



APP No: 250313005519

**Environmental Impact Assessment for the Proposed Exploration Activities of
Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals and Precious Metals On Exclusive
Prospecting Licenses 9636 between Tsumeb and Grootfontein, Otjozondjupa
Region**



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LOCATION	Between Tsumeb and Grootfontein, Oshikoto and Otjozondjupa Region
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I. ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATION

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs
ECC	Environmental Clearance Certificate
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMA	Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007)
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EPL	Exploration Prospecting Licenses
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HIA	Heritage Impact Assessment
HIV	Human Immune Virus
MEFT	Ministry of Environment Forestry and Tourism
OML	Otavi Mountain Range
RC	Reverse Circulation
RDC	Red-Dune Consulting

II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

(a) Proponent

Huab Energy (Pty) Ltd holds Exploration Prospecting License (EPL) 9636, covering an area of 719.2168 hectares. The license encompasses the farms Starnberg, Cleveland, Auritsab, and Abenab, located in the Grootfontein area of the Otjozondjupa Region. The company intends to carry out exploration activities targeting base and rare metals, industrial minerals, and precious metals within the EPL 9636 area.

(b) Affected Farms

The EPL measures 719.2168 hectares (ha) and covers farms; Starnberg, Cleveland, Auritsab and Abenab.

(c) Method of exploration

The exploration program will employ non-invasive techniques including geological field mapping and geophysical ground surveys to identify target zones for geochemical soil sampling. Near-surface targets will be investigated through shallow pitting and trenching, while deeper targets will be sampled using Reverse Circulation (RC) drilling.

The exploration area is located within operational commercial farms near Grootfontein, where existing infrastructure such as brick houses, access roads, and water resources are available. Accommodation will be arranged either in Grootfontein town or farmhouses through direct agreements with landowners, eliminating the need for temporary campsites and associated vegetation clearance or sanitation management.

(d) Environmental Protection

Environmental protection measures form a core component of the environmental management plan, with survey lines deliberately routed to

preserve mature trees and all drill holes fully backfilled post-sampling. Any exceptions for retaining drill holes as water boreholes will require explicit landowner consent. Energy requirements will be met through sustainable solutions, including gas for cooking, solar-powered lighting, and strictly limited generator use for heavy-duty tasks such as welding and drilling operations.

Drawing on Red-Dune's local experience, farmers have historically raised concerns about past exploration activities, alleging land damage and insufficient rehabilitation efforts. This underscores the need for the proponent to prioritize site rehabilitation and ensure physical disturbances are responsibly managed.

(e) Employees and public Health and Safety

Health and safety protocols have been designed to address operational risks through comprehensive controls. Dust suppression systems will mitigate respiratory hazards during drilling activities, while certified operators and regular equipment maintenance will ensure safe handling of machinery. Field teams will be equipped with insect repellent provisions and sanitation measures to minimize vector-borne disease risks, supported by onsite first aid readiness and access to medical facilities in Grootfontein for emergency response.

(f) Stakeholder Consultations

Public consultation was conducted in accordance with EIA regulations, including the creation of a farm owners database and a WhatsApp group to share the background information document, proposed meeting dates, and submission platforms for comments. While the WhatsApp group remained active, only two out of four farm owners attended the public meeting held at Farm Abenab in the Grootfontein area.

(g) Study limitation and Recommendations

A limitation of this study was the inability to conduct on-site assessments for heritage and archaeology. This was due to the fact that, exploration targets has not been generated to conduct a more focused foot survey. A desktop study done on the heritage and archaeology indicated that the affected farms are not known to have registered heritage and archaeological material. However the farm owners indicated, there could be archaeological material buried beneath underground since the area was historically inhabited. Consequently, a chance find was developed to guide the exploration activities.

This study was conducted with high degree of confidence and no impacts were identified that would necessitate a precautionary approach, neither to avoid the project to commence. It is therefore recommended to the approving authority to issue an Environmental Clearance Certificate.

Furthermore, should the exploration yield into a feasibility for a full mining operation, it is recommended that a comprehensive study with various specialist studies such as Hydrogeology, Ecology, Cultural, Heritage and Archaeology should be conducted.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Proponent

Huab Energy (Pty) Ltd holds Exploration Prospecting License (EPL) 9636, located in the Grootfontein area of the Otjozondjupa Region. The company intends to conduct exploration activities targeting base and rare metals, industrial minerals, and precious metals within the boundaries of EPL 9636.

1.2 Regulatory requirements

The protection of the environment in Namibia is firmly established under Article 95(i) of the Namibian Constitution, which mandates the State to actively promote and maintain the welfare of the people by adopting policies aimed at maintaining ecosystems, essential ecological processes, and biological diversity, as well as utilizing living natural resources on a sustainable basis for the benefit of all Namibians, both present and future. This constitutional commitment is further reinforced by the Environmental Management Act of 2007 (Act No. 7 of 2007), which provides a comprehensive framework for sustainable environmental management and the use of natural resources.

In accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations published in the Government Gazette of 6 February 2012 (No. 4878) under the Environmental Management Act, 2007, the proposed exploration activity is classified as a listed activity. As a result, it may not be undertaken without obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC), as outlined in Table 1. This regulatory requirement ensures that all exploration activities are conducted in a manner that minimizes environmental impact and aligns with Namibia's commitment to sustainable development.

Table 1. Identified listed activities concerning the proposed project

Activity	Applicability
3.1 The construction of facilities for any process or activities which requires a license, right or other form of authorization, and the renewal of a license, right or other form of authorization, in terms of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining Act), 1992.	The projects will include the prospecting of Mineral, and the proponent obtained an EPL
3.2 Other forms of mining or extraction of any natural resources whether regulated by law or not.	Exploration activities will involve, drilling and digging to extract natural resource.
3.3 Resource extraction, manipulation, conservation and related activities.	The project will extract resource sample (soil samples) for manipulations / analysis.

In compliance with the statutory requirements outlined in the Environmental Management Act, 2007, and the Environmental Impact Assessment Huab Energy has appointed Red-Dune Consulting CC (RDC) to undertake an environmental impact assessment for the proposed exploration activities. This appointment aligns with the legal mandate that requires an EIA to be conducted before such activities can proceed.

1.3 The Need and Desirability of the Project

Mining remains the cornerstone of economic development across Africa, particularly for resource-rich nations like Namibia where the sector contributed 14.4% to GDP in 2023 (World Bank, 2023). Mineral exploration forms the critical foundation for this economic engine, as demonstrated by Namibia's recent uranium mining successes driven by global demand for nuclear energy (Namibian Ministry of Mines, 2023).

The proposed exploration initiative directly addresses Namibia's strategic priorities by:

- Enabling mineral discovery: Systematic geological mapping and targeted drilling aim to identify economically viable deposits, mirroring operational models behind Namibia's uranium production (International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], 2022).
- Driving economic multipliers: The mining sector's fiscal contributions and local procurement demonstrate how exploration projects evolve into major economic drivers (Chamber of Mines of Namibia, 2023).
- Advancing employment creation: With mining employment growing 12.6% in 2023, successful exploration lays the groundwork for skilled job opportunities (Namibia Statistics Agency, 2023).

This project aligns with Namibia's dual objectives of mineral-led development and economic diversification (Government of Namibia, 2020). The exploration methodology's low environmental footprint complements the nation's sustainable mining framework, while its focus on commercial farmlands leverages existing infrastructure to minimize ecological disruption (Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia, 2021).

1.4 Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference (TORs) for this Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is in accordance with the EMA and its EIA Regulation Section 9 (a-b). It considers other relevant local, national and international laws. These guidelines are aimed to focus on issues of greater environmental concerns and to develop mitigation measures for effective environmental management. Eventually, this EIA is aimed at obtaining the ECC for the project and to ensure environmental sustainability. The TORs of this project includes, but not limited to the following;

- Provide a comprehensive description of the proposed Project;
- Identify relevant legislation and guidelines for the project;

- Identify potential environmental (physical, biological and social) conditions of the project location and conduct risk assessment;
- Inform Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and relevant authorities about the proposed project to enable their participation and contribution;
- Develop an Environmental Management (EMP) that would be a legal guideline for the environmental protection by the project

1.5 Scope of EIA

The scope of this project is guided by Namibia's EIA Regulations (2012), following the process outlined in Figure 1. Its primary objectives include identifying potential environmental and social impacts, assessing their significance, and developing optimal, practical mitigation measures to minimize adverse effects.

Red-Dune Consulting (RD) asserts that the developed Environmental Management Plan (EMP) outlines practical mitigation measures designed to ensure environmental sustainability through structured compliance, monitoring, and adaptive management. RD further confirms that the assessment provides comprehensive, evidence-based data, enabling the Environmental Commissioner (EC) to make an informed decision regarding the issuance of an ECC.

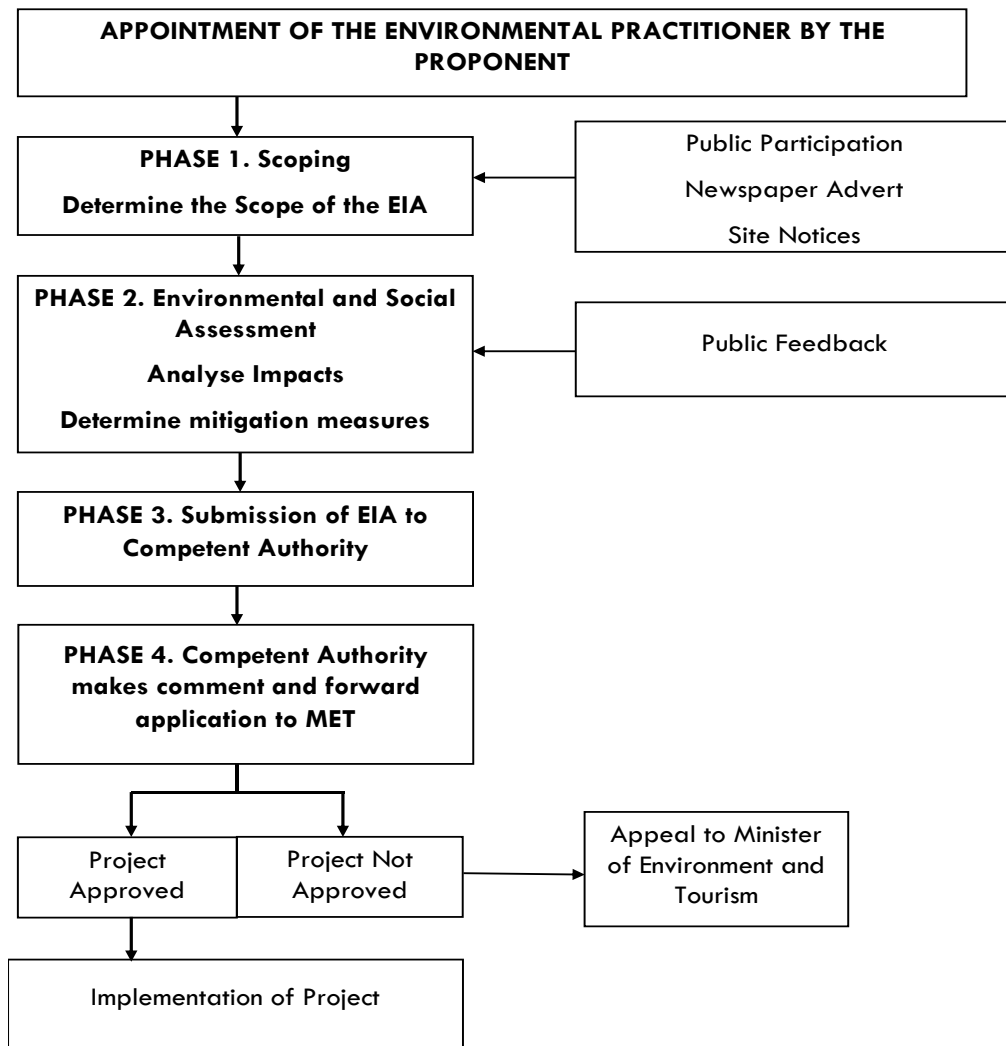


Figure 1.The EIA process in Namibia

2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Location

The EPL is located between Tsumeb and Grootfontein in Oshikoto and Otjozondjupa Region area (-19.2222°S, 17.83639°E) (Figure 2). It measures 719.2168 hectares (ha) and covers farms; Starnberg, Cleveland, Auritsab and Abenab.

