

APP-005548

**THE PERMANENT CLOSURE, SUBDIVISION AND REZONING OF A PORTION
OF THE REMAINDER PLAAS HENTIESBAAI NO.125 FOR CONSTRUCTION OF
A SUBSTATION, HENTIES BAY, ERONGO REGION**

PROOF OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION



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June 2025

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Press Notice: Namibian Sun 17 and 24 February 2025

Sun

MONDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2025
NEWS

3

• VICTORY FOR CONTROVERSIAL SWAPO DISSIDENT

Shipwikineni cleared, Mubita to bear costs



SETBACK: Dr
Charles Mubita.
PHOTOS: CONTRIBUTED



CLEARED: Reinhold 'Ita Nayitsikile' Shipwikineni.

The court urged political leaders to develop a 'thick skin' and absorb criticism directed at them by their parties' rank and file

NIKANOR NANGOLO
RUNDO

The Windhoek High Court has ruled in favor of Swapo member Reinhold 'Ita Nayitsikile' Shipwikineni, dismissing a defamation lawsuit filed against him by party politburo member Dr. Charles Mubita, who was ordered to bear the legal costs of his suit.

The case stemmed from allegations made in a WhatsApp audio recording in which Shipwikineni claimed Mubita was being "used like toilet paper" by his Swapo comrades. Shipwikineni does not deny making the comment, but denied it was defamatory.

Mubita, who sought N\$370,000 in damages from Shipwikineni, alleged that the statements were false,

defamatory, and intended to cause maximum reputational harm for political gain. However, Judge Eileen Rakow granted Shipwikineni's application for absolution from the case, ruling that Mubita had failed to prove defamation. The court also ordered Mubita to cover Shipwikineni's legal costs, which Namibian Sun understands to be around N\$50,000.

Shipwikineni, represented by lawyer Norman Tjombe, argued that Mubita, as a senior Swapo official, was not immune to political scrutiny. If Mubita doesn't want to be criticized, he should vacate the political scene, he said.

The defense cited legal precedents emphasizing that public figures must withstand heightened scrutiny, especially in politically charged

environments.

Mubita, a former rector of the Swapo Party School, contended that Shipwikineni's remarks were personal attacks rather than legitimate political critique. He insisted that the statements violated his dignity, as protected under Article 8(1) of the Namibian Constitution, and demanded a declaratory order confirming their falsity, a public retraction, and an apology.

Shipwikineni, however, remained unapologetic, asserting that his comments were an expression of genuine concern over Swapo's internal governance. "I deny that the statements are defamatory or false. The contents of the WhatsApp audio are true or substantially true and were shared in the public interest," he said.

Defending his choice of words, Shipwikineni argued that he never called Mubita "toilet paper" but rather said he was "being used like toilet paper," a metaphor he insisted falls within permissible political speech.

"It is a figure of speech. Any person – even the uneducated – will understand the manner in which it was used," he stated. He emphasized that his comments were made in his capacity as a Swapo member exercising his right to hold party leaders accountable.

"Swapo leadership must be tough. They must listen to us, ordinary members, even if we use strong language to critique them," he added.

In her ruling, Judge Rakow underscored the need for public figures to develop a "thicker skin" in political discourse. While acknowledging the remarks were harsh, she ruled they were made within an internal party debate, a setting where robust discussion is expected.

Mubita's legal team expressed disappointment, warning that the decision sets a concerning precedent for political discourse. Shipwikineni, however, hailed the ruling as an affirmation of free speech within Swapo.

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NEWS IN SHORT

No general visa exemption between Namibia and China

The Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security has clarified recent misinterpretations circulating on social media regarding the mutual visa exemption between Namibia and the People's Republic of China.

The ministry emphasizes that the mutual visa exemption agreement between Namibia and China is strictly applicable to holders of diplomatic and official/service passports only.

According to a statement issued on Saturday, the Executive Director of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Etienne Maritz, stated that this exemption is bilateral, meaning it applies equally to both Namibia and China and only extends to nationals holding these specific types of passports. "It is important to note that Namibia has previously entered into similar visa exemption agreements with several other nations, all of which follow the same principles established in the Namibia-China agreement," the statement read.

"These prior arrangements, like the current one, cover only holders of diplomatic and official/service passports. The mutual visa exemption agreement between Namibia and China will enter into force 30 days after the parties have notified each other of the completion of all necessary legal requirements to implement the agreement. The public will be notified through the media on the implementation date." The ministry reiterated its commitment to transparent communication and the provision of accurate information to the public.

NIKANOR NANGOLO

Noa lê klag teen landdros

RITA KAKILO
WINDHOEK

Dennis Noa (31), wat aanvanklik aan verkragting skuldig bevind is, maar later op appél vrygespreek is, het 'n amptelike klag teen landdros Victor Nyazo ingedien.

Nyazo was die landdros wat sy verhoor aangehoor en sy vonnisoplegging behartig het.

Noa, destyds 'n leerlingdokter, is aanvanklik skuldig bevind aan die verkragting van 'n 18-jarige pasiënt by die Katutura-staatshospital vier jaar gelede. Daar is aangevoer dat die pasiënt bewusteloos was ten tyde van die beweerde verkragting.

Noa het ná sy kwytstelling klagtes by die Ombudsman, die Regterlike Dienskommissie en die kommissie vir landdroste van Namibië ingedien. Hy beskuldig Nyazo van "geregtelike wangedrag, vooroordeel en die versuim om aan regsbeginsels te voldoen".

Hy beweer dat sy grondwetlike reg op 'n regverdige verhoor geskend is. Noa het die klag op 7 Februarie ingedien.

Hy het die Regterlike Dienskommissie

aangemoedig om Nyazo vir wangedrag en moonlike geregtelike onbevoegdheid te ondersoek.

"Ek versoek dat die landdros aanspreeklik gehou word vir hierdie ernstige foute wat gelei het tot 'n dwaling van geregtigheid en die onregverdige beperking van my vryheid," het Noa gesê.

STAAT APPELEER

Nadat Noa se appelaansoek suksesvol was en hy kwytgeskied is van die aanklag teen hom, het die staat in November 'n appelaansoek by die hooggeregshof aanhangig gemaak om dié beslissing uit te daag.

In die staatsaanklaer, Magreth Tjombe, se betoë voer sy aan die appèlhof het versuim om die omstandighedsgetuienis as geheel behoortlik te oorweeg. Omstandighedsgetuienis, wat daarop dui dat 'n gebeurtenis plaasgevind het eerder as om dit direk te bewys, was volgens die staat deurslaggewend vir die saak.

Regters Herman January en Philanda Christiaan van die hoërhof, wat Noa se appelaansoek aangehoor het, het egter beslis dat Noa se skuldige bevinding nie bo redelike twyfel deur geloofwaardige getuienis ondersteun word nie.

Die regters het ook die landdros gekritiseer omdat hy die staat se gebrek aan DNS- en forensiese bewyse, oor die hoof gesien het.

Noa se regsvertegenwoordiger, Sisa Na-



Dennis Noa FOTO: ARGIEF

mandje, het verder aangevoer dat die staat se appèl nie die kwessie van beweerde penetrasie bo redelike twyfel aanspreek nie.

Die hoërhof sal op 27 Februarie beslis oor die staat se aansoek om verloop tot appèl teen Noa se kwytstelling.

