28 February 2025 to 28 March 2025.	
EIA Consultant:		Cell: 081 127 3027 Fax: 088 645 026 Email: ekwao@iway.na (Joel Shafashike)



Bongani Fassie and Fifi Cooper have teamed up to release their uplifting new single titled ‘Jehovah’.

Tributes pour in for beloved musician Yallunder who has died at age 30

Heartfelt tributes are flowing across social media as the music industry mourns the passing of beloved musician Yallunder, whose real name was Yolanda Nyembezi.

The talented artist, only 30 years old, died on Thursday, March 13, 2025, at Charlotte Maxeke Academy Hospital in Johannesburg, as announced by her family on Friday, March 14. “We are deeply saddened to announce the untimely passing of our loved one uYolanda Nyembezi,” the family stated. “Proceedings of the memorial and burial will be shared by the family. Please allow the family and friends privacy during this difficult time. Our sincere condolences to all those who loved and celebrated Yolanda’s life.” The family revealed that Yallunder had been battling an illness for several months but that she fought valiantly until her final moments. The news of her passing resonated deeply within the music community, with tributes pouring in from fans and fellow artists alike. Duduzile Media expressed their condolences by stating: “We are deeply saddened to hear of the passing of @Yallunder. A true inspiration in the music industry. Our thoughts are with her family, friends, and fans during this difficult time. Rest in peace. Your music will live on forever.” Phishlash reflected on her promising future, remarking: “Yallunder was so young with such a bright future. She owned every feature she ever got, had an angelic voice, was always humble and

gave us timeless music.” The legacy of her artistry was touchingly encapsulated by Realstaggy, who thanked her for the “beautiful, inspiring music,” acknowledging her impact on countless lives. Born in Bizana, Eastern Cape, Yallunder garnered attention in 2018 with her captivating covers, leading influential figures such as Black Coffee and Sjava to take notice. Sjava played a pivotal role in her career by signing her to his record label, 1020 Cartel. This partnership catalysed her emergence as a recording artist, contributing to the collective album “iSambulo” in 2020 with the standout track “Ndinovalo” alongside collaborations like “Inhliziyo” and “Abanjan”. In 2020, Yallunder also released her debut project, “Uthando Lwam”, marking her entrance into the house music genre. With her unique voice and undeniable talent, she collaborated with prominent DJs and producers such as Lemon & Herb, Kabza De Small, Oskido, Morda, Kelvin Momo and Heavy K, solidifying her status in the industry. As her career expanded, Yallunder embarked on a new chapter as an independent artist under her label, Masani Music, with aspirations to create and release even more music that touched hearts and healed souls. As her fans now grapple with the loss of a luminary, Yallunder’s music will undoubtedly continue to resonate, reminding us all of her remarkable talent and the profound impact she has left behind. -IOL

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PROOF OF MISHAP ON PLACEMENT OF THE 2ND NEW ERA ADVERT/NOTICE SCHEDULED FOR THE 12TH OF MARCH 2025

RE: Request for Quotation: EPL-8345 EIA Advert - Placement Dates Friday, 07 & Wednesday, 12 March 2025



Victoria Shikongo <vs[REDACTED]@newera.co.za>

To: Fredrika Shagama - Serja HGE Consultants

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#) [More](#)

Tue 01/04/2025 8:00 am



Dear Fredrika

Kindly find attached the proof of advert. My sincere apologies that this advert did not run on the 12 March 2025. I cant even begin to explain how it happened because I thought I booked it.

With regards

Victoria Shikongo

Sales and Marketing Officer

New Era Publication Corporation

Tel: +264 61 [REDACTED]

Fax: +264 61 220 584

Cell: +264 81 144 4977

Web: www.neweralive.na

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24 Months	1,099.00

All prices are VAT exclusive

From: Fredrika Shagama - Serja HGE Consultants <fred[REDACTED]consultants.com>

Sent: Monday, 31 March 2025 7:18 am

To: Victoria Shikongo <[REDACTED]nepc.com.na>

Subject: RE: Request for Quotation: EPL-8345 EIA Advert - Placement Dates Friday, 07 & Wednesday, 12 March 2025

Good morning Victoria,

Can you kindly check your archives for the 2nd tearsheet for the 12th of March and share? I only have the tearsheet for the 7th March, but not the one for the 12th.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Fredrika

From: Fredrika Shagama - Serja HGE Consultants <fred[REDACTED]nsultants.com>

Sent: Wednesday, 5 March 2025 11:05 am

To: 'Victoria Shikongo' <[REDACTED]nepc.com.na>

Subject: Request for Quotation: EPL-8345 EIA Advert - Placement Dates Friday, 07 & Wednesday, 12 March 2025

Good day Victoria,

Kindly provide me with a Quotation for the attached advert (**in color**) to be placed in your newspaper on the following 2 dates:

- **First Placement:** Friday, 07 March 2025
- **Second Placement:** Wednesday, 12 March 2025

Please note that payment will only be done tomorrow (06 March).

Kind regards,

Fredrika

Omukulunhufikola a ningilwa omokanakono shaashi vati a kwata omonakadona onghonga

■ Festus Hamalwa

Omakonakono otete kombinga yoshikumungu shomukulunhufikola ha longelo kofikola i li moshitukulwa shaHangwena ou ta tamanekwa kutya vati okwa kwata omonakadona onghonga okwa pwa okuningwa.

Minista wehongo, omaungomba nomaudano Sanet Steenkamp okwa koleka ta ti oshoshili omukulunhufikola okwa ningilwa omakonakono otete.

“Paife okwa teelega okupewa enyamukulo la xuninwa kombinga yoshikumungu eshi,” ta ti.

Okwa ti omulumenhu ou weedula 44 okwa li ta ningilwa omakonakono shaashi ta kufekelwa kutya okwa li e li mekwatafano lopaihole nomonakadona waye weedula 15.

Omukulunhuwiliki wehongo moshitukulwa shaHangwena Isak Hamatwi okwa koleka ta ti

omutamenekwa ou okwa pewa omukanda oshivike sha dja ko wa shangwa oidjemo kombinga ya sho sha monika po konima yomakonakono.

“Okwa pewa omafiku 14 opo a kale a nyamukula kombinga ya sho sha shangwa momukanda oo,” ta ti.

Okwa weda po ta ti ngeenge okwa nya mukula ota ku ka ningwa omatokola taa ka dja kombelewa yomukulunhuwiliki mounisteli wehongo.

Opolifi oya hokolola tai ti omukulunhufikola ou okwa li a kwatwa po omudo wa dja ko keumbo laye kOshakati.

Okwa pewa omhito yoku li futila mo modolongo noshimaliwa sheeN\$2000, konima eshi kwa li a holoka momhangu yaShakati omudo wa dja ko.

Omutamenekwa okwa lombwelwa komhangu opo aha kale mekwatafano nokaana kaye.

Omunafikola ou paife okwa tembulwa ko kofikola nokeumbo laxe okwa tembulwa ko.

Opolifi oya hokolola tai ti nakuninga oshihakanwa okwa li e li mondodo onhi-9 pofikola opo ha pa longo xe.

Oshiningwanima osha ningwa omudo 2023 noshoyo 2024 keumbo lavo kOshakati.

Ota ku hokololwa kutya okaana oka kala nokukwatwa onghonga lwoikando ya yooloka.

Opolifi oya hokolola tai ti omutamenekwa okwa ufana omona monduda yaye yokunangala opo vati eke mu fule keemadi.

Okudja opo omukulunhufikola ou okwa lombwela okaana kutya ota ka monika nawa nokuweda po ta ti vati omonakadona okwa kula paife nokuya moixulo.

Opolifi oya ti omulumenhu ou okwa dima ko kolusheno ndele tai moixulo nokaana kaye ashike vati ina longifa ongumi.

Okwa lombwela okaana kaye kutya ina ke shipopya komunhu shaashi ota kala aye modolongo ndele omona ta kala ehe na xe wokumuyambidida.



