Environmental Scoping and Management Report

Prospecting Activities in respect to Dimension Stone, Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Mineral, Precious Metals on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) 9079, Otjozondjupa Region

AUGUST 31

Compiled for: The Director
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Final Version 1

DOCUMENT INFORMATION AND APPROVAL		
Title	Application for Environmental Clearance Certificate for the Proposed Prospecting Activities in respect to Dimension Stone, Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Mineral, Precious Metals	
ECC Application Reference number	APP-005685	
Location	On Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) 9079, Otjozondjupa Region	
Proponent	The Director Rhonium Namibia Investments cc P.O. Box 8379, Windhoek Namibia, 9000 Mobile: +264 81 403 6050	
Author:	Signature	Date
Mr. Lawrence Tjatindi (EAP) 1		23 February 2025
Approval – Proponent		
SHUO YU YEUNG (COO, for the Proponent)		24 February 2025

Declaration of authorship

APPLICATION NUMBER: APP-005685

Project Title:

Proposed Prospecting Activities in respect to Dimension Stone, Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Mineral, Precious Metals on Exclusive Prospecting Licence (EPL) 9079, Otjozondjupa Region

I Lawrence Tjatindi (full name of Environmental Assessment Practitioner - EAP) understand and agree that the information I have furnished in this submission will be reviewed by the Office of the Environmental Commissioner (OEC). I accept that the Environmental Commissioner, will hold me accountable in terms of Section 43(1)(b) of the Environmental Management Act, Act No. 7 of 2007 for any inaccurate or misleading information knowingly provided in the following documentation.

Tick the box (es) applicable to your submission:

- ☐ Pro Forma Environmental Contract for Mining Claim(s)
- ☐ Environmental Questionnaire for Mining
- ☒ Scoping report
- ☐ Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
- ☒ Environmental Management Plan (EMP)
- ☐ Consent from Relevant Authority

I certify, and, acknowledge that the provision of such information will impede the lawful carrying out of the duties, responsibilities and functions of the Environmental Commissioner. I declare that the information submitted is my own work. All direct or indirect sources used are acknowledged as references.

Consultancy Name: Enviro-Leap Consulting cc

EAP Signature: L Tjatindi

Date: 24/02/2025

NB- To be submitted jointly with Scoping Report, EIA, and EMP documents to the Office of the Environmental Commissioner

081 2623636
20.04.2024
To be picked up

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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Received
Department of Mines

Enquiries: Mr. S.J. Simon
Reference No: 14/2/4/1/9079

The Directors
Rhonium Namibia Investments CC
P. O. Box 2014
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Namibia

NOTICE TO APPLICANT OF PREPAREDNESS TO GRANT APPLICATION FOR EXCLUSIVE PROSPECTING LICENCE No. 9079.

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 **17 October 2022**, for an exclusive prospecting licence in respect of **Dimension Stone, Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals, 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) initialling each page of the schedule and the diagrams; and

(c) returning such signed and initialled documents to the Commissioner.

Ministry of Mines and Energy
Mining Commissioner
2024 -01- 29
Department of Mines

29/01/2024

Ms ISABELLA CHIRCHIR
MINING COMMISSIONER

All official correspondence must be addressed to the Executive Director

B11

Project Overview

Rhonium Namibia Investments cc, the proponent is the sole Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) 9079 holder, and a Namibian registered company that ventures into the prospecting and mining sector i.e. small-scale exploration and quarrying of Dimension Stone, Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Mineral, Precious Metals.

The proponent aim is to take advantage of the opportunity for self-employment and job creation that exist in the small-scale quarrying industry. RNI Investment intents on establishing and operating a quarry on their Exclusive Prospecting License (**EPL 9079**) site, the **EPL 9079** is situated in North-east Namibia, with its boundaries extending across the Otjozondjupa Region and approximately 16 km North-east of the Otavi Town. The EPL is accessible directly via the B1 Highway connecting Otavi to Tsumeb and then D3022 gravel road.