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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT: PERMANENT CLOSURE, SUBDIVISION AND REZONING OF A PORTION OF THE REMAINDER PLAAS HENTIESBAAI NO.125 (A PORTION OF KABELJOU AND BENGUELA STREETS), HENTIES BAY, ERONGO REGION

Erongo RED (the Proponent) currently operates an electrical transformer in Benguela Street, Henties Bay. Due to an increase in the current and forecast demand for electricity, a new larger substation is planned. Town planning procedures are thus underway to permanently close a ± 369 m² portion of the unused road reserve of Kabeljou and Benguela Streets to enter for the substation, as well as to establish public open space. Geo Pollution Technologies (Pty) Ltd (GPT) was appointed by the Proponent to conduct an environmental assessment (EA) for the permanent closure, subdivision and rezoning of a portion of the remainder Plaas Hentiesbaai No.125 (a Portion of Kabeljou and Benguela Streets).

Additional and location information for the project can be obtained at: <http://www.thenamib.com/projects/projects.html>

The environmental assessment will be conducted according to the Environmental Management Act of 2007 and its regulations as published in 2012.

Interested and affected parties are invited to register with GPT and to share comments, issues or concerns related to the project, for consideration in the EA. Requests for additional information and comments and concerns should be submitted to GPT by 04 March 2025.

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Sun

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NEWS

3

NEWS IN SHORT

Two NamWater employees die

NamWater confirmed the death of two employees in a workplace incident last Thursday in Nankudu village, Kavango West Region.

The incident occurred during their work at the river abstraction pump at Kandjimi Murangi. The Namibian Police are conducting an official investigation, and NamWater's risk and safety officer has been deployed to assess the situation in line with internal safety protocols. Until the investigations are concluded, no further details can be provided. "We extend our deepest condolences to the bereaved families and colleagues, especially those from Business Unit North East," NamWater said in a statement.

- STAFF REPORTER

Okapare fishermen still dissatisfied

A large group of fishermen, known as the Okapare Fishermen, have expressed their dissatisfaction with the government employment redress programme. They argue that the programme has not lived up to their expectations, particularly concerning employment conditions and wages. The fishermen, who were hopeful for improved opportunities after being included in the programme, are frustrated by what they describe as "slave wages" that are inadequate to cover basic living expenses, including decent housing for themselves and their families. They claim that the fisheries ministry, along with the labour ministry, has failed to fulfil its commitments.

- STAFF REPORTER

Windhoek signs multiple MoUs

The City of Windhoek has entered into memorandums of understanding (MoUs) with nine local authorities and the National Heritage Council. The MoU with the National Heritage Council focuses on preserving cultural, historical and architectural heritage in Windhoek and its surrounding areas. New agreements have been established with the village councils of Aroab, Bethanie, Kalkrand and Omaruru Municipality. Existing agreements have been renewed with Aranos Town Council, Otjinene Village Council, Outjo Municipality, Otavi Town Council and Opuwo Town Council. Each MoU highlights specific areas of collaboration, with common priorities including waste management, economic development and trade, town planning and land management, support for small businesses and entrepreneurship, environmental management and human resource and capacity building. Mayor Ndesihafela Lalandja emphasised that these partnerships are more than symbolic – they are practical frameworks for cooperation designed to tackle shared challenges and promote sustainable development.

- STAFF REPORTER

• SENTENCING PROCEEDINGS BEGIN MARCH

Scissors murder: Afrikaner found guilty

Rodney Afrikaner killed Patricia Hochobes (39) by stabbing her multiple times with a pair of scissors during an argument at their home.

RITA KAKILO
WINDHOEK

GUILTY: Rodney Afrikaner (44) has been convicted of murdering his romantic partner and mother of his child. PHOTO: RITA KAKILO

A man accused of murdering his romantic partner six years ago by stabbing her multiple times with a pair of scissors has been found guilty.

High Court judge Claudia Claassen on Friday convicted 44-year-old Rodney Afrikaner of the fatal attack on his partner, Patricia Hochobes (39), in the Hakahana informal settlement of Windhoek in February 2019.

Afrikaner, who pleaded not guilty, was accused of stabbing Hochobes six times with a pair of scissors while she was breastfeeding

ing their seven-month-old baby.

The State, represented by prosecutor Tangeni Itula, argued that Afrikaner had stabbed Hochobes multiple times in her thigh and leg, leading to her death due to blood loss.

Afrikaner, who represented himself throughout his trial, told the court during his closing sub-

missions that if he had intended to kill Hochobes, he would have stabbed her in the neck.

"The death was a coincidence; I did not know someone could die from stab wounds inflicted on the lower part of the body," he argued.

The court described his explanation as a "misplaced perception".

"He made the decision to deliberately hold on to the scissors and stab several times. He further solidified his intentions when he left the house to sleep elsewhere, leaving her to bleed out," Judge Claassen said in her ruling.

The case has been postponed to 20 March for sentencing procedures.

Deadly fight

On the evening of 9 February 2019, Hochobes and Afrikaner became embroiled in a verbal altercation that escalated into a physical confrontation, the court heard during the trial.

During the argument, Afrikaner slapped Hochobes and then grabbed a pair of scissors from beneath the bed they shared.

The court heard that while Hochobes was sitting on their bed, Afrikaner stabbed her six times, as confirmed by the postmortem results, with a wound inflicted on her thigh.

Educated politicians are essential, expert says

KENYA KAMBOWE
ENGOYO

Editor of Namibia Fact Check Frederico Links says it is high time for an academic prerequisite to be established for aspiring politicians to hold office.

He also urged political parties to encourage aspiring leaders to invest in furthering their education.

Links made these comments last week in an interview with *Namibian Sun*, where he explained that the world has evolved beyond lead-

ers who can simply read and write – office-bearers should be able to comprehend complex development issues, he said.

"I do think there needs to be some sort of minimum academic qualification or sort of level that a politician should have. Because governance is a complex matter, whether it's at the local, regional or national level. I mean, there should really be a minimum qualification level when it comes to this," Links said.

Among the topics politicians are tasked with deciding on are budgets and

development issues at local, regional and national levels.

"You can't have people like that in this day and age sitting in decision-making positions and policy-making positions where the decisions are becoming more complex and complicated. The way of doing things is becoming more complex and complicated," Links explained.

"So, you really need people who have a level of education, a level of experience and a level of exposure that would make them an asset, a governance asset. I do think that

there needs to be some minimum level, whether it's a graduate degree or something."

Strong team needed

Links made his remarks shortly after Swapo vice-president Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, during the party's central committee meeting, urged members to focus on selecting capable leaders ahead of this year's local and regional government elections.

"It is very important that we prepare properly and aggressively for this year's elections. This election matters a lot to us because

they will determine who will be at the forefront of service delivery in our communities," Nandi-Ndaitwah said.

"The leaders we are going to field for elections at regional and local level are the ones who will implement our policies and programmes on the ground, ensuring that the promises made in the Swapo Party election manifesto are fully realised," she said. "That is why we must focus on selecting capable, committed and visionary leaders who understand the needs of the people and who will work tirelessly to improve their lives."

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Shiimi proposes 'proof of life' requirement for MP pensions

NIKANOR NANGOLO
RUNDU

Finance minister Ipumbu Shiimi has proposed amendments to the pension fund rules for parliamentarians and other office bearers to verify they are still alive and prevent fraudulent claims.

Speaking at a recent special session in the National Assembly, Shiimi recommended adding a new provision – Rule 17A – which would mandate pensioners to submit an annual certificate of existence, to ensure payments are made to the rightful recipients.

Shiimi noted that in terms of Rule 55 of the fund's rules, read together with Section 5 of the Members of Parliament

and Other Office-Bearers Pension Fund Act No. 20 of 1999, any amendment must be tabled in and approved by the National Assembly.

Shiimi also proposed revisions to the reserve account, introducing Rules 14.5, 14.6 and 14.7 under Rule 14, which would establish a data reserve account, a processing error reserve account and a risk reserve account, as recommended by the fund's actuary.