Ekuluko...
Ondado yo mahooli otai ka shuna pedu muApilili. Efano: Otwe li pewa

Ondado yomahooli otai shuna pedu

■ Auleria Wakudumo

Ouministeli woikwamina, oikwanghono noindulukomwa owa holola kutya ondado yomahooli otai ka shuna pedu okudja mEtitatu lomafiku 2 Apilili neudo.

Ouyelele wa dja kouministeli owa holola kutya omahooli opetolola otaa ka shuna pedu neesenda 50 moliitela imwe, omanga omahooli odiisela taa ka shuna pedu neesenda 80 moliitela.

Omahooli moWalvis Bay

otaa ka kala e na ondado ipe tai shikula.

Omahooli opetolola otaa ka kala poN\$20.67 moliitela omanga odiisela mo50 ppm taa ka kala poN\$20.62.

Omahooli odiisela mo10 ppm taa ka kosha ongushu yoshimaliwa shi fike poN\$20.72.

Ouministeli owa ti omahooli otaa ka kala e na ondado ya shuna pedu moitukulwa imwe yoshilongo.

Ondado yomahooli opetolola osho yo odiisela okwa li ya londa noifilinga itano omwedi wa

dja ko.

Omahooli okwa li a wedelwa shaashi oshimaliwa shomafendelo omeendjila osha li nasho sha wedelwa neefilinga mbali osho sha fininika oishoshela i ye pombada.

Paife, ouministeli owa holola kutya owa didilika omwaalu wa pitilila momahooli.

Ouyelele wa yandjwa kouministeli owa yelifa kutya owa mona eesenda o58.77 moliitela yopetolola, eesenda 82.88 moliitela yo50ppm yodisela omanga mo10ppm

Va tulwa moipandeko molweembongo ofulundudu

■ Auleria Wakudumo

Opolifi moshitukulwa sha//Kharas oya tula moipandeko ovalumenhu vavali, umwe oku na eedula 38 namukwao o54 eshi va hangika noimaliwa keemuma tai hale okufika pomiliona.

Ovalumenhu ava ova kwatelwa poboloka moNoordoewe mOlomakaya

lwopotundi onhi-11h00. Omupopiliko wopolifi, Deputy Commissioner Kauna Shikwambi okwa koleka oshiningwanima eshi. Otaku hokololwa ovalumenhu ava va hangika noimaliwa yaNamibia keemuma i li N\$500 000 osho yo oimaliwa yaSouth Africa keemuma i li N\$225 000.

Oimaliwa aishe ya wedwa kumwe oya fika poN\$725 000.

Shikwambi okwahololakutya ovalumenhu ava ova kwatelwa peinda lopolifi pefimbo opolifi ya li tai ningi omapekaepo eameno lomeendjila ponhele opo.

Opolifi oya ti ovalumenhu ava ova dopa okuyandja ouyelele kombinga yoimaliwa oyo.

Opolifi otai twikile okukonakona oshinima eshi. -wakudumoauleria@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE:
A CALL FOR PARTICIPATION & COMMENTS SUBMISSION

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) NO. 8345 NEAR OTJIWARONGO IN THE OTJOZONDJUPA REGION – APPLICATION FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC)



The public is hereby notified that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as required under the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The proposed prospecting and exploration on EPL-8345 (*the Project*) is a listed activity in the EIA Regulations that cannot be undertaken without an ECC, which is subject to an EIA Study, approval of EIA Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

Project Proponent: Gecko Gold Mining (Pty) Ltd

Project Nature and Location: Upon issuance of the ECC and subsequent EPL certificate (rights), the Proponent will plan for and commence with the proposed prospecting and exploration of mineral commodities on EPL-8345. The EPL covers an area of 5,094.6427 hectares and is about 10km south of Otjiwarongo in the Otjozondjupa Region. It should be noted that this EIA Study is for exploration activities ONLY and not mining because mining cannot be done on an EPL, i.e., the Proponent would need to apply for a mining license after exploration (if found to be economically feasible). A separate EIA Study would be conducted to apply for a mining license, i.e., to convert the EPL into a mining license.

Environmental Assessment Practitioner: Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC
The public is invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), submit comments, and receive further information on the EIA process. **A consultation meeting will be held in Otjiwarongo on Tuesday, 18 March 2025 @11h00, in the Otjozondjupa Regional Council Boardroom. The deadline for registration as an I&AP and submission of comments, issues or concerns is Friday, 04 April 2025.**

Contact Person: Ms. Fredrika Shagama and or Mr. Stefanus Johannes
Mobile No.: +264 (0) 81 749 9223
(comments in writing, i.e. SMS or WhatsApp)
Email: eias.public@serjaconsultants.com / stefanus@serjaconsultants.com





Monday, 31 March 2025

Centre Tal Street (Windhoek)	09:30-16:00
International University of Management (Windhoek)	09:30-15:30
Hochland High School (Windhoek)	09:30-14:00
Geka Pharm (Windhoek)	09:30-15:30
Oshakati Centre (Hospital Grounds)	09:30-18:00
Swakopmund Town (Ferdinand Stich Street No 4)	09:30-18:00

Tuesday, 01 April 2025

Centre Tal Street (Windhoek)	07:00-18:00
A.Shipena Secondary School (Windhoek)	08:30-14:00
Eldorado Secondary School (Windhoek)	08:30-14:00
Methealth (Windhoek)	09:00-15:30
Ondangwa Centre (Gwashamba Mall)	10:00-18:00
Walvis Bay Town (Behind Welwitschia Medi-park)	10:00-18:00

Wednesday, 02 April 2025

Centre Tal Street (Windhoek)	07:00-16:00
Namibian Oncology Centre (Windhoek)	08:30-16:00
Acacia High School (Windhoek)	08:30-14:00
Augustineum Secondary School (Windhoek)	08:30-14:00
Mwadikange Kaulinge Secondary School (Ondobe)	09:00-14:00
Coastal High School (Swakopmund)	09:00-14:00

Thursday, 03 April 2025

Centre Tal Street (Windhoek)	07:00-14:00
Delta Secondary School (Windhoek)	08:30-14:00
Livestock and Livestock Products Board (Windhoek)	09:00-15:00
Mwadikange Kaulinge Secondary School (Ondobe)	09:00-14:00
Manica Group (Walvis Bay)	10:00-15:30

Friday, 04 April 2025

Centre Tal Street (Windhoek)	07:00-14:00
Jan Mohr Secondary School (Windhoek)	08:30-14:00
Jacob Marengo High School (Windhoek)	08:30-14:00
Evululuko Secondary School (Oshakati)	09:00-14:00
I-Care Health Training Institute (Swakopmund)	10:00-15:30



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**APPENDIX D: ORIGINAL COPY OF THE EIA
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PUBLIC NOTICE



Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental
Consultants CC



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR THE PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) NO. 8345 NEAR OTJIWARONGO IN THE OTJOZONDJUPA REGION: **AN APPLICATION FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) FOR PROSPECTING AND EXPLORATION ONLY**

The public is notified that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism (MEFT) as required under the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The proposed activities (prospecting and exploration) on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL)-8345 are listed activities that cannot be undertaken without an ECC from the MEFT. The application for the EPL was made to the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) on the 1st of September 2020, and has not been granted yet, as shown on the Namibia Mines and Energy Cadastre Map Portal ('Pending ECC') - <https://maps.landfolio.com/Namibia/>. The ECC is subject to an EIA Study which is currently carried out. Once the EIA Study is approved, ECC issued and obtained from the MEFT, the ECC will be submitted to the MME for consideration of granting the EPL rights (EPL certificate).

