

Communication with I&APs, and Means of Consultation Employed

Regulation 21 of the EIA Regulations details the steps to be taken during a public consultation process and these have been used in guiding this process. Communication with I&APs about the proposed activities was facilitated through the following means and in this order:

- A Background Information Document (BID) containing brief information about the proposed project was compiled and hand-delivered to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) accompanying the ECC application, and uploaded on the MEFT (ECC) Portal for project registration and shared with registered Interested and Affected parties (I&APs).
- Project Environmental Assessment notices were published in the *New Era* and *Windhoek Observer* newspapers on the 30th of October 2024 and 05th of November 2024. The consultation period ran from the 30th of October 2024 to the 03rd of December 2024.
- EIA posters were pasted in Aussenkehr in early November 2024 (before the consultation meeting) as shown below.



A3 ESA Study Poster at NamPost in Aussenkehr

- A consultation meeting was scheduled and held with available I&APs in Aussenkehr on the 20th of November 2024. The meeting was attended by five people. The low meeting attendance was due to the unavailability of most members of the public and some landowners who were busy with grape harvesting in Aussenkehr at the time. The consultation meeting minutes were taken.



EIA Consultation meeting at the Child Care Community Center in Aussenkehr on 20 November 2024

Feedback and Issues raised by the Stakeholders (I&APs)

Some key issues were raised by I&APs during the consultation period and these issues have been recorded and incorporated in the ESA Report and EMP. The summarized key issues are presented in Table 1.

Summary of main issues and comments raised

Aspect	Summary of impact or concern	Response
Impact on tourism	There is a canyon, a beautiful site for visitors, and a site where locals do rock climbing and hiking. Therefore, once mining activities occur in this area, it will negatively affect the area and the loss of tourism.	Environmentally and socially sensitive areas on the EPL have been mapped out and indicated as such in the Report. It is important to note that this EIA Study is not for mining but exploration only, which is short-term and does not guarantee mining in the future. Prospecting and exploration will also only be limited to soil and rock sampling in bags of 2kgs to 50kgs at selected areas within the EPL (not necessarily the whole EPL area) then followed up with trenching and then eventually drilling (if progressive results from soil/rock sampling and trenches encourage further activities such as drilling (with 1 drill rig) at selected site areas on the EPL). These activities are also done in phases over time and not at once.
Noise and dust concerns	There is house management in the area and the proposed activities will also affect us in terms of noise and dust generated from these activities.	The issue has been addressed in the Report and the EMP (for mitigation measures to minimize the potential impacts of dust and noise).
Emphasis on strategic measures to mitigate dust on grape farms	A need for good and strategic measures to mitigate dust on grapes, which have cost implications for the grape market.	
Planned expansion of the settlement area	An area within the EPL is scheduled to be a settlement area, which entails the facilitation of necessary infrastructure, water pipelines, street lights, and roads. Thus, the necessary exclusion of this area from the EPL.	This is well noted. Although the settlement layouts are not yet available, the estimated area has been mapped out.
Water usage and permitting	A concern about water usage, and we urge that necessary permits be obtained before extracting water from the Orange River, and avoid over-abstraction of water that will affect the water supply for grape farms.	Yes, as per the Water Resources Management Act No. 11 of 2013 and its 2023 Water Regulations, water abstraction & use for commercial and industrial purposes requires a permit. Water use is also an associated activity under the 2012 EIA Regulations (Listed Activity 8.1 & 8.3) whereby a permit to utilize water for such activities (industrial) will be applied for from the Department of Water Affairs at the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) before any water abstraction related to the proposed exploration activities. Moreover, permitting/licensing requirements are usually also provided in the EMP as a guide for project developers/proponents. Therefore, this will not be an exemption for New Hope Mining because they will also be required to apply for and obtain a water abstraction permit before commencing exploration activities when the time comes.

The EIA consultation started from the 30th of October 2024 to the 03rd of December 2024. Key comments were submitted to Serja Consultant during consultation meetings as summarized above as also indicated in the meeting minutes.

Feedback on the Draft Scoping Assessment Report Review

For review and further comments, the Draft ESA Report, Environmental Management Plan (EMP) as well as the associated appendices were circulated to the registered stakeholders (through their representative) on the 07th of February 2025 for 14 days for comments before finalizing for submission to the MEFT for evaluation. Due to other commitments from the I&APs which coincided with the mourning period of the Founding President between 08 February until the funeral service on the 01st of March 2025, the draft report review period was extended to 11 March 2025.

RE: 'EPL-9159 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study near Aussenkehr in the Kharas Region: Draft ...



eias.public@serjaconsultants.com
To: 'Quzette Bosman'

Reply

Reply All

Forward



Fri 07/02/2025 11:18 am

You forwarded this message on 25/02/2025 7:20 am.



EPL9159-Enviro_Scoping_Assessment_Report_Draft_for_Review.pdf
4 MB



EPL9159-EMP-Jan2025_v003.pdf
1 MB

Good day Quzette,

Thank you for taking my call earlier today.

As communication, please find attached the Draft Scoping Report and its EMP for your review and comments.

I am allowing at least 14 days for review before we submit the documents to the Ministry of Environment for evaluation. However, if we can get comments back in less than that, then that will be great, too. We will then incorporate and finalize for submission. The final documents will also be shared with you.

For your information, I have uploaded the Archaeological & Heritage Impact Assessment Report here <https://we.tl/t-hdojsZxmYr> – the file is 9MB. Hence, I am sharing it as a link for you to download in case your mail server may not receive more than 15MB of attachments at once.

Kind regards,
Fredrika

From: Serja EIAs and Public Engagements <eias.public@serjaconsultants.com>

Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2024 11:05 AM

To: 'Quzette Bosman' <quzettebosman@gmail.com>

Subject: RE: 'EPL-9159 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study near Aussenkehr in the Kharas Region: BID and Invitation to the Consultation Meeting, on Wednesday, 20 November 2024 in Aussenkehr

Dear Quzette,

Thank you very much for your email and call earlier this morning.

Your email contents have been well received and recorded. We have also added you (on behalf of the affected people you are representing) to the list of I&APs.

Thank you for all bring to our attention that most of the affected parties/farmers are not available to attend the consultation meetings on 19 November due to the harvesting season of the year.

We would appreciate it if you could perhaps ask them to propose for a more suitable date that can be arranged to a date when most of them or their representatives would be available to attend the meeting because there it is definitely not possible to have everyone available at once.

Kind regards,
Fredrika

Circulation of the draft EIA Scoping report, EMP and Archaeology Report to the I&AP representative on 07 February 2025

Katjavivi takes swipe at absent MPs

■ Edgar Brandt

Uncertainty reigned once more in the National Assembly as no quorum could be established for the tabling of the mid-term budget yesterday.

National Assembly Speaker Peter Katjavivi described the situation as “unbearable” two days in a row. The Speaker also expressed disappointment over the general conduct of parliamentarians, which often results in sessions starting late, and sometimes in important meetings being postponed.