More changes

Another key amendment seeks to replace Rule 8.1, which currently gives the board of trustees discretion over the number of meetings held annually. The revised rule would mandate a minimum of

four trustee meetings per calendar year, aligning with good governance principles.

Further amendments focus on provisions related to the retirement date to align with an earlier approved rule amendment on minimum pension guarantees. Changes include updates to Rule 1 (definitions of retirement date and ill-health retirement date), as well as Rules 3.3 and 3.4.

"The National Assembly is therefore requested to approve Rule Amendment number 5 as per Rule 55 of the Pension Fund rules and Section 5 of the Members of Parliament and Other Office-Bearers Pension Fund Act No. 20 of 1999," Shiimi said.

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» Staat appelleer teen kwytstelling

Noa lê klag teen landdros

Die hoërhof in Windhoek sal volgende week oor die aansoek om verlot tot appél beslis.

» Rita Kakelo

Dennis Noa (31), wat aanvanklik aan verkragtingsskuld bevind is, maar later op appél vrygespreek is, het 'n amptelike klag teen landdros Victor Nyazo ingedien.

Nyazo was die landdros wat sy verhoor aangehoor en sy vonnisoplegging behaghet het.

Noa, destyds 'n leerlingdokter, is aanvanklik

skuldig bevind aan die verkragting van 'n 18-jarige pasiënt by die Katutura-staatshospitaal vier jaar gelede. Daar is aangevoer dat die pasiënt bewusteloos was ten tyde van die beweerde verkragting.

Noa het ná sy kwytstelling klages by die Ombudsman, die Regterlike Dienskommissie en die kommissie vir landdroste van Namibië ingedien. Hy beskuldig

Nyazo van "geregtelike wangedrag, vooroordeel en die versuim om aan regsbeginsels te voldoen".

Hy beweer dat sy grondwetlike reg op 'n regverdige verhoor geskend is. Noa het die klag op 7 Februarie ingedien.

Hy het die Regterlike Dienskommissie aangemoedig om Nyazo vir wangedrag en moontlike geregtelike onbevoegdheid te ondersoek.

"Ek versoek dat die landdros aanspreeklik gehou word vir hierdie ernstige foutte wat gelei het tot 'n

dwalang van geregtigheid en die onregverdige beperking van my vryheid," het Noa gesê.

STAAT APPELEER

Nadat Noa se appelaansoek suksesvol was en hy kwytgeskeld is van die aanklag teen hom, het die staat in November 'n appelaansoek by die hooggeregshof aangehangig gemaak om dié beslissing uit te daag.

In die staatsaanklaar, Magreth Tjombe, se betoë voer sy aan die appélhof het versuim om die om-



Dennis Noa FOTO ARGEF

standigheidsgetuïenis in geheel behoort te oorweeg. Omstandighedsgetuïenis, wat daarop dui dat 'n gebeurtenis plaas-

gevind het eerder as om dit direk te bewys, was volgens die staat deurslaggewend vir die saak. Regters Herman

January en Philanda Christiaan van die hoërhof, wat Noa se appelaansoek aangehoor het, het egter beslis dat Noa se skuldige bevinding nie bo redelike twyfel deur geloofwaardige getuïenis ondersteun word nie. Die regters het ook die landdros gekritiseer omdat hy die staat se gebrek aan DNS- en forensiese bewyse oor die hoof gesien het.

Noa se regsvertegenwoordiger, Sisa Namandje, het verder aangevoer dat die staat se appél nie die kwessie van beweerde penetrasie bo redelike twyfel aanspreek nie.

Die hoërhof sal op 27 Februarie beslis oor die staat se aansoek om verlot tot appél teen Noa se kwytstelling.

— republiekin@republiekin.com.na

Inwoners

VAN BL. 1

Die fondse wat aan die skool geskenk is, is aangewys vir die uitbreiding van die Wi-Fi-netwerk. Wolfgang verduidelik "dit is om te verseker dat alle leerlinge en onderwysers omvattende toegang tot die internet het".

"HCF se bydrae sal die bou van 'n nuwe lokaal met sinkplaat vergemaklik, wat dit moontlik maak om bykomende Engelse lesse in die middag te hou.

"Die deel van die skenking wat aan die Hoachanas-nedersettingskantoor toegeken is, word gebruik om die waterpomp van die nuwe boorgat aan die kragtoevoer te koppel, om te verseker dat water gedurende die nag of tydperke sonder sonlig in die tank gepomp kan word.

"Die tuinaakprojek onder die skadu van die sonpaneel floreer ook en bied waardevolle ondersteuning aan die plaaslike gemeenskap van Hoachanas," het hy bygevoeg.

— augusto@nmh-hub.com.na

Nujoma

VAN BL. 1

OORSKOT NA STREKE

Simataa het streke verduidelik dat hoewel die regering Nujoma se oorskot na al die streke van Namibië wil neem, logistieke uitdagings 'n meer gefokusde benadering noodsaak.

Sy oorskotsal na sleutelplekke oraloor die land geneem word. Op 20 Februarie sal Nujoma se oorskot na Etunda in die Omusati-streek geneem word, waarna dit elke dag na 'n ander dorp vervoer sal word. Die dorpe sluit in Ondangwa in die Oshana-streek (21 Februarie); Rundu in die Kavango-Oosstreek (22 Februarie); Katima Mulilo in die Zambezi-streek (23 Februarie); Grootfontein in die Otjozondjupa-streek (24 Februarie); Walvisbaai in die Erongo-streek (25 Fe-



Die wyle dr. Sam Nujoma. FOTO NAMIBIESE PRESIDENSE

bruarie) en Keetmanshoop in die Karas-streek (26 Februarie).

FINALE GEDENKDIENS, BEGRAFNIS

Op 27 Februarie sal Nujoma se oorskot na Windhoek terugkeer vir 'n finale nasionale gedenkdiens by die Onafhanklikheidsstadion, wat vir 28 Februarie geskeduleer

is. "Hierdie diens sal die nasie 'n geleentheid bied om na te dink oor sy gewelddige bydrae en ons verbintenis te bevestig tot die waardes waarvoor hy gestaan het," het president Nangolo Mbumba gesê.

Die begrafnis vind op 1 Maart by die Heldeakker plaas wat die nasionale rou tydperk sal afsluit.

HULDEBLYKE

Ná Nujoma se afsterwe het huldeblyke van honderde individue, maatskappye en nywerhede begin instroom.

Die kuns en kultuurgemeenskap het ook hul medelye betuig. Die musikant Samuel Shines het 'n liedjie met die titel "Tangi Kuku" vrygestel en dit 'n huldeblyk aan 'n visioenêre leier genoem. Die kunstenaars Big Ben en Ally Tobias het ook musiekwerke bygedra wat Nujoma se blywende invloed op Namibië se kultuur en politiek weerspieël.

VERSKEIDENE PERSPEKTIEWE

Terwyl baie oor die verlies van Nujoma treur, het sommige individue 'n kritiese besinning oor sy nalatenskap gegee.

Phil Ya Nangoloh, die direkteur van NamRights, het erkenning gegee aan Nujoma se belangrike rol in Namibië se onafhanklikwording, maar het ook kommer oor menseregte tydens sy presidentskap uitgespreek.

"Terwyl Nujoma 'n sleutelfiguur in Namibië se vryheid was, het hy ook 'n outokratiese styl gehad wat tot verdeeldheid in die land gelei het," het Ya Nangoloh onlangs gesê.

Namate Namibië sy rou tydperk voort, beklemtoon die verskillende huldeblyke en kommentaar die ingewikkeldheid van Nujoma se nalatenskap en sy diepgaande impak op die vorming van die nasie se geskiedenis.

