

15 December 2025

PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING MINUTES:

ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT (ESA) FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING & EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE (EPL) No. 9413 LOCATED ABOUT 20KM SOUTH WEST OF OKANGUATI, KUNENE REGION.

Date: Tuesday, 18 November 2025

Time: 10h00-12h00

Venue: Omauni Community Forest Center

The public consultation meeting was attended by Omauni Community members, including 1 (1) Environmental Consultants, one (1) Finance specialist from Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd (EDS) and the assistance of Mr. Abel Aushona (MEFT, Forestry) - **Please refer to the attached attendance register.**

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING REMARKS

The meeting was opened by the environmental consultant with an introduction of the team, who they are, and why they are consulting affected parties of the proposed project. The meeting attendance register was then circulated for the attendees to write down their names and contact details so that they could be added to the list of interested and affected parties (I&APs) and receive further information on the ESA process.

2. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION

The agenda of the meeting included the following main points:

2.1 Brief Description of the Project

The Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) and the reason that the Proponent appointed Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd (EDS), an independent Environmental Consultant to carry out the ESA and apply for the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

2.2 Explanation of what an ESA is, its Process, and the Public Role in the Process

Ms. Nakale explained to the attendees the purpose of the meeting and why they were invited (with reference to the Environmental Management Act (EMA) No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations on Public Consultation). Ms. Nakale further explained what an ESA is and that the proposed exploration activities are one of the listed activities in the 2012 EIA Regulations of the EMA that cannot be undertaken without an ECC from the Environmental Commissioner.

2.3 Presentation of Potential Project Impacts

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

2.4 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)

Ms. Nakale 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, 18th of November 2025.

Comment/ issue No.	Commenter name & issue/comment/question	Response and name of responder:
1	Commenter 1: There is wildlife near the site, and our cattle post in that area, even though the project requires a large area for operation and will bring opportunities, I fear we will be impacted	Ms. Iyaloo Nakale (IN): Once the proponent is granted an ECC, the area of interest will be fenced off to prevent any animals, domesticated or wild from entering.
2	Commenter 2: Is the proponent given the right by the Traditional Authority?	(IN): The Oukwanyama tradional Authority has no objections on the proposed project.
3	Commenter 3: My understanding is that; this conservancy does not only affect us from the area. Everyone is not here.	(IN): We take note of that, unfortunately the invitation was shared and everyone was invited, perhaps some of the people not here could not make it. It will be best to share the information from this meeting with those that you know that could not make it to the meeting. Additionally, the BIDs that we have shared also contain our contact details, please share that information so that interested and affected persons that are not here can also share with us their concerns/suggestion/opinions.

Comment/ issue No.	Commenter name & issue/comment/question	Response and name of responder:
4	Commenter 4: Mr. Abel, my understanding is that when the commissioner was here for the 1 st meeting, you all went to consult nearby homesteads. Did they agree to the size of the proposed site?	Mr. Abel Aushona (AA): Unfortunately I cannot give you a definite answer even though I attended some of the meetings, I can't really answer for them, that answer will have to come from the proponent.
5	Commenter 5: I was present at the 1 st meeting, people from forestry and the conservancy were present in that meeting because they were told to stand up. They told us that this projects are good, they built one at Kaoko-Otavi, Ondangwa has Oluno, so until when here in Ohangwena are we going to keep pushing development away, if the issue is the size, we can suggest it to be reduced but my opinion is that let us go ahead with the project.	(IN): Well noted.
6	Commenter 6: Due to language bearer I suggest that we try to explain some of the things because not everyone understands what meters mean when you are explaining the size of the site. Also I just to say, sometime people bring us development but they want to scam us, so young people yes	

Comment/ issue No.	Commenter name & issue/comment/question	Response and name of responder:
	development brings job opportunities but be careful.	
7	Commenter 7: Are the headmen informed, it will be better if they were all gathered at on meeting so they can make their decision.	(IN): Noted, the headmen were informed and consulted about this project. Before it come to us it was first addressed with the Oukwanyama Traditional Authority.
8	Commenter 8: From the site information and knowing were the site is, it is not really a big area that will take over the whole cattle post. We have a quarantine site next to it which is twice the proposed size. A portion can also be used to as a cattle post support. To me the size is fine.	(IN): Noted
9	Commenter 9: As you can see everyone has their own opinion, the area is made up of a quarantine site and community conservancy, my suggestion is that the size should be reduced because we can not only look at development but also the survival of our	(IN): Well noted, the proponent will be made aware of all the suggestions made at this meeting.

Comment/ issue No.	Commenter name & issue/comment/question	Response and name of responder:
	cattle. Another thing is that employment is going to be offered to qualified people	
10	<p>Commenter 10: I want when the consultant goes back, to report that us young people want jobs, yes we understand the concern of the elders but for us we want development.</p> <p>In all the regions in Namibia. How many projects of this nature are there?</p> <p>Is this not a government project? Why are there people going against the project?</p> <p>I think some people are assuming that the whole cattle post area is included in the project, which is not the case. There is enough land to share.</p>	<p>(IN): Noted</p> <p>(AA): There about 4 in four regions excluding Ohangwena.</p> <p>(AA): We take note of your opinion, this is a democratic country, everyone has the right to give their opinion on any developmental project so let us listen to each other.</p> <p>(IN): We will take some of you with us to the site so you go see the actual size that is proposed and come and tell the other community members.</p>

Comment/ issue No.	Commenter name & issue/comment/question	Response and name of responder:
11	Commenter 11: Is it only the qualified people that will be employment?	(IN): Consideration will be first given to the affected community members, were the proponent will offer vacancies suited for unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled workers.

FINAL REMARKS AND CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

Ms. Nakale thanked the attendees for their crucial input through comments and raising their concerns. she 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, Ms.Nakale 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 12h00.