

Meeting Minutes

16 April 2026

PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING MINUTES:

PROJECT: Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) for Proposed Exploration Activities on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 10774 Located Northeast of Otjiwarongo in the Otjozondjupa Region, Namibia

Date: 16 March 2026 and 17 March 2026

Time: 14H00 and 08H00

Venue: Separate one-on-one stakeholder engagements

Separate one-on-one stakeholder engagements were conducted by an Environmental Consultant (Mr. Mandume Leonard) and an Archaeologist (Ms. Loide Shipingana) from Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd (EDS).

These minutes encompass feedback and discussions gathered from both the separate one-on-one stakeholder engagements, 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 (Mr Mandume Leonard) commenced each separate one-on-one stakeholder engagement by introducing the team and outlining the purpose of the consultation, which was to engage Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) on the proposed prospecting and exploration activities within EPL 10774. During each engagement, stakeholder names and contact details were recorded for purposes of maintaining communication and providing 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 each stakeholder with an overview of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, citing the relevant legislation, including the Environmental Management Act and the 2012 EIA Regulations governing public consultation. He further explained the significance of obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the proposed project and emphasized the stakeholder's important role in contributing to the EIA process through their comments and feedback on the potential environmental, social, and economic impacts of the proposed development.

2.2 Presentation of Potential Project Impacts

To ensure transparency and that each stakeholder had a clear understanding of both the benefits and potential risks associated with the proposed project activities, the Environmental Consultant also presented the pre-identified positive and negative environmental and social impacts of the proposed development.

2.3 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)

Mr Mandume Leonard afforded each stakeholder the opportunity to raise any concerns, issues, and/or comments relating to the proposed project activities. The concerns, issues, and comments recorded during the one-on-one engagements are presented in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Comments and issues raised

Comment/ issue No.	Commenter name & issue / comment / question	Response and name of responder:
1.	In light of the fact that some people may not always adhere to rules and regulations, how will transparent and open communication be ensured among farmers to prevent potential conflicts or misunderstandings during the course of the project?	(ML): After the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) is issued, the proponent will need to obtain a land access agreement from the land owner before conducting any exploration activities on the property. This agreement will outline the terms and conditions for accessing the land, including any restrictions or limitations that may be necessary to protect the land, the environment, and the interests of the land owner. Without such an agreement, the proponent will not be allowed to proceed with any exploration activities on the land.
2.	If we, as farmers, are unable to reach an agreement with the Proponent?	(ML): You can seek assistance from the Office of Ancillary Rights within the Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy. This office acts as a mediator, facilitating discussions between the Proponent and the affected landowners to ensure that an agreement is reached that is mutually beneficial and respects the interests of all parties.
3.	Will the Exploration team stay on the farm?	(ML): Whether the exploration team will stay on the farm will depend on an agreement reached between the farm owner and the prospectors. Alternatively, the team may commute daily from a nearby town, depending on the agreed logistical arrangements.
4.	What is the expected timeline for the proposed exploration activities?	(ML): The process of obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) typically takes approximately six months or more. Once the ECC is issued, the Proponent can begin exploration activities for a period of up to three years.

FINAL REMARKS AND CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

Mr Mandume Leonard thanked each stakeholder for their valuable input, comments, and concerns raised during the one-on-one engagements. He further advised that all comments, concerns, and recommendations had been duly noted for consideration and would be addressed in the Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) Report, with relevant recommendations incorporated into the draft Environmental Management Plan (EMP). Furthermore, stakeholders were informed that the draft engagement minutes, Environmental Assessment Report, and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) would be circulated to them for review and additional comment using the contact details provided during the consultation process.

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.