— republiekin@republiekin.com.na

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT: PERMANENT CLOSURE, SUBDIVISION AND REZONING OF A PORTION OF THE REMAINDER PLAS HENTIESBAAI NO.125 (A PORTION OF KABELJOU AND BENGUELA STREETS), HENTIES BAY, ERONGO REGION

Erongo RED (The Proponent) currently operates an electrical transformer in Benguela Street, Henties Bay. Due to an increase in the current and foreseen demand for electricity, a new larger substation is planned. Town planning procedures are thus underway to permanently close a ± 369 m² portion of the unreserved road reserve of Kabeljou and Benguela Streets to cater for the substation, as well as to establish public open space. Geo Pollution Technologies (Pty) Ltd (GPT) was appointed by the Proponent to conduct an environmental assessment (EA) for the permanent closure, subdivision and rezoning of a portion of the remainder Plots Hentiesbaai No.125 (a Portion of Kabeljou and Benguela Streets).

Additional and location information for the project can be obtained at: <http://www.thenamib.com/projects/projects.html>. The environmental assessment will be conducted according to the Environmental Management Act of 2007 and its regulations as published in 2012.

Interested and affected parties are invited to register with GPT and to share comments, issues or concerns related to the project, for consideration in the EA. Requests for additional information and comments and concerns should be submitted to GPT by 04 March 2025.

André Paul
Geo Pollution Technologies
Tel: +264-61-257411
Fax: +264-88626368
E-Mail: erh@thenamib.com



Renosterstropery

VAN BL. 1

Kommer bestaan egter steeds weens die ongekende aantal stropers wat renostergebiede binnegaan.

"Hierdie neiging het in 2024 voortgeduur en die land het sy vierde ergste jaar van stropery aangemeld met 81 diere wat gestroop is."

Volgens die verslag is 'n aantal ingrypings vanaf Mei 2024 geïmplementeer en gedurende die tweede helfte van 2024 het Namibië slegs 22 renostersterftes verloor vergeleke met 59 diere wat in die eerste helfte van dieselfde jaar gestroop is.

Die verslag het verder bygevoeg daar is op altesaam 14 renostersterftes in 2024 beslag gelê in vergelyking met 21 in 2023.

Altesaam 77 verdagtes is ook vir renostersterftes misdaad gearrester, waarvan 59 steeds in aanhouding is en 18 borgtog toegestaan is.

Van diegene wat in begunstig geneem en verdagtes is, is 73

Namibiëse burgers, terwyl die oorblywende vier Angolese burgers is. Verder is 15 vuurwapens gekonfiseer en ses voertuie geskud.

STRATEGIE

Strategiese ingrypings wat toegas van verbeter is, sluit in dat alle K9-eenhede in Mei verlede jaar opvolgopleiding ontvang het.

Namibië volg ook die hersiene nasionale strategie vir wildbeskerming en wetstoepassing (2021 tot 2025) wat beleidsvoorskrifte en raamwerk verskaf vir algemene benaderings tot die beskerming en bewaring van wild.

Die strategie bied 'n oorkoepelende oorsig van die beskerming van wild en benaderings vir wetstoepassing. Dit sluit meer besonderhede in oor 'n strategiese program vir wildbeskerming en wetstoepassing, ondersoek en vervolging en die beskerming van renosters binne en buite beskermde gebiede.

Dit maak ook voorsiening vir die doeltreffende toepassing van wette wat hulpbronne in die land beheer. Volgens die verslag het 'n

herseniging van hierdie strategie gedurende Junie 2024 plaasgevind, met die fokus op integriteit-bestuursstelsels vir die toekoms.

Hierdie strategie het gelei tot die insluiting van perde-eenhede in twee van Namibië se nasionale parke.

Dit het ook die installering van geslote kringselvisie (CCTV)-kamerastelsels aangemoedig om monitoring en sekuriteit in sommige van die strategiese gebiede in nasionale parke te verbeter.

TAAKSPAN

Die ministerie van die omgewing, bosbou en toerisme werk nou saam met die polisie, die nasionale weermag (NDF) en nasionale intelligensiedienste om wildmisdaad landswyd te bekamp.

Luidens die verslag is die Blue Rhino-taakspan deur die ondersoekende van die ministerie en die beskermde hulpbronde afdeling saamgestel en sluit lede van al die bogenoemde entiteite in.

Lede van die polisie en NDF is in verskeie nasionale parke en

die Kunenestreek ontplooi en die taakspan hanteer alle renoster-, olifant- en ieternago-verwante voorvalle.

Die regering het ook voortgegaan om saam met nieriogerings-organisasies (NGO's) soos Save the Rhino Trust Namibia (SRT) en die Geïntegreerde Landelike Ontwikkeling en Natuurbeheer (IRDNC), veral in die Kunenestreek te werk.

Op internasionale vlak het Namibië bande met buurlande en wêreldwye wetstoepassings-agentskappe versterk.

In Junie 2024 het die regering amptelik die Black Rhinoceros Custodianship Program-strategie (2024-'33) goedgekeur, wat daarop gemik is om samewerking met private grondeienaars wat by renosterbeheer betrokke is, te verbeter. Verder werk Namibiëse owerhede nou saam met Interpol en Angolese wetstoepassings-agentskappe om stropersindikalite vas te trek, aangesien die meeste Namibiëse renostersterftes deur Angola geskied.

— republiekin@republiekin.com.na

2
NUUS

Republikein

Maandag 24 Februarie 2025

KONTAKPERSONE

NOUSREDAKTEUR
Henriette Lamprecht
081 350 3801 /
061 297 2000
henriette@republikein.
com.na

GENL. MURTALA MUHAMMEDRYLAAN, POSBUS 3436, WINDHOEK
TEL: 061 297 2000 | VOLG ONS OP:

ISSN 1560-9448

Skandeer die
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om ons te kontak.

SCAN & WIN
WEBWERFkode: 3280

Gebruik die kode om
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WEER

BINNELAND: Gedeeltelik bewolk en warm
in die Suide en noordweste met donderbuie,
elders gedeeltelik bewolk en warm met
enkele donderbuie in die verre noordooste en
Otjozondjupa en dele van die Khomasstreek.

KUS: Gedeeltelik bewolk en matig tot warm
met reën oor die sentrale dele.

GETYE BY WALVISBAAI: L: 07:08 H: 13:25
L: 19:29

VOORUITSIGTE

WINDHOEK	18°	27°
RUNDU	18°	30°
OSHKATI	20°	34°
GOBABS	22°	34°
MARIENTAL	23°	36°
KEETMANSHOOP	23°	35°
WALVISBAAI	16°	28°
LUANDA	27°	30°
JOHANNESBURG	17°	26°
KAAPSTAD	17°	23°

Staatsbegrafnis

VAN BL. 1
OU BEKENDES
Die dosent in sosiale wetenskap, prof. Johan Coetzee, is dit eens dat verteenwoordiging van die hoogste vlak vanaf Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mosambiek, Angola en die Demokratiese Republiek van die Kongo (DRK) verwag kan word. Hy is ook van mening dat China,

Venezuela, Kuba en Noord-Korea by die vertingte verdrag kan word, omdat hulle bande deur Nujoma met Namibië gevorm het. Ander Afrikaanse insluitend Tanzanië, Kenia en Nigerië word ook in die land verwag.

Coetzee is van mening dat Namibië 'n baie klein rol met betrekking tot die internasionale magstryd speel, maar Dunaiki wys daarop dat Namibië verlede jaar saam met Duitsland die VN se Beraad van die Toekoms gelei het.

"Namibië, hoewel klein, word internasionaal hoog geag tot die punt dat Namibië verlede jaar

tydens die 79ste Algemene Vergadering van die VN verkies is as voorsitter van die Beraad van die Toekoms. Dit sê baie," beklemtoon Dunaiki.