“I expected most of the members to be in the House today. I have expressed my displeasure, and this is something we hope is not repeated,” said Katjavivi yesterday during an interview after the session was postponed.

Although a working quorum was met, the quorum of at least 49 parliamentarians was needed for the tabling of legislation, and this was not achieved as the August House needed at least two more members for the tabling of

the mid-year budget.

This situation meant that Finance and Public Enterprises Minister, Ipumbu Shiimi, had to wait once more to table the legislation that reallocates revenue to necessary and emergency areas.

He has emphasised that the Mid-Term Budget Review is not a new budget, but only a reallocation of existing resources. As such, the Mid-Term Budget is rather an opportunity for government to reallocate revenue budgeted at the beginning of the year.

Inna Hengari, a Popular Democratic Movement lawmaker, said she was happy that Katjavivi addressed the lack of commitment by parliamentarians.

“There is basically a budget for an entire country that is being held up due to the lack of members,” said Hengari, who proposed strict measures to hold Members of Parliament accountable. She added there should also be a clear distinction between ordinary parliamentary members and voting members.

Commenting on the lack of quorum,



Delayed again... Finance minister Ipumbu Shiimi has been yearning to table the Mid-Term Budget since Monday.

Photo: Heather Erdmann

Mines and Energy minister, Tom Alweendo, said parliamentarians’ behaviours are contrary to the expectations of the public. “If you are a Member of Parliament, then you

need to set a good example,” he said.

Chantelle Husselmann, country partner at the auditing and tax advisory firm PWC, noted the Mid-Term Budget Review is a necessary exercise not only for the national budget, but also as a regular exercise for businesses and household budgets. She added the budget review provides valuable data in terms of revenue-collection and expenditure targets.

Husselmann further noted that focus is expected on areas of drought relief, as well as boosting social sectors and a potential tax reduction for small businesses.

Meanwhile, the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) said they expected Shiimi to address healthcare, lower taxes, infrastructure improvement and poverty alleviation through a basic income grant.

“Civil society organisations (CSOs) believe the national budget is a powerful tool that can be used more effectively to address systemic poverty, improve living conditions and promote social equity in Namibia,” reads an IPPR briefing paper.

The IPPR paper summarises civil society submissions and suggestions regarding budget priorities made to the finance ministry. They further noted that CSOs emphasised the importance of strengthening budget participation mechanisms to enhance government accountability, and ensure effective policy implementation.

-ebrandt@nepc.com.na

Hompa Kaundu threatens to report lazy officers

■ John Muyamba

NCAMAGORO – Safety and security minister Albert Kawana officially inaugurated a police station at Ncamagoro village in Kavango West.

The construction of the prefabricated facility started in February 2023 and was completed in June 2024. It was constructed at a cost of N\$15.6 million.

Kawana said, the government is committed to ensuring that all citizens, regardless of where they reside, have access to essential services.

“The opening of the Ncamagoro police post is a testament to that commitment. It is our belief that no community should be left behind, and that all Namibians deserve the right to live in peace and security, while at the same time having access to high-quality public services,” he said.

He added that this post is not just a building, but rather a symbol of the government’s unwavering dedication to the safety and security of all citizens.

Kawana said the Ncamagoro area, like many rural areas across the country, faces unique challenges. The geographical remoteness of the region has, for too long, made it difficult for the people to access services, including those provided by the Namibian Police, and this has unfortunately led to an environment where criminal activities thrived.

The structure consists of a charge office, an office block with three offices, barracks for males and females, two two-bedroom houses, a recreational area and a septic tank. It is equipped with a borehole. The facility also has a brand-new Toyota Hilux single cab.

“Infrastructure of this nature are a true reflection of the



Safety... Safety and security minister Albert Kawana unveils the plaque to the new police station at Ncamagoro. Hompa Alfons Kaundu and police chief Joseph Shikongo witness.

government’s commitment to improving the working environment of civil servants and bringing policing services closer to the people,” said the minister. Meanwhile, Hompa Alfons Kaundu of the Mbunza Traditional Authority in Kavango West implored his subjects to report illegal activities to the newly inaugurated police

station at Ncamagoro village.

“I want the police officers stationed here to work. I will take the [police] general’s number [to call him]. If you are not doing your job, I will call him straight and report you. Don’t just come here to get married – no. If you face challenges, call me; I will assist you. I used to be a soldier, and I

want to root out crime in this area,” he said.

Kaundu said Ncamagoro village is one of the high crime areas, with livestock theft and gender-based violence cases topping the list. He revealed that many cases of assault taking place in villages are never reported. He further claimed that criminals in Ncamagoro also get away with crimes of housebreaking and throwing objects at moving vehicles along the highway, amongst other crimes.

“Ncamagoro inhabitants and surrounding villages, you should all collaborate with the police to make policing easy... [and criminals] must repent now because if you don’t, that van will get you if you break the law,” he noted.

Kaundu then warned community members against walking too close to the road, which has caused many people to lose their lives. He was optimistic that this would change with the establishment of the new police station. Furthermore, the traditional leader implored the community to report shebeen and cuca shops that operate beyond their official closing time as set by law, and warned the community against housing criminals.

-jmuyamba@nepc.com.na

Tortoise Environmental Consultants(TEC)





PUBLIC NOTICE

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN PROJECT

In accordance with the Environmental Management Act 2007 (Act No. 7 of 2007), notice is hereby given to all possible Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) that an application will be made to the Environmental Commissioner for environmental clearance as follows:

Project: Construction and Operation: (i) Renewable energy and associated infrastructures (ii) Green Hydrogen Plant and associated infrastructures and (iii) Desalination plant and associated infrastructures

Proponent: Zhero Modules Walvis Bay (Pty) Ltd

Location: Walvis Bay, Erongo Region.

Public meeting 1. Date: 7th November 2024, **Place:** Swakopmund, **Venue:** Tamariskia Town Hall, **Time:** 10H00 – 12H00

Public meeting 2. Date: 8th November 2024, **Place:** Walvis Bay, **Venue:** Narraville Community Hall, **Time:** 10H00 – 12H00

Deadline for Comments: 20th December 2024

Register as I&APs @: Email: info@tec.com.na, Postal Address: P.O. Box 35473, Cell phone: +264811220114 or +264811477889

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PUBLIC NOTICE: A CALL FOR PARTICIPATION & COMMENTS SUBMISSION

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) NO. 9159 NEAR AUSSENKEHR SETTLEMENT IN THE IKKHARAS REGION

The public is hereby notified that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as required under the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The proposed prospecting and exploration on EPL-9159 is a listed activity in the EIA Regulations that cannot be undertaken without an ECC, which is subject to an EIA Study, approval of EIA Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

The Proponent of the proposed Activities: New Hope Mining CC

Project Nature and Location: Upon issuance of the ECC and subsequent EPL certificate (rights), Proponent will plan for and commence with the proposed prospecting and exploration of mineral commodities on the EPL. The EPL covers 10,941.847 hectares and located about 5km east of AusSENkehr Settlement in the IKKHARAS Region. It should be noted that this EIA Study is for exploration activities ONLY and not mining because mining cannot be done on an EPL. This means, a mining license would need to be applied for after exploration (if found to be economic feasible), of which another EIA Study would be conducted to apply for a mining license, i.e., to convert the EPL into a mining license.

Environmental Assessment Practitioner: Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

The public is therefore invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and submit comments and or receive further information on the EIA process. **The deadline for registration as I&APs and submission of comments, issues or concerns is Tuesday, 03 December 2024. A consultation meeting will be held in AusSENkehr towards the end of November 2024 and the details thereto will be communicated to all registered stakeholders and I&APs.**

Contact Person: Ms. Fredrika Shagama
Mobile No.: +264 (0) 81 749 9223 in writing, i.e. SMS or WhatsApp
Email: eias.public@serjaconsultants.com



CAREERS



Why we are more tired on Mondays

The scientific reason behind the fact that most of us are struggling on the first day of the week is called a social jet lag, and the only one to blame is yourself. Is your mood on Mondays not as good as on the other days of the week and are you having trouble finding your #MondayMotivation because you feel so tired? The scientific reason behind the fact that most of us are struggling on the first day of the week is called a social jet lag.

And the only one to blame is yourself. This social jet lag is caused by not sticking to the same sleep-wake schedule every day. Staying up late on Friday or Saturday evenings and sleeping in the morning after messes with our internal body clock. You are basically putting your body into a different time-zone over the weekend and pay the price for it on Mondays. A variation of one hour in your sleeping time won't have any effect but anything more than a two hour difference and your internal body clock can be thrown off by at least 45 minutes. So thinking you could catch up on some sleep during the weekend will leave you feeling even more drained than before. This so

called 'sleep debt' can simply be dealt with by getting around eight hours of sleep every night, which is the recommended amount of sleep for adults, during the next couple of days because the brain rests more efficiently when you are feeling tired. The most effective way to get those eight hours of sleep is to go to bed earlier than you normally would and set your alarm at the usual time. Taking a nap during the day to gain some energy won't help either. Sleeping for too long during the course of the day will keep you up at night. If you really don't want to miss out on those day-time naps, try scheduling them between noon and 4 p.m. and don't let them last longer than 30 minutes so they won't interfere with your sleep at night. If you keep the naps short enough, they even have a lot of advantages. Other things you might want to consider when trying to get your rhythm back on track is drinking less alcohol, banning television-, computer-, and mobile screens right before bedtime, not drinking coffee after 2 p.m., and the most horrible sounding tip of them all: don't dare hit the snooze button. Research has shown that those few precious minutes of extra sleeping time often leave you more tired than if you would have gotten straight out of bed.

Capacity Building



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Advances and Remaining Challenges in Namibia's Adult Literacy

Namibia has made significant strides in improving adult literacy since gaining independence in 1990. Through sustained government efforts and partnerships with various organizations, the country has seen a notable increase in literacy rates. Yet, despite these advances, there remain substantial challenges that need to be addressed to ensure that all adults in Namibia can fully participate in society and enjoy the benefits of literacy. In the years following independence, Namibia identified education as a key driver of development and equality. The government launched the National Literacy Programme in Namibia (NLPN) in 1992, aimed at reducing illiteracy among adults, especially those in rural areas. This program, which has been largely successful, has helped increase the adult literacy rate from around 65% in the early 1990s to over 89% by recent estimates. The program provided adults with opportunities to gain basic literacy and numeracy skills, empowering them to engage more effectively in economic and social life. Despite these positive developments, Namibia continues to face several challenges in its adult literacy efforts. One of the primary obstacles is the inequality in literacy rates between urban and rural populations. While literacy rates are relatively high in urban areas, rural regions,

“ In the years following independence, Namibia identified education as a key driver of development and equality. The government launched the National Literacy Programme in Namibia (NLPN) in 1992, aimed at reducing illiteracy among adults, especially those in rural areas.

especially in northern Namibia, continue to lag behind. The lack of infrastructure, including roads, schools, and reliable internet access, makes it difficult for many rural adults to access education. This geographic divide creates a persistent gap in literacy outcomes between different regions of the country. Another significant challenge is that many adults, particularly older adults, have limited motivation or opportunities to engage in literacy programs. For individuals who have spent decades without formal education or who experienced negative schooling experiences in the past, there can be reluctance to return to a learning environment. Overcoming these psychological and cultural barriers requires a concerted effort to make learning more relevant and rewarding for

adults. More initiatives that link literacy to economic opportunities, personal empowerment, and community development are needed to encourage greater participation. A shortage of qualified adult education instructors is another issue. Many adult literacy facilitators are volunteers or lack formal training in adult education methodologies. This can affect the quality of teaching, as adult learners have different needs and learning styles compared to children. To address this, greater investment is needed in the professional development of adult educators, ensuring they have the skills and knowledge to support diverse learners effectively. Looking ahead, Namibia must continue to prioritize adult literacy as a cornerstone of its development strategy. This will require a multifaceted approach that addresses not only the traditional aspects of literacy but also the broader socioeconomic factors that affect learning. Expanding access to education in rural areas, motivating more adults to participate in learning programs, and bridging the digital divide are key areas where further progress is needed. While Namibia has made impressive gains in adult literacy, ensuring that every adult can acquire the skills necessary to thrive in a rapidly changing world remains a challenge. By continuing to invest in adult education, strengthen partnerships, and innovate in digital learning, Namibia can build on its successes and overcome the remaining barriers to achieving universal literacy. DTI Communications Team



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Buying vs renting a home: The pros & cons explained

There are many factors to consider when deciding whether to rent or buy. Both options have their own set of pros and cons that need to be considered before deciding. For example, renting is great for people who like to move around or are just starting their career. On the other hand, buying a home can be a great long-term investment if you plan on living in the same place for several years. While there is no one answer on whether you should buy or rent, there are set factors you should consider before making that decision. Let's uncover the pros and cons of buying or renting a home and how other factors might impact your choice.

Factors to consider for renting vs. buying a home

Choosing to rent or buy a home is a big financial decision that shouldn't be taken lightly. Both have their own set of pros and cons that you need to consider before moving forward. However, there are some trustworthy indicators to consider when deciding which option is right for you.

Things to consider for renting versus buying a home include: Check your finances first. Make sure you are in a stable financial situation before deciding to buy a home or doing a lot of research. When reviewing your finances, you will want to ensure you have enough reserves to fund up-front costs of a home purchase. These costs include your mortgage down payment and closing costs, to name a few. Job security is important for securing a home loan and paying your mortgage. It ensures you have a stable income to cover your monthly payments. The lender will review your last two years of employment and determine the probability of the income continuing. If you are a recent graduate, the lender will most likely request transcripts to show you are new to the workforce. Consider your five-year plan. Those who like to move around or travel a lot might find renting a better option, while those wanting to create roots in a single location will find buying a better choice. Think about investing in a property. Buying a home can help you gain value and build equity by making home improvements. People who hold onto their homes for a long time usually make money when they sell, as long as the market keeps improving. Building equity in a property is one of the most popular ways to grow a little bit of wealth. Consider the time and money needed to maintain a home. If you rent and something breaks, you can contact your landlord to fix it. But when you buy a home, you have to keep up with the maintenance of the entire property. If something breaks, you will need to pay to get it fixed and spend time fixing it. It is important to have extra money for potential repairs when buying a home. How much flexibility you need: When you own a home, you can do whatever you want, from adding a room to changing the paint! However, you have minimal freedom or flexibility to change aspects of your living space when



you rent. However, renting gives you the freedom to move around and not be stuck in one place, even within your city or town. Make sure you've carefully weighed all the external factors of renting vs. buying a home before deciding. Big investments, like buying a home, need to be the right fit for your needs.

When to buy a home

Buying a home can be a big commitment, but it can be rewarding. You feel pride when you own your own home, and you can profit financially from growing equity in your home. Here are some other pros and cons of buying a home to consider.

The pros of buying a home include:

- Build equity:** Owning can build equity over time and help grow your overall wealth. Many consider it a wise financial decision.
- Control:** You can have more control over where you live, like not moving often, painting your walls, or even having pets.
- Consistent payments:** A fixed-rate mortgage provides steady monthly payments that won't unexpectedly rise with market changes. You can budget precisely what you'll pay a year from now without worrying about how the market might change before your next lease.
- Tax benefits:** You might receive tax benefits from buying or selling a home, depending on your personal financial situation.
- Stability:** Buying a home can bring stability to your family and the community you're nurturing. As long as you can pay your mortgage, you can stay in your home and contribute to the neighborhood.

The cons of buying a home include:

- Responsibility:** Buying means you have to pay for all maintenance yourself and find a way to get it done as well.
- Large financial investment:** Typically, you'll have to provide a

large down payment upfront. You could spend this money on other investments that have the potential to out-earn what your home investment might one day provide.

- No flexibility:** It becomes more challenging to move across town or to a new geographic location.
- Property taxes:** You'll have to pay property taxes on your home every year.

Buying a home is typically best if you have stable employment and plan on remaining in the same home for several years.

When to Rent a Home

Renting a home provides flexibility. However, it can also result in higher costs as housing prices rise. This is because many leases are short-term, typically lasting 12 months or less. Let's unpack some additional pros and cons of renting a home.

The pros of renting a home include:

- Short-term savings:** Renting is cheaper than buying in the short term because you don't need a big down payment or lump sum to buy a house.
- Moving flexibility:** You have much more flexibility with changing your home and moving around. This is great for individuals not set on living in the same place for years to come.
- Building credit:** Renting can help build your credit if you can't buy yet, or give credit references if you're a good renter and need them.
- Less responsibility:** When you rent, you aren't responsible for maintenance. Instead, you can call your landlord and have them fix any issues that pop up.
- No property taxes:** You won't have to pay property taxes if you're renting.

The cons of renting a home include:

- Inconsistent costs:** Your monthly housing costs aren't stable from year to year. When your lease ends, your landlord may raise the rent. If

you choose to move, you may have difficulty finding affordable options in a competitive market.

- No equity:** You don't get to build equity with each rent payment. Instead, your landlord gets all the equity out of the home no matter how well you take care of it.
- Competition in housing markets** can make it difficult to find a new home. This is especially true when you are trying to keep your children in the same school district when moving.
- Uncertainty:** You may need to move suddenly if your landlord sells the property or doesn't renew your lease.
- Lack of control:** You may find it difficult to make changes in your home, and there's no guarantee that your requests will be approved. Renting a home is ideal if you want flexibility and don't plan to stay in one place for a long time.

Costs of Buying vs. Renting a Home

Paying off a mortgage over 30 years

is usually cheaper than renting, but it may not be the best choice for everyone. Many factors in different markets affect affordability, making it difficult to determine which option is cheaper for you. Whether it's better for you to rent or buy depends on your specific circumstances. If you have a stable job and income and don't mind staying in one place for several years, buying a home could be the right choice. In contrast, if you're not ready to settle down or want the flexibility to move at a moment's notice, renting might be the better option. Additionally, various factors like your age, current financial situation, job security, how long you plan to stay in the same area, and more all come into play. Deciding to purchase a home is a personal choice that you should review with a mortgage specialist to help answer your questions and guide your decision.

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ADVERTS

CALL FOR REGISTARTION AS INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

KILEMBE MINES MINING CC'S ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR EXPLORATION ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL 9672), KUNENE REGION

1. PROJECT SITE AND DESCRIPTION

Kilembe Mines Mining cc (the Proponent), intends to apply to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for its proposed prospecting activities in respect to Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals and Precious Metals on EPL 6644 (area of 100,846.08 Ha), Kunene Region. The key component of the proposed activity entails geological mapping and survey and manual sample collection for laboratory analysis. Access to the sampling or survey sites will be by existing tracks and on foot where vehicle access is limited.

2. PUBLIC PARTIICPATIOON PROCESS

Kilembe Mines Mining cc therefore invite all Interested and Affected Party (I & AP) to register and receive the Project Background Information Document (BID) for their comments and input.

3. COMMENTS AND QUERIES

Interested and Affected Parties are herewith request to register by writing to us at the address below no later than **22 November 2024**:

Please register and direct all comments, queries to:
Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Email: kmineminin@gmail.com

CALL FOR REGISTARTION AS INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED MINERAL EXPLORATION AND QUARRYING OF DIMENSION STONE (MARBLE) ACTIVITIES ON MINING CLAIMS (MCs 75649 – 75653), ON FARM OKAKOARA No. 43/REM ERONGO REGION

1. PROJECT SITE AND DESCRIPTION

Marchelino M. M. Oxurub, intends to apply to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for its proposed prospecting and quarrying for Dimension Stone (Marble) activities on the proposed **Mining Claims 75649 - 75653** on Farm Okakoara No. 43/REM, Erongo Region in the Erongo Region. The key component of the proposed activity entails geological mapping / survey and Small-medium Scale Quarrying operation (extraction of marble blocks). Access to the sites will be by existing tracks and on foot where vehicle access is limited.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Enviro-Leap Consulting invites all Interested and Affected Party (I & AP) to register and receive Environmental Assessment (BID, Scoping and EMP) documents relating to the proposed project for their comments and input.

3. COMMENTS AND QUERIES

Interested and Affected Parties are herewith request to register by writing to us at the address below no later than **31 November 2024**.

Please register and direct all comments, queries to:
Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Email: eap.trigen@gmail.com



PUBLIC NOTICE: A CALL FOR PARTICIPATION & COMMENTS SUBMISSION

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) NO. 9159 NEAR AUSSENKEHR SETTLEMENT IN THE IKKHARAS REGION

The public is hereby notified that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as required under the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The proposed prospecting and exploration on EPL-9159 is a listed activity in the EIA Regulations that cannot be undertaken without an ECC, which is subject to an EIA Study, approval of EIA Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

The Proponent of the proposed Activities: New Hope Mining CC

Project Nature and Location: Upon issuance of the ECC and subsequent EPL certificate (rights), Proponent will plan for and commence with the proposed prospecting and exploration of mineral commodities on the EPL. The EPL covers 10,941.847 hectares and located about 5km east of Aussenkehr Settlement in the Iikharas Region. It should be noted that this EIA Study is for exploration activities ONLY and not mining because mining cannot be done on an EPL. This means, a mining license would need to be applied for after exploration (if found to be economic feasible), of which another EIA Study would be conducted to apply for a mining license, i.e., to convert the EPL into a mining license.

Environmental Assessment Practitioner: Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

The public is therefore invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and submit comments and or receive further information on the EIA process. **The deadline for registration as I&APs and submission of comments, issues or concerns is Tuesday, 03 December 2024. A consultation meeting will be held in Aussenkehr towards the end of November 2024 and the details thereto will be communicated to all registered stakeholders and I&APs.**

Contact Person: Ms. Fredrika Shagama

Mobile No.: +264 (0) 81 749 9223 in writing, i.e. SMS or WhatsApp

Email: eias.public@serjaconsultants.com



A Call for Public Participation & Submission of Comments

Environmental Impact Assessment Study (EIA) for the Proposed Small-Scale Exploration and Mining Activities on Mining Claims No. 75340, 75341, 75342 & 75343 on Farm Hohewarte No. 76 (Portion A) in the Khomas Region

The public is hereby notified that an application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as required under the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The proposed activities are listed activities in the EIA Regulations that cannot be undertaken without an ECC, hence, the EIA Study for the ECC application.

Proponent: Tarah Hainana

Project Nature & Location: Upon issuance of the ECC and mineral rights, the Proponent will plan for and commence with small-scale mining activities on mining claims (MCs) No. 75340, 75342, and 75343. MC-75341 will be relinquished, therefore, no project activities will be done on it. The MCs are located on Portion A of Farm Hohewarte No. 76, about 45km southeast of Windhoek in the Khomas Region. The 4 MCs cover a combined surface area of 66.6678 hectares (Ha), i.e., 16.4795Ha, 17.4021Ha, 16.3504Ha and 16.4358Ha, respectively. Without MC-75341, the surface area is reduced to 50.1883Ha.

Environmental Consultant: Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

The public is therefore invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to submit comments and or receive further information on the EIA process. The requests for registration as I&APs and submission of comments or concerns should be done/submitted **by Friday, 29 November**

Contact Person: Ms. Fredrika Shagama

Mobile No.: +264 (0) 81 749 9223 (in writing, i.e. SMS or WhatsApp)

Email: eias.public@serjaconsultants.com



PUBLIC NOTICE - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESMENTS AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS

Notice is hereby given that an **Environmental Scoping and Impact Assesement (ESIA)** and a **Public Consultation Process (PCP)** are being conducted in terms of the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) and related EIA regulations for the activity listed below:

On completion of the aforesaid ESIA and PCP, a formal application will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner for consideration to grant an **Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC)** allowing performance of listed activities:

Listed Activity	Subdivision of the Remaining Extent of Portion 43 (a portion of Portion C) of the Farm Brakwater No. 48 into Portion 1 and the Remainder Portion.
	Rezoning of the Remaining Extent of Portion 43 (a portion of Portion C) of the Farm Brakwater No. 48 from 'Residential' with a density of 1:5 ha to 'Business' with a bulk of 1.0, and
	Construction, Operation of a Modern Charcoal Processing Facility and Auxiliary Services on the 'Business Rezoned' Portion.
Project Location	Brakwater, Windhoek, Khomas Region
Proponent	WM Trading Enterprises CC
Town Planners	Dunamis Consulting (Pty) Ltd
Intereted and Affected Parties (IAPs)	AIPs are hereby invited to register for the EIA and to submit written comments, objections and or concerns with respect to the proposed project. A Background Information Document (BID) is available upon request on registration.
Consultation Period	The duration to receive written submissions is from 28 October 2024 to 27 November 2024
EIA Consultant:	Cell: 081 127 3027 Fax: 088 645 026 Email: ekwao@iway.na

NOTICE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Envirofficient Consultants cc hereby gives notice to all potentially Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) that an application will be made to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No 7 of 2007) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (GN 30 of 6 February 2012) for the following:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Rezoning of Erf 445 Extension 1, Oranjemund from "Single residential" to "General Business" to operate a teleshop.

PROJECT LOCATION: Erf 445 Extension 1 Oranjemund, Karas Region

PROPOSENT: Namibia Motor and Hydraulics Works cc

ENVIRONEMNTAL PRACTIONER: Envirofficient Consultants cc

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proponent intends to transform a house on Erf 445, Extension 1, Orangemund into a teleshop. The proposed development require the rezoning of this Erf from the current zone of Single Residential to General Business.

REGISTRATION OF I&APs AND SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS:

In line with Namibia's Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and EIA regulations (GN 30 of 6 February 2012), Members of the public are hereby invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP). All I&APs are hereby invited to submit their comments, concerns or questions as well as obtain background information document (BID) in writing via Email: envirofficient@gmail.com or Cell: +26481 3077 370 on or before **Friday, 15 November 2024**.

Based on the interest expressed regarding the proposed project, it will be determined if a public meeting is to be held. Should a public meeting be held all registered I&APs will be informed accordingly.



CALL FOR REGISTARTION AS INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

KILEMBE MINES MINING CC'S ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR EXPLORATION ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL 9672), KUNENE REGION

1. PROJECT SITE AND DESCRIPTION

Kilembe Mines Mining cc (the Proponent), intends to apply to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for its proposed prospecting activities in respect to Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals and Precious Metals on EPL 6644 (area of 100,846.08 Ha), Kunene Region. The key component of the proposed activity entails geological mapping and survey and manual sample collection for laboratory analysis. Access to the sampling or survey sites will be by existing tracks and on foot where vehicle access is limited.

2. PUBLIC PARTIICPATIOON PROCESS

Kilembe Mines Mining cc therefore invite all Interested and Affected Party (I & AP) to register and receive the Project Background Information Document (PID) for their comments and input.

3. COMMENTS AND QUERIES

Interested and Affected Parties are herewith request to register by writing to us at the address below no later than **22 November 2024**:

Please register and direct all comments, queries to:
Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Email: kmineminin@gmail.com



Protecting Your Home: Essential Tips for Rainy Season Maintenance

MICHAEL H.
PROPERTY PRACTITIONER
AT HARCOURTS DUNN

With weather patterns becoming increasingly unpredictable, homeowners face new challenges in safeguarding their properties against damage from heavy rainfall. To help homeowners navigate the rainy season, Harcourts South Africa, a leading property management and real estate services provider, has released a comprehensive guide with key tips for protecting your property.

Richard Gray, CEO of Harcourts South Africa, highlights the importance of proactive maintenance to prevent weather-related damages. “As we approach the rainy season, it’s crucial for homeowners to take preventive steps to protect their properties. Our guide offers essential tips, from cleaning gutters to ensuring proper drainage,” Gray explained.

Key Tips for Homeowners:

1. Gutter Maintenance
Regularly clean and check your gutters and downspouts to prevent blockages that can lead to water damage. “Ensuring water can flow freely through your gutters and away from your property is crucial to avoid roof leaks and foundation damage,” Gray said.

2. Leak Prevention
Inspect your roof, windows, and doors for

potential leaks. Early detection and repair can prevent significant damage and costly repairs later. “A small leak can turn into a major problem if not addressed quickly. Routine inspections are key to preventing leaks,” Gray added.

3. Drainage Systems
Proper drainage is vital to prevent flooding and water damage. Ensure your land grading directs water away from the house, and that drainage systems are clear and functioning. “Good drainage is your home’s best defense against flooding. Improving land grading and keeping drainage paths clear can significantly reduce the risk of water damage,” Gray noted.

4. Professional Inspections
If you’re unsure about your home’s readiness for the rainy season, consult with professionals. “If you’re not confident in preparing your home for the rainy season, it’s best to seek help from a professional. A thorough inspection can identify potential issues and give you peace of mind,” Gray recommended. Harcourts South Africa is dedicated to providing homeowners with the knowledge and resources they need to protect their properties. The rainy season can pose significant challenges, but with proper preparation and maintenance, you can minimize the risk of damage to your home. -Harcourts Dunn

PUBLIC NOTICE: A CALL FOR PARTICIPATION & COMMENTS SUBMISSION

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) NO. 9159 NEAR AUSSENKEHR SETTLEMENT IN THE IKKHARAS REGION

The public is hereby notified that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner as required under the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The proposed prospecting and exploration on EPL-9159 is a listed activity in the EIA Regulations that cannot be undertaken without an ECC, which is subject to an EIA Study, approval of EIA Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

The Proponent of the proposed Activities: New Hope Mining CC

Project Nature and Location: Upon issuance of the ECC and subsequent EPL certificate (rights), Proponent will plan for and commence with the proposed prospecting and exploration of mineral commodities on the EPL. The EPL covers 10,941.847 hectares and located about 5km east of Aussenkehr Settlement in the Ikharas Region. It should be noted that this EIA Study is for exploration activities ONLY and not mining because mining cannot be done on an EPL. This means, a mining license would need to be applied for after exploration (if found to be economic feasible), of which another EIA Study would be conducted to apply for a mining license, i.e., to convert the EPL into a mining license.

Environmental Assessment Practitioner: Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

The public is therefore invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and submit comments and or receive further information on the EIA process. **The deadline for registration as I&APs and submission of comments, issues or concerns is Tuesday, 03 December 2024. A consultation meeting will be held in Aussenkehr towards the end of November 2024 and the details thereto will be communicated to all registered stakeholders and I&APs.**

Contact Person: Ms. Fredrika Shagama

Mobile No.: +264 (0) 81 749 9223 in writing, i.e. SMS or WhatsApp

Email: eias.public@serjaconsultants.com



PUBLIC NOTICE - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESMENTS AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS

Notice is hereby given that an **Environmental Scoping and Impact Assessment (ESIA)** and a **Public Consultation Process (PCP)** are being conducted in terms of the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007) and related EIA regulations for the activity listed below:

On completion of the aforesaid ESIA and PCP, a formal application will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner for consideration to grant an **Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC)** allowing performance of listed activities:

Listed Activity	Subdivision of the Remaining Extent of Portion 43 (a portion of Portion C) of the Farm Brakwater No. 48 into Portion 1 and the Remainder Portion.
	Rezoning of the Remaining Extent of Portion 43 (a portion of Portion C) of the Farm Brakwater No. 48 from 'Residential' with a density of 1:5 ha to 'Business' with a bulk of 1.0, and
	Construction, Operation of a Modern Charcoal Processing Facility and Auxiliary Services on the 'Business Rezoned' Portion.
Project Location	Brakwater, Windhoek, Khomas Region
Proponent	WM Trading Enterprises CC
Town Planners	Dunamis Consulting (Pty) Ltd
Intereted and Affected Parties (IAPs)	AIPs are hereby invited to register for the EIA and to submit written comments, objections and or concerns with respect to the proposed project. A Background Information Document (PID) is available upon request on registration.
Consultation Period	The duration to receive written submissions is from 28 October 2024 to 27 November 2024
EIA Consultant:	 Cell: 081 127 3027 Fax: 088 645 026 Email: ekwao@iway.na

CALL FOR REGISTARTION AS INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED MINERAL EXPLORATION AND QUARRYING OF DIMENSION STONE (MARBLE) ACTIVITIES ON MINING CLAIMS (MCs 75649 – 75653), ON FARM OKAKOARA No. 43/REM ERONGO REGION

1. PROJECT SITE AND DESCRIPTION

Marchelino M. M. Oxurub, intends to apply to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for its proposed prospecting and quarrying for Dimension Stone (Marble) activities on the proposed **Mining Claims 75649 - 75653** on Farm Okakoara No. 43/REM, Erongo Region in the Erongo Region. The key component of the proposed activity entails geological mapping / survey and Small-medium Scale Quarrying operation (extraction of marble blocks). Access to the sites will be by existing tracks and on foot where vehicle access is limited.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Enviro-Leap Consulting invites all Interested and Affected Party (I & AP) to register and receive Environmental Assessment (PID, Scoping and EMP) documents relating to the proposed project for their comments and input.

3. COMMENTS AND QUERIES

Interested and Affected Parties are herewith request to register by writing to us at the address below no later than **31 November 2024**.

Please register and direct all comments, queries to:
Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Email: eap.trigen@gmail.com



PUBLIC NOTICE – INVITATION TO A CONSULTATION MEETING



**Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental
Consultants CC**

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING AND EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) NO. 9159 LOCATED NEAR AUSSENKEHR SETTLEMENT IN THE IKKHARAS REGION, NAMIBIA: **AN APPLICATION FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC) FOR PROSPECTING AND EXPLORATION ONLY**

The public is hereby notified that an application for Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism (MEFT) as required under the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 and its 2012 EIA Regulations. The proposed activities (prospecting and exploration) on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL)-9159 is a listed activity that cannot be undertaken without an ECC from the MEFT. The application for the EPL was made to the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) on the 16th of November 2022, and have not been granted yet, pending an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) as shown on the Namibia Mines and Energy Cadastre Map Portal ("Pending ECC") - <https://maps.landfolio.com/Namibia/>. The ECC is subject to an EIA Study which is currently carried out. Once the EIA Study is approved, ECC issued and obtained from the MEFT, the ECC will be submitted to the MME for consideration of granting the EPL.

Project Proponent: New Hope Mining CC

Environmental Assessment Practitioner (Environmental Consultant): Serja Hydrogeo-Environmental Consultants CC

Type of proposed Activity and Location: Prospecting and Exploration for Mineral Commodities potentially occurring on the EPL, and these are Base & Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals, Precious Metals, and Precious Stones. The EPL is located about 5km east of Aussenkehr in the //Kharas Region and falls within the Aussenkehr Farm No. 147 and covering an area of 10,941.847 hectares (Ha) - please refer to the locality map below. It should be noted that this EIA Study is for exploration activities ONLY and not mining because mining cannot be done on an EPL. This means, a mining license would need to be applied for after exploration (if found to be economic feasible), of which another EIA Study would be conducted to apply for a mining license, i.e., to convert the EPL into a mining license.

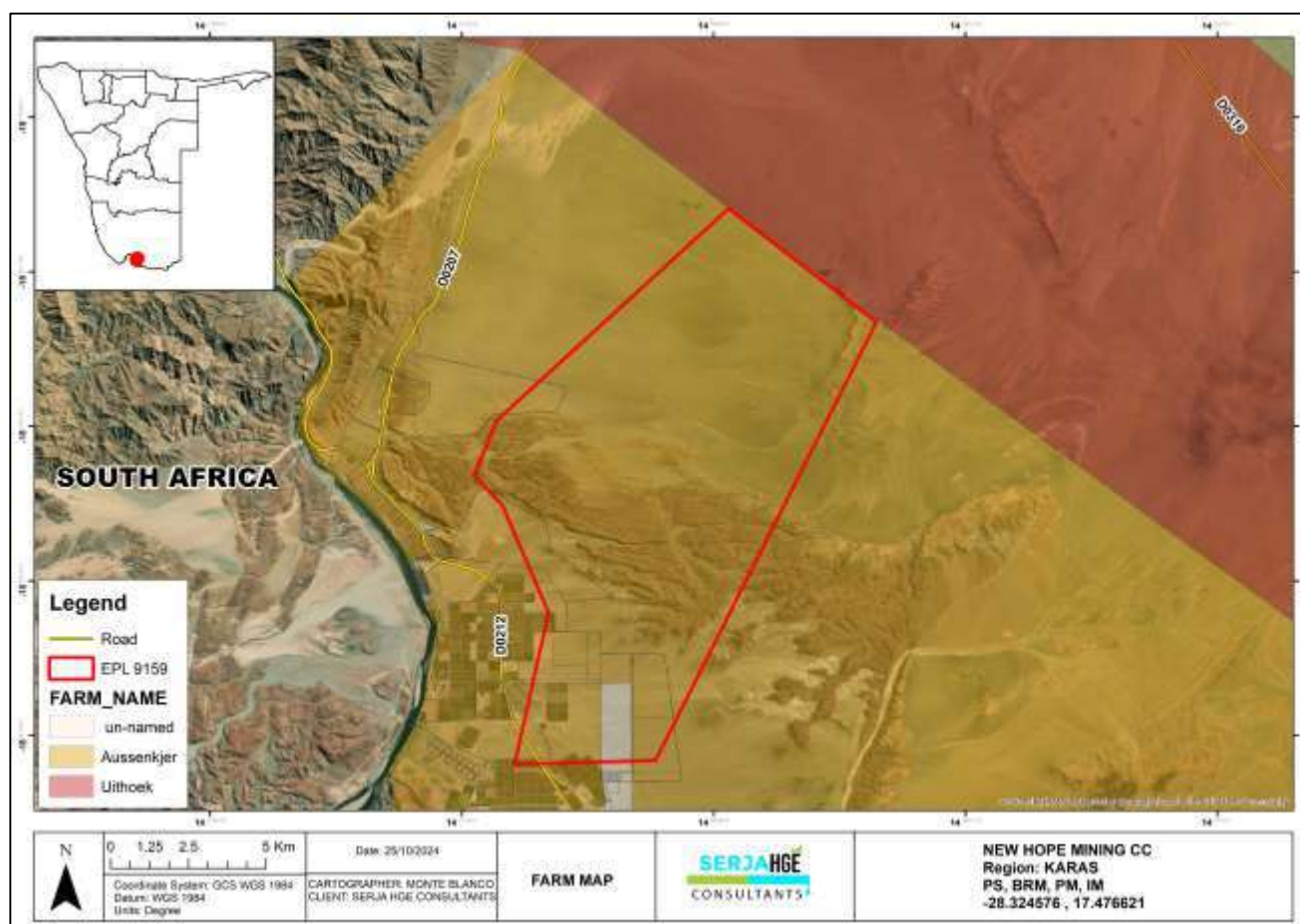
Members of the public are therefore invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to comment/raise concerns or receive further information on the EIA Study. The community consultation meeting is scheduled as follows:

- **Date & Time: Wednesday, 20 November 2024 @ 11h00 – 12h30**
- **Venue: Aussenkehr Child Care Community Center**

Registration or comments' **submission should be done in writing** to the contact details below before or on **Tuesday, 03 December 2024**.

Contact Person: Ms. Fredrika Shagama (Environmental Assessment Practitioner)

Mobile No.: +264 81 749 9223 (SMS or WhatsApp), **E-mail:** eias.public@serjaconsultants.com



Date: 20 November 2024

CONSULTATION MEETING MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) NO. 9159 NEAR AUSSENKEHR SETTLEMENT IN THE IKHARAS REGION, NAMIBIA - APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (ECC)

Date: Wednesday, 20 November 2024

Time: 11h00AM to 11h50AM

Venue: Aussenkehr Child Care Community Center

Project Proponent: New Hope Mining CC

Meeting Attendance

The attendance comprised one Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) from Serja HGE Consultants, one Archaeologist from TARO Archaeological & Heritage Consultants, and three interested and affected parties (I&APs) / landowners – The signed attendance register is attached hereto.



Figure 1: Brief Consultation meeting at Aussenkehr Settlement on the 20th of November 2024

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING

Mr. Stefanus Johannes (Environmental Assessment Practitioner / Consultant) from Serja HGE Consultants opened the meeting and thanked the meeting attendees for making time. Mr. Johannes then presented the meeting agenda, which is based on the requirements of the 2012 EIA Regulations: Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 on Public Consultation' Section 21 to 24.

Copies of the Background Information Document (BID) were distributed among the attendees for self-reading and follow throughout the meeting proceedings. The attendance register was circulated for the attendees to sign the meeting attendance as proof of consultation to be appended to the EIA Scoping Report.

2. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION

The Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) / Mr. Johannes presented the agenda of the meeting which included the following main points:

2.1 Explanation of what an EIA is, its Process, and the Public Role in the Process

Mr. Johannes explained that the EIA process is done in compliance with the EMA, as the proposed prospecting and exploration works are one of the listed activities that cannot be undertaken without applying and obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Environmental Commissioner, which is subject to an EIA process and EIA Scoping Report as well as an Environmental Management Plan (EMP). The EIA process requires that the consultation meeting is held with the affected and or interested community members where the project activities would be undertaken.

Furthermore, the EPL is in an application stage with the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME), which is pending an ECC for decision-making on whether to issue EPL rights or the certificate to New Hope Mining. Therefore, the ECC needs to be obtained first from the Environmental Commissioner at the Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Tourism (MEFT) and submitted to the Mining Commissioner at MME to consider the EPL application/rights approval and issuance.