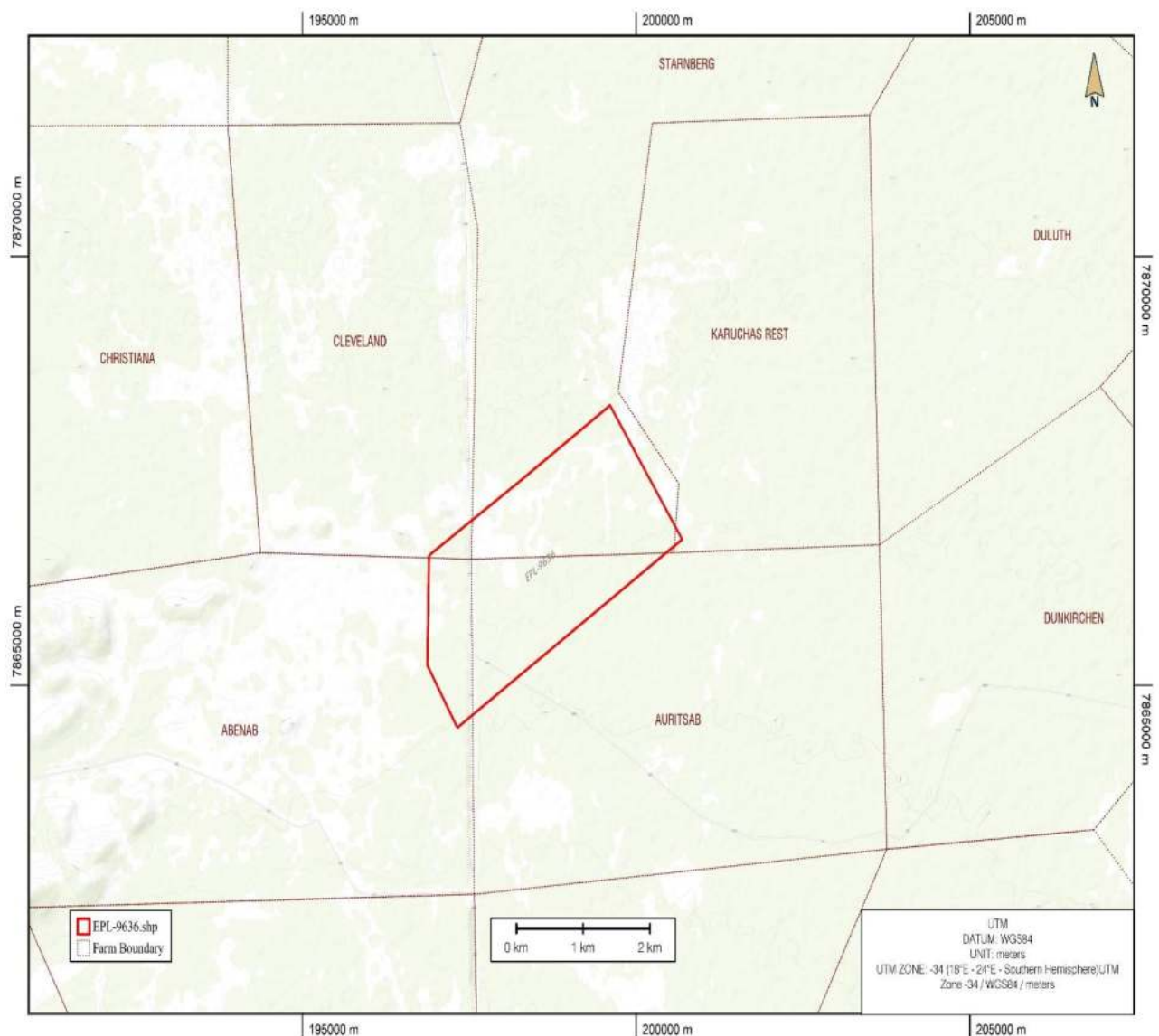


Figure 2. EPL 9636

2.2 Site Descriptions

The Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) encompasses four commercial farms currently engaged in livestock and crop production. This area is adjacent to the historic Abenab Mine (1921–1958), recognized as the world's largest vanadate ore deposit during its operational period. The mineralisation, hosted within the Auros Formation limestones of the uppermost Abenab Subgroup, forms part of a globally significant base metal province.

The Abenab main deposit originally contained 1.85 million tonnes at 1.03% V_2O_5 , with a cylindrical orebody extending to depths exceeding 425 metres. Historical operations by the Southwest Africa Company Ltd ceased at 215 metres due to technical-economic challenges, including rising water inflows and declining ore grades. The mine's legacy includes substantial infrastructure impacts, particularly extensive deforestation for fuelwood during its operational peak, highlighting the critical need for modern environmental safeguards in current exploration practices.

2.3 Proposed Exploration activities

The proposed exploration will adopt the following various prospecting methods:

- Reconnaissance field mapping
- Geochemical soil sampling and target generation
- Geophysical ground surveys (magnetics, electromagnetics, gravity)
- Diamond/RC Drilling of geophysical target

2.3.1 Phase 1. Non-Invasive Exploration

The initial phase of mineral prospecting and exploration involves non-invasive work. These activities do not cause physical damage to the environment. These activities include geological studies and field mapping where analysis of historical data, geological maps and their interpretations take place. Analysis

of these data would generate geophysical targets where evasive exploration would take place. The non-invasive exploration activities are explained below

Geological studies and field mapping, during this stage, various geological data for the area will be collected from different sources to analyse and study available information of the area. Information are derived from aerial photo. These geological photos are studied to generate target point where geochemical soil sampling are to be taken. This stage is non-invasive and does not have any significant impact on the environment. Existing access road would be used, and hand tools would mainly be used for samples collections.

Soil surveys Soil survey is the process used to classify soil types and other soil properties in target area which is used for geo-encoding. The collection of information of the substrata, by air or ground, through sensors such as radar, magnetic and electromagnetic to detect any mineralization in the area. This is a non-evasive process that does not have impact on the environment. Soil sampling traverses to be conducted on foot within the farming areas shall be collected from soil sampling pits, which would be around 30x30x30cm (hand-held shovel width and depth) and are to be backfilled immediately after sampling.

Geophysical surveys, Geophysical ground surveys uses various method to gather geological information such as magnetic and electromagnetics. Magnetic surveying measure local magnetic field characteristic of the generated targets from geological mapping. This activity is used to detect minerals that respond to magnetic field. It provides information of a sub-surface area without physically opening the ground and is able to detect metal ore in the ground. The activity can be done from air and on ground. On ground, a Magnetometer is carried by a person on the surveyed areas to collect samples. While in aerial magnetic data was

collected using a helicopter / fixed wing airplane where the Magnetometer is mounted especially on difficult terrain and on large terrains. This activity does not pose significant impact to the environment.

2.3.2 Phase 2. Evasive Exploration

The second phase of exploration includes sampling for geochemical samples from target sites. During this phase collection of geochemical samples from holes of less than 1m and drilling shall take place. The target sites may be inaccessible with existing roads, hence new access roads shall be established. Normally, farm roads are meant for light vehicles, exploration vehicles have the potential to damage the farm access roads. Hence proper road maintenance must be implemented to ensure that the roads are left in good state. Generally, many farms are encroached by bushes of *Acacia Mellifera*, and patch distribution of *Acacia Erioloba* which is a protected species. If at all necessary is required to clear some trees / shrubs to access target sites, consent for clearing must be obtained from farm owners and protected tree species must be avoided.

Drilling is done at the final stage of exploration to evaluate the prospect of minerals and determine the feasibility of mining. Drill rods are used to collect geological samples from the earth's subsurface. The drill targets will be generated from the mapping and sampling programmes. The target grid patterns may range from 200X50m grid spacing to grids of 100m by 50m and in some instances on a 50m by 20m grid spacing during detailed sampling. Exploration activities mainly use two types of drilling; Reverse Circulation (RC) and Diamond Core drilling. Reverse circulation gained prominence due to its effectiveness and conservative when it comes to water use.

Reverse Circulation drilling often referred to as 'RC' drilling uses rods (shafts) with inner and outer tubes with drill bit attached to an air-filled interchanging piston known as a hammer. The hammer produces drill

cuttings that are returned to the surface inside the rods. RC drill are carried on drill rigs, which are mostly powerful heavy truck. RC drilling is the most preferred method because it is less costly and produces liable materials that are free from contamination. In an arid place like Namibia, RC Drilling would be advantageous because it does not require water for rock drilling unlike Diamond core drilling that requires water for lubrication. Once the proposed exploration has been concluded, the impacted sites must be rehabilitated as provided for by the Environmental Management Plan.

2.4 Supporting Infrastructure

2.4.1 Accommodation

Geological staff and supporting crew will be accommodated at farms to be identified and agreement to be sought with the farm owners, while drilling crews may camp at the drill site or commute from a town nearby, depending on the contracting company. A base camp for accommodation will be set up in agreement with farm owner. A garbage dump and pit toilet may be established. No hazardous waste shall be dumped in a garbage dump. An impermeable special skip container will be on site for collecting hazardous waste.

At the end of exploration, toilet pits and garbage dump must be dump filled before leaving the site. Alternatively, the use of the mobile toilets is recommended where waste should be disposed at an approved municipal area. To ensure environmental protection from oil, fuel, and lubricants, servicing of vehicles and equipment must take place at an agreed designated area. In event where the farm owner does not allow servicing of the vehicles or machineries, such activities must take place at designated area.

2.4.2 Access roads

The project area is accessible via B8, the main road between Otavi and Grootfontein and via C42 road between Grootfontein and Tsumeb. The project should make use of farm access roads. It is highly recommended that these access roads should be rehabilitated in accordance with the EMP and to the farm's owners' satisfaction. In some instances where proposed drill sites do not have access road, only then would be a need to clear some shrub but no mature trees shall be cut down. This must be communicated to the farm owner, and with due consideration of the recommendation of the vegetation study where protected tree species may not be cleared for provision of access roads.

2.4.3 Water Resources

Water may be sourced from the farm's existing borehole and transported to the drill site with a water truck. The amount of water to be used is negligible as it would only be used for cleaning of equipment and for household purposes. Grootfontein area is rich in water resource, ground water in the area is found at 60m and drilling is expected to intersect groundwater. Drilling of boreholes for water abstraction requires a permit from Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (MAWF). In an event where the farm owner would want a drill site to become a water borehole, all necessary permits should be obtained accompanied by the water quality report to monitor possible contamination.

2.4.4 Electricity

Exploration activities require minimal energy consumption, primarily for cooking and lighting. The drill rig operates using fuel from its mounted truck. Energy sources will be allocated for specific purposes: gas will be used for cooking and heating, a silent generator will provide power for lighting and

industrial tasks such as minor welding, and existing solar panels and power lines from previous mining operations may be utilized for lighting where available.

2.4.5 Ablution facility

Farmhouses where workers may be accommodated are equipped with ablution facilities. A portable toilet will be used on-site.

2.4.6 Exploration equipment

Exploration Programme first year	List of Equipment
Geology, mapping, soil sampling	x2 Light vehicles (4x4)

Exploration Programme subsequent years	List of Equipment
Geological mapping, soil sampling	Light Vehicles (4x4)
Exploration drilling	Track/truck mounted rig (DD/RC), Rod carrier (Truck), x4 Light Vehicles (4x4), Compressor mounted truck (RC), Water truck (DD)
Geophysical Surveys	Light vehicles, Aircraft, Drone

2.4.6.1 Vehicles

Pickup vehicles will be utilized during exploration activities (Figure 3). All trenching and soil sampling excavations will be conducted manually (Figure 4). Water will be transported using water trucks. Night driving, reckless driving, and speeding are strictly prohibited. Bulldozer use for access road construction will require prior agreement with farm owners.



Figure 3. Exploration vehicles (For illustration purposes)



Figure 4. An illustration of a hand dug trench (For illustration purposes)

2.4.6.2 Drilling

A 4X4 Lorries and skid mounted drill rig may be used to carry the drill on target sites (figure 5).



Figure 5. A truck mounted RC drill rig and a skid mounted drill rig (illustration only)

2.4.6.3 Airborne Geophysical survey

Arial photo will be taken with a fixed wing Cessna plane (Figure 6).



