

01 August 2025

### **PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING MINUTES:**

PROJECT: Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) for Proposed Exploration Activities on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 10218 located North of Otjiwarongo in the Otjozondjupa region, Namibia.

Date: Saturday, 19 July 2025

**Time:** 10:30 – 11:30

Venue: Homestead Farm

Seven people, including one Environmental Consultant (Mr Mandume Leonard) and one Archaeologist from Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd (EDS) attended the public consultation meeting - Please refer to the attached attendance register.

# 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 10218.

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

### 2. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION

The agenda of the meeting included the following main points:

### 2.1 Brief Description of the Project

Mr. Mandume Leonard provided the attendees with an overview of the ESA process, citing relevant legislations such as the Environmental Management Act and its 2012 EIA Regulations on Public Consultation. He then explained the significance of obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the proposed project, emphasizing the attendees 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.

## 2.3 Presentation of Potential Project Impacts

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

# 2.4 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)

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

Table 1: Comments and issues raised during the public consultation meeting, 01 August 2025

Comment/	Commenter name & issue / comment /	Response and name of responder:
issue No.	question	
1.	Are the necessary permissions and	Mr. Mandume Leonard (ML): The proponent of the EPL is responsible
	authorizations obtained from the Government of	for submitting the necessary applications to the Ministry of Mines and
	Namibia (GRN) to survey the farms?	Energy (MIME) for approval. Once approved, the proponent must
		obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) before
		conducting any activities on the EPL. This ECC is obtained through an
		Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) conducted by an accredited
		environmental consultancy firm, such as ours.
2.	Is there a list of approved or recommended	ML: The Ministry encourages proponents to engage with accredited
2.		,
	environmental consultancy firms that can	environmental consultancy firms to conduct farm surveys during the
	conduct farm surveys as part of the EIA process,	EIA process. However, the choice of firm ultimately rests with the
	provided by the Ministry or is the proponent free	proponent, who is responsible for ensuring that the consultant chosen
	to choose any accredited firm they prefer?	possesses the necessary qualifications and expertise. In some cases,
		the Ministry may provide a referral to assist the proponent in selecting
		an appropriate firm, but this is not a requirement.
3.	When conducting farm surveys as part of the EIA	ML: At this stage, our focus is on conducting an assessment of the
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	process, does your firm utilize drones or	general environmental conditions of the area to support the application
	aeroplanes to gather data, or do you rely on	for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). The use of drones
	more conventional methods such as ground-	or other aerial survey techniques may be employed during later stages
	based assessments?	of the project, such as geological surveys, which have yet to

Comment/	Commenter name & issue / comment /	Response and name of responder:
issue No.	question	
		commence. The current phase is primarily concerned with public consultation and ground-based assessment to gather the necessary
4.	Is the purpose of your engagement with us today primarily to inform us that an exploration project is planned for our farms and to initiate a dialogue	data for the ECC application.  ML: That is right sir.
5.	about this project?  Are you the firm that will be responsible for conducting the environmental assessment as part of the ECC application, or will another consultancy firm be contracted for that task?	ML: Our firm is tasked with conducting the initial environmental assessment as well as the heritage assessment to identify the presence of graves or other culturally significant sites within the farms. Once these locations are identified, their coordinates will be recorded, and the assessment process will be complete. This is the extent of our
6.	Does this imply that after the conclusion of our meeting today, your team will be proceeding to our farms to conduct the necessary assessments?	involvement in the project for now.  ML: That is correct.

### FINAL REMARKS AND CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

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

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 11h30.



Reg. 2019/0817

# Public Meeting Attendance Register

AND EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) NO. 10218 LOCATED PROJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT (ESA) FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING NORTH OF OJIWARONGO IN THE OTJOZONDJUPA REGION, NAMIBIA

Venue: HOWESTEAD FARM

Date: 19 July 3035

Time: IQ HOD

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