

# **Consultation meeting minutes**

01 April 2026

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING MINUTES:**

**PROJECT: Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) for Proposed Exploration Activities on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 10255 Located Northeast of Okondjatu in the Otjozondjupa Region, Namibia**

**Date:** 30/03/2026

**Time:** 10H00

**Venue:** Farm Uitkoms

Twelve people attended the public consultation meeting, including one Environmental Consultants (Mr. Mandume Leonard) and one Archaeologist (Ms Loide Shipingana ) from Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd (EDS).

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

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

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

## **1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING REMARKS**

The Environmental Consultant (Mandume) began the meeting by introducing the team and explaining the purpose of the consultation, which was to engage Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) about the proposed prospecting and exploration activities within **EPL 10255**.

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

## **2. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION**

The agenda of the meeting included the following main points:

### **2.1 Brief Description of the Project**

Mr. Mandume provided the attendees with an overview of the ESA process, citing relevant legislation 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. Additionally, Mr. Mandume addressed the methods involved in the ESA, highlighting both the Invasive and Non-Invasive methods used to assess and manage environmental impacts effectively.

## **2.2 Presentation of Potential Project Impacts**

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

## **2.3 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)**

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

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

Comment/ issue No.	Commenter name & issue / comment / question	Response and name of responder:
1.	What happens during the first phase?	<b>(ML):</b> In the first phase, the team conducts geological mapping to identify potential mineral deposits. They may utilize advanced technologies like drones to gather data. By analyzing this data, they pinpoint target areas with higher mineralization prospects, guiding further exploration efforts.
2.	What steps will be taken to protect against trespassing and unauthorized access to our farms during the proposed exploration phase?	<b>(ML):</b> Prior to the commencement of any exploration activities on your farms, it is crucial that a mutually agreed upon the land access agreement is reached between the Proponent and the landowners. This agreement will include regulations regarding the timing of the exploration activities, ensuring that they are conducted in a manner that minimizes disruptions to farming and other land uses. Security protocols, including the use of designated entry points, personnel identification, and a signed access register, will be implemented to prevent unauthorized access. No activities will commence without consultation, agreement, and notice to landowners.
3.	How does the proponent determine the location and boundaries of the proposed exploration area?	<b>(ML):</b> The proposed exploration area identified based on data available from the Ministry of Mines and Energy. Anyone interested in applying for an Exploration Permit can access this data to assess the geological

		potential of a particular area, and based on the target commodity, can then map out an area of interest.
4.	So, the proponent does not have the right to conduct the mining activities yet?	<b>(ML):</b> It is important to note that the Proponent has not yet been granted any rights to conduct mining activities. They have applied for an Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL), but this permit will not be issued by the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy (MIME) until the Ministry of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism (MEFT) has issued an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC). Only when the ECC has been granted, indicating that the project has been deemed environmentally acceptable, will the MIME consider issuing the EPL.
5.	How long is the Environmental Clearance Certificate valid?	<b>(ML):</b> After the proponent obtains the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC), it remains valid for a period of three years, after which it may be renewed subject to the relevant requirements.
6.	What are they prospecting for?	<b>(ML):</b> The Proponent is interested in exploring Base and Rare Metals and Industrial Minerals.

## **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.