Hoewel Mirco verlede week nie antwoorde wou verskaf oor bevestigings wat reeds deur die ministerie ontvang is nie, was daar wel antwoord op van die navrae per epos wat Netwerk Media Hub (NMH) aan buitelandse ambassadeurs gerig het.

Tsegjigjig sal deur Tomas Ulicny, die ambassadeur in Namibië, verteenwoordig word.

"Oms beoog hoëvlak-verteenwoordiging by die inhuulding van die nuwe president," het die land gesê en sy spyt uitgespreek dat daar nie by Nujoma se begrafnis mee verteenwoordiging kan wees nie, aangesien hy in 1999 'n staatsbesoek aan die land gebring het.

Brasilië se ambassade sê hulle verwag 'n hoëvlak-afvaardiging, maar kon nog nie bevestig wie die land sal verteenwoordig nie.

Chargé d'affaires Brandon Hudspeth sal die Amerikaanse regering by die staatsbegrafnis verteenwoordig.

- augetto@nmh-hub.com.na

'Gekwalifiseerde politici noodsaaklik'

VAN BL. 1
Onder die onderwerpe waarvoor politici moet besluit, is begrotings- en ontwikkelingskwessies op plaaslike, streeks- en nasionale vlak.

"Jy kan nie in vandag se tyd mense in besluitnemas- en beleidmakersposisies plaas waar die besluite meer kompleks en ingewikkeld raak nie. Die manier van dinge doen word al hoe meer kompleks en ingewikkeld," het Links verduidelik.

"Jy het dus regtig mense nodig wat 'n

vlak van opvoeding, 'n vlak van ervaring en 'n vlak van blootstelling het wat hulle 'n bestuursbete sal maak. Ekdinkweldaar moet 'n minimum vlak wees, of dit nou 'n nagraadse kwalifikasie of iets is."

STERK SPAN
Links het die opmerkings gemaak kort nadat Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, ondervoorsitter van Swapo, tydens die party se sentrale komiteevergadering lede aangemoedig het om te fokus op die kies van bekwaame leiers voor vanjaar se plaaslike en streeksverkiezing.

"Dit is baie belangrik en krities dat ons behoorlik en aggressief moet voorberei vir

vanjaar se verkiesings. Hierdie verkiesing maak vir ons baie saak, omdat dit sal bepaal wie aan die voerpunt van dienslewering in ons gemeenskappe sal wees," het Nandi-Ndaitwah gesê.

"Die leiers wat ons vir verkiesings op streeks- en plaaslike vlak gaan inspan, is diegene wat ons beleid en programme ter plaatse sal implementeer en om te verseker dat die belofte wat in die Swapo-verkiesingsmanifest gemaak word, ten volle verwesenlik word," het sy gesê.

"Daarom moet ons daarop fokus om bekwaame, toegewyde en visioenêre leiers te kies wat die behoeftes van die mense verstaan en wat onvermoed sal werk om hul lewens te verbeter."

- republikein@republikein.com.na

Send your condolences via
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special Tribute Supplement.

NUJOMA ONTHOU

Hulde is die naweek aan wyle stigterspresident Sam Nujoma tydens verskeie gedenkdiensende van Walvisbaai tot Karibib, Eenhana tot Rundu en Windhoek tot Katima Mulilo gebring wat deur duisende Namibiërs bygewoon is. Netwerk Media Hub (NMH) se joernaliste was reeds doovoorlag op die toneel om die jongste nuus, soos dit gebeur, op sosiale media te deel. FOTO'S LEANDREA MUEKES/NKANOR NANGOL/KENYA KAMBWE

Trans-Kalahari-spoorweg

VAN BL. 1
Ten spyte van hierdie stappe het die uitvoerbaarheidstudie egter nog nie begin nie, weens vertraging met die finalisering van die kontrak wat nog deur die prokureur-generaal van albei lande hersien word.

Met die erkenning van die dringendheid, het die ministers alle partye aangemoedig om uitstaande prosesse te bespoedig om by die goedgekeurde planne te pas.

"Oms verwag dat ons gesprekke met ons tegnokratie vandag die broodnodige leiding sal verskaf, veral in agneme dat die voordele van hierdie projek enorm en welbekend is," het Salakae herhaal.

Mutorwa het gewaarsku teen eindelose beplanning sonder enige resultate.

"Die twee lande, deur hul regerings, kan en mag nie openbare hulpbronne—

menslike, tyd, geriewe, ens.—gebruik om 'n vergadering van hierdie omvang te reël, bloot om vertel te word hoe en hoekom dit so moeilik is, of tot die uiterste, onmoontlik gaan wees om vroeëre besluite prakties te implementeer nie."

Salakae het opgemerk dat Botswana al lank probeer om sy steenkoolreserwes wat op meer as 200 miljard ton geraam word, te monetiseer, maar vervoerbeperkings het grootskaalse uitvoere bemoeilik.

Mutorwa het beklemtoon dat buiten steenkool, die spoorlyn 'n wyer sosio-ekonomiese impak op die Suider-Afrikaanse Ontwikkelingsstreek (SADC) sal hê.

Hoewel finansiering 'n kernuitdaging was, glo Mutorwa dat beleggings van logistieke firmas en internasionale finansiële instellings die nodige hulpbronne kan verskaf.

"Daar word verwag dat die projek die reeds bestaande private sektor se innoveringsvermoë, finansies en kommersiële bestuurs-

kundigheid sal benut deur die PPP-model vir vinnige implementering van hierdie fundamentele streeksvervoerprojek," het hy gesê.

Salakae het beklemtoon hoe belangrik dit is om beleggings en gladdesamewerking tussen Botswana en Namibië te verseker om verdere vertraging te vermy. Daar was vorige besprekings oor die verkryging van finansiering van ontwikkelingsbanke en infrastruktuurbeleggingsfirmas, maar geen ooreenkomste is vasgemaak nie.

Tydens die finale sessie het albei ministers in 'n gesamentlike verklaring 'n hernieu-de verbintenis uitgespreek om die projek te lewer. Mutorwa het aanspreklikeheid gegee teen verdere stagnasie gewaarsku. Die volgende gesamentlike ministeriële komiteevergadering sal deur Botswana aangebied word op 'n datum wat nog bepaal sal word.

- republikein@republikein.com.na

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT: PERMANENT CLOSURE, SUBDIVISION AND REZONING OF A PORTION OF THE REMAINDER PLAS HENTIESBAAI NO.125 (A PORTION OF KABELJOU AND BENGUELA STREETS), HENTIES BAY, ERONGO REGION

Erongo RED (the Proponent) currently operates an electrical transformer in Benguela Street, Henties Bay. Due to an increase in the current and forecast demand for electricity, a new large substation is planned. Town planning procedures are thus underway to permanently close a ± 369 m² portion of the unused road reserve of Kabeljou and Benguela Streets to cater for the substation, as well as to establish public open space. Geo Pollution Technologies (Pty) Ltd (GPT) was appointed by the Proponent to conduct an environmental assessment (EA) for the permanent closure, subdivision and rezoning of a portion of the remainder Plas Hentiesbaai No.125 (a Portion of Kabeljou and Benguela Streets).

Additional and location information for the project can be obtained at: <http://www.thenamib.com/projects/projects.html>

The environmental assessment will be conducted according to the Environmental Management Act of 2007 and its regulations as published in 2012.

Interested and affected parties are invited to register with GPT and to share comments, issues or concerns related to the project, for consideration in the EA. Requests for additional information and comments and concerns should be submitted to GPT by 04 March 2025.

André Faal
Geo Pollution Technologies
Tel: +264-61-257411
Fax: +264-88626368
E-Mail: erfb@thenamib.com



Erongo RED – Portion of Plaas No.125, Henties Bay

[illegible]



TEL.: (+264-61) 257411 ♦ FAX.: (+264) 88626368
 CELL.: (+264-81) 1220082
 PO BOX 11073 ♦ WINDHOEK ♦ NAMIBIA
 E-MAIL: gpt@thenamib.com

To: Interested and / or Affected Party / Neighbour 17 February 2025

Re: Environmental Scoping Assessment and Environmental Management Plan for the Permanent Closure, Subdivision and Rezoning of a Portion of the Remainder Plaas Hentiesbaai No.125 (A Portion of Kabeljou and Benguela Streets), Henties Bay, Erongo Region

Dear Sir/Madam

Geo Pollution Technologies (Pty) Ltd (GPT) was appointed by the Erongo Regional Electricity Distributor Company (Pty) Ltd (Erongo RED) (the Proponent), to undertake an environmental assessment for the permanent closure, subdivision and rezoning of a portion of the remainder Plaas Hentiesbaai No.125 (a Portion of Kabeljou and Benguela Streets), Henties Bay, Erongo Region (see location map on page 2).

The assessment will be conducted according to the Environmental Management Act of 2007 and its regulations as published in 2012.

Project: Permanent Closure, Subdivision and Rezoning of a Portion of the Remainder Plaas Hentiesbaai No.125 (a Portion of Kabeljou and Benguela Streets), Henties Bay.

Proponent: Erongo Regional Electricity Distributor Company (Pty) Ltd (Erongo RED)

Environmental Assessment Practitioner: Geo Pollution Technologies (Pty) Ltd

The Proponent is mandated to supply electricity in the Erongo Region. As such, their mandate includes the construction, operations and maintenance of electrical distribution substations. Due to an increase in the current and foreseen demand for electricity, the current transformer in Benguela Street is too small and needs to be replaced/upgraded. The Proponent thus proposes construction and operations of a new electricity distribution substation at the junction of Benguela and Kabeljou Streets (Figure 1). The land on which the substation is proposed, forms part of the Remainder Plaas Hentiesbaai No. 125 and is currently zoned as a road reserve. Town planning procedures are thus underway to permanently close a $\pm 369 \text{ m}^2$ portion of the unused road reserve of Kabeljou and Benguela Streets, to cater for the substation as well as to establish public open space (see subdivision and zoning map on page 2).

Interested and affected parties or neighbours are invited to register with the environmental consultant to receive further documentation and communication regarding the project. Please register at:

Fax: 088-62-6368 or **E-Mail:** erhb@thenamib.com.

Should you require any additional information please contact Geo Pollution Technologies at telephone 061-257411.

Registration and comments should reach us by 04 March 2025.

Sincerely,
Geo Pollution Technologies

André Faul
 Environmental Practitioner

MUNICIPALITY OF HENTIESBAY
 P.O.BOX 61

17 FEB 2025

REGISTRY

Page 1 of 2

Directors:

P. Botha (B.Sc. Hons. Hydrogeology) (Managing)





Appendix A Registered IAPs & Comments Received

Notified and Registered Interested and Affected Parties

Name	Organisation	Date Registered
Annaleen and Awie Thompson	Resident	2025/03/09
A.T Reyneke	Nemi Investments Fifteen CC	2025/03/03
M Fourie	Resident	2025/03/04

E-Mail Correspondence Received

IAP Details	Comments	Response
<p>Annaleen and Awie Thompson Email: 09/03/2025</p>	<p><u><i>Initial Response:</i></u> Dear mr. Faul Receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated 26 February 2025. It is noted that you are appointed to undertake an environmental assessment for the permanent closure sub division and rezoning of a portion of inter alia Kabeljou str. for the purpose of the construction of an electrical distribution substation. We, Annaleen and Awie Thompson, owners of Kabeljou street 100, Hentiesbay, would like to register with the environmental consultant in order to receive any further documentation regarding the said project. We already send our concerns and objections regarding this project to mr. Bruce Steward. But will forward it also to you. Regards Annaleen Thompson</p> <p><u><i>Communication to Town Planner:</i></u> Good Morning Mr Stewart Since my initial communication with your office, I have noticed the public notice inviting formal objections to the project. In this regard, I kindly request Specific information regarding the proposed transformer installation. 1) The size of the transformer in KVA: I would like to know the exact size and capacity of the transformer that is planned to be installed in the park. 2) Cooling method: Please provide details on whether the transformer is air-cooled or oil-cooled. 3) Noise level in decibels: It is important for me to understand the potential noise levels that the transformer might generate, as this could impact the quality of live for residents in the vicinity.</p>	<p><u><i>Initial Notification:</i></u> Good morning Mr Thompson We have been appointed by Stewart Planning to conduct an environmental assessment for the proposed permanent closure, subdivision and rezoning of a portion of the remainder Plaas Hentiesbaai no. 125 (a portion of Kabeljou and Benguela Streets), Henties Bay. The town planning activities are being conducted in order to accommodate a new Erongo RED substation. Please find a background information (BID) document attached which, in short, explains the project, the environmental assessment process, and allows you to register and provide comments on the project. Please register and provide comments by 10 March 2024. Please note this will not be the only time allowed to provide questions or comments. The first round of questions and comments will be addressed and taken into account in the environmental assessment, and the draft environmental assessment report will then be circulated to registered parties for review and a second round of comments, if any. All comments, and details of how they are addressed, will be included in the final documents to be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Ernest (in copy) for any additional information. <i>Groete / Kind regards</i> <i>André Faul</i> <u><i>Subsequent Response:</i></u> Good morning Mr Thompson Thank you for your mail. I hereby take note of your objection and have registered you for the project. You will thus be included in all future communication with registered interested and affected parties and your communication will be included in the report. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any additional information.</p>

	<p>4) Environmental impact assessment: I would like to know the name of the company that conducted the environmental impact assessment for the proposed transformer installation.</p> <p>5) Outcome of the assessment: I request access to the outcome of the environmental impact assessment, as I believe it is crucial for residents to understand the potential impact of the project on the surrounding environment and community.</p> <p>I appreciate your attention to these specific requests and hope to receive the necessary information to form my objections to the proposed transformer installation. Please provide the requested information at your earliest convenience.</p> <p>Thank you for considering on providing the requested information.</p> <p>Regards Awie Thompson</p>	<p>Groete / Kind regards Ernest Pelser</p>
--	--	--

Communication to Municipality:

A.M.Thompson
P.O.Box 300
Hofmeyerstreet 16
Mariental
27 February 2024

MR. BRUCE STEWART
STEWART PLANNING
TOWN AND REGIONAL PLANNING
WALVIS BAY

MR. I IHANABEB
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
ERONGO RED
WALVIS BAY

MR. LEWIES VERMAAK
MAYOR OF HENTIES BAY

RE: PROPOSED ELECTRICITY SUBSTATION

I, Annaleen Thompson ID number 67030600010, am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed building plans for a substation in the small garden area in front of my property located at erf 100 Benguella street, Henties Bay.

As the owner of the property, I intend to reside there permanently in the near future, and the placement of a substation in such close proximity to residential properties raises significant concerns for the well-being and safety of the community.

Additionally, the construction of a substation in this location is likely to attract squatters and unauthorized individuals, thereby increasing security risks and potentially lowering property values in the area.




I urge the municipality/ Erongo Red to reconsider this proposal and explore alternative locations that are more suitable and less disruptive to the surrounding residential properties. It is essential to prioritize the safety, security, and property values of the residents in the area when making decisions regarding infrastructure development.