Principally, the proponent intends to explore (desktop geological study, collection of bulk samples and identification of previous activity in the area where the mineral of interest were conducted) and intends to further establish and undertaking an exploration programme and potentially developing a mine in respect in respect to Dimension Stone, Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Mineral, Precious Metals..

Potential impacts may vary in terms of scale (locality), magnitude and duration e.g. minor negative impacts in the form of dust and noise pollution especially during the handling (loading and off-loading) will be experienced.

Need for the Proposed Project

Mining contributes about 25% to the Namibian GDP income, and thus the largest contributor to the Namibian economy. As in many African countries, mining is a key source of mineral commodities essential for maintaining and improving standards of living. Most important, the Namibian government makes provision for its citizens to obtain various prospecting license in order to create self-employment or business opportunities.

Overall, the exploration activities is expected to generate full time medium to long term direct employment for at least 5-10 workers. The majority of workers to be employed on the proposed exploration project are expected to be skilled and/or semi-skilled (general labourers and operators).

Critically, going ahead with the proposed activity creates potential for the following marginal net benefits:

- Contribution Taxes and Royalty
- Technological Skill and Knowledge transfer
- Creates the most needed employment opportunities

Project Description

The proponent aim is to take advantage of the opportunity for self-employment and job creation that exist in the small-scale quarrying industry. RNI Investment intents on establishing and operating a quarry on their Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL 9079) site, is situated in North-east Namibia, with its boundaries extending across the Otjozondjupa Region and approximately 16 km North-east of the Otavi Town.

Principally, the proponent proposes to implement their prospecting programme to determine the viability of the EPL for potential development into a sustainable mine operation by way of continuing to explore (desktop geological study, collection of bulk and or geological samples and identification of previous activity in the area where similar mineral mining were conducted) and to obtain bulk-samples for further laboratory analysis by use of hand-held equipment and to small degree drilling.

The Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL 9079) area is accessible directly via the B1 Highway connecting Otavi to Tsumeb and then D3022 gravel road. The following supporting infrastructures and services will be required:

(i) Prospecting operational equipment: Excavators, wheel / forklift loaders, diesel generator sets, four-cylinder mining machines, wire saw machines, containers, trucks, 4 by 4 cars and air-compressors.
(ii) External and internal roads network: The Proponent utilize the already existing external and internal road networks and created additional new access road linking the quarries (mine) sites to the main access;
(iii) Water supply: Raw water will be sourced from local groundwater resources. The Proponent will utilize the existing boreholes and will also drill additional boreholes as nay be require;
(iv) Energy: Proposed mining operations on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL 9079) will use Onsite administrations and offices (supporting infrastructure): The Proponent will utilize containerized systems;
(v) Waste Rock: Waste rock will be used for mine rehabilitation. The effective capacity of the waste rock facility will vary but is likely to be in range of 120 × 90 m3, calculated with 0.85

The proposed exploration activities mainly consist of the following prospecting activities:

i. Geophysical surveys: entails data collection of the substrata, by air or ground, through sensors such as radar, magnetic and electromagnetic to detect any mineralization.

   This mainly entails a desktop review of geological area maps and ground observations. This includes the review of geological maps of the area and on-site ground traverses observations and an update where relevant information obtained during previous geological studies of the area.

ii. Bulk and or Core Drilling: Should analyses by an analytical laboratory be positive, holes are drilled and drill samples collected for further analysis. This will determine the depth of the potential mineralization.

iii. Lithology geochemical surveys: rock samples shall be collected and taken for trace element analysis to be conducted by analytical chemistry laboratories to determine if sufficient quantities of base & rare or precious metal or other minerals of interest are present.

   Also, trenches or pits may be dug depending on the commodity (in a controlled environment e.g. fencing off and labelling activity sites.