Figure 6. An illustration of a fixed wing Cessna

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Namibia is the most arid country in Sub-Saharan Africa. It experiences high climatic variability, characterized by persistent droughts and unpredictable, low, and highly variable rainfall patterns, which contribute to water scarcity. Annual rainfall is highly sporadic, ranging from 50 mm to 600 mm, increasing from the western part of the country to the east. Located in the eastern part of Namibia, the Otjozondjupa Region receives some of the highest rainfall in the country.

3.1 Environmental parameters

A summary of the key environmental parameters relevant to the study area is presented in Table 2. This includes data on climate patterns, rainfall distribution, temperature ranges, land use, socio-economic, and water availability. These parameters provide an overview of the environmental conditions that influence both ecological processes and human activities in the region.

Table 2. The Environmental setting of Tsumeb and Grootfontein, areas (Atlas of Namibia)

No	Parameters	Description
1.	Elevation above sea level	1200-1400m
2.	Climatic Condition; ○ Min Average Temperature ○ Max Average Temperature ○ Average Rainfall ○ Wind Direction	6-8°C 32-34°C 500-550 - North-east
3.	Land use	The EPL covers commercial farms which are mainly involved with cattle and crop farming as well as small livestock. There are various

		similar exploration activities in the area.
4.	Nearest Water body	The areas receive some of the best rainfall in the country, hence there is plenty of ground water, with average water table at 60m.
5.	Nearest human settlement	Apart from farm workers, the nearest human settlement is at Tsumeb and Grootfontein.
6.	Nearest Bitumen road	The site is accessed via C42, the main road between Grootfontein - Tsumeb
7.	Archaeological / Heritage Site	There was no heritage resource discovered during the study. A chance find was developed to ensure adequate mitigation
8.	Socio-Economic conditions	Commercial farmers and their workers, refer to table 4 for the demography of Otjozondjupa region
9.	Factories / Industries in 5km radius	None.

3.2 Topography and Drainage

The topography of the Tsumeb–Grootfontein area is characterized by an undulating landscape consisting of mountains, hills, and interspersed flat plains. This varied terrain plays a significant role in shaping local hydrology and land use patterns. According to a report on the demarcation of water basins in Namibia, the Grootfontein area is primarily defined by the drainage of both

surface and groundwater from the Otavi Mountain Land in the south, flowing northward toward the Etosha Pan. The eastern boundary of the basin follows a natural divide, separating the surface and groundwater flows between the Etosha and Okavango basins.

3.3 Geology and Hydrology

Otavi, Grootfontein and Tsumeb areas fall under what is called the Otavi Mountain Land (OML). The OML are Dolomites and Limestones which were folded and faulted during the Damara Orogen. The Damara Orogen forms a fold belt which extend across northern Namibia. According to the theory of plate tectonics, *"the crust, which represents the uppermost layer of the Earth's inner structure, consists of thick lithospheric plates "swimming" on the liquid mantle. If two plates - together with the continents riding on them - move away from each other, molten rock from the interior erupts onto the surface, while sediments from the erosion of continents accumulate in the resulting rift"*.

The interaction between sediments, magma and hydrothermal solution yielded in the development of a mineralised zone during the orogenic processes. This mineralization yielded in the deposit of rich base metal of the Otavi Mountain such as Copper, Zinc and Lead (Namibia Geological Survey 1998).



Figure 7. Locality map showing the Otavi Mountain Land (J.E. Misiewicz 1988)

The areas of Otavi, Kombat and Grootfontein receive good rainfall (550-600mm) with the good recharge capability of the subsurface water. The hydrology is characterized by Grootfontein Karst Aquifers (GKA). The GKA comprise of the famous Kombat, Brandwag and the Abenab aquifers. The area is believed to have more of Ground Water Rivers and aquifers than surface water body. The water table ranges from 60m which makes groundwater to be the main source of water supply used for crop irrigation and cattle farming.

3.4 Ecology (Flora and Fauna)

3.4.1 Description of the Biophysical Environment

The impact that mineral exploration and related activities may have on the environment includes both bio-physical and social elements. This section focuses on the biophysical i.e. ecological aspects of the project area. An Ecological Impact Assessment was undertaken to assess the potential impacts. The study was informed by a comprehensive literature review followed by a site visit. The findings and recommendations are summarised below.

The Exclusive Prospecting Licence, EPL 9636 fall within Tsumeb and Grootfontein District in north-central Namibia. The general vegetation type of the area could be described as Karstveld which is dominated by Acacia trees and shrub savannah which is characterized by a scattered distribution of tall trees and low shrubs. The study area is vast and many habitats are expected to occur in the respective landscapes.

The soil is sandy, ranging in colour from pale brown and grey with broken calcrete and limestone pieces in it, to fine red sand. The stunt vegetation on hills suggest that the soil is not deep which can be attributed to the presence of calcrete or shale layer that inhibits root establishment.

The EPL spread over four farms with various farming activities as the land-use. The land-use on the foothills is limited to grazing while the plains are used for mixed use including cultivation of crops.

3.4.2 Flora

A site visit to Farm Abenab was conducted on 4 April 2025 during the rainy season to document plant diversity and habitat characteristics. The area exhibited high floristic diversity, attributed to its varied landscapes (e.g., red dunes, ephemeral drainage lines), with photographic evidence of dominant species provided in the subsequent table. Red-Dune Consulting undertook the environmental impact assessment during this period to capture peak vegetation visibility, ensuring accurate ecological baselines.



Ficus burkei (Trangler fig)

Protection status: Protected in Namibia



Ficus burkei fruits



Acacia tortilis (Umbrella thorn)

No protection status



Tarchonanthus camphoratus (Camphor bush)

No protection status



Acacia hereroensis (Mountain-thorn)

No protection status



Acacia hereroensis branch



Ziziphus mucronata shrub (Buffalo thorn)

Protection status: Protected in Namibia



Ziziphus mucronata branch



Grewia flava (velvet raisin bush)

No protection status



Grewia flava fruits



Kirkia acuminata (Mountain kirkia) No protection status

 <i>Acacia karroo</i> (sweet-thorn) No protection status	 <i>Acacia karroo</i> branch
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Figure 8: General Vegetation

3.4.3 Fauna

The study area covers active farming land used for livestock rearing. During the site visit, wildlife observations included jackals, Steenbok (*Raphicerus campestris*), and a variety of birds, reptiles, and insects in the area.



Figure 9. Goats observed at farm Abenab

3.4.4 Ecological Impact Assessment

The proposed exploration activities in the study area are not expected to involve vegetation removal or habitat destruction. However, it remains critical to establish safeguards to prevent unintentional environmental disturbances.

Table 3. Vegetation list and their conservation status

Scientific Name	English Name	Conservation Status
<i>Sclerocarya birrea</i>	Marula	Protected
<i>Acacia mellifera</i>	Black-thorn acacia	-
<i>Dichrostachys cinerea</i>	Sickle-bush	-
<i>Combretum imberbe</i>	Leadwood	Protected
<i>Ziziphus mucronata</i>	Buffalo-thorn	Protected
<i>Acacia tortilis</i> ,	Umbrella-thorn	-
<i>Grewia villosa</i>	Mallow raisin	-
<i>Acacia luderitzii</i>	Kalahari acacia	-
<i>Commiphora africana</i>	Tall common corkwood	-
<i>Croton grattismus</i>	Lavender croton	-
<i>Ficus cordata</i>	Namaqua rock fig	Protected
<i>Combretum apiculatum</i>	Kudu-bush	-
<i>Grewia flava</i>	Velvet raisin	-
<i>Grewia flavescens</i>	Sandpaper raisin	-
<i>Berchemia discolor</i>	Bird-plum	Protected
<i>Grewia bicolor</i>	Omundjembere	-
<i>Terminalia prunoides</i>	Purple-pod terminalia/ blutfruchtbaum	-

Impact on vegetation: The proponent indicated that no mature tree would be cut down during exploration phase. However, should the exploration yield feasible data for mining operation, it shall be inevitable for some tree to be affected. A comprehensive vegetation study should be conducted by then.

3.5 Demography

Grootfontein, part of the Otjozondjupa Region (population 220,811 in 2023), benefits economically from mining and agriculture. While the 2023 census does not specify regional unemployment rates, historical data from Grootfontein Constituency (unemployment: 19.3% in 2011) and national trends suggest employment opportunities from sectors like B2Gold's Otjikoto Mine and commercial farming. These industries position mining and agriculture as critical pillars for local and national economic growth

Table 4. Population Demography for Otjozondjupa Region (Namibia Population and Census Report of 2023).

	2011	2023		2011	2023
Population Size			Education Attainment, %		
Total	143 903	220 811	Primary Education	40.4	46.5
Males	73 902	113 280	Secondary Education	18.9	22.7
Females	70 001	107 531	Tertiary Education	4.1	10.5
Annual growth rate (%)	0.6	3.6	Fertility		
			Average number of children per woman	4.0	4.1
Population in Urban/Rural areas, %			Disability, %		
Urban	53.8	62.9	Prevalence	-	3.9
Rural	46.2	37.1	Private households		
Sex ratio: Males per 100 females	106	105	Number	33 192	58 237
Population density			Average size	4.2	3.6
People per sq. km.	1.4	2.1	Household headship		
Age composition, %			Female-headed	36.6	42.6
Under 5 years	14.2	13.9	Child-Headed	1.1	0.8
5 – 14 years	22.0	22.0	Orphan-headed	0.3	0.2
15 – 34 years	35.7	34.9	Elderly-headed	14.8	13.8
35 – 59 years	22.4	23.5	Housing conditions, %		
60+ years	5.8	5.7	Households with		
Marital status: 15+ years, %			Safe water for drinking	94.6	93.8
Never married	56.8	70.1	No toilet facility	38.9	37.2
Married with certificate	18.4	14.1	No Toilet facility in urban	22.4	25.7
Married traditionally	9.2	6.4	Electricity for lighting	56.0	57.9
Consensual union	11.4	5.5	Wood/charcoal for cooking	56.0	51.4
Divorced/Separated	1.7	1.4	Household living		
Widowed	2.4	1.9	Improved housing units (shacks)	17.7	40.1
Citizenship, %			Sanitation, %		
Namibian	94.4	93.9	Urban Household access to flush toilet	63.3	60.6
Non-Namibian	5.6	5.6	Rural Household access to flush toilet	28.4	36.5
			Urban Household access to garbage collection	69.4	55.4
20-24 years who were married			Rural household access to Garbage collection	10.0	10.9
Before age 15	-	0.7	Main source of income, %		
Before age 18	-	3.2	Household main income		
Birth Registration			Wages & Salaries	59.6	57.8
% of children under 5 years		74.3	Old age Pension	9.2	10.4
ICT, % of the population 3yrs and above			Business, non-farming	10.1	7.5
Access to internet	8.3	29.5	Farming	10.1	4.7
Own Cellphone	54.9	52.2			
Literacy rate, 15+ years, %	83.0	83.0			
ECD, % of 0-5 years attending	16	15.8			
Education, 15+ years, %					
Never attended school	20.0	14.9			
Currently at school	11.0	15.1			
Left school	66.0	68.2			

3.6 Heritage and Archaeology

3.6.1 Introduction

According to UNESCO, World Heritage refers to sites of outstanding universal value that are protected for future generations. These include both natural and cultural landmarks, such as the Pyramids of Egypt, the Great Barrier Reef, and the Taj Mahal, among others listed on the World Heritage List.

"Archaeology is the study of human cultures through the analysis of their historical traces and their context which aims at explaining the origin and development of civilizations, as well as the understanding of culture and history. Underwater archaeology is a sub-discipline, which studies submerged sites, artifacts, human remains and landscapes".

The World Heritage Convention, established in 1972, aims to protect the World's Cultural and Natural Heritage. Namibia is a signatory to this convention. Through the National Heritage Council Act 27 of 2004, the Namibian government has committed to safeguarding cultural and heritage sites. The Act mandates the protection and conservation of places and objects of heritage significance, their registration, the establishment of a National Heritage Register, and related administrative measures.

3.6.2 Heritage and archaeology in Namibia

Evidence of the presence of human and their ancestors in Namibia is said to be beyond written record. Evidence of their existence is provided by graves, dwelling places, stone tools and a wealth of rock art which dates back to the Southern African Middle Stone Age¹. These findings provide critical insight into the long-standing human occupation and cultural development within the region.

¹ John Kinahan 2011

Considering this historical context and the significance of preserving heritage and a the relatively large extent of the (EPL) area, a desktop study was undertaken as an initial step to assess and establish a baseline understanding of existing heritage and archaeological resources within the study area.

The results of this preliminary investigation indicated that there are no known heritage resources located within the EPL boundaries. Notable heritage sites such as the Hoba Meteorite and the Berg Aukas Mountains are situated approximately 40 to 50 kilometers outside the EPL area.

3.6.2.1 *Hoba Meteorite*

Hoba Meteorite located about 20km west of Grootfontein and 40km south east of the EPL thus not in close proximity. The Meteorite landed about 80,000 years ago and is believed to be the biggest meteorite ever found on earth weighing 50 tonnes. It is estimated to be between 200 and 400 million years old and is declared a word heritage site.

3.6.2.2 *Otaviapithecus namibiensis*

Narrating their story on human history in Namibia, Glenn C. Conroy and fellow archaeologist indicated that, "the afternoon of June 4, 1991, we were searching Namibia's mountains for a rarer kind of stone, fossilized evidence of human evolution in southern Africa. What we found instead was the rarest "diamond" of all, one that no one had ever seen before on the African continent south of equatorial East Africa. What we found was incontrovertible evidence that prehuman "apes" were living in southern Africa millions of years before *Australopithecus* roamed the veld"² The discovery was the middle

² Glenn C. Conroy *et al* 1993

Miocene hominoid *Otavipithecus namibiensis*, found at the Berg Aukas mountains in Otavi area which is traced back to millions of years.

3.6.3 Chance find

In the absence of known heritage resources, global best practice recommends the development and implementation of a Chance Find Procedure as a mitigation measure. This approach raises awareness among the exploration team about the potential presence of heritage resources and ensures that any such discoveries are not disturbed or destroyed.

A Chance Find Procedure is widely regarded as one of the most practical and effective strategies for safeguarding heritage resources, particularly in areas that may not have been covered during initial foot surveys. It allows for the protection of previously unidentified sites encountered during exploration activities.

1. All employees / contractors must be trained on the possible find of heritage resources before the commencement of the project in order to create awareness. The training must be provided by an expert to ensure adequate understating of heritage resources.
2. The proponent / employees / contractors must implement steps to be taken for archaeological material finding (Heritage (rock painting and drawings), human remains or artefacts) are unearthed through the following procedures;
 - i. Stopping the activity immediately
 - ii. Informing the operational manager or supervisor
 - iii. Cordoned of the area with a danger tape and manager to take appropriated pictures.
 - iv. Manager/supervisor must report the finding to the following competent authorities, National Heritage Council of Namibia (061 244 375) National Museum (+264 61 276800) or the National

Forensic Laboratory (+264 61 240461).

3. Archaeological material must NOT be touched. Tempering with the materials is an offence under the heritage act and punishable upon conviction by the law.

3.6.4 Conclusion

In conclusion, the known heritage resources in the region are protected and clearly demarcated, making it unlikely for them to be disturbed. Since no heritage resources were identified within the EPL during the study, it is recommended that the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) be issued to the company, allowing it to proceed with its exploration activities. This recommendation is made on the condition that the company strictly implements the proposed Chance Find Procedure to ensure the protection of any potential undiscovered heritage resources.

3.6.5 Project Alternatives

The provision of EMA requires an EIA to explore various project alternative which aims to ensure that a chosen project component does not have significant impact to the environment. Project alternative ranges from not implementing the project (No go alternative), when the environmental impacts are severe, or there is high degree of uncertainty. Other alternative considers the project site, technology and equipment to be used. The description of alternatives is given in table 5 below. Exploration activities follow the mineralization of minerals, and as such, there is no specific site. However, all activities will avoid protected sites and minimize environmental damage to the greatest extent possible.

Table 5. Analysis of Project Alternative

Alternative	Description	Advantages	Disadvantage	Chosen Option
No Project	This alternative would keep a status quo	There would be NO environmental threats such as; • Waste Generation with potential Surface and Ground Water Pollution • Habitat destruction / Land degradation by Construction / upgrading of access roads • Drilling of holes	The following benefits would be lost if the project does go ahead. • Prospective of new mining project that culminate into loss of income • Compromise on government	NO

Alternative	Description	Advantages	Disadvantage	Chosen Option
		• Social effect on Human Health and Safety Risk	development goals of manufacturing and industrialization • Increase in poverty reduction through loss of employment opportunity	
Project Site	Exploration activity follow mineralization of mineral. Hence there is no specific site. However, activities shall by all mean avoid protected sites and minimize environmental damage.			
Implement project	This entails the implementation and operation of the project	• Enhance development • Enhance skill and capacity building • Improved technology transfer Increase chances of establishing of a new mine	The natural environment may be disturbed, but with adequate implementation of the Environmental Management Plan, environmental sustainability shall be achieved.	Yes

Alternative	Description	Advantages	Disadvantage	Chosen Option
Drilling Type: RC vs Diamond	Cost effective Does not require water for lubrication compared to Diamond drilling	RC drilling: This type of drilling is ideal as it does not require water for lubrication and cooling, hence it conserve water compared to diamond drilling	No significant disadvantage to the environment	RC Drilling
Accommodation: Farmhouse vs Camping	Exploration team accommodation	There are existing brick farm house equipped with water and ablution facilities and three towns (Otavi, Kombat and Grootfontein) are in close proximity of the EPL	Travelling distance during sampling	Farm house and Town accommodation
Energy: Gas or Generators or Solar	Energy needed for household need:	Gas is environmental friendly and efficient source of energy A generator is very reliable Solar is environmental friendly and cost effective in the long term	- Gas cylinders pose a safety with possibility of exploding - A generator produces noise and requires a	For cooking purposes, it is recommended that Gas should be used. For welding and heavy duty

Alternative	Description	Advantages	Disadvantage	Chosen Option
			containerized structure and possible oil and fuel spillages • Solar energy is highly influenced by sunlight.	works, a generator may be used For lighting purposes, a solar may be used. Both these energy source can be used with adequate implementation of the EMP without cause environmental damage

4 LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

Table 6. Legal requirements for the proposed project

Legislation	Summary	Applicability to Assessment
The Namibian Constitution	The State shall actively promote and maintain the welfare of the people by adopting policies aimed at ... The maintenance of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and biological diversity of Namibia and utilization of living natural resources on a sustainable basis for the benefit of all Namibians, both present and future	Protection of the environment and biodiversity. Ensures that these principles are enshrined in the EIA documentation
Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007	To promote sustainable management of the environment and the use of natural resources and to provides for a process of assessment and control of activities which may have significant effects on the environment; and to provide for incidental matters	The Act provides a list of activities that may not be undertake without an environmental clearance certificate to prevent environmental damages.
Mineral Resource Act, Act 1992.	Prospecting and Mining of Mineral in Namibia and Issuance of all Permits.	Issuance of Mining permits

Legislation	Summary	Applicability to Assessment
Draft Pollution Control and Waste Management Bill	This Bill serves to regulate and prevent the discharge of pollutants to air and water as well as providing for general waste management.	To protect the Environment from possible hydrocarbons and oil leaks from the machinery, trucks and vehicles.
Environmental Policy framework (1995)	This policy subjects all developments and project to environmental assessment and provides guideline for the Environmental Assessment.	Consideration of all possible impacts and incorporate them in the development stages
Regulations Related to the Health and Safety of Employees at Work. Reg No. 156	Promotes the Safety and Health of employees at the work place	To ensure employees health and safety at work
Public Health Act No. 36 of 1919	To Protect the public from nuisance and states that no person shall cause a nuisance or shall suffer to exist on any land or premises owned or occupied by him or of which he is in charge any nuisance or other condition liable to be injurious or dangerous to health.	To ensure that the project is not a nuisance to land owners and the public at large

Legislation	Summary	Applicability to Assessment
Labour Act No. 11 of 2007	This Act outlines the labour laws which encompass protection and safety of employees at work.	Fair labour practises to be observed with regard to this act
Water Act No, 54 of 1956	All water resources belong to the State. It prevents pollution and promotes the sustainable utilization of the resource	Prevention of discharging contaminated water at unauthorised places
Soil Conservation Act No. 76 of 1969	To promotes the conservation and compacting of soil erosion	Uncontrolled movement of heavy vehicles and truck at areas surrounding the site may cause land degradation
Water Resource Management Act No.11 of 2011	The Act stipulates the prevention of pollution for Surface and Ground water sources.	Oil spillage coming from machinery requires proper monitoring.
Public Health Act no. 36 of 1919	The Act gives provision for the protection for the health of all people.	The noise and dust level emanating from the project could affect the surrounding community and vegetation in the vicinity.

Legislation	Summary	Applicability to Assessment
National Heritage Act No.27 of 2004	The Act gives provision of the protection and conservation of places and objects with heritage significance.	The chance find of Human Remains due to colonial history or crime, Artefacts, and or heritage materials within the EPL
Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act No 33 of 1992	Section 50 (i) requires "an environmental impact assessment indicating the extent of any pollution of the environment before any prospecting operations or mining operations are being carried out and an estimate of any pollution, if any, likely to be caused by such prospecting operations or mining operations"	The proposed activity is prospecting for minerals, hence it requires an EIA to be carried out and adhere to the act's provisions.

5 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The Environmental Management Act (EMA) mandates that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process includes a robust and thorough public consultation. This process is crucial because it allows members of the public, particularly Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs), to provide comments and raise concerns about potential socio-economic or environmental impacts resulting from the project. Additionally, public consultation solicits valuable local knowledge that may not be readily available to the Environmental Assessment Practitioner, thereby enhancing the accuracy and relevance of the assessment.

The public consultation started by consulting calling farms owners to notify them about the project and the process to follow. A WhatsApp group for the farms was created where the background information document, and invitation for public meeting was communicated. Registered and Interested parties were send the BID through email.

5.1 Newspaper Advertisement

The EMA requires that, the project must be advertised into two (2) daily newspapers that are widely circulated in the country (Table 7). The project was advertised for two consecutive weeks in the New Era and Confidante newspapers (Appendix 1).

Table 7. Dates of newspaper advertisement

Newspaper	Date of Advert
The Namibian	27 March 2025 and 03 April 2025
New Era	27 March 2025 and 03 April 2025

5.2 Public Meeting

The public consultation held on Friday, 4 April 2025, at Farm Abenab achieved 50% attendance (2 out of 4 expected representatives). Farm Abenab and Starnberg were directly represented by their owners, while Cleveland Land was represented by the same individual acting on behalf of Farm Abenab due to the Cleveland owner's absence. Auritsab remained unrepresented. Despite prior notification via WhatsApp groups and newspaper advertisements, the partial attendance highlights the need for direct follow-ups with absent stakeholders and hybrid engagement formats (e.g., virtual options) to ensure inclusive participation in future consultations. (Fig 10).



Figure 10. Arranged public meetings at Farm Abenab

6 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 Introduction

This chapter outlines the potential impacts (negative and positive) associated with mineral explorational activities. The identified impacts are categorized into three components: impacts on the biophysical environment; Impacts on the health and safety; and impacts on socio-economic. It further provide the criteria used for impact assessment. The developed Environmental Social Management Plan (ESMP) for the project is a living document. Hence, impacts that maybe be identified will require an amendment to the ESMP.

6.2 Impact Identification

Potential impacts were identified in accordance with the key Environmental Social Indicators (ESI)³ and using literature review, site assessment and public participation process and experience for Red-Dune Consulting (see *Table 8*). Please note that the following identified impact apply to all phases of exploration.

Table 8. Impact identification

Component	Impact	Description	Impact Type
EXPLORATION PHASES			
Bio-Physical Environment	Loss of habitat and Biodiversity	The clearing of land for site preparation and the occupation of the site itself can result in the direct loss of habitat for local flora and fauna. This may lead to a reduction in biodiversity, as species that depend on the specific habitat may be forced to relocate or face potential extinction.	Negative

³ Guidance Note UNDP Social and Environmental Standards Social and Environmental Assessment and Management July 2022

		Furthermore, the presence of construction activities and increased human activities can inadvertently create opportunities for poaching of high valuable species such as Rhinos.	
	Dust emission	Land clearing, digging and excavation of trenches, movement of vehicles and heavy machinery on project sites may create fugitive dust. Uncoordinated / reckless driving on gravel roads could cause low visibility to other road users. Dust from drilling can not only pose health risks to workers, leading to respiratory issues, but it can also affect vegetation, reducing air quality and the overall environment's health.	Negative
	Land degradation / Soil erosion	Site preparation activities, such as excavation and the movement of heavy machinery, can result in soil disturbance and degradation. This includes compaction, erosion, and loss of soil fertility. The removal of vegetation during site clearing can also leave the soil vulnerable to erosion, reducing the land's ability to support future vegetation growth and impacting local ecosystems.	Negative
	Noise and vibration	The operation of heavy machinery, drilling equipment and exploration aeroplanes, can produce significant noise, which may disturb both wildlife and nearby communities. Prolonged exposure to high noise levels can	Negative

		have detrimental effects on the health of workers and the surrounding population, including hearing loss and increased stress levels. Furthermore, noise pollution can disrupt animal behaviours, particularly in sensitive species, leading to displacement or changes in habitat use.	
	Traffic emission	The operation of vehicles and machinery, as well as drilling activities, can contribute to air pollution through the emission of exhaust gases of SO ₂ , CO ₂ , CO, NO _x and particulates.	Negative
	Waste generation	Construction produce significant amount of solid waste including, plastic, used containers and parts of worn-out equipment.	Negative
	Household waste	The generation of domestic solid waste from workers and operations on-site can lead to pollution if not properly managed. Improper disposal of waste, such as plastics, food scraps, and other materials, can contaminate the local environment and pose a risk to both wildlife and human health.	Negative
	Soil and water pollution	The use of heavy vehicles and drilling equipment involves the use of oils, grease, and lubricants that, if not properly managed, can leak into the ground and contaminate groundwater sources.	Negative
	Aquifer Disturbance	The Otjozondjupa Region has a high yield of underground water. Drilling activities are likely to intersect with aquifers; therefore, careful drilling practices will be required to ensure that the aquifers are not disturbed.	Negative

Health and Safety	Safety risk	Accidents from collision of construction vehicles, in appropriated use of heavy machineries could result into occupational injuries.	Negative
	Health risks	Risks of hearing impairment from excessive noise, respiratory risks from dust inhalation. New social relationships are often a recipe for spreading of communicable diseases and sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS. Furthermore, alcohol and drug use could be prevalent during construction and workers are susceptible to vector diseases such as malaria. Furthermore, the bush working environment makes workers to be prone to venomous insect and snake bites which may lead to fatalities.	Negative
	Hazardous Impact	Heavy vehicles consume significant amounts of oil, and the handling of hydrocarbons will occur on-site. The area where grease, oils, lubricants, and fuel are managed must be properly designed to prevent soil contamination, which could potentially affect both the soil and underground water.	Negative
Social Environment	Change of land use	The Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) is situated on commercial farmland, which may present potential conflicts between agriculture and mining activities. If exploration leads to mining operations, there could be significant competition for land use and resources. Without proper coordination, the expansion of the mining industry could interfere with	Negative

		agricultural activities, affecting crop production, livestock, and overall farm management. It is therefore crucial that both industries are carefully coordinated to minimize disruptions, ensure sustainable land use, and balance economic interests in the region	
	Visual impacts	Poor housing keeping on site, disturbance of surrounding view by the height of the hospital, uncoordinated painting.	Negative
	Employment creation	Namibia is facing high unemployment, particularly among the youth. Every employment, mainly short-term during exploration will contribute to socio-economic upliftment of the community.	Positive
	Increase in local economy	Exploration provides an opportunity for local people	Positive
	Heritage and Archaeological Resource	Digging and excavation have the potential to uncover archaeological materials. Therefore, raising awareness about the possibility of chance finds is necessary to prevent potential damage.	Negative

6.3 Criteria for impact assessment

The criteria used to assess the impacts and the method for determining their significance are outlined in Table 9 below. This process aligns with international best practices and adheres to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations under the Environmental Management Act of 2007 (Government Gazette No. 4878).

The core principle of the impact assessment follows a mitigation hierarchy, which aims to first avoid negative impacts through preventative measures, then minimize those impacts to acceptable levels, and, if neither of these options is feasible, to remedy or compensate for the impact.

Table 9. Criteria for Impact Assessment

Risk Event	Rating	Description of the risk that may lead to an Impact
Probability	The probability that an impact may occur under the following analysis	
	1	Improbable (Low likelihood)
	2	Low probability
	3	Probable (Likely to occur)
	4	Highly Probable (Most likely)
	5	Definite (Impact will occur irrespective of the applied mitigation measure)
Confidence level	The confidence level of occurrence in the prediction, based on available knowledge	
	L	Low = limited information
	M	Medium = moderate information
	H	High = sufficient information
Significance	Severity	Rating
	Negligible	1
	Low	2
	Medium	3
		None (Based on the available information, the potential impact is found to not have a significant impact)
		Low (The presence of the impact's magnitude is expected to be temporal or localized, that may not require alteration to the operation of the project)
		Medium (This impact is probable, limited in scale, expected to be of short term / temporary, can be avoided, managed

Risk Event	Rating	Description of the risk that may lead to an Impact
		and or mitigated with simple mitigation measures.)
	High 4	High (The impact is definite, mostly predictable, temporal, can be local, regional or national and in long term and reversible. These are impacts that may affect human rights, lands, natural resources, traditional livelihood, critical ecosystem services. The severity of these impacts is more limited than severe impacts.)
	Severe 5	Severe (The impact is definite, it has significant adverse impacts on human population and or / the environment which are of large-scale magnitude and or spatial extend such as large geographic area, large number of people or transboundary nature. The impact duration is long term, permanent and often irreversible. Impacts include displacement of human, destruction of critical ecological systems and or cultural and heritage sites etc. The impact could have a no-go implication unless the project is re-designed or proper mitigation can practically be applied.)
Duration	Time duration of the impacts	
	1	Immediate
	2	Short-term (0-5 years)

Risk Event	Rating	Description of the risk that may lead to an Impact
	3	Medium-term (5-15 years)
	4	Long-term (more than 15 years)
	5	Permanent
Scale	The geographical scale of the impact	
	1	Site specific
	2	Local
	3	Regional
	4	National
	5	International

6.4 Risk Assessment

The significance of the impact was determined using a risk matrix, as shown in Table 10. A five-by-five matrix was applied, where the severity of the impact was categorized and assigned scores ranging from 1 to 5: Improbable (1), Low (2), Medium (3), High (4), and Severe (5). Similarly, the likelihood of the impact occurring was assigned scores as follows: Improbable (1), Low Likely (2), Probable (3), High Probability (4), and Definite (5). The overall impact rating was then calculated by multiplying the scores for impact severity and likelihood.

Table 10. Risk assessment matrix⁴

⁴ Risk Management Guideline for the BC Public Sector (Province of British Columbia Risk Management Branch and Government Security Office 2012)

LIKELIHOOD	5 Definite	5 Low	10 Medium	15 High	20 Severe	25 Severe
	4 High Probability	4 Low	8 Medium	12 High	16 High	20 Severe
	3 Probable	3 Low	6 Medium	9 Medium	12 High	15 High
	2 Low	2 Low	4 Low	6 Medium	8 Medium	10 Medium
	1 Improbable	1 Negligible	2 Low	3 Low	4 Low	5 Low
		1 Negligible	2 Minor	3 Medium	4 High	5 Severe
		IMPACT SEVERITY / CONSEQUENCE				
		Negligible	Low	Medium	High	Severe

6.5 Mitigation Hierarchy

Best practises call for mitigation measures to follow a mitigation hierarchy that favours (i) avoidance of potential adverse impacts, and where avoidance is not possible, then (ii) minimization and reduction; where adverse residual impacts remain, then (iii) mitigation measures need to be applied, and, as a last resort, (iv) measures to offset impacts that cannot be appropriately mitigated (see *Figure 11* below).

According to EIS regulations, the objectives mitigations are to;

- Find environmental ways of doing thing
- Promote environmental benefits of the project
- Avoid, Minimise or remedy negative impacts and
- Ensure that residual negative impacts are within acceptable levels,

Furthermore, during consideration of the mitigation measure, the following mitigation hierarchy was followed.

- Avoid the negative impact through preventative means,
- Minimise the negative impacts to acceptable low levels and,
- If the above two are not possible, remedy or compensate the impact.

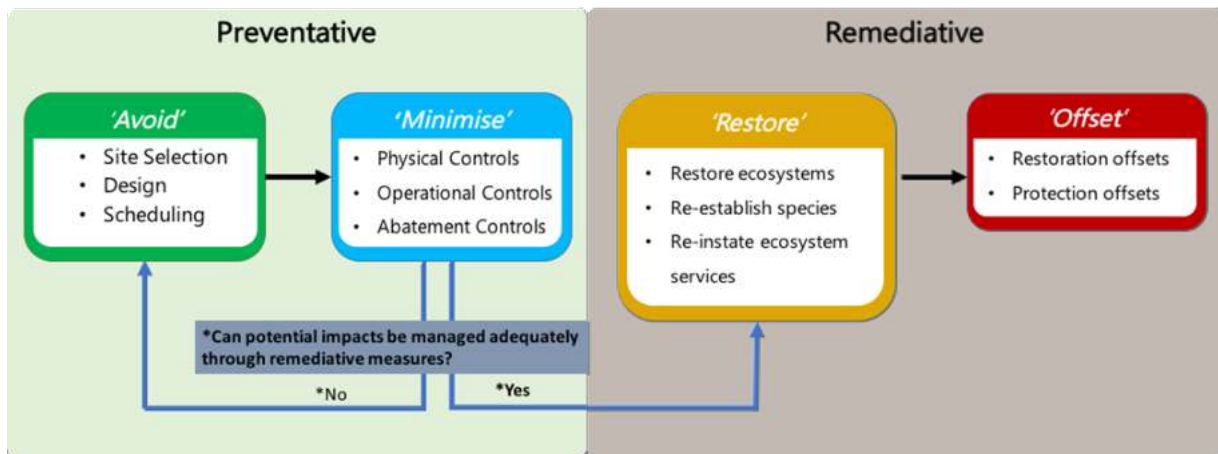


Figure 11. Mitigation Hierarchy Source ⁵

⁵ Cross-Sector Biodiversity Initiative (CSBI). (2015). A Cross-sector Guide for Implementing the Mitigation Hierarchy (p.9)

6.6 Risks Assessment

6.6.1 Planning Phase

To ensure public acceptance and minimize potential conflicts, the project implemented a comprehensive engagement strategy, including local newspaper advertisements to broaden awareness, a dedicated WhatsApp group for direct communication with affected stakeholders, and a structured public consultation to address concerns and gather feedback, thereby aligning with Namibia's environmental compliance frameworks and fostering transparent community participation.

6.6.2 Exploration Phase

Drilling is the primary and most significant environmental threat of mineral exploration phase. This stage involves the mobilization and transportation of drilling equipment to the drilling site. Trenching and soil sampling also do not cause significant harm to the environment. If necessary, a campsite may be set up at the drilling site, complete with supporting infrastructure such as ablution facilities, and provisions for managing household and other solid waste.

During this phase, various occupational health and safety risks arise, including injuries from operating machinery, bites from insects (such as mosquitoes), snake bites, and the potential for oil contamination. The tables below outlines the assessment of potential impacts and the proposed mitigation measures for the drilling phase.