Project Proponent: Gecko Gold Mining (Pty) Ltd

Environmental Assessment Practitioner (Environmental Consultant): Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

Type of proposed Activity and Location: Upon issuance of the ECC by the Environmental Commissioner at the MEFT and subsequent EPL certificate (rights) by the MME, the Proponent will plan for and commence with the proposed prospecting and exploration of mineral commodities potentially occurring on EPL-8345. The EPL is about 10km south of Otjiwarongo in the Otjozondjupa Region, falling within Farm Pinnacles No. 310 and Farm Roland No. 419, and covering an area of 5,094.6427 hectares (Ha) - please refer to the maps below. **It should be noted that this EIA Study is for exploration activities ONLY and not mining because mining cannot be done on an EPL, i.e., the Proponent would need to apply for a mining license after exploration (if found to be economic feasible). A separate EIA Study would be conducted to apply for a mining license, i.e., to convert the EPL into a mining license.**

Members of the public are therefore invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to comment/raise concerns or receive further information on the EIA Study like the background information document (BID). The consultation meeting is scheduled as follows:

- **Date: Tuesday, 18 March 2025**
- **Time: 11h00 AM – 12h30 PM**
- **Venue: Otjozondjupa Regional Council Boardroom, Henk Willemsse Street 22, Main Road in Otjiwarongo**

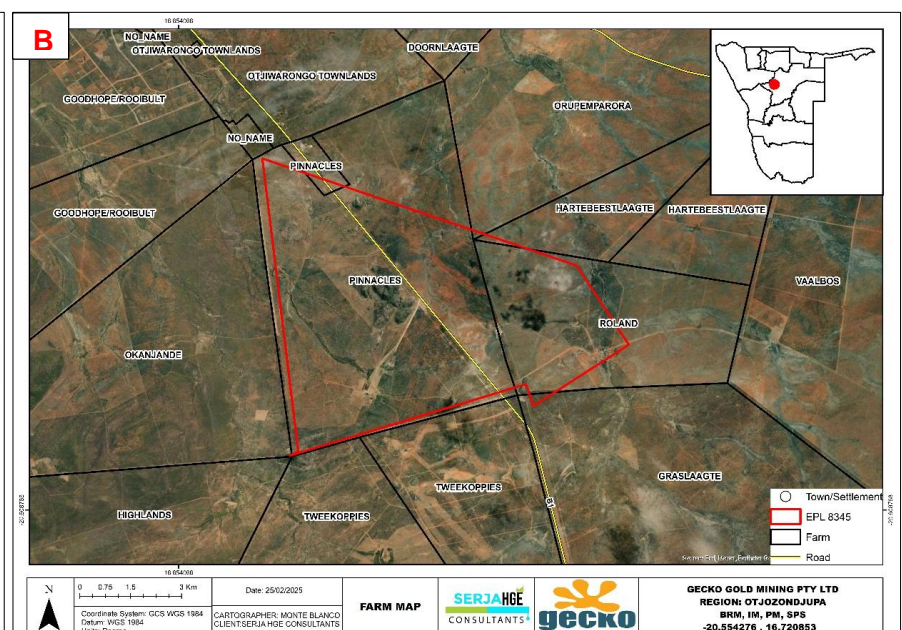
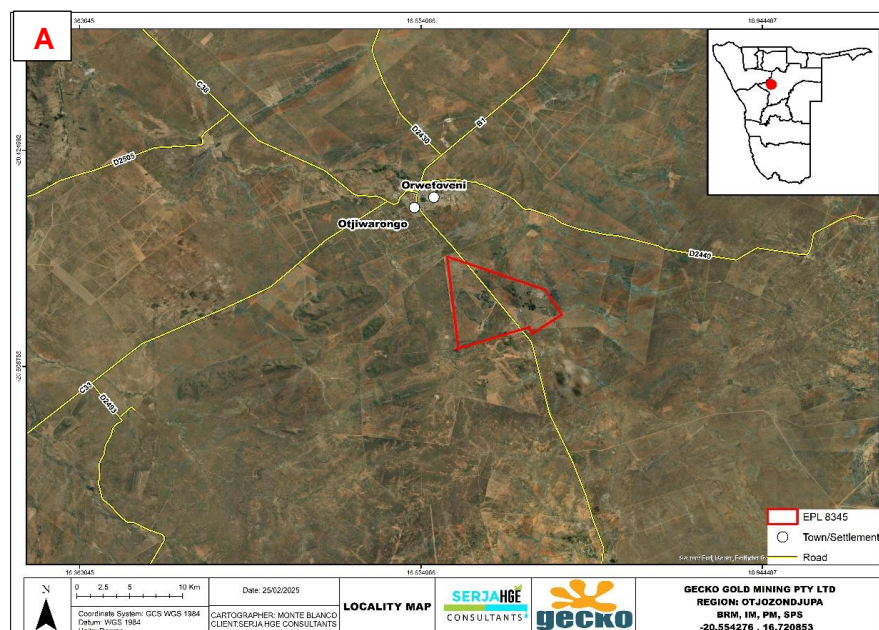
Registration or comments' **submission should be done in writing** to the contact details below before or on **Friday, 04 April 2025**.

Contact Persons: Ms. Fredrika Shagama OR Mr. Stefanus Johannes (Project Environmental Assessment Practitioners)

Mobile No.: +264 81 749 9223 (by sending an SMS or WhatsApp for easy recording of comments)

E-mail: eias.public@serjaconsultants.com / stefanus@serjaconsultants.com (direct email or scanned/photos of legible handwritten letters)

A: Locality map of EPL-8345 near Otjiwarongo in the Otjozondjupa Region and B: farms (significant land use) overlain by the EPL



**APPENDIX E: MINUTES FROM THE
CONSULTATION MEETING HELD ON 18
MARCH 2025**

Date: 19 March 2025

CONSULTATION MEETING MINUTES

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study for the Proposed Exploration Activities on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 8345 near Otjiwarongo in the Otjozondjupa Region - Application for Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC)

Date: Tuesday, 18 March 2025

Time: 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Venue: Otjozondjupa Regional Council Board room, Otjiwarongo

Project Proponent: Gecko Gold Mining (Pty) Ltd

Meeting Attendance

The meeting was attended by ten people, comprising one Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) from Serja HGE Consultants, one Archaeologist from TARO Archaeological & Heritage Consultants, and three interested and affected parties (I&APs), two Proponent representatives, one representative from the Otjozondjupa Regional Council, two representatives from MEFT's Directorate of Forestry and three farmers (affected landowners). The signed attendance register is attached hereto.



Figure 1: Proceedings of the EPL-8345 EIA consultation meeting in Otjiwarongo on the 18th of March 2025

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING

Mr. Stefanus Johannes (Environmental Assessment Practitioner / Consultant) from Serja HGE Consultants opened the meeting and thanked the meeting attendees for making time. Mr. Johannes then presented the meeting agenda, which is based on the requirements of the 2012 EIA Regulations: Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 on Public Consultation, Sections 21 to 24.

Copies of the Background Information Document (BID) were distributed among the attendees for self-reading and follow throughout the meeting proceedings. The attendance register was circulated for attendees to sign the meeting attendance as proof of consultation to be appended to the EIA Scoping Report.

2. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION

The Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) / Mr. Johannes presented the agenda of the meeting, which included the following main points:

2.1 Explanation of what an EIA is, its Process, and the Public Role in the Process

Mr. Johannes explained that the EIA process is done in compliance with the EMA, as the proposed prospecting and exploration works are one of the listed activities that cannot be undertaken without applying and obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Environmental Commissioner, which is subject to an EIA process and EIA Scoping Report as well as an Environmental Management Plan (EMP). The EIA process requires that the consultation meeting be held with the affected and or interested parties where the project activities would be undertaken.

Furthermore, the EPL is in an application stage with the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME), which is pending an ECC for decision-making on whether to issue EPL rights or the certificate to Gecko Gold Mining. Therefore, the ECC needs to be obtained first from the Environmental Commissioner at the Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism (MEFT) and submitted to the Mining Commissioner at MME to consider the EPL application/rights approval and issuance.

2.1.1 What happens after the ECC is approved by the Environmental Commissioner (if approved)?

Should the ECC be issued by the Environmental Commissioner, probably from July/August 2025, the ECC will be submitted to the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) to proceed with evaluating the application for the EPL rights/certificate. After the EPL certificate is issued by the MME, the Proponent would prepare for exploration by first making all necessary arrangements (contractual), such as obtaining land access/use from landowners. Given the long process associated with EIA document review/evaluation at MEFT before the ECC is granted, these contractual land access agreements and authorizations are anticipated to only start from mid-2025 or towards the end of 2025 once all documentation (ECC and EPL certificate) is in place.