Need for Environmental Assessment

While increased economic activities can stimulate demographic changes and alter social, economic and environmental practices in many ways. Adverse environmental and socio-economic impacts have become a major area of concern for the business community, their customers, and other key stakeholders. As a result, companies seek to manage these impacts as part of their ethical and sustainable business conduct. Similarly, identifying, avoiding, mitigating and managing impacts, is a necessary condition for Rhonium Namibia Investments cc to undertake its operation in compliance with the environmental legislative requirements in Namibia.

Approach to the EIA Process

The assessment process consisted of a site visit to the project location and public consultation meetings with the Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs). An environmental scoping and management plan (EMP) were compiled and constitute the application for an Environmental Clearance Certificate submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (Office of Environmental Commissioner).

Overall Recommendation

Based on the findings of the environmental scoping assessment, which concludes that all potential negative impacts associated to the proposed RNI Investment's prospecting operations are minimal and practical mitigation measures are available. Equally, the positive impacts can be harnessed to increase the net marginal benefits relating to the socio-economic aspects of the operations.

The proposed operations is considered to have an overall low negative environmental impact and an overall moderate positive socio-economic impact (with the implementation of respective mitigation and enhancement measures).

The following is a summary of the likely negative impacts that have been assessed for the different phases of the proposed exploration activities:
Land use (Likely impacts are negligible; the prospecting license area and sites are isolated from the distant settlements, and conservation zones).
Noise (Likely impacts are low as the site is far from residential areas).
Ecological and biodiversity loss (Likely impacts are localized and low).
Health and safety (Overall likely impacts are low with correct PPE).
Solid and hazardous waste management (Likely impacts are low with a solid waste management plan and minimal hydrocarbon fuel use).
Socioeconomic (Likely negative impacts are low)

Taking into consideration the findings of the environmental scoping assessment process and given the national and regional strategic requirements for infrastructure development and economic growth, it is the opinion of the EAP that the project benefits outweigh the costs and that the project will make a positive contribution towards steering Namibia on its pathway towards its vision of becoming an industrialized nation.

Provided that the specified mitigation measures are applied effectively, it is recommended that RNI Investments are issued with an ECC in terms of the Section 32 of the EMA No. 7 of 2007 and it's EIA Regulations of 2012.

glossary

AfDB	African Development Bank
BID	Background Information Document
BoN	Bank of Namibia
CA	Competent Authority
DEAF	National Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry
EA	Environmental Authorization
ECC	Environmental Clearance Certificate
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMA	Environmental Management Act
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
RNI	Rhonium Namibia Investments
EPL	Exclusive Prospecting License
GPS	Geographical Positioning System
MAWLR	Ministry of Agriculture Water and Land Reform
MC	Mining Claim
MME	Ministry of Mines and Energy
MEFT	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism
IMF	International Monetary Fund
I&AP	Interested and Affected Parties
PPP	Public Participation Process
SADC	Southern African Development Community
UN	United Nations

contents

1. INTRODUCTION

The Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 (also referred to as the EMA) and its Regulations promulgated in the Government Gazette No. 4878 of 2012, stipulates that for each developmental activity, which is listed as those that may not be undertaken without obtaining and Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC), an Environmental Assessment (EA) must be conducted. The proposed prospecting and mining / quarrying for mineral commodity triggers some listed activities in terms of the EMA.

Therefore, an environmental assessment must be conducted with an aim to identify, assess and ascertain potential environmental impacts that may arise as a result of undertaking the proposed operations. Hence, the environmental assessment is a process by which the potential impacts, whether positive or negative are predicted / identified, findings interpreted and communicating to interested and affected parties (I&APs) for inputs.

Additionally, this report presents findings of an environmental scoping process that evaluates the likely socio-economic and environmental effects the proposed operation, and further identifies suitable mitigation measures for avoiding or minimizing the predicted impacts. The envisioned EIA process was undertaken in a holistic approach encompassing different elements as shown in ***Figure 1***.