6.6.3 Social Environment: Impacts Assessment

Table 11. Social Environment: Impact Assessment

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence Level
Site Access	Access to site must be communicated to the farm owners to avoid conflict	1. Inform Farm owners well in advance before your planned activities 2. Do not enter the area without owners' consent	-ve	1	1	1	Regional	Life of project	n/a	Low	High
Employment / Socio-Economic	Possible exclusion of local communities from job	1. Ensure that all general work is reserved for	+ve	2	2	4	Regional	Life of project	n/a	Low	High

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence Level
advancement of local	opportunities and unfair compensation of workers. It is not anticipated that a significant number of jobs will be created during the drilling phase.	local people, unless specialized skills are required. 2. Follow fair compensation practices and adhere to Namibian Labour Laws. 3. Facilitate skill transfer to local workers. 4. Use local suppliers for goods and services where									

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence Level
		possible.									
Health and Safety for Employees and the General Public	Job opportunities can lead to new social relationships that may contribute to the spread of diseases, particularly pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, and substance abuse. Hiring unlicensed employees to operate vehicles and machinery poses safety risks to themselves, co-workers, and the	1. Raise awareness among employees about the dangers of HIV/AIDS, alcohol, and drug abuse. 2. Provide condoms on-site. 3. Develop a comprehensive safety plan. 4. Ensure all	- ve	2	2	4	Site Specific and Local	Project Duration	n/ a	Low	Hig h

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence Level
	public. Additionally, employees are exposed to dust, noise pollution, and other occupational health and safety hazards	employees undergo an induction course on health and safety. 5. All drivers must possess appropriate driver's licenses. 6. Install adequate safety signage at designated areas. 7. Provide									

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence Level
		personal protective equipment (PPE) such as overalls, safety boots, safety eyewear, gloves, and hard hats. 8. Adhere to the Labour Act, ensuring non-toxic dust exposure levels do not exceed 5mg/m³ for respiratory dust									

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence Level
		and 15mg/m³ for total dust. 9. Ensure noise levels do not exceed 85dB(A) over an 8-hour period. 10. Comply with the Occupational Health and Safety Act of Namibia and other international Abor standards									

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence Level
		(e.g., ILO). 11. Ensure first aid kits are available on-site, including supplies for insect and snake bites. 12. Train supervisors in occupational health and first aid. 13. Supply clean drinking water, such as portable water									

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence Level
		tanks. 14. Use gendered mobile toilets. 15. Provide insect repellent, mosquito nets, and, if necessary, immunization to prevent diseases like malaria.									
Heritage and Archaeology	Potential unearthing of archaeological material or	1. Employee must be trained on the possible	- ve	2	2	4	Site Specific	Construc tion /	R	Low	High

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence Level
	damaging heritage resources	find of heritage and archaeological material in the area; 2. Implement a chance find and steps to be taken for heritage and archaeological material finding (Heritage (rock painting and drawings), human remains									

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence Level
		or artefacts) are unearthed 3. Stopping the activity immediately i. Informing the operational manager or supervisor ii. Cordoned of the area with a danger tape and manager to take appropriated pictures.									

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence Level
		iii. Manager/su pervisor must report the finding to the following competent authorities, National Heritage Council of Namibia (061 244 375) National Museum (+264 61 276800) or the National									

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence Level
		Forensic Laboratory (+264 61 240461).									

6.6.4 Bio-Physical Environment: Impacts Assessment

Table 12. Bio-Physical Environment: Impacts Assessment

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence
Biodiversity: Flora	The target areas for drilling and trenching may necessitate the clearing of vegetation. However, unless unavoidable, mature and protected trees should not be cut down.	1. Avoid cutting down mature and protected plant species. 2. Ensure that access roads are rehabilitated after use to enhance revegetation	- ve	2	2	4	Site Specific	Construction / Drilling	R	Low	High
Biodiversity: Fauna	The area is home to both domestic and wild animals that are accustomed to human activities, meaning	1. Do not kill animal, unless such animals pose eminent danger to humans 2. There must be ZERO	- ve	2	2	4	Regional	Construction / Drilling	R	Low	High

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence
	that human presence is unlikely to have a severe impact on them. There is however potential for the destruction of animal habitats such as bird nests, poaching, stealing of livestock.	tolerance to poaching to ensure this, no weapon and traps are allowed on site;									
Surface and Ground Water Pollution	Heavy vehicle and machinery may pollute water sources from leakages of oils, hydraulic fluids, lubricants and greases.	1. Fueling of heavy vehicle on site must be well coordinated at designated places,	-ve	2	2	4	Site Specific	Construction / Drilling	R	Low	High

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence
	These pollutants may reach underground water through seepage. Further surface water may be polluted from surface run off soils that is polluted.	2. Stationary vehicles must be provided with drip tray to capture oil, lubricants and hydraulic fluids leakages 3. All vehicle and machinery must be well service to avoid leakages 4. Provide and train on oil spill emergency response 5. Servicing of vehicles and machinery must take place at designate places									

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence
Ground Water Pollution	Drilling has the potential to disturb underground water resources	6. If an aquifer is encountered during drilling, ensure that the drilling hole is capped immediately after sampling.	-ve	2	2	4	Site Specific	Life of project	R	Low	High
Waste Generation	General household pollution and littering such as used oil cans drums, metals, and household solid and liquid waste	1. Provide skip bins to collect waste and be disposed of at an approved disposal site 2. Provide labelled household waste drums for household solid waste. 3. Do not bury waste	- ve	2	2	4	Site Specific	Life of project	R	Low	High

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence
		on site 4. Excavate a small biodegradable waste site that would be dump filled at the end of the project, alternatively, provide mobile toilets that will be disposed at an approved site and ensure separate ablution facilities for men and women. 5. Used oil, grease and lubricants cans must									

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence
		be collected in appropriate drums and disposed of at an approved site 6. Maintain good housekeeping on site. 7. Do not bury waste on site									
Dust Pollution	Land clearing, digging, excavation of trenches, drilling, movement of vehicles and heavy machinery in site, transportation of material to site, will create fugitive dust	1. Movement of heavy vehicles must strictly be restricted on site. 2. Adhere to the minimum speed limit of 30 or 40km/hour when on farm roads.	- ve	2	2	4	Local and Site Specific	Immediate	R	Low	High

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence
	which could be a nuisance to the surrounding.	3. On site where soil is loosened by vehicle movement, apply dust a suppression method such as water spraying. 4. During drilling, use water to suppress the dust									
Land degradation and pollution	Uncoordinated movement of heavy vehicles and uncoordinated land clearing could lead to soil erosion. Possible spill and leakages of fuel and lubricants	1. Movement of heavy vehicles must be coordinated and restricted to be on access roads 2. Normally, public gravel roads are meant for light	-ve	2	2	4	Site Specific	Life of project	R	Low	High

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence
	from vehicle and machinery could pollute the soil and eventually the ground water resource.	vehicles drilling vehicles have the potential to damage the access roads. Hence proper road maintenance must be implemented to ensure that the roads are left on good state 3. Fueling of heavy vehicles on site must be well coordinated at designated places									

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence
		4. Servicing of vehicles and machinery must take place at designated sites 5. Stationary vehicles must be provided with drip tray to capture oil, lubricants and hydraulic fluid leakages 6. All vehicles and machinery must be well serviced to avoid leakages									

Project- Environment Interaction	Description	Mitigation Measures	Impact type	Likelihood occurrence	Severity	Impact Rating	Geographical Extend	Duration	Reversibility (R)	Significance	Confidence
		7. Provide and train on oil spill emergency response.									

7 DECOMMISSIONING AND REHABILITATION

The exploration activities do not necessarily culminate in a decommissioning phase but rather transition into a rehabilitation phase. The activities require comprehensive rehabilitation of disturbances such as access roads, trenches, and drilled holes, including the backfilling of biodegradable waste and pit latrines. A Rehabilitation Completion Report must be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) for approval, detailing site restoration methods and monitoring commitments. If decommissioning becomes necessary, additional steps include final site assessments, stakeholder consultations, and financial guarantees in compliance with Namibia's Minerals Act and Environmental Management Act.

To further enhance the site restoration process, it is crucial to implement effective strategies aimed at returning the area to its natural state. This could involve re-vegetation efforts to reintroduce native plant species and stabilize soil structures, which will help restore ecological balance and prevent erosion. In addition, all infrastructure constructed for exploration purposes should be dismantled or repurposed, where feasible, to minimize lasting environmental impacts. The goal is to ensure that the site is rehabilitated to as close to its original state as possible.

In summary, upon the completion of exploration activities, the following steps should be carefully considered to ensure thorough site restoration and compliance with environmental standards:

- Exploration activities must not be abandoned prematurely; proper closure procedures should be followed.
- Employees, relevant authorities, and the public must be notified of the mine's closure well in advance.

- An Environmental Practitioner should be appointed to assess and oversee the rehabilitation process.
- All contaminated materials must be properly cleaned and disposed of at approved waste disposal sites.
- Biodegradable waste should be properly disposed of in designated waste sites, ensuring it is compacted and safely managed.
- Pit latrines should be filled, compacted, and appropriately closed off.
- The burial of hazardous or non-biodegradable waste is strictly prohibited.
- All access roads should be rehabilitated to restore the landscape.
- Any drill holes must be filled to prevent potential hazards.
- Farm owners should be consulted and ensure their satisfaction with the rehabilitation efforts.
- A comprehensive rehabilitation report should be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) for review and compliance.

8 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 Conclusion

Exploration activities generally pose minimal biophysical impacts, as temporary disturbances like access roads, trenches, and drilled holes create negligible footprints that are systematically backfilled and fully rehabilitated, including revegetation during the rainy season to restore ecological integrity. With rigorous implementation of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP), operational impacts are mitigated to non-adverse levels, while identified health and safety risks have been minimized to acceptable thresholds through targeted protocols. Should the exploration progress to a mining phase, specialist studies in hydrogeology, vegetation, and cultural heritage will be required to ensure compliance with Namibia's regulatory frameworks and sustainable development standards

8.2 Recommendations

- Issuance of the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC): It is recommended that the approving authority proceed with the issuance of the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for EPL 9636, subject to the implementation of the proposed mitigation measures to ensure environmental protection.
- The Proponent uphold the highest standards of environmental and social protection and ensure adequate monitoring and reporting as provided for by the EMA.

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10 APPENDIXES

10.1 Appendix 1. EPL Licence and supporting documents



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF MINES AND ENERGY

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Fax: +264 61 238643 / 220386
E-mail: info@mme.gov.na
Website: www.mme.gov.na

1 Aviation Road
Private Bag 13297
WINDHOEK

Enquiries: Mrs. F. Flaviano

Reference No: 14/2/4/1/9636

The Directors
Huab Energy (Pty) Ltd
P. O. Box 23532
Windhoek

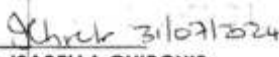
NOTICE TO APPLICANT OF PREPAREDNESS TO GRANT APPLICATION FOR EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE No. 9636.

In terms of Section 48(4) of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act, No. 33 of 1992, notice is hereby given that the Minister is prepared to grant your new application, lodged on 01 September 2023, for an exclusive prospecting licence in respect of Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals and Precious Metals Groups of Minerals over an area of land as shown in the attached diagrams, subject to the terms and conditions contained in the attached schedule, which terms and conditions supplement the terms, conditions and provisions of the said Act.

Your attention is drawn to the provisions of Section 48(5) of the said Act, which requires that within one (1) month from the date of this notice, written acceptance of such terms and conditions must be received by the Commissioner, failing which the application will be deemed to have lapsed.

Kindly acknowledge your acceptance of such terms and conditions by

- (a) completing the section at the bottom of this notice.
- (b) initialing each page of the schedule and the diagrams; and
- (c) returning such signed and initialed documents to the Commissioner.


Ms ISABELLA CHIRCHIR
MINING COMMISSIONER

All official correspondence must be addressed to the Executive Director

DIAGRAM – EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE – 9636

Issued in favour of Huab Energy (Pty) Ltd



Latitude and Longitude lines refer to the Bessel 1841 Spheroid

EPL - Application	ERL - Application	Withdrawn Area	District
☐	☐	☐	☐
EPL - Active	ERL - Active	Farms	Region
☒	☒	☐	☐
ML - Application	RL - Application	Environmentally Sensitive	Division
☐	☐	☒	☐
ML - Active	RL - Active		
☐	☒		
MC - Application	MDRL - Application		
☐	☐		
MC - Active	MDRL - Active		
☒	☒		

Projection: Albers Conic Equal Area
Spheroid: Bessel 1841
Central Meridian: 17 Deg. E

AREA: 719.2148 Hectares

MAP(S):

LOCALITY:

*Region(s): **Orange Free State**

*Magisterial District(s): **Grootfontein**

*Registration Division(s): **1**

Order	Lat Deg	Lat Min	Lat Sec		Long Deg	Long Min	Long Sec	
1	- 19	16	21.13	S	18	06	58.88	E
2	- 19	16	20.24	S	18	06	59.68	E
3	- 19	15	52.92	S	18	07	46.66	E
4	- 19	15	25.38	S	18	08	32.71	E
5	- 19	16	16.68	S	18	09	8.79	E
6	- 19	17	26.07	S	18	07	12.52	E
7	- 19	17	25.34	S	18	07	11.79	E
8	- 19	17	2.26	S	18	06	57.25	E
9	- 19	17	2.14	S	18	06	57.31	E

Mining Commissioner
 2024-02-11
 Certified by *[Signature]*
 Mining Commissioner
 Department of Mines

TO THE MINING COMMISSIONER
MINISTRY OF MINES AND ENERGY

I, Andreas G. Pali [name of person] in my capacity as applicant/duly authorized officer/approved accredited agent (please delete titles not relevant), hereby accept the supplementary terms and conditions referred to in this notice and contained in the attached schedule which are to be imposed on the grant of the application for exclusive prospecting licence herein referred to.

Andreas G. Pali
Signed

05 Aug 2013
Date

Capacity Company Manager
(Applicant /authorized officer of the applicant if a company/approved accredited agent of a non-resident applicant who is a natural person/authorized officer of such accredited agent).

OUTJO – Dr Adelinu Celestinus, a medical doctor at the Windhoek Central Hospital mental health care unit, has cautioned against the stigmatisation of mental illness.

He was speaking at a mental health and suicide prevention awareness campaign in Outjo on Monday.

The event was themed 'Changing the Narrative on Suicide'.

Celestinus spoke about mental illness to the Outjo community, and how they can seek help for those who are

Awareness raised on mental illness stigma

affected by it.

"Mental illnesses are stigmatised in our society. People do not often know where to find help for those who are mentally unwell. We aim to raise awareness, inform communities of the available resources and eliminate discrimination against mental illnesses," he said.

Celestinus clarified the difference between mental health and mental illnesses to

the audience.

He said "it is okay to speak out and reach out for help if you suffer from any medical condition".

He noted that mental illnesses can be caused by heavy alcohol and drug abuse, which can impact the genetic makeup of a person's brain.

"Mental illnesses can be inherited and may be found in genes if a mother used substances

during pregnancy," cautioned the medical doctor.

Anna Shigweda, a social worker from the Outjo District Hospital, informed the community about suicide, how to identify its symptoms and how to help a suicidal person.

"There is a rising trend of suicide in Outjo. We want to encourage people to speak out and prevent suicides," she said.

Social workers from the

Ministry of Health and Social Services were present for residents to consult about mental illness and suicide prevention.

The event included social workers encouraging community members to stand against the stigma surrounding mental illnesses in society.

Celestinus and his team from the Directorate of Social Welfare are touring the Kunene region, holding community and stakeholder engagements on mental health and suicide prevention awareness in various towns. -Nampa

'Removal of illegal fences is lawful'

■ Zebaldi Ngaruka

EPUKIRO - Following the commencement of the removal of illegal fences in the Otjine constituency's Ondarozu village in



Unlawful...Illegal fences that were erected in parts of Omaheke Region were brought down in a move to ease grazing land in the area. This is a nationwide programme.



Omaheke region, the chairperson of the Omaheke Communal Land Board Elias Tutu Muundjua advises communities to cooperate with relevant authorities on the ground during the exercise.

The then-Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) last month commenced with the

removal of illegal fences in parts of Omaheke and Otjozondjupa regions.

The National Youth Service (NYS) is contracted by the agriculture ministry with the removal of illegal fences countrywide.

Speaking to New Era, Muundjua said the removal process is in line with the law, and aimed at giving

equal opportunities to the rural communities to share land.

"The law is very clear on the matter. Those who are affected by the removal process were given legal notices to remove their fences themselves, but refused to do so. Thus, the government is acting now," he said.

He said the communities must always work together and share the land instead of resorting to disputes.

"We have policies in place on how the land in communal areas or settings must be governed. The communities must acquaint themselves with policies in place to avoid unnecessary loss of structures and properties," he said.

Muundjua also shared with this publication that more than 50 cases of illegal fences have been reported in Omaheke. Six cases are ready, and fences will be removed during this process.

"We have on numerous occasions advised the communities to apply for land rights before building structures, but our advice was in vain," he said, adding that the land board is only allowed to give a maximum of 50 hectares to land applicants.

Muundjua added that only the executive director of the MAWLR can give more than 50 hectares to applicants.

"There is no way a traditional authority or communal land board members can issue land beyond allocated 50 hectares," he said.

He further advised community members served with removal notices to remove fences by themselves, instead of waiting for the NYS trainees to come.

Meanwhile, NYS project supervisor Jonas Potjolo Kamboonde urged the communities in the affected areas to cooperate with the authority during the removal process.

"We are not doing this on our own. We are mandated by the agriculture ministry. These trainees are acting on behalf of the Ministry and don't interfere with their work," he said.

Stakeholders such as Namibian Police, traditional authorities and land board officials are monitoring the removal process of all illegal fences.

Similar removal exercises were conducted in the northern regions, and will continue countrywide. -engraver@yashua.com

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NAMBS
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RDCC
Red-Dune Consulting

PUBLIC NOTICE
Environmental Impact Assessment For The Proposed Exploration Activities on Exclusive Prospecting Licences (EPLs) 9121, 9547, 9410 and 9636 in Kunene, Karas and Otjozondjupa Regions

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: Mineral Exploration Activities
Proponent (s): JO Investment Three Pty Ltd, EPLs 9121, 9547, 9410, 9636
Hub: Energy Pty Ltd, EPL 9636
Location(s): Kunene, Karas and Otjozondjupa Regions

Villages Affected by EPL 9121: Oryongo Area
Villages Affected by EPL 9547: Omulange Area
Farms Affected by EPL 9410: Zanzubela 307, Kaulberg 95, Totum 92, Oudshoorn - Sontagdebuur 108, Trushob 89, Koudobuag 108, Nukhes 94, Ruzgani 95, Ararat 89
Farms Affected by EPL 9636: Standerberg, Cleveland, Auribad and Alupula

Public Meetings:
04 April 2025: Farm Alupula @ 10:00 – 12:00 for EPL 9636
05 April 2025: Farm Kaulberg 95 @ 10:00 – 12:00 for EPL 9410

Deadline for Comments: 10th May 2025

Register as I&APs @:
joing@red-duneconsulting.com or
Joosaphina@red-duneconsulting.com
Tel: +264 81 147 7889



PUBLIC NOTICE

INVITATION TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE AT THE STAKEHOLDERS CONFERENCE ON THE PROPOSED MERGERS: PEP STORES & BIG DADDY & JO FINANCIAL & OK FURNITURE

The Commission hereby invites stakeholders to attend a stakeholders' conference in terms of Section 46(1) of the Competition Act No. 2 of 2003, that will be held on the 9th of April 2025, scheduled for 09h00am – 14h00pm at NIPAM (Namibia Institute of Public Administration & Management), Windhoek.

Stakeholders are encouraged to make verbal or written submissions on the proposed merger before or at the conference. Interested stakeholders should confirm their attendance with Mrs. Marelice Bock at 061-224622 or email: marelice.rock@naco.com.na on or before the Conference date.

For further queries please contact:
Mr. Johannes Ashipala
Director: Mergers and Acquisitions Division
Tel: 061-224622
Email: johannes.ashipala@naco.com.na

"Safeguarding and promoting competition in the Namibian market"

FAIR COMPETITION
PROSPEROUS ECONOMY

NUST to confer honorary doctorate on global tourism leader

■ Staff Reporter

The Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) 20 March 2025, hosted a public lecture delivered by Zurab Pololikashvili, Secretary General of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UN Tourism). The event themed 'Sustainable Tourism in Africa: Harnessing Technology, Inclusion and Heritage for a Resilient Future', brought together key tourism stakeholders, academics and students, fostering meaningful discussions on building a more sustainable and universally-accessible tourism industry.

A key highlight of the event was an announcement by Vice Chancellor Prof Erold Naomab that NUST will confer an honorary Doctor of Philosophy (honoris causa) degree in Tourism Management upon Pololikashvili at the upcoming May graduation ceremony. This esteemed

recognition acknowledges his exceptional leadership and profound impact on the global tourism sector.

Pololikashvili has been the secretary general of UN Tourism since 2018. A Georgian politician, diplomat and international civil servant, he has played a significant role in global tourism and diplomacy, and has worked tirelessly to promote this sector as a key driver of sustainable development and economic growth. His leadership has been instrumental in pushing forward global initiatives to revitalise tourism in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.

His public lecture outlined his role in establishing a crisis response team at UN Tourism to drive the global recovery of the tourism sector in the aftermath of the pandemic, a process that began with a visit to Namibia in 2020. He further underscored his commitment to people-centred leadership, emphasising the need



Sustainable tourism... Zurab Pololikashvili, Secretary General of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation. Photo: Contributed

for investment not only in infrastructure but also in human capital. "You can build buildings, you can build airports, but you need people – qualified people," he said.

Naomab underscored the significance of thought leadership in shaping the discourse around sustainable tourism, technology, inclusion, and heritage. He

emphasised the role of tourism as a catalyst for economic growth, poverty reduction, and social inclusion, stating: "Tourism used to be characterised by an emphasis on leisure and service to attract tourists – at the expense of largely poor communities. Namibia, however, is a renowned pioneer in conservation-based tourism, empowering local communities through its Community-Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) programme. Now, it is time to transform the sector so that it positions itself to serve as an engine for advancing sustainable development across all sectors".

The lecture was well-attended by members of the public, the campus community, various captains of industry as well as Albertus Aochamub, Namibia's Ambassador to France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, and Monaco, and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO and UN Tourism.

As an affiliate member of UN Tourism, NUST continues to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of Namibia's tourism industry through education, partnerships, and thought leadership. The University is also exploring collaborations with the UN Tourism Online Academy to provide high-quality learning opportunities that enhance critical skill sets and future-proof Namibia's tourism workforce.

The public lecture was held in collaboration with UN Tourism, the Namibian Government, the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB) and the Namibia Tourism Board (NTB).



Namibian Ports Authority (Namport) hereby invites bids through Open National Bidding (ONB) procedures for the Construction of a 1.5km Long Interlocked Road in the Port of Walvis Bay.

Bid Reference Number	Brief Description	Pre-bid Conference	Last Day for Clarification Requests	Closing Date
W/ONB/NAMPOR -3664/2024	Construction of a 1.5km Long Interlocked Road in the Port of Walvis Bay	Non-Compulsory Virtual Pre-bid meeting on 28/03/2025 @10H00 AM	17/04/2025	12/05/2025@ 12h00 PM (Virtual Bid Opening Link available on website)

- Bids are invited through the Open National Bidding (ONB) procedure and the invitation is open to all eligible bidders. All Bidders must comply with the requirements outlined in the bidding document.
- Interested eligible bidders are requested to visit the Namport website at <https://www.namport.com.na/procurement> for details of the bidding requirements. Bidders must register as suppliers, express interest in a specific bid, make a payment of the (non-refundable) bid levy of N\$300.00 and submit the proof of payment in order to be granted access to the bidding documents. The Namport Banking Details are available on the link: <https://www.namport.com.na/procurement/banking-details/558/>
- A Non-compulsory Virtual Pre-Bid meeting is scheduled for **28 March 2025 AT 10H00 AM**. Bidders should take note that the meeting link is available on the website.
- Bids must be delivered to: **The Tender Box, Namibian Ports Authority (Namport) Reception, No. 17 Rikumbi Kandanga Road, Walvis Bay**

ALL enquiries related to these bids must be directed in writing by email to the following contact details:

Procurement Manager
Melani de Klerk
Tel: +264 208 2319
Email: m.deklerk@namport.com.na or
procurement@namport.com.na

Tender and Contracts Administrator
Owiike Amunkete
Tel: +264 208 2217
Email: o.amunkete@namport.com.na
procurement@namport.com.na

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Red-Dune Consulting

PUBLIC NOTICE
Environmental Impact Assessment For The Proposed Exploration Activities on Exclusive Prospecting Licences (EPLs) 9521, 9542, 9410 and 9586 in Kunene, Karas and Ojoandjupa Regions

In accordance with the Environmental Management Act 2007 (Act No. 7 of 2007), notice is hereby given to all possible interested and Affected Parties (AIAPs) that an application will be made to the Environmental Commission for Environmental Clearance as follows:

Project: Mineral Exploration Activities
Proposed by: 20 Investment Three Pty. Ltd. (EPLs 9521, 9542, 9410)
Location(s): Kunene, Karas and Ojoandjupa Regions

Villages Affected by EPL 9521: Ungungu-Kass
Villages Affected by EPL 9542: Onakanga-Aras
Areas Affected by EPL 9410: Sankubab 307, Sankubab 93, Rotem 92, Chonabab - Sankubab 128, Hovabab 88, Kuppelkings 108, Hovabab 94, Ruppard 95, Aruabab 88
Areas Affected by EPL 9586: Sankubab, Chonabab, Aruabab and Sankubab

Public Meetings:
04 April 2025: From 08h00 to 12h00 for EPL 9586
06 April 2025: From 08h00 to 12h00 for EPL 9521, 9542, 9410

Deadline for Comments: 17th May 2025

Register as AIAPs at:
info@red-duneconsulting.com or
info@red-duneconsulting.com
Tel: +264 91 347 7998

To place a classifieds advert with us, please contact Ms. Fransina Fredericks
 • T: +264 (61) 246 136 E: fransina@confidentenamibia.com C: +264 81 231 7332

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Notice is hereby given to all interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) that an application will be made to the Environmental Commissioner for the Environmental Clearance in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (GN No. 30 of 6 February 2012) for the following intended activity:

• Closure of proposed Portion A of Erf 2555, Ondangwa Extension 8 as a "Public Open Space" and subsequent rezoning to "Institutional".

Location: Ondangwa Extension 8, Ondangwa Town, Oshana Region.
 Proprietor: St Silas Private Hospital
 Environmental Consultants: Nkhivvelwa Planning Consultants

All I&APs are encouraged to register and raise concerns or provide comments and opinions with the consultant. All I&APs will be provided with a Background Information Document (BID) comprising of detailed information for the intended activity.

Should you wish to register as an I&AP and receive a BID, please contact the applicant on contact information provided at the end of the notice. The due date for submission of comments is 30th April 2025.

Applicant: Nkhivvelwa Planning Consultants
 P.O. Box 40905
 Aussenplanplatz
 Email: planning@nkhivvelwa.com.na
 Tel: 988 3320 238
 Cell: 981 4127 308



NOTICE

Take notice that HARMONIC TOWN PLANNING CONSULTANTS CC, Town and Regional Planners, on behalf of the owner of the respective erf, intends to apply to the Rehoboth Town Council for the:

• Rezoning of Erf Rehoboth B 277 from "Single Residential" with a density of 1:500 to "General Residential" with a density of 1:100; and
 • Consent to commence with the proposed development while the rezoning is in progress.

Erf Rehoboth, B 277, measures 21136 m² in extent and is zoned "Single Residential" with a density of 1:500. The owner intends to rezone the Erf to "General Residential" with a density of 1:100 to increase the density of the property in order to develop flats. The proposed rezoning will provide housing for the residents of Rehoboth and the surrounding areas.

Sufficient parking for the development will be provided in accordance with the requirements of the Rehoboth Zoning Scheme.

Further take notice that the plan of the erf will be for inspection on the town planning notice board at the Rehoboth Town Council and at Harmsen Town Planning Offices, 78B Pastoor Street, Windhoek West.

Further take notice that any person objecting to the proposed use of the land as set out above may lodge such objection together with the grounds thereof, with the Rehoboth Town Council and with the Applicant in writing within 14 days of the last publication of this notice (final date for objections is Friday, 26 April 2025).



NOTICE

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED SUBDIVISION OF PORTION 34 OF REHOBOTH TOWN AND TOWNLANDS NO.352

PROJECT TITLE: The proposed subdivision of Portion 34 of Rehoboth Town and Townlands No.352 into 42 Portions.
 PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The client intends to subdivide Portion 34, which is currently vacant, into 42 portions of varying sizes, ranging from 1 to 10 hectares, along with a remainder. The subdivision will accommodate a mix of small-scale agriculture and residential even in accordance with Rehoboth Town Council regulations, promoting diverse development opportunities.

PROJECT LOCATION: Portion 34 is located Northwest of Rehoboth and immediately South of the Canoe Road in the Hardap Region, Namibia.

PROPOSED PROPONENT: THE MARCO-CHISE (CENTRAL) (PTY) LTD. Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are invited to register with the Consultant and give their comments and concerns in writing for the proposed project within 14 days of the advertisement. Furthermore, I&APs are welcome to request the background information document.

NB: The participation and commenting period is effective until 28 April 2025.

Harmonic Town Planning Consultants cc
 Cell: +264 81 127 5879 Mr. Harold Kisting
 Tel: +264 81 238 400
 Email: htding001@gmail.com



PUBLIC NOTICE



Environmental Impact Assessment For The Proposed Erosion Activities on Exclusive Prospecting Licenses (EPLs) 9121, 9547, 9410 and 9638 in Kunene, Karas and Oshana Regions

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: Mine and Erosion Activities
 Proprietor: JG Investment Three Pty Ltd, EPLs 9121, 9547, 9410
 Host: Energy Pty Ltd, EPL 9638
 Location: Kunene, Karas and Oshana Regions
 Villages Affected by EPL 9121: Ongorongo Area
 Villages Affected by EPL 9547: Onkango Area

Farms Affected by EPL 9410: Zanzobele 107, Kaalberg 93, Tuam 52, Onkubale - Soerabetsbome 106, Inachab 88, Koroedatla 108, Naches 54, Ruesert 85, Arnsdorp 85

Farms Affected by EPL 9638: Starmberg, Cleverberg, Aurbach and Adenac.

Public Meetings: 24 April 2025: Farm Arnsdorp @ 10:00 - 12:00 for EPL 9638
 01 April 2025: Farm Kaalberg 93 @ 10:00 - 12:00 for EPL 9410
 Deadline for Comments: 10th May 2025
 Register as I&APs @: irdcna@gmail.com
 irdcnaenvironment.com or irdcna@irdcna.com
 irdcnaenvironment.com Tel: +264 81 147 7686

PUBLIC NOTICE



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF ACCESS ROAD UPGRADINGS TO GRAVEL STANDARDS OF ACCESS ROAD TO SEDIVULA CLINIC AND SCHOOLS IN THE OMUSATI REGION (R006)

Environment Consultants Trading (ECCT) hereby gives notice to all potential 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).

Project Description: Construction of Gravel Access Road to Okolobele Clinic and School (R006) in the Omusati Region.

Project Location: The Access Road starts from the intersection with the R006 (along the Engela Road) to Okolobele Clinic and Okolobele Village, Omusati Region.

Proprietor: Ministry of Works and Transport.
 Registration of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and Submission of Comments: All I&APs are invited to register and submit their comments, concerns or questions in writing on or before Friday 18 April 2025.

Contact Person: Mr. Gabe
 T: Namibia Environment
 Consulting
 Email: gabes@necna.com
 Cell: +264 81 69 6297

PUBLIC NOTICE

PERMANENT CLOSURE OF PORTION A OF ERF 2555, ONDANGWA EXTENSION 8 AS A "PUBLIC OPEN SPACE" (PORTION A OF ERF 2555, ONDANGWA EXTENSION 8 IS 2555AMP IN EXTENT) AND WILL BE REZONED TO "INSTITUTIONAL".

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 50 (1) (a) (i) of the Local Authorities Act of 1992 (Act 23 of 1992) that the Ondangwa Town Council proposes to close permanently the under-mentioned erf as indicated on locality plan, which lies for inspection during office hours at the office of Town Planning, Ondangwa Town Council Offices, Main Road, Ondangwa.

PERMANENT CLOSURE OF PORTION A OF ERF 2555, ONDANGWA EXTENSION 8 AS A "PUBLIC OPEN SPACE" (PORTION A OF ERF 2555, ONDANGWA EXTENSION 8 IS 2555AMP IN EXTENT) AND WILL BE REZONED TO "INSTITUTIONAL".

Objections to the proposed closing are to be served on the Secretary: Urban and Regional Planning Board, Private Bag 13299, and the Chief Executive Officer, Private Bag 2032, Ondangwa within 14 days after the appearance of this notice in accordance with Section 50 (1) (a) of the above Act.

Issued by: The Chief Executive Officer
 Ondangwa Town Council
 Private Bag 2032, Ondangwa
 Tel: 988 - 245 101

Applicant: Nkhivvelwa Planning Consultants
 P.O. Box 40905
 Aussenplanplatz
 Cell: 981 4127 308



Vacancy

Seeking a Chief Strategy Officer (CSO) with expertise in short-term, life, niche insurance, data analytics and CRM systems. 7+ years of experience in similar positions.

Submit CVs and supporting documents to email: web2@postbox.co.na

Closing date: March 31, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR THE REZONING OF ERF 434, OUTAPI EXTENSION 1, FROM "SINGLE RESIDENTIAL" TO BUSINESS WITH BULK 3.0, OUTAPI OMUSATI REGION.

Notice is hereby given to all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) that applications for Environmental Clearance Certificates will be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 07 of 2007) for the following activities:

Project Title: Proposed Rezoning of Erf 434, Outapi Extension 1 from "Single Residential" to Business with Bulk 3.0 Location: Outapi, Omusati region
 Proprietor: Oshana Cash and Carry cc
 EAP: Green Gain Environmental Consultants cc

Project Description: The proponent intends to apply for the rezoning of Erf 434 from "Single Residential" to Business for the construction of a Business Complex. In terms of the Environmental Management Act (Act No. 07 of 2007), the rezoning of land from Single Residential to commercial use cannot be undertaken without any EIA being undertaken. I&APs are hereby invited to register, request for Background Information Document (BID), and send their comments to info@greengain.com.na on 14 April 2025.

The need for a public meeting will be communicated to all registered I&APs.



Inquiries
 +264 81 142 2927
info@greengain.com.na
<https://www.greengain.com.na>

PUBLIC INVITATION

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A RETAIL SHOPPING DEVELOPMENT IN MARIENTAL.

Notice is hereby given to all interested and Affected Parties (I & APs) that an application will be made to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and its Regulations (2012) for the following intended activity:

Project Name: Retail Shopping Development in Mariental
 Project Location: Portion 88 (A Portion of Portion C) of the Farm Kalkas No. 88, in Mariental

Project Description: The proposed development will entail the following activities:
 • The construction of a Pulpkowitz MegaBldg, AgriMarket and other shops
 • The provision of associated bulk services and roads.
 Proprietor: Jachet Properties (Pty) Ltd
 Environmental Consultant: Matrix Consulting Services

All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are encouraged to register and submit their comments, concerns or questions.

All Interested and Affected Parties will be provided with a Background Information Document (BID) comprising detailed information for the intended. A public meeting regarding the development will be held on:
 Date: Friday, 11 April 2025
 Venue: Panoram Community Hall, Mariental
 Time: 10:00 to 12:00

Should you wish to register as I&AP and receive a BID, please contact the Matrix Consulting Services office.

Contact Details: Tel: (+264-61) 234997
 Fax: (+264-61) 212168
 E-Mail: matrixna@matrixna.com
 DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS IS 18 APRIL 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Environmental & Social Management Plan (ESMP) for undertaking wind and water-based Leisure Tourism in the Lüderitz lagoon area, Lüderitz, Oshana, Namibia

Lüderitz Special Challenge (LSC) "Proponent" proposes to undertake wind surfing and kite surfing water sports in Lüderitz. The Proponent recognises the potential of wind and water-based leisure activities given the abundant wind energy in Lüderitz.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE: There is a need for compliance to requirements under the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and its EIA Regulations (GN 48A of 06 February 2012). For this reason, Consultants were appointed to support application for the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC).

PUBLIC NOTICE: This Public Notice is published in terms of Regulation 21(a) in the EIA Regulations.
 INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE: Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are notified to register in order to receive information about this proposed project by contacting the below.

Mr. Michael Matsuse
 Envirotek Consulting & Training Solutions cc
 P.O. Box 4126, Walakomund
 Email: michaelmatsuse@envirotek.com
 or 981 296509

Website: www.envirotek.com



10.3 Appendix 3. Evidence of public meeting



Stakeholder Consultation Meeting

Environmental Impact Assessment for the Proposed Exploration Activities of Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals and Precious Metals On Exclusive Prospecting Licenses 9636 between Tsumeb and Grootfontein, Otjozondjupa Region

Place: Abanob Lodge & Tours cc

Date: Friday, 04 April 2025

Time: 10:00 - 12:00

No.	Name	Gender	Organization	Position	Email	Signature
1	Olavi Mungjulu	M	Red-Dune	Consultant	mekkepo@red-dune.com	
2	Romanus Shungura	M	Huab Energy	Geological Ass.	nshungura@huab.com	
3	Fillemont Komborke	M	Huab Energy	Geological Ass.	fillemont@huab.com	
4	Marco Blume	M	Blume Farming	Farmer	marco.blume@blume-farming.com	
5	Koma Mhwalile	F	Mwambi	Farmer	komamhwalile@mwambi.com	
6	Susan Roux	(in Absentia)	RDCC	Environmental Officer	sroux@red-dune.com	
7	Josephine Uupindi	F	RDCC	Environmental Officer	jupindi@red-dune.com	
8						