2.2 Brief Description of the Project

A brief description of the planned project activities was presented as per the provided BID copy, and Mr. Johannes emphasized the importance of understanding that the conducted EIA Study and subsequent ECC are for prospecting and exploration only and not mining (an EPL is exclusively for exploration). This is because mining activities cannot be undertaken on an EPL as a mining license would need to be applied for after successful exploration. In other words, mining can only be considered once the exploration activities yield positive (economically feasible) results, which would mean the Proponent will need to convert the EPL into a mining license which would mean that the Proponent would need to apply for a mining license in the future, if exploration works yields positive results. The mining license would be also subject to another detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study with specialists and apply for an ECC for mining activities. Therefore, it is important to note that the scope of the current EIA is aimed at prospecting and exploration only and not mining.

2.3 Presentation of Potential Project Impacts

To ensure transparency and that the attendees understand both sides of the proposed project activities, Mr. Johannes also presented the potential pre-identified potential positive and negative environmental impacts anticipated from the proposed prospecting and exploration activities. This will establish the basis for mitigation measures to be developed for the proposed exploration activities on the EPL.

2.4 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)

The meeting attendees were provided with an opportunity to ask questions and/or raise concerns about the proposed project activities to be incorporated into the meeting minutes and used as the basis for the compilation of the EIA Scoping Report and Draft EMP. The key comments and issues made in the meeting were recorded and noted for consideration and inclusion in the EIA Report. These issues and comments are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Issues, suggestions, and comments received during the Consultation Meeting on the 20th of November 2024 in Aussenkehr Settlement

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Capacity	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
1.	Mr. Kevin Liddle	My main issue is tourism. We have a canyon which is a beautiful site for visitors and we also have a site where we do rock climbing and hiking. Therefore, once this mining activities occur in this area, it will negatively affect the area and loss of tourism.	Mr. Stefanus Johannes (Serja HGE Consultants): The concern is well noted. This environmentally and socially sensitive area on the EPL will be mapped out and indicated as such in the Scoping Report. It is important to note that this EIA Study is not for mining but exploration only which is short-term and does not guarantee mining in the future. EPLs are everywhere but not all end up as mining licenses which in that case, we would have mines all over Namibia from every EPL. Prospecting and exploration will also only be limited to soil and rock sampling in bags of 2kgs to 50kgs at selected areas within the EPL then followed up with trenching and then eventually drilling (if progressive results from soil/rock sampling and trenches encourages further activities such as drilling (with 1 drill rig) at selected site areas on the EPL). These activities are also done in phases over time and not at once.
2.		We have senior managing houses in the area and the proposed activities will also affect us in terms of noise and dust generated from these activities.	Mr. Stefanus Johannes: This is noted for incorporation into the Scoping Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP). Through this engagement, which includes your input, we can collaboratively come up with the best mitigation measure to minimize or eliminate these potential impacts. The issues and concerns/comments raised at this early stage of the project intentions they play a crucial role in forming a basis for the assessment to be addressed and incorporated into the EIA Scoping Report and appropriate management and mitigation measures to be developed in the EMP as part of the planning phase.
3.		I strongly advise that good and strategic measures should be taken to mitigate dust generation as this will affect our grapes when the dust falls on our grapes and will create extra costs to wash grapes for the market.	
4.	Mr. Roland Mushi (Archaeologist - TARO Consultants)	I would kindly request for me to visit these houses and take GPS coordinates to buffer them out as no-go zones for the proposed activities.	
5.	Ms. Carien Goosen	There is an area within the EPL that is scheduled to be a settlement area for thousands of people and it will facilitate all necessary infrastructures water pipelines, street lights, and roads. We therefore, kindly request to exclude this area from this project.	Mr. Stefanus Johannes: This is well noted and it will also be mapped out as soon as we get the settlement layout and indicated/marked as such in the Scoping Report.

No.	Name of the speaker/commenter & Capacity	Comment/Issue/Suggestion	Response provided by:
6.	Mr I. Lierich	We also have a concern about water usage and we urge that necessary permits be obtained before extracting water from the Orange River and avoid over-abstraction of water that will affect the water supply for our grape farms.	Mr. Stefanus Johannes: This is well noted. Yes, as per the Water Resources Management Act No. 11 of 2013 and its 2023 Water Regulations, water abstraction & use for commercial and industrial purposes. Water use is also an associated activity under the 2012 EIA Regulations (<i>Listed</i> Activity 8.1 & 8.3) whereby a permit to utilize water for such activities (industrial) will be applied for from the Department of Water Affairs at the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) before any water abstraction related to the proposed exploration activities. Moreover, permitting/licensing requirements are usually also provided in the EMP as a guide for proponents. Therefore, this will not be an exemption for New Hope Mining to obtain before commencing exploration activities when the time comes.

3. FINAL REMARKS AND CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

3.1 What is the way forward after this meeting?

Mr. Johannes thanked the community for attending the meeting. He informed them that their comments and recommendations will be included in the EIA Scoping Report and EMP that will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry (DEAF) of the MEFT for evaluation and consideration of the ECC. However, the drafts of these documents (including meeting minutes) will be first shared with registered I&APs for review and further comments before submission to the MEFT. In other words, once the review of the draft documents by I&APs is completed, the documents will be finalized and submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the DEAF/MEFT for evaluation and consideration for an ECC.

3.2 What happens after the ECC is approved by the Environmental Commissioner (if approved)?

Once the ECC is issued by the Environmental Commissioner (if approved), probably from March/April 2025, the ECC will be submitted to the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) to proceed with evaluating the application for the EPL rights/certificate. After the EPL certificate is issued by the MME, the Proponent would prepare for exploration by first making all necessary arrangements (contractual) such as obtaining land access/use from landowners and obtaining permits such water abstraction. Given the long process associated with EIA document review/evaluation at MEFT before the ECC is granted, these contractual land access agreements and authorizations (water abstraction permit) are anticipated to only start from mid-2025 once all documentation (ECC and EPL certificate) are in place.

The meeting adjourned at 11h50.

COMMUNITY/PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING ATTENDANCE REGISTER

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDY - THE PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENSE (EPL) NO. 9159 NEAR AUSSENKEHR SETTLEMENT IN THE IKKHARAS REGION, NAMIBIA

Project Proponent: NEW HOPE MINING CC

Date & Time: 20 NOVEMBER 2024 11h00

Venue: AUSSENKEHR CHILD CARE COMMUNITY CENTER

No.	Full Name & Surname	Name of Institution / Area	Contact Number	Email Address (if any)	Signature
1.	Kevin Liddle	Silverlands Vineyards Achill Island Investments	063297066	kevin@silverlands.com	
2	P. Kiehl	ORVI	081 3371101	norbert@diebich.name	
3	Carsten Großer	A.V.F.	0812474019	admin@aussekehrfoundation.com	
4.	SR JOHANNES	SERJA HGEC	0814000570	info@serjaconsultants.com	