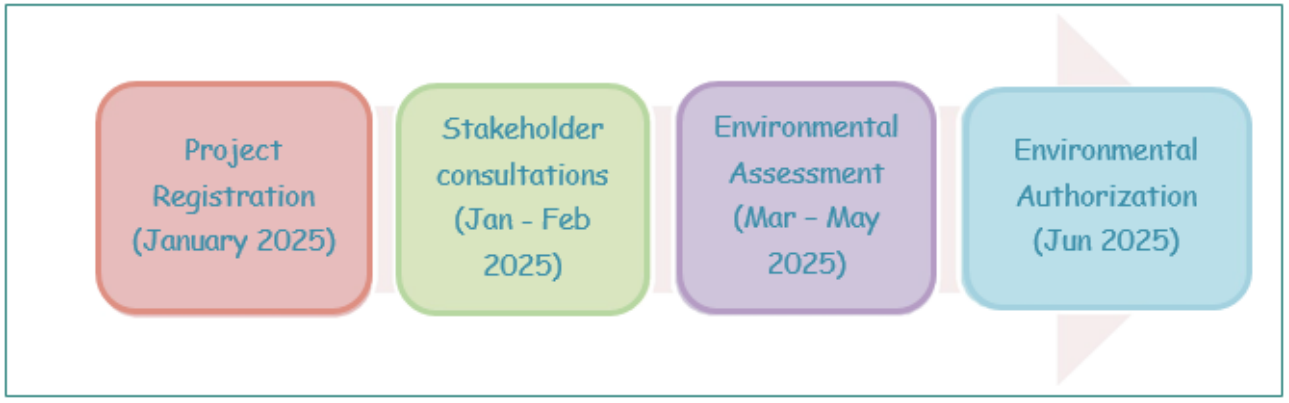

Figure 1: *Anticipated Environmental Assessment Timeline*

1.1. PROJECT APPLICANT AND PROJECT OVERVIEW

Rhonium Namibia Investments cc, the proponent is the sole Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) 9079 holder, and a registered business which wishes to ventures into the prospecting and mining sector i.e. small-scale exploration and quarrying of Dimension Stone, Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Mineral, Precious Metals.

The proponent aim is to take advantage of the opportunity for self-employment and job creation that exist in the small-scale quarrying industry. RNI Investment intents on establishing and operating a quarry on their Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL 9079) site, is situated in North-east Namibia, with its boundaries extending across the Otjozondjupa Region and approximately 16 km North-east of the Otavi Town. The EPL is accessible directly via the B1 Highway connecting Otavi to Tsumeb and then D3022 gravel road.

Principally, the proponent intends to implement their prospecting programme to determine the viability of the EPL for potential development into a sustainable mine operation by way of continuing to explore (desktop geological study, collection of bulk and or geological samples and identification of previous activity in the area where similar mineral mining were conducted) and to obtain bulk-samples for further laboratory analysis by use of hand-held equipment and to small degree drilling.

Principally, the proponent proposes to develop their prospecting license into a sustainable Exploration and mining development programme while they continue to explore (desktop geological study, collection of bulk and or geological samples and identification of previous activity in the area where similar mineral mining were conducted) and to obtain bulk-samples for further laboratory analysis by use of hand-held equipment and to small degree drilling.

The Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL 9079) is situated in North-east Namibia, with its boundaries extending across the Otjozondjupa Region and approximately 16 km North-east of the Otavi Town. The EPL is accessible directly via the B1 Highway connecting Otavi to Tsumeb and then D3022 gravel road. Consequently the claims area is accessible by 2x4 / 4x4 pick-up vehicle by the existing tracks and otherwise, the sensitive section of the area will only be accessed by foot to ensure minimum impacts on the receiving environment.

1.2. PROJECT MOTIVATION (INCLUDING NEED AND DESIRABILITY)

Mining contributes about 25% to the Namibian GDP income, and thus the largest contributor to the Namibian economy. As in many African countries, mining is a key source of mineral commodities essential for maintaining and improving standards of living. Most important, the Namibian government makes provision for its citizens to obtain various prospecting license in order to create self-employment or business opportunities.