Furthermore, I kindly request that all communication regarding this matter be conducted via e-mail. Please acknowledge receipt of this letter and keep me informed of any further developments or decisions regarding this matter.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,


Awie en Annaleen Thompson
0813104400 or 0813664111
thompsonfield@iwav.na

<p>A T Reyneke Nemi Investments Fifteen CC Email: 03/03/2025</p>	<p><u>Initial Query:</u> Good afternoon, herewith please receive our registration request as a neighbour /interested party as requested as per your attached correspondence Thanks A T Reyneke member Nemi Investments Fifteen CC 2007/2052 Erf 21 Benguela street</p> <div data-bbox="586 619 1294 1353"> <p>RESOLUTION TAKEN ON A MEETING HELD BY THE MEMBERS OF NEMI INVESTMENTS FIFTEEN CC 2007/2052 HELD ON 03 MARCH 2025</p> <p>RESOLUTION</p> <p>A Decision was taken that the Close Corporation should register as an interested party/neighbour</p> <p>In the matter of the Environmental Scoping Assessment Rezoning of a Portion of the remainder Plaas Hentiesbaai No 125 as described in the letter issued by Geo Pollution (Pty) on 17 February 2025 and to attend to sign, any documents and act in the best interest of the Close Company Nemi Investments Fifteen CC 2007/2052</p> <p>Signed by:</p> <div data-bbox="600 944 743 1040">  A T Reyneke Snr Member </div> <div data-bbox="600 1098 712 1193">  A T Reyneke Jnr Member </div> <div data-bbox="600 1232 689 1327">  A E Reyneke Member </div> </div>	<p><u>Initial Response</u> Good morning Mr Reyneke Thank you for your mail and I hereby confirm your registration of Nemi Investments Fifteen CC as interested and affected party for the project. Attached is the background information document. Please share any comments with us as per the notifications. The prepared environmental assessment report and environmental management plan will be shared with you for review and comment prior to submitting them to the relevant authorities. All comments received will be included in the documents to be submitted. Do not hesitate to contact us for any additional information. Groete / Kind regards André Faul</p>
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<p>Mrs M Fourie Email: 2025/03/04</p>	<p><u><i>Initial Query:</i></u> Receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated 17 Feb'25 and it is noted that you are appointed to undertake an environmental assessment for the permanent closure sub division and rezoning of a portion of inter alia Kabeljou str for the purpose of the construction of an electrical distribution substation. As the owner of Kabeljou str 101, would like to register with the environmental consultant in order to receive any further documentation regarding the said project. I have serious objections against the proposed erection of the substation and if your recommendations is as such that Erongo Regional Electricity can proceed with the project, I will have no option than to legally contest the proposed actions. Mrs M Fourie</p>	<p><u><i>Initial Response</i></u> Good morning Mrs Fourie Thank you for your mail. I hereby take note of your objection and has registered you for the project. You will thus be included in all future communication with registered interested and affected parties and your communication will be included in the report. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any additional information. Groete / Kind regards André Faul</p>
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Concerns	Response
The size of the transformer in KVA: I would like to know the exact size and capacity of the transformer that is planned to be installed in the park.	The substation will have two transformers of 630 kVA Each. One will be present as a backup only.
Cooling method: Please provide details on whether the transformer is air-cooled or oil-cooled.	The transformers will be oil cooled, please refer to Section Error! Reference source not found. Error! Reference source not found. for more information
Noise level in decibels: It is important for me to understand the potential noise levels that the transformer might generate, as this could impact the quality of live for residents in the vicinity.	Please refer to section Error! Reference source not found. Error! Reference source not found. for more information
Safety and wellbeing of residences in close proximity to the substation.	Please refer to section Error! Reference source not found. Error! Reference source not found..
Security risks by attracting squatters and unauthorised individuals.	See section Error! Reference source not found. Error! Reference source not found..
Environmental impact assessment: I would like to know the name of the company that conducted the environmental impact assessment for the proposed transformer installation.	Geo Pollution Technologies (Pty) Ltd. Was appointed to conduct the Environmental Impact Assessment
Outcome of the assessment: I request access to the outcome of the environmental impact assessment, as I believe it is crucial for residents to understand the potential impact of the project on the surrounding environment and community.	This document is shared with you to provide additional input and feedback as desired.

Comments and Responses on Draft EIA Report and EMP Circulated to IAPs for Review

Comment	Response
Email Received: 19 May 2025 (Email contents presented as received with no changes and editing) From Mr and Ms Thompson	
As a registered party interested and affected by your proposed construction and installation of not only one, but two 630 kVA Oil Natural Cooling Transformers on the Public Open Space, C/O Kabeljou and Benguella Streets, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your Environmental Scoping Assessment Report dated April 2025 and to respond as follows:	Note that the area proposed for the substation is currently zoned as a road reserve and not public open space. It will be rezoned to utility services while a large part of the road reserve, next to the substation, will be rezoned to public open space.
I submit these comments with the full knowledge that your Project Team include suitably qualified staff in both Biochemistry and Medical Biosciences. But as you well know, Science is an exact term, tested and proven through observation, experimentation and theory. Thus, science must provide testable hypotheses and predictions in accordance with strict scientific rules. There may be no room for error. Unfortunately your assessment is too vague and in some instances totally ignorant on critical factors and concerns that were raised. Therefore it does not pass the scientific approach or test as required by the various Laws and Regulations stipulated in your own document.	Without going into too much detail on the scientific method, it should however be noted that in science nothing can be proven. Research can only support the hypothesis until it is disproved, if ever. It should also be noted that empirical scientific research and the environmental assessment process serve different purposes. Empirical research generate new knowledge or test hypotheses about how the world works (i.e. builds the evidence), while environmental assessments evaluate the potential environmental impacts of a proposed project or policy before it's implemented by applying that evidence to real-world decisions.
Our main concern remains the dangers posed to us, the residents of this neighbourhood and Henties Bay as a whole. Your Assessment describes in length the economical benefits, job creation (albeit for just a few weeks or maybe months), the impact on traffic, etc. etc. etc. The question that remain un-answered is why Alternative 3 (see your page 7, Figure 5-1) was not pursued, but rejected on financial grounds? The health and security risks with your preferred option outweigh these financial issues by far. The only way forward for expansion on Henties Bay in this particular area is to the East of this public open space and also East of the current Jakkalsputz Road. There are currently only two open plots to the West of your selected venue. And this is despite the fact that your Assessment confirms that the substation will be built in a residential area and on a public open space. Please provide me with the scientific sense in that approach.	The nature of the proposed substation is such that the potential impacts are limited to its immediate surroundings. It is highly unlikely, if not impossible, that "Henties Bay as a whole" will experience impacts. It should again be noted that the substation will be built on a road reserve rezoned to utility services and not public open space. Alternative 3 is a privately owned commercial erf which is not available to the Proponent.
Your assessment does explain our main concern of the electro-magnetic fields (EMF's) and non Ionising radiation, but fails to paint a full picture of all that will be involved or at stake here. The primary risk related to high voltage equipment, especially when two 630 kVA Transformers are housed in the same building (little room) are the potential for equipment failure, electric surges and shock, arcs and even explosions. These issues are not properly addressed in your assessment. It is a scientific fact that electrical substations emit low-frequency EMF's that are linked to serious health problems to some, but raise concern about potential health effects. For instance, once these transformers	We can calculate how quickly the field strength decrease over distance. Let's assume at 0.3 m from a 630 kVA oil-filled transformer, the field strength is 1,000 μ T (this is a worst case scenario and is more likely to be below 500 μ T). 1,000 μ T exceed ICNIRP general public limits. Using the formula $B(d) \propto 1/d^3$, we calculate the field strength at selected distances as follows: 0.5 m - 216 μ T 1 m - 27 μ T 3 m - 1 μ T

<p>are installed and operational, I will never, ever be able to invite any person with a heart pacemaker or similar health issues to my house. There is also no scientific proof or studies about the long term effects of EMF's on people in our age group. I have consulted widely on this concern and were provided with the assurance that no detailed medical or biological studies were done on a full spectrum of people in respect of the fields of sensitivity of all groups of people to EMF's.</p> <p>The fact of the matter is just that both Electromagnetic Fields and Non Ionising Radiation, more specifically magnetic flux density can only be measured with certainty once the building is erected and the substation in full operation.</p> <p>The dangers of extremely high voltages and potential shock or arc flash injuries within touching distance from my bedroom windows, are not addressed at all. Your report is also silent on Arc Flash faults due to sudden and intense electrical discharge which can and may produce extreme heat, deafening noises and high velocity shrapnel.</p> <p>As far as I read, there was only one reference in your report to the dangers of faulty or damaged components in the sub-station and its equipment which may cause electrical overload, arcs, shocks and even electrical fires. Please remember that the basis of these transformers will be oil-based!</p>	<p>5 m - 0.216 μT 10 m - 0.027 μT</p> <p>From the above it is clear that, for an exaggerated scenario, at 3m and thus just outside the transformer building, the field strength is within the IEEE and WHO recommendations for people with pacemakers in areas with long-term public exposure (0.1 to 1 μT). Since the boundary wall of the substation and the boundary wall of the nearest erf is approximately 6 m apart, the field strength at the erf boundary wall will be 0.125 μT, thus well within safe limits. To also put this in perspective, a microwave's field strength at 0.5 m typically ranges between 5 and 20 μT. Even if both transformers run simultaneously, the field strength will be within limits.</p> <p>Research and practical experience globally support the conclusion that such EMF levels are too low to interfere with devices like pacemakers or defibrillators (Beinart & Nazarian, 2013; Cooper et al., 2003). International standards for medical devices are designed with a significant margin of safety, ensuring reliable operation even in environments where EMF exposure is higher than what would occur near a typical medium-voltage transformer.</p> <p>Transformer fires and explosions are possible, but extremely rare, particularly when equipment is properly maintained. Modern distribution transformers are designed with multiple safety features, including protective relays, rapid fault detection systems, and oil containment measures. These significantly reduce both the likelihood and the consequences of any incident. Statistics suggest the probability of a fire occurring is less than 0.1% annually (Klimenko, 2020), with explosions being even less likely. In the event of transformer failure, the brick building which surround it will act as a protective barrier between the transformer and nearby receptors.</p>
<p>The next issue that requires attention is Protective barriers. We all know very well that thieves and criminals target Erongo Red and electrical installations almost on a daily basis. One of the mitigating factors proposed by experts in this field, is to erect proper protective barriers, not only to keep unauthorised people out of the building, but also to remove at least some of the dangers of noise pollution and EMF's. Your assessment, however, rejected the construction of an isolation wall around the sub-station and only recommends the use of "noise dampening material inside the substation" if noise levels exceed the WHO guidelines. By that time the substation was built and in operation already. Maybe too little.....too late by then.</p>	<p>The substation building i.e. the brick-walled structure itself is a protective barrier. The construction of an isolation wall is not rejected, but based on the assessment deemed redundant. Noise dampening materials can still be added to the substation after it has come into operation, if there is a need for it. This is also what the EMP prescribes.</p>
<p>I am of the opinion that this whole assessment needs to be re-done with the emphasis on Alternatives 2 and 3. I further demand a letter from both the proponent, its consultants and its agents to assure me with 100%</p>	<p>Noted and communicated to the Proponent for their consideration.</p>

surety that this project will in no way affect or effect the health and safe living conditions of my family and all neighbours and that the Proponent accepts full liability for any future medical costs, loss of income, loss of property value and loss of individual or group rights and freedoms as guaranteed by Law and the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia. If not, I am fully prepared to contest this matter in the highest courts of the country.

Resources and additional references:

Beinart, R. & Nazarian, S. (2013). Effects of external electrical and magnetic fields on pacemakers and defibrillators: from engineering principles to clinical practice. *Circulation*, 128(25), 2799–2809.

Cooper, J. et al. (2003). Cardiac electrophysiology: theoretical considerations of a potential target for weak electromagnetic field effects. *Radiation Protection Dosimetry*, 106(4), pp.363-368.

IEEE (2019). IEEE Std C95.1-2019: Safety Levels With Respect to Human Exposure to Electric, Magnetic, and Electromagnetic Fields, 0 Hz to 300 GHz. IEEE.

Klimenko, X.A. (2020). Study of the influence of magnetic properties of amorphous alloys on the electromagnetic field of current transformers. *IOP Conference Series: Materials Science and Engineering*, 862, p.062098.

Rathebe, P.C. et al. (2024). Extremely low-frequency electromagnetic fields from indoor transformers: a review of occupational and residential exposure assessment studies. *Cogent Engineering*, 9(1), Article 2399302.

Szabó, J. et al. (2007). Survey of residential 50 Hz EMF exposure from transformer stations. *Bioelectromagnetics*, 28, pp.48-52.

Tomitsch, J. et al. (2010). Survey of electromagnetic field exposure in bedrooms of residences in lower Austria. *Bioelectromagnetics*, 31, pp.200-208.

WHO (2007). Environmental Health Criteria 238: Extremely Low Frequency Fields. Geneva: World

Appendix B Consultant's Curriculum Vitae

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST**André Faul**

André entered the environmental assessment profession at the beginning of 2013 and since then has worked on more than 240 Environmental Impact Assessments including assessments of the petroleum industry, harbour expansions, irrigation schemes, township establishment and power generation and transmission. André's post graduate studies focussed on zoological and ecological sciences and he holds a M.Sc. in Conservation Ecology and a Ph.D. in Medical Bioscience. His expertise is in ecotoxicological related studies focussing specifically on endocrine disrupting chemicals. His Ph.D. thesis title was The Assessment of Namibian Water Resources for Endocrine Disruptors. Before joining the environmental assessment profession he worked for 12 years in the Environmental Section of the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Namibia, first as laboratory technician and then as lecturer in biological and ecological sciences.

CURRICULUM VITAE ANDRÉ FAUL

Name of Firm	:	Geo Pollution Technologies (Pty) Ltd.
Name of Staff	:	ANDRÉ FAUL
Profession	:	Environmental Scientist
Years' Experience	:	24
Nationality	:	Namibian
Position	:	Environmental Scientist
Specialisation	:	Environmental Toxicology
Languages	:	Afrikaans – speaking, reading, writing – excellent English – speaking, reading, writing – excellent

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL STATUS:

B.Sc. Zoology:	University of Stellenbosch, 1999
B.Sc. (Hons.) Zoology:	University of Stellenbosch, 2000
M.Sc. (Conservation Ecology):	University of Stellenbosch, 2005
Ph.D. (Medical Bioscience):	University of the Western Cape, 2018

First Aid Class A	EMTSS, 2017, OSH-Med, 2022
Basic Fire Fighting	EMTSS, 2017, OSH-Med, 2022

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY AFFILIATION:

Environmental Assessment Professionals of Namibia (Environmental Assessment Practitioner)

AREAS OF EXPERTISE:

Knowledge and expertise in:

- ◆ Environmental Assessment and Environmental Management Plans
- ◆ Water Sampling, Extractions and Analysis
- ◆ Biomonitoring and Bioassays
- ◆ Biodiversity Assessment
- ◆ Toxicology
- ◆ Restoration Ecology

EMPLOYMENT:

2013-Date	:	Geo Pollution Technologies – Environmental Scientist
2005-2012	:	Lecturer, University of Namibia
2001-2004	:	Laboratory Technician, University of Namibia

PUBLICATIONS:

Publications:	5
Contract Reports:	+240
Research Reports & Manuals:	5
Conference Presentations:	1