2.2 Brief Description of the Project

A brief description of the planned project activities was presented as per the provided BID copy, and Mr. Johannes emphasized the importance of understanding that the conducted EIA Study and subsequent ECC are for prospecting and exploration only and not mining (an EPL is exclusively for exploration). This is because mining activities cannot be undertaken on an EPL, as a mining license would need to be applied for if exploration is successful. In other words, mining can only be considered once the exploration activities yield positive (economically feasible) results, which would mean the Proponent will need to convert the EPL into a mining license which would mean that the Proponent would need to apply for a mining license in the future, if exploration works yields positive results. The mining license would also be subject to another detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study with specialists, and an application for an ECC for mining activities. Therefore, it is important to note that the scope of the current EIA is aimed at prospecting and exploration only and not mining.

2.3 Presentation of Potential Project Impacts

To ensure transparency and that the attendees understand both sides of the proposed project activities, Mr. Johannes also presented the potential pre-identified positive and negative environmental impacts anticipated from the proposed prospecting and exploration activities. This will establish the basis for mitigation measures to be developed for the proposed exploration activities on the EPL.

2.4 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)

The meeting attendees were provided with an opportunity to ask questions and/or raise concerns about the proposed project activities to be incorporated into the meeting minutes and used as the basis for the compilation of the EIA Scoping Report and Draft EMP. The key comments and issues made in the meeting were recorded and noted for consideration and inclusion in the EIA Report. These issues and comments are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Issues, suggestions, and comments received during the Consultation Meeting in Otjiwarongo on the 18th of March 2025

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Capacity	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
1.	Mr. Conrad Smith	We have a water problem in the area. There is reasonable water, but behind Farm Pinnacles to the west, we agree there's zero water, and I think the water stops on my farm. Drilling is a huge problem for me. I have spoken to some drilling companies, and they say it is possible to drill for water. If the wrong person comes and drills with a smaller drill bit, it can divert the water under the ground. My question is, what will happen? What minerals are you looking for?	<p>Mr. Morne du Toit (Gecko Gold Mining): We need to investigate if the drill and the water are diverted; there are repercussions for you.</p> <p>What we do is appoint a driller to do the exploration drilling, as it is one of the requirements that we need to have in place. If it does happen, other steps need to be followed. We would need to discuss those steps with you so that you agree to those terms (once all documentation is in place in preparation for exploration works).</p> <p>The company's name is Gecko Gold Mining. Therefore, we are looking for gold, but we do not know yet what else we are going to find. If we look at B2Gold, for example, and the geology from an overview, it was taken by an airplane and gives you certain information, but it is limited, thus, you cannot make an informed conclusion based on limited information. It is for this that we need to carry out detailed exploration works such as soil and rock sampling, trenching, and drilling for the area. Hence, the anticipated wide scope of works. Therefore, if it is near the water or in that line, then precautions will have to be taken. Since we have not been on the Farms yet, we only looked at what we have on hand, which is public information, such as the geological baseline information from the Geological Survey.</p>
2.		Your company is very limited. Not a lot of people know about you. Now I have different people coming to my farm. Stefanus, you called me on Wednesday and only emailed me on Friday. I heard about this through the farmers' union.	<p>Mr. Stefanus Johannes: The company may not be known to some people, but we have done a lot of EIA projects, among others, and not only mining-related projects but a lot more from the public to the private sector over the years.</p> <p>On the aspect of different people coming to your farm, it could be because there are other companies' EPLs or other mineral licenses that overlie your farm, and or part of it. Usually, each EPL holder or applicant chooses</p>

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Capacity	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
		<p>You were supposed to call me 2/3 or 4 weeks ago and put up signs.</p> <p>You should have put posters on my gate.</p>	<p>to appoint their preferred environmental consultant, archaeologist (to carry out EIAs), and eventually different exploration geologists and others.</p> <p>On the issue of not contacting farmers directly, from our experience, it is impossible to always get farmers' contact details easily at the very beginning of the EIA Study. Therefore, we always reach out to commercial farmers' unions or associations for individual contract details. Alternatively, some farmers' association representatives (secretaries) prefer to first disseminate the information directly to the farmers, or at times, they share the farmers' contact details with us, and we make contact with farmers directly from there. In other words, sometimes it is difficult to get the farmer's contact details, so we try to go through the route of reaching out to the farmer's union (if there is any for the project area). In this case, we did not have your contact details, and since we had contacted Ms. Christine Stoman before on some EIA studies for EPLs (on the northern side of Otjiwarongo), we reached out to her to find out if she had information on the farmers to the southern side of Otjiwarongo. Ms. Stoman then connected us to you and other affected farmers, such as the owner of Farm Roland. It is always preferable to reach out to farmers on time, however, sometimes, it depends on how soon we get the contact details to do so. We also strive to do better with each project.</p> <p>On the issue of not putting up EIA notice at your farm gate, this is usually not advisable to just erect notices such as EIA for mining-related projects at people's properties/farms before speaking to the farmer owner. In some cases, the farm owner might be in the process of selling their property, and randomly erecting such notices might affect their property value (we encountered this concern before). The EIA regulations of the EMA No. 7 of 2007 also require that EIA notices should be pasted at visible and frequented places in the project area where the public at large can also see the notices (information), as EIA studies are not limited only to directly affected parties. Therefore, we only pasted notices in Otjiwarongo as the nearest frequented place to the affected farms.</p>
3.		Why did Gecko Gold Mining choose Serja Consultants? How many projects have they done?	<p>Mr. Morne du Toit: They have done quite a few projects over the years. Our selection of EIA consultants (environmental assessment practitioners) is that we put out requests for proposals with the scope and requirements. Based on the responses (3 or 4 quotations), we draw up a list, compare, and decide according to who is available to do it in a certain timeframe. Serja Consultants was our best choice for this.</p>

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Capacity	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
4.		<p>No local casual labourers are not allowed on my farm. The locals may be too familiar with the area, and we have experienced theft and poaching locally before.</p> <p>There will be a security guard where I can pay 50% and Gecko pays 50%, and the gates locked at specific times (open at 08:00 and close at 17:00).</p> <p>I will do water quality and levels testing before and after the work is done.</p>	<p>Mr. Gideon Kalumbu (Gecko Gold Mining): We have procedures for our exploration projects in terms of labourers (who are usually not from the area), and to consider and address your concern, we will look into this and implement it.</p> <p>Mr. Stefanus Johannes: These concerns and inputs are well noted and will be incorporated into the Scoping Report and EMP.</p>
5.		What happens if the rules are broken by people working on the farm, e.g. oil spill?	<p>Mr. Morne du Toit: There are measures that people operating the machinery have to comply with (including implementing measures provided in the EMP on oil spills). If they do not comply with them, we agree with you on what happens in such cases.</p> <p>Mr. Stefanus Johannes: Additionally, there are also biannual audits that have to be conducted by an independent environmental consultant to see if they are adhering to environmental measures (recommended in the project EMP). These are sent to the Environmental Commissioner, who may order them to pay penalties or to cease the work until they rectify the issue.</p>
6.			Mr. Titus Shuuya (MEFT Directorate of Forestry (DoF)): From the MEFT's side, we as foresters and environmental officers are appointed to also do spot checks and audit compliance.
7.		Approximately how long does it take for an ECC approval?	Mr. Stefanus Johannes: We still have a period where we wait for comments from the public before and after the final draft of the EIA reports. Then we submit it for evaluation to the Environmental Commissioner. There is a 14-day period of public comments once the EIA documents for a project are uploaded on the MEFT's website for comments directly to the Environmental Commissioner. The MEFT official responsible for evaluating EIA documents would then commence evaluation after 14 days, and this can take from 3 to 6