Rhonium Namibia Investments cc, were therefore presented an opportunity to venture into the sector by undertaking an exploration programme and potentially developing a mine in respect in respect to Dimension Stone, Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Mineral, Precious Metals.

1.2.1. Need and Desirability

Overall, the exploration activities is expected to generate full time medium to long term direct employment for at least 10 – 20 workers. The majority of workers to be employed on the proposed mining operation project are expected to be skilled and/or semi-skilled (general labourers and operators).

Critically, going ahead with the proposed activity creates potential for the following marginal net benefits:

- Contribution to Taxes and Royalty
- Technological Skill and Knowledge transfer
- Creates the most needed employment opportunities
- Attainment of the SDGs 1 and 8 in Namibia

1.3. REQUIREMENTS FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

While increased economic activities can stimulate demographic changes and alter social, economic and environmental practices in many ways. Adverse environmental and socio-economic impacts have become a major area of concern for the business community, their customers, and other key stakeholders. As a result, companies seek to manage these impacts as part of their ethical and sustainable business conduct. Similarly, identifying, avoiding, mitigating and managing impacts, is a necessary condition RNI Investment's to undertake its operation in compliance with the environmental legislative requirements in Namibia.

To ensure that development activities are undertaken in an economic, social and environmental sound / sustainable manner, the Namibian Constitution and Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 provides for an environmental assessment process.

The purpose of the environmental assessment and therefore this report are to ensure compliance of the proposed operations with the environmental legislation in respect to managing potential impacts associated with the proposed RNI Investment's Mining and Exploration activities operations:

- Identifying potential socio-economic and environmental impacts
- Proposing management measures to avoid, prevent and of mitigate these
- Compile an Environmental Management for compliance monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the Environmental Clearance Certificate conditions

Table 1: List of activities identified in the EIA Regulations which apply to the proposed project

EMA 2007 Legislation	Description of activity	Relevance to Rhonium Namibia Investments cc Mining and Exploration
Activities 2	2.1 The construction of facilities for waste sites, treatment of waste and disposal of waste. 4 Government Gazette 6 February 2012 No. 4878 2.2 Any activity entailing a scheduled process referred to in the Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Ordinance, 1976. 2.3 The import, processing, use and recycling, temporary storage, transit or export of waste.	The operation has a component of generation, waste management, handling and disposal
Activity 3	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 Quarrying Act), 1992.	The construction of facilities for the purpose of carrying out a listed activities
Activity 4	4. The clearance of forest areas, deforestation, afforestation, timber harvesting or any other related activity that requires authorization in term of the Forest Act, 2001 (Act No. 12 of 2001) or any other law.	The clearance of vegetation areas to allow the quarrying activity to take place
Activity 9	9.1 Manufacturing, storage, handling or processing of a hazardous substance defined in the Hazardous Substances Ordinance, 1974.	The operation has a component of storage and handling of a dangerous goods, including petrol, diesel, and liquid petroleum gas or paraffin onsite.

Therefore, RNI Investment appointed Enviro-Leap Consulting to conduct an environmental assessment and facilitate the process of obtaining and Environmental Clearance Certificate.

1.4. EIA TEAM

RNI Investment to undertake the EIA required for the proposed project. A public participation process (PPP) forms an integral part of the Environmental Assessment Process to aid in identifying issues and possible alternatives for consideration. Details on the PPP are included in section 4 of this Scoping Report.

Table 2: *The EIA Management Team*

NAME	ORGANISATION	ROLE / SPECIALIST STUDY UNDERTAKEN
Environmental Assessment Practitioners		
Lawrence Tjatindi	Enviro-Leap Consulting cc	Environment Practitioner
Virimuje Kahuure	Enviro-Leap Consulting cc	Internal Reviewer

1.5. DETAILS AND EXPERTISE OF THE EAP

Over the past four years the Enviro-Leap Consulting has been involved in a multitude of Environmental Assessment projects across SADC and within Namibia. The Environmental Practitioners of Enviro-Leap Consulting has a combined of more than 35 years' experience in the environmental sