

30 October 2025

PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING MINUTES: ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT (ESA) FOR SAND AND AGGREGATE OHAIHANA VILLAGE, OHANGWENA REGION, NAMIBIA

Date: 04 April 2026

Time: 11:00 am

Venue: Ohaihana village (next to the site)

Introduction

The meeting was opened by the environmental consultant with an introduction of who they are and the purpose as to why they were consulting affected parties of the Environmental Scoping Assessment for the proposed Borrow Pit at Ohaihana village (Eenhana Constituency) in Ohangwena Region.

Project Description

The Consultant was appointed by the Proponent (Oukwanyama Traditional Authority) to apply for the ECC of the proposed Borrow Pit at Ondehaluka in the Ohangwena region. They 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. The consultant presented the potential positive & negative environmental and social impacts the project may have and how to minimize the negative impacts.

Discursion and Conclusion

The attendees were given the chance to raise their concerns, issues and/or comments on the proposed project activities and afterwards, the meeting attendance register was circulated for the attendees to write 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 ECC application process.

The meeting adjourned at 12h30.

The issues and comments recorded are presented in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Comments/ issues raised during the public consultation meeting.

No.	Issue/comment/question	Response and name of responder:
1.	<p>Commenter: There was a WhatsApp group that was created amongst some community members and some members were hurling insults at an elderly woman because of a similar project. How do we protect our people from such behavior?</p>	<p>Mr. Naukushu: When it comes to borrow pits under the jurisdiction of the Oukwanyama Traditional Authority, there are processes that we follow to ensure compliance is being met from our side. I understand these are community matters. This is why these meetings are important to attend.</p>
2.	<p>Commenter: Thank you for information, we would like it when operations finish for them to turn it into an earth dam. We have a borrow pit in the village which was left in a bad state. Those contractors did not do what the EMPs say, but maybe it was at the time when EIAs were not introduced. We just don't want that to happen here again.</p>	<p>Consultant: Well noted. The purpose of the meeting is to consult and introduce the project to the community before any work can commence. The Ministry is aware of the damages caused in the past and still being done when it comes to these type of projects hence why they are taking this very serious with the EIA process and want project owners to comply with the act and its regulations.</p>
3.	<p>Commenter: Conflicts will always be there especially for people who like to make trouble. They will still come and question you even when things have been explained. But in this case, it is better because the area is already fenced off.</p>	<p>Consultant: Well noted.</p>

No.	Issue/comment/question	Response and name of responder:
4.	Commenter: After the commencement of the project, does the TA go and do inspections?	Mr. Naukushu: Yes, the TA always goes and inspect what is going on at the site. We also need to verify and account for the loads being removed from the pits and ensure they are complying with the act.
5.	Commenter: I would like to say thank you for the presentation once again and also just add that please inform the contractors and workers to adhere to what is in the EMP.	Consultant: Well noted.

