



## BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)

### CONSTRUCTION OF A COPPER PROCESSING PLANT IN KARIBIB

April 2026

#### 1. Introduction to the project

Trinity Environmental Solutions (TES) was appointed by HJ Gold Bay Investment (Pty) Ltd to conduct an independent Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed construction of a copper processing plant, to be known as Gold Bay Minerals project.

The plant will be located in Karibib's Industrial Zone on plot No. 57, see Figure 1.

The site is about 2ha, and the north-western part has been used for illegal building rubble disposal.

The development site is a new industrial development zone, with very little development taking place, see Figure 2.

The proposed project will employ 50 people during construction and operations, and more than N\$ 5 million will be invested to build the plant.

#### 2. Purpose of this document

This document, the Background Information Document (BID), is intended to provide background information about the EIA process being undertaken for the proposed development and provides:

- An overview of the project
- An overview of the legislative context and an outline of the manner in which the EIA is undertaken
- An indication of how Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) may become involved in the project
- Contact details to whom I&APs may submit their inputs associated with the project

#### 3. Project description

The physical footprint of the project will be on a 2ha area, zoned for industrial activities, about 2km south of Karibib CBD and residential areas.

Construction works envisaged will include:

- a) Earth works to dig out ponds (each 12m x 25m) for leaching, processing, and dewatering & drying of materials.
- b) Installation of short-term chemicals storage tanks.
- c) Installation of water tanks.
- d) Installation of sponge copper settling tanks.
- e) Installation of in-situ mixing and vibrating mill.

Operations/production activities will include:

- a) Transporting crashed low-grade copper ore from mining site ( $\pm 30$ km away) to processing plant in Karibib.
- b) Storage of ore and depositing into ponds for processing.
- c) Leaching process and condition control.
- d) Purification and solution treatment system: The leach-ate contains impurities such as Fe and Al, which need to be purified by neutralization precipitation, solvent extraction or ion exchange.
- e) Reduction process and sponge copper generation.
- f) Product (sponge copper) treatment and quality control.
- g) Waste treatment and resource utilization

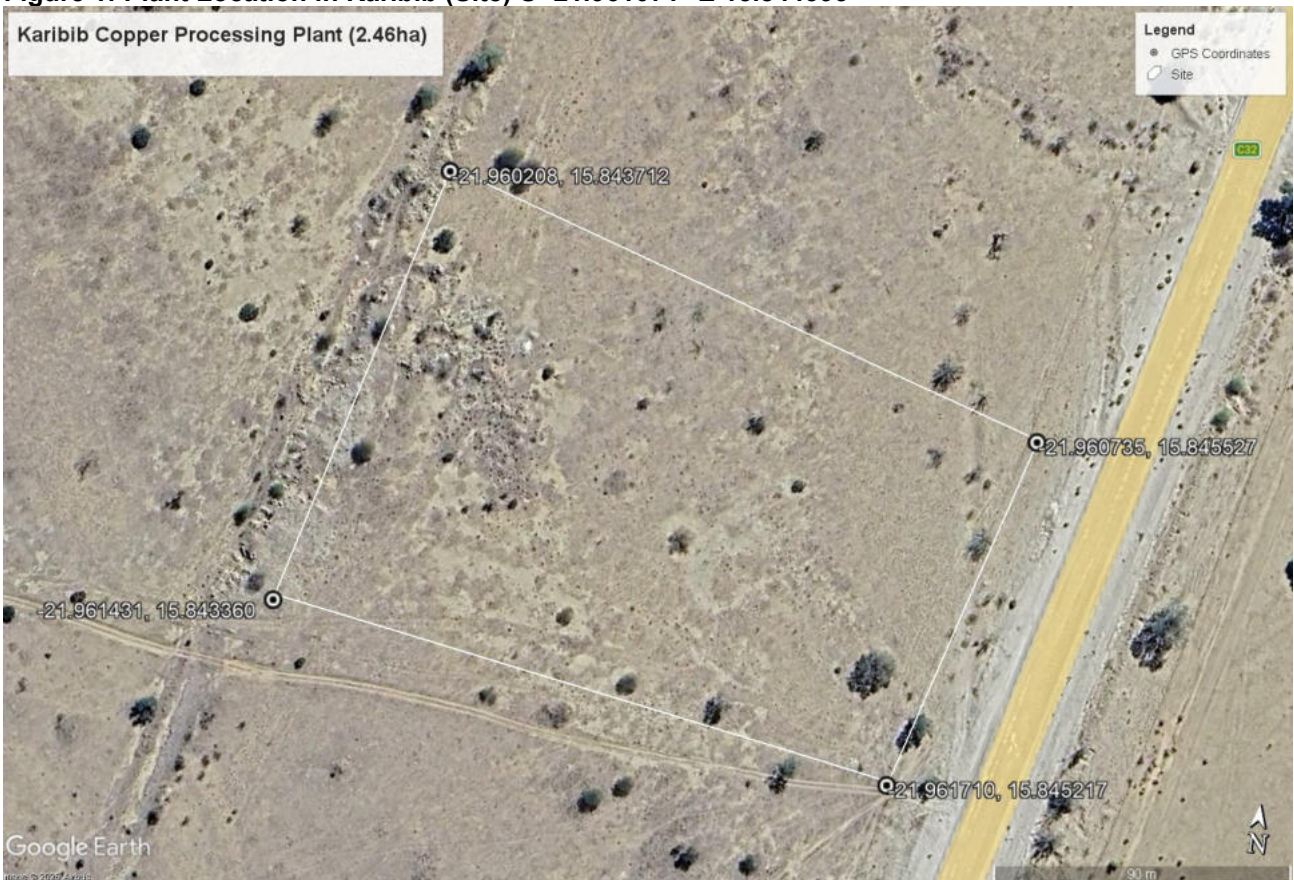
#### 4. Potential issues associated with the project

Outlined below is a preliminary list of the potential social and biophysical impacts:

- Limited vegetation loss.
- Air pollution, noise pollution and vibrations.
- Soil pollution, and Soil erosion
- Health and safety of workers at the project.



**Figure 1: Plant Location in Karibib (Site) S -21.961071° E 15.844393°**



**Figure 2: Site layout**

## 5. The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process

A Scoping/Basic Assessment is being undertaken in terms Namibia's Environmental Assessment Policy of 1995, the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 (Section 27), Government Notice No. 29 of 2012 (Listed Activities) and the Government Notice No. 30 of 2012 (EIA Regulations).

The objectives of the Scoping/Basic Assessment are to:

- Develop an understanding of the project area and of the proposed development, and how its related activities may potentially impact on the surrounding environment.
- Identify relevant authorities and Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to engage in the Public Participation Process (PPP).
- Facilitate the dissemination of information to the relevant authorities and I&APs and provide them with an opportunity to provide inputs and raise issues or concerns related to the project.
- Identify potential issues and environmental impacts.
- Assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts identified.
- Describe and investigate alternatives that have been and/or could be considered.
- Provide feasible mitigation measures to address any significant impacts identified through an Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

The above objectives are achieved through the technical evaluation of the proposed activity, the undertaking of the PPP and the submission of the relevant information and documentation to Environmental Commissioner.

### 5.1 Technical evaluation

The technical evaluation component aims to identify the environmental issues and impacts associated with the proposed project. More specifically it will involve, but will not be limited to, the following tasks:

- Site assessments and Survey of potential technical issues
- Identification of issues related to the biophysical environment, fauna and flora.
- Identification of potential social and economic issues.
- Consideration and assessment of feasible alternatives.
- Identification of mitigation measures to be implemented.

### 5.2 Public Participation Process

Public involvement is an integral part of the EIA and aims to include I&APs in the process by notifying them of the proposed project and encouraging them to raise their issues, concerns and to also provide recommendations. It is important that I&APs are afforded ample opportunity to understand the technical issues associated with the project so they can meaningfully participate in and contribute to the EIA Process.

Feedback will be provided to I&APs via emails, letters or direct communication, if requested. The PPP for undertaking the Basic Assessment has been designed to ensure that interaction with I&APs is focused yet comprehensive. The need for a public meeting or one-on-one meetings is constantly evaluates based on available information and other legislative requirements.

I&APs' comments and feedback may be provided in different ways. These include:

- During public meetings, by direct written (email, post) and no telephonic submission.
- Discussion from one-on-one meeting, through organised institutions such as the local and regional authorities.

**For comments and/or to register as an I&AP please contact:**

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