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Capacity	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
			<p>months before a decision is made on the ECC. This is because there are 5 stages in the evaluation process, with the deputy Environmental Commissioner and Environmental Commissioner at stages 4 and 5, respectively. However, we cannot determine how long the evaluation takes at every stage. Therefore, we cannot tell exactly when the Environmental Commissioner will approve the ECC application.</p> <p>Mr. Morne du Toit: It may take longer also because the ministry indicated that they have a shortage of staff.</p>
8.		Please be in touch reasonably on time prior to your planned visit to the farm.	Mr. Stefanus Johannes: This is well noted.
9.	Mr. Henner Diekmann	Once you gather the information from those hotspots, will it be shared with all stakeholders?	Mr. Morne du Toit: We will have information after the drilling. We share some of the information with the farm owner, and after getting further information, we discuss with the farmer.
		I have a few omborombongo (leadwood) and camelthorn (Vachellia) trees on the farm. They need to be protected and especially from use as firewood by people using the site.	Mr. Stefanus Johannes: This is well noted. This will also be included in the management measures in the EMP, whereby the unnecessary cutting down of protected trees is prohibited, as these are protected under the Forestry Act as well. In the case that the exploration works would need to remove a protected tree species, where it is extremely necessary, a permit to do so will need to be applied for from the Directorate of Forestry.
		Can Gecko supply me with a list of EPLs they are currently holding and property owners affected by those EPLs, any EPLs where you have completed prospecting, any Mining Licenses you are holding at the moment, as well as any Mining Licences where you have completed Mining?	Mr. Morne du Toit: Yes. We will arrange this list and share it with you.
10		Are you still involved at Okanjande?	Mr. Morne du Toit: No, we are not involved.
11		There is a corner/portion of the EPL that touches Farm Graslaagte No. 313 and Pinnacles. Are they also affected or not? A portion of Pinnacles also looks like it is affected.	Mr. Morne du Toit: It looks like a small portion, but the owner also needs to be informed.

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Capacity	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
12	Mr. Conrad Smith	We would like to request that every affected neighbour be informed.	Mr. Stefanus Johannes: Yes, we have consulted the farmers' union to assist us with that.
13	Mr. Henner Diekmann	Was the area demarcated in that manner because it was available and there were other EPLs around, or was it chosen like that?	<p>Mr. Morne du Toit: The EPL area was chosen based on the mineral commodity potential, which is determined by the geology of the area. We had a bigger area, but the Ministry informed us that there are some rhinos on one of the farms, which makes that farm a sensitive area. We ultimately had to reduce the EPL/area size because of the information we got on biodiversity sensitivity to exclude that sensitive area.</p> <p>Once all the paperwork (ECC and EPL rights) is in place (if issued), we also like to have farm owner representatives onsite during the exploration work to ensure that there is no breach of agreements.</p>

3. FINAL REMARKS AND CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

3.1 What is the way forward after this meeting?





Mr. Johannes thanked the community for attending the meeting. He informed them that their comments and recommendations will be included in the EIA Scoping Report and EMP that will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry (DEAF) of the MEFT for evaluation and consideration of the ECC. The EIA documents (including meeting minutes) will be shared with registered I&APs for review and further comments. In other words, once the review of the draft documents by I&APs is completed, the documents will be finalized and submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the DEAF/MEFT for evaluation and consideration for an ECC.







The meeting adjourned at noon (12:00).

STAKEHOLDER/PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING ATTENDANCE REGISTER

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) NO. 8345 NEAR OTJWARONGO IN THE OTJOZONDJUPA REGION

Project Proponent: Greko Gems Mining Pty Ltd
Date & Time: 18/03/2025 11:00 AM
Venue: Otjozondjupa Regional Council (CRo's Boardroom)

No.	Full Name & Surname	Name of Institution / Farm	Contact Number	Email Address (if any)	Signature
1.	Heikeri Diekmann	Farm Peland	081 124 0608	Wedi@diekmannassociates.com	
2	Severael Smith	Farm Pinnacles	081 124 8182	Severael@pinnacles.co.za	
3	Pieter Ehlers	Farm Pinnacles	0813313299	pieter@tangeri.com	
4.	Fredus Karapo S	BOF-Ojwarongo	0813807411 / 085387411	Karapo@ojs.co.za	

No.	Full Name & Surname	Name of Institution / Farm	Contact Number	Email Address (if any)	Signature
5	Morne du Toit	Gecko Namibia	0811291779	morne-du-toit@gecko.na	
6	Gideon Kalumbi	Gecko Namibia	0812956668	gideon.kalumbi@gecko.na	
7	Titus Shumba	MBET-BoF	0853013777	titusshumba@mett.gov.na	
8	Flore Hoes	OTRC	0813989656	hocsflore@hotmail.com	
9	Roland Mushi	Archaeologist	0853333373	rolandmushi@gmail.com	
10	STEFANUS & JOHANNDUS	SERJ CONSULTANT	0814000570	stefanus@serjaconsultants.com	
11					
12					
13					

List of Gecko Mineral Licenses (Exclusive Prospecting Licenses (EPLs), Mining Licenses (MLs) as per the Namibia Mines and Energy Cadastre Map Portal <https://portals.landfolio.com/namibia/>: Gecko Gold Mining (Pty) Ltd, Gecko Phosphate (Pty) Ltd & Gecko Salt (Pty) Ltd (Gecko Namibia Holding Subsidiaries)

No.	Mineral License	Status of the License	Size (Hectare (Ha))	Region	Mineral Commodities / Potentials in the License	Gecko Namibia Subsidiary / Company	What has been done on the license to date?	Comment
1.	EPL-8345	Pending ECC: EPL rights application done in 2020	5,094.6427	Otjozondjupa (about 10km south of Otjiwarongo)	Base & Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals, Precious Metals, Semi-Precious Stones	Gecko Gold Mining (Pty) Ltd	No activities yet. EPL rights subject to an ECC (being applied for, subject to an EIA Study)	
2.	EPL-6440	Active: from 14/07/2017 to 08/11/2025	26,290.9677	Erongo (between Omaruru & Karibib)	Base & Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals, Precious Metals, Semi-Precious Stones	Gecko Gold Mining (Pty) Ltd		
3.	EPL-4153	Pending renewal: Expired 25/03/2014	99,771.706	Offshore, about 60km southwest of Walvis Bay	Industrial Minerals, Nuclear Fuel Minerals (applied for);	Gecko Phosphate (Pty) Ltd		
4.	EPL-4154	Pending renewal: Expired 25/03/2014	74,800	Offshore, about 25km northwest of Swakopmund	Industrial Minerals	Gecko Phosphate (Pty) Ltd		
5.	EPL-4167	Renewal Intention to Refuse, Pending Representations: Expired 07/06/2019	3,259.2584	Erongo (West Coast Area), about 40km northwest of Henties Bay	Industrial Minerals	Gecko Salt (Pty) Ltd		
6.	EPL-4426	Renewal Intention to Refuse, Pending	2,280.5755	Erongo Region (West Coast Area), about 25km	Industrial Minerals	Gecko Salt (Pty) Ltd		

List of Gecko Mineral Licenses (Exclusive Prospecting Licenses (EPLs), Mining Licenses (MLs) as per the Namibia Mines and Energy Cadastre Map Portal <https://portals.landfolio.com/namibia/>: Gecko Gold Mining (Pty) Ltd, Gecko Phosphate (Pty) Ltd & Gecko Salt (Pty) Ltd (Gecko Namibia Holding Subsidiaries)

No.	Mineral License	Status of the License	Size (Hectare (Ha))	Region	Mineral Commodities / Potentials in the License	Gecko Namibia Subsidiary / Company	What has been done on the license to date?	Comment
		Representations: Expired 20/10/2021		northwest of Henties Bay				
7.	ML-210	Active: from 20/04/2020 to 19/04/2030	1250.5547	Erongo (West Coast Area), about 40km northwest of Henties Bay	Base & Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals, Semi-Precious Stones	Gecko Salt (Pty) Ltd		

ADDITIONAL MINERAL LICENSES

No.	Mineral License ID	Entity	Status	Project Area	Location	Comment
1	EPL-3037	Gecko Graphite (Pty) Ltd	Relinquished/Inactive	Otjiwarongo, Otjozondjupa	Private Farmland	The license was later owned by Imerys Gecko Okanjande Mining (Pty) Ltd
2	EPL-4152	Gecko Phosphate (Pty) Ltd	Relinquished/Inactive	Offshore	Sea	
3	EPL-4153	Gecko Phosphate (Pty) Ltd	Active	Offshore	Sea	Active, Pending Renewal - Moratorium
4	EPL-4154	Gecko Phosphate (Pty) Ltd	Active	Offshore	Sea	Active, Pending Renewal - Moratorium
5	EPL-4155	Gecko Phosphate (Pty) Ltd	Relinquished/Inactive	Offshore	Sea	
6	EPL-4167	Gecko Salt (Pty) Ltd	Inactive	Cape Cross, Erongo	State/Communal land	
7	EPL-4185	Gecko Salt (Pty) Ltd	Renewal Intention to refuse; pending representations	Swakopmund, Erongo	Townland	Licence currently owned by: Swakop Calcite Holdings (Pty) Ltd

No.	Mineral License ID	Entity	Status	Project Area	Location	Comment
8	EPL-4426	Gecko Salt (Pty) Ltd	Active	Cape Cross, Erongo	State/Communal land	
9	EPL-4717	Gecko Graphite (Pty) Ltd, currently owned by Northern Graphite Okanjande Mining (Pty) Ltd	Active	Otjiwarongo Otjozondjupa	Private Farmland	The license is currently owned by Northern Graphite (Pty) Ltd
10	EPL-5847	Philco 193 (Pty) Ltd	Relinquished/Inactive	Otjiwarongo, Otjozondjupa	Private Farmland, see Annexure A for the Farmers' Details (to be shared separately)	
11	EPL-5992	Philco 193 (Pty) Ltd	Active	Grootfontein, Otjozondjupa	Private Farmland, see Annexure C for the Farmers' Details (to be shared separately)	EPL transferred from Kunene Resources Namibia ("KRN") to Philco 193 on 24 Nov 2021
12	EPL-6440	Gecko Gold Mining (Pty) Ltd	Active	Erongo	Private Farmland, see Annexure B for the Farmers' Details	
13	EPL-6561	Philco 193 (Pty) Ltd	Active	Grootfontein, Otjozondjupa	Private Farmland, see Annexure C for the Farmers' Details (to be shared separately)	EPL transferred from Kunene Resources Namibia ("KRN") to Philco 193 on 24 Nov 2021
14	ML-210	Gecko Salt (Pty) Ltd	Active	Cape Cross, Erongo	State/Communal land	

APPENDIX F:

APPENDIX F1 – WRITTEN COMMENTS AS RECEIVED FROM ONE OF THE I&APS

APPENDIX F2 - ISSUES AND RESPONSE TRAIL

APPENDIX F1: Issues/comments pasted as received from one I&AP during the EIA Study (Prospecting and exploration activities on EPL-8345)

From: Conrad <swakopss[REDACTED]na>

Sent: Wednesday, 9 April 2025 12:44 pm

To: 'Serja EIA Consultations & Public Engagements' <eias.public@serjaconsultants.com>

Subject: RE: EPL-8345: Farm Visits for Archaeological & Heritage Impact Assessment (AHIA) - A component and requirement of the EIA Study

Stefanus

AS per meeting in Otjiwarongo I requested that you share minutes of meeting and contact details of all that attended.

I still have not received any information.

Kind regards / Groete,

Conrad Smith

[swakopss\[REDACTED\]na](mailto:swakopss[REDACTED]na)

c/o Hage Geingob & Son Street

PO Box 744, Otjiwarongo

Tel: 067 30[REDACTED]

Fax: 067 304 249



NOTE FROM SERJA CONSULTANTS

Please note that the I&AP's email address and number have been partially blacked out because this document will be uploaded on the ECC Portal (as required) and published by the Ministry of Environment for further public review for 14 days. From experience, some people on the internet copy email addresses from the ECC Portal during that period and spam people's emails. Thus, SERJA is trying to protect the I&AP details from such.

"RESPONSE BY CONRAD SMITH OWNER OF FARM PINNACLES NO. 310

ON

SERJA HYDROGEO-ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS CC'S

BACKGROUND IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY (BID)

FOR

EPL NO. 8345

1. The above BID by Serja indicates that "it should be noted that this Background Information Document (BID) is not an EIA/Scoping Assessment Report, but a non-technical summary of the EIA process". Under section 4 on page 5 it appears as if the process followed by Serja is now somewhere between Steps 3 to 5. It is noted that these steps are not steps set out in the Environmental Management Act (EMA) nor in the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (EIA Regulations). They are therefore non-statutory efforts and steps taken prior to the actual assessment report which have no statutory recognition. As correctly noted by Serja, the BID is a meagre 5-page document briefly touching on aspects typically addressed in detail in a complete and thorough assessment report. It is thus not possible to provide considered input, concerns, issues and/or comments (collectively called input) at this stage. I will provide in this response preliminary inputs but reserve my right to provide detailed and well considered input upon notification as required under sections 35 and 36 of the EMA and as set out in the relevant regulations under the EIA Regulations.
2. I wish to put on record that I did not receive notice of the "public consultation" held in Otjiwarongo on 18 March 2025. I only became aware thereof by word of mouth. It is noted that advertisements were placed on 6 and 12 March 2025 in the New Era and the Windhoek Observer. The EIA Regulations require advertising once a week for two consecutive weeks in at least two newspapers circulated widely in Namibia. The Windhoek Observer is not a daily newspaper and thus do not qualify and as such was not published on 6 and 12 March 2025. It is perplexing why it was not advertised in the Namibian which is the most widely distributed newspaper in Namibia – should there be a serious intention for the matter to come to the attention of affected and interested persons.
3. At the outset, I request to be registered as an affected and interested person under the following details:

Name: Conrad Smith

Position: Owner of Farm Pinnacles No. 310

Tel: 081 124 [REDACTED]

Email: swakops@serja.co.za - the I&AP's email address and number have been partially blacked out because this document will be uploaded by the Ministry of Environment on the ECC Portal for further public review for 14 days. From experience, some people copy email addresses from the ECC Portal during that period and spam people's emails. SERJA is trying to protect the I&AP from such.

Postal address: PO Box 744, Otjiwarongo

Physical address: Farm Pinnacles No. 310, Otjiwarongo

4. It is anticipated that the next step would be for the EAP to prepare the assessment report as specified in the EMA. Notification must then be given thereof as per section 35 of the EMA. Serja is hereby requested that there will be a detailed assessment report and that I will be notified in accordance with the EMA and the EIA Regulations of the assessment report's availability and given the prescribed opportunity to provide detailed comments subsequent to my review of the report. I note that no reference is made to the assessment report in Serja's step 6 – I do hope that this is not indicative thereof that Serja intends to omit this part of the process.
5. I also expect Serja/proponent to fully comply with regulation 21 regarding public consultation.

INPUT

Please find below my input at this stage during this informal consultative process conducted by Serja:

- (i) What exactly is that status of this EIA Study / BID? I.e. what sections of the EMA and regulations of the EMA Regulations are applicable and require this process?
- (ii) Also relating to status of the EIA Study/BID – what exactly does this document constitute – what does it qualify as and what are the relevant sections under which it is done in terms of the Environmental Management Act and regulations?
- (iii) What about the public consultation process provided for in regulation 21 of the regulations under the EMA? How does this consultation process impacts on the one required under the EMA regulations? Will there be another consultation for the environmental assessment report as required under regulation 21?
- (iv) What happens if an interested person does not attend this meeting and register as an interested and affected person? I.e. will non-registered persons then not be further notified or invited to participate in consultations and/or be consulted?
- (v) Please provide an explanation of exactly how notice was give of the of the 18 March 2025 meeting in Otjiwarongo (providing copies of the relevant notices in the newspapers) and also which statutory requirements relating to giving notice were followed.
- (vi) Under what provision of the EMA/EIA Regulations is the registration of interested and affected parties being done and what is the purpose of the list?
- (vii) Step 5 mentions a site visit – I am not aware of any site visit to Farm Pinnacles – please advise what is meant with the site visit and also advise if a site visit is planned during the assessment process.
- (viii) What does the “ongoing public consultation” mentioned in step 3 of section 4 in the BID entail? Please be specific as to what will be consulted, where it will be consulted and with whom it will be consulted?
- (ix) EPL 8345 covers the following commodities: base and rare metals, industrial minerals, precious metals and semi-precious stones. This is a very wide list (as set out in the schedule to the Minerals Act) – please advise on the exact nature of the minerals/metals/stones being explored.
- (x) Section 1.2 of the BID it is stated that the meeting is for people to raise issues to the proposed activities –please explain in detail what these proposed activities are since how can I raise issues if I do not know what they are?”

APPENDIX F2: Issues/Comments and Response Trail to Mr. C. Smith above (EIA Study for the Prospecting and exploration activities on EPL-8345)

The significant issues and concerns raised during the public consultation period (after the Consultation Meetings and before the circulation of the meeting minutes) are noted/summarized below, and responses provided thereof. These comments and issues are presented as received under Appendix F1 above under “**INPUT**” (page 2).

No.	Commentor / Name of I&AP, Date & Mode of Communication	The list of comments/issues as received	Response by Serja HGE Consultants
1.	Mr. Conrad Smith on the 09 th of April 2025, via email	(i) What exactly is that status of this EIA Study / BID? I.e. what sections of the EMA and regulations of the EMA Regulations are applicable and require this process?	The EIA Study is being carried out as per the 8 steps outlined in the summary document (BID) shared with you and other stakeholders. The first 5 steps have been completed, of which stage 5 is the consultation meeting held with you in Otjiwarongo on the 18 th of March 2025 (Minutes have been shared with you and other registered I&APs on 09 April 2025). We have been busy with the compilation of the EIA Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) (step 6) that will be/are shared with you for further review and comments before they are submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism (MEFT) for evaluation and consideration of the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).
2.		(ii) Also relating to status of the EIA Study/BID – what exactly does this document constitute – what does it qualify as and what are the relevant sections under which it is done in terms of the Environmental Management Act and regulations?	As per section 1.2 of the BID, the Background Information Document (BID) is not an EIA / Scoping Assessment Report, but a non-technical summary of the EIA process (that is prepared ahead of the EIA Scoping Report and used to register an ECC application with the MEFT for screening at the beginning of the EIA process). The BID is aimed at sharing first-hand, summarized information about the proposed project activities and the EIA process. It (the BID) also provides public guidance and basis for their participation from the beginning of the EIA process, and registers as

No.	Commentor / Name of I&AP, Date & Mode of Communication	The list of comments/issues as received	Response by Serja HGE Consultants
			<p>interested and affected parties (I&APs) raise issues about the proposed activities.</p> <p>The different sections (chapters) of the EIA Scoping Report are provided in the Report, comprising the Introduction, Detailed Project Description, Alternatives, Applicable Legal Framework, Baseline Environmental Description, Public Participation/Consultation, Impact Assessment, and Conclusions.</p>
3.		(iii) What about the public consultation process provided for in regulation 21 of the regulations under the EMA? How does this consultation process impacts on the one required under the EMA regulations? Will there be another consultation for the environmental assessment report as required under regulation 21?	<p>The consultation meeting held on the 18th of March 2025 was done under this Regulation, whereby comments were obtained from stakeholders, particularly directly affected landowners/interested & affected parties (I&APs). These comments formed a basis when compiling the EIA Scoping Report and the EMP. There will be no other consultation meeting for the draft Report and EMP, but the draft documents will be/are shared with you as registered I&APs to go through (as provided for) and submit further comments to them before they are submitted to the MEFT for evaluation. If there are further comments on the draft Report and EMP, these will be incorporated into the documents when they are finalized for submission to the MEFT.</p>
4.		(iv) What happens if an interested person does not attend this meeting and register as an interested and affected person? i.e. will non-registered	<p>If an interested person does not attend the consultation does not mean that they are locked out of the process or from getting information. Instead, they are encouraged to reach out to Serja Consultants for information and have the process explained to them. Both Interested & Affected Parties (I&APs)</p>

No.	Commentor / Name of I&AP, Date & Mode of Communication	The list of comments/issues as received	Response by Serja HGE Consultants
		persons then not be further notified or invited to participate in consultations and/or be consulted?	have the right to request information on EIA studies, and we are always ready to share information and clarify or explain further where needed.
5.		(v) Please provide an explanation of exactly how notice was give of the of the 18 March 2025 meeting in Otjiwarongo (providing copies of the relevant notices in the newspapers) and also which statutory requirements relating to giving notice were followed.	The notices for the EIA Study were planned for the first adverts to be placed on the 07 th of March 2025 in both the New Era and the Windhoek Observer. The Windhoek Observer newspaper had advert/notices re-run on the 10 th and 17 th of March 2025 and New Era again on the 01 st of April 2025 – these are attached as Appendix C of the Report. However, before the newspaper adverts/notices, Serja Consultants reached out to the existing known contact (from previous projects) from the farmers' association around Otjiwarongo (Ms. C. Stoman), who was very helpful in linking us to the directly affected farmers. This is how we were able to get old of you and the owners of Farm Roland - <u>Annexure F2 (II)</u> attached hereto. From our experience, if we cannot get hold of the farmers' contact details right away or through the farmers' associations/unions, we would then go to the Land Reform Department for a postal address to send out registered mail. However, this method of communication has not been effective (1), either the information/post address at the Department is outdated (2) it would take months before the farmer responds (if they respond at all or some of them would respond in months, since most people barely rely on post communication nowadays).
6.		(vi) Under what provision of the EMA/EIA Regulations is the registration of interested and	This is done in terms of regulations 22 and 23 below (this same column on the next page)

No.	Commentor / Name of I&AP, Date & Mode of Communication	The list of comments/issues as received	Response by Serja HGE Consultants
		affected parties being done and what is the purpose of the list?	<p>Register of interested and affected parties</p> <p>22. (1) An applicant responsible for an application must open and maintain a register which contains the names and addresses of -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) all persons who, as a consequence of the public consultation process conducted in respect of that application, have submitted written comments or attended meetings with the applicant; (b) all persons who, after completion of the public consultation process referred to in paragraph (a), have requested the applicant responsible for the application, in writing, for their names to be placed on the register; and (c) all organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity to which the application relates. <p>(2) An applicant responsible for an application must give access to the register to any person who submits a request for access to the register in writing.</p> <p>Registered interested and affected parties</p> <p>23. (1) A registered interested or affected party is entitled to comment in writing, on all written submissions made to the Environmental Commissioner by the applicant responsible for the application, and to bring to the attention of the Environmental Commissioner any issues which that party, believes may be of significance to the consideration of the application, as long as -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) comments are submitted within 7 days of notification of an application or receiving access to a scoping report or an assessment report; or (b) the interested and affected party discloses any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which that party may have in the approval or refusal of the application. <p>(2) Before the applicant submits a report compiled in terms of these regulations to the Environmental Commissioner, the applicant must give registered interested and affected parties access to, and an opportunity to comment in writing on the report.</p>
7.		(vii) Step 5 mentions a site visit – I am not aware of any site visit to Farm Pinnacles – please advise what is meant with the site visit and also advise if a site visit is planned during the assessment process.	Yes, the site visit is done as part of the EIA study to assess the baseline conditions of the area (the condition of the area before the proposed project activities) and for the archaeological & heritage impact assessment which is required by the National Heritage Council (NHC) of Namibia for all EIA studies for mineral licenses. Please note these site visits are not for exploration activities but for the EIA study and archaeology only at this stage.
8.		(viii) What does the “ongoing public consultation” mentioned in step 3 of section 4 in the	The ” ongoing public consultation” includes the period between when the first newspaper advert for the EIA is published, in this case, the first advert

No.	Commentor / Name of I&AP, Date & Mode of Communication	The list of comments/issues as received	Response by Serja HGE Consultants																								
		BID entail? Please be specific as to what will be consulted, where it will be consulted, and with whom it will be consulted?	was published on the 07 th of March, and the last day for public consultation from our side was 04 April 2025. This means the submission of comments by I&APs to Serja Consultants so that these comments can be incorporated into the EIA Scoping Report and EMP. However, we do not shut down comments that may come after 04 April, as long as we have not submitted the EIA documents to the MEFT (whereby we will not be able to add comments in submitted documents). We still consider all comments.																								
9.		(ix) EPL 8345 covers the following commodities: base and rare metals, industrial minerals, precious metals and semi-precious stones. This is a very wide list (as set out in the schedule to the Minerals Act) – please advise on the exact nature of the minerals/metals/stones being explored.	<p>The Ministry of Mines & Energy (MME) allows applicants to apply for up to eight (8) minerals groups in EPLs (see table inset from application form for EPL 8345 below). It would then be up to the applicants if they wish to prioritize certain commodities of interest or those that indicate better potential for success during exploration. Furthermore, the bigger the range of commodities, the better the chance of finding something worth pursuing further. This is the same as the bigger area given for mineral licenses (EPL) to explore, as it increases the chance of finding something of economic value.</p> <div><div>SECTION B – APPLICATION PARTICULARS</div><div><div><div></div><div>Period applied for *3 yearsSize (Ha) **15 391.53</div><div><div>* Maximum 3 years</div><div>** Maximum 100 000 Hectares</div></div></div><div>Mineral group(s) applied for</div><table><tr><td>1</td><td>Base and rare metals</td><td>X</td><td>5</td><td>Nuclear fuel</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Dimension stone</td><td></td><td>6</td><td>Precious metals</td><td>X</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Industrial minerals</td><td>X</td><td>7</td><td>Precious stones</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Non-nuclear fuel</td><td></td><td>8</td><td>Semi-precious stones</td><td>X</td></tr></table></div></div>	1	Base and rare metals	X	5	Nuclear fuel		2	Dimension stone		6	Precious metals	X	3	Industrial minerals	X	7	Precious stones		4	Non-nuclear fuel		8	Semi-precious stones	X
1	Base and rare metals	X	5	Nuclear fuel																							
2	Dimension stone		6	Precious metals	X																						
3	Industrial minerals	X	7	Precious stones																							
4	Non-nuclear fuel		8	Semi-precious stones	X																						

No.	Commentor / Name of I&AP, Date & Mode of Communication	The list of comments/issues as received	Response by Serja HGE Consultants
10.		(x) Section 1.2 of the BID it is stated that the meeting is for people to raise issues to the proposed activities –please explain in detail what these proposed activities are since how can I raise issues if I do not know what they are?”	The summary of the project activities is provided on page 3 of the BID (section 2). However, you can find the detailed description of the proposed project activities under Chapter 2 of the EIA Scoping Report.

Annexure F2 (II) FIRST COMMUNICATION TO THE KNOWN CONTACT OF THE FARMERS ASSOCIATION AROUND OTJIWARONGO ON 04 MARCH 2025

Otji farms, take note! RE: Notice of an EIA Study for EPL-8345 near Otjiwarongo, Otjiwarongo - Background Inform...



Stoman EC <stoman@[redacted]>
To: 'Fredrika Shagama - Serja HGE Consultants'
Cc: stefanus@serjaconsultants.com, [redacted]@gmail.com

[↩ Reply](#) [↩ Reply All](#) [→ Forward](#) [⋮](#)

Tue 04/03/2025 8:54 am

This message was sent with High importance.



EPL8345_EIA_BID_Gecko_Gold_Mining_Mar2025_Final.pdf
709 KB

Good morning colleague Koos Briedenhann at the Otjiwarongo Farmers' Association
Kindly take note of the letter below and help the enviro consultants (Serja HGE Consultants) by disseminating the info to the farmers involved.
I normally put info such as this out on email and Whatsapp, but the farms mentioned below are a bit south of my reach and my database.
Regards

Christine Stoman
Post Office: Gfn-Tsumeb-Otavi Regional Agricultural Union
Affiliated to the Namibia Agricultural Union
Cell: 081 2 [redacted]
stoman@afu.com.na

From: Fredrika Shagama - Serja HGE Consultants <fredrika@serjaconsultants.com>

Sent: 04 March 2025 08:08

To: stoman@afu.com.na

Cc: stefanus@serjaconsultants.com

Subject: Notice of an EIA Study for EPL-8345 near Otjiwarongo, Otjiwarongo - Background Information Document (BID) and Request for Farmers Contact Details

Good morning Ms. Stoman
Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC (Serja HGE Consultants) have been appointed by Gecko Gold Mining (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for an Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 8345 near Otjiwarongo. Therefore, we kindly request your assistance with providing us with contact details of the owners of the farms listed below? Alternatively, disseminate the information to them? **Please find attached the BID with the Farm map** for your reference.

Directly Affected Farms

1. Farm Pinnacles No. 310

Notice of an EIA Study for EPL-8345 near Otjiwarongo, Otjiwarongo - Background Information Document (BID) an...



Fredrika Shagama - Serja HGE Consultants <fredrika@serjaconsultants.com>

To 'stoman@[REDACTED]

Cc 'stefanu@[REDACTED].com'

Reply

Reply All

Forward

...

Tue 04/03/2025 8:08 am



EPL8345_EIA_BID_Gecko_Gold_Mining_Mar2025_Final.pdf
714 KB

Good morning Ms. Stoman

Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC (*Serja HGE Consultants*) have been appointed by Gecko Gold Mining (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for an Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 8345 near Otjiwarongo. Therefore, we kindly request your assistance with providing us with contact details of the owners of the farms listed below? Alternatively, disseminate the information to them? **Please find attached the BID with the Farm map** for your reference.

Directly Affected Farms

1. Farm Pinnacles No. 310
2. Farm Roland No. 419

Immediate Neighbouring Farms

3. Okanjande No. 145
4. Tweekoppies No. 486
5. Graslaagte No. 313
6. Hartebeestlaagte No. 319
7. Orupemparora No. 320
8. Otjiwarongo Townlands South No. 320 (*this is Municipal land and we already have their contact details*)
9. Highlands No. 308
10. Doomlaagte No. 299

Explanation of why we need the contact details and the Process: Gecko Gold Mining (Pty) (*Gecko*) applied for EPL-8345 (the EIA Proponent) about 10km south of Otjiwarongo, overlying Farm Pinnacles and Farm Roland. The Proponent intends to undertake prospecting and exploration for mineral commodities on the EPL after all documentations are obtained. However, exploration and any mining related activities are listed in the 2012 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of the Environmental Management Act (EMA) No. 7 of 2007 as activities that cannot be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Environmental Commissioner upon evaluation and approval of an EIA Study.

Subsequently, to fulfil the requirements of the EMA and its EIA Regulations, Gecko appointed Serja HGE Consultants (independent environmental consultants) to conduct the required EIA study, which includes landowner consultation whose farmers are covered by the EPL and or neighbouring farms to the EPL, and apply for the ECC on behalf of Gecko.

A consultation meeting for the EIA Study is scheduled on Tuesday, 18 March 2025 in Otjiwarongo to fulfil the requirements of the EIA Regulations, compile an EIA Study and submit to the Environmental Commissioner for evaluation of an ECC.

Please note that as part of the EIA Study, an Archaeological & Heritage Impact Assessment (AHIA) is required for EPLs following the National Heritage Act 27 of 2004. This will include the Archaeologist undertaking farm visits and assessments on the directly affected farmers to record and map out any archaeological and cultural sites (including marked and unmarked graves, 50 year+ building structures, etc). An AHIA report will then be compiled alongside the EIA report for submission to the National Heritage Council (NHC) to obtain a Heritage Consent. Therefore, directly affected farms will be assessed as part of the EIA after the consultation meeting.

NOTE FROM SERJA CONSULTANTS

Please note that email addresses and numbers have been partially blacked out because this document will be uploaded on the ECC Portal (as required) and published by the Ministry of Environment for further public review for 14 days. From experience, some people on the internet copy email addresses from the ECC Portal during that period and spam people's emails. Thus, SERJA is trying to protect the I&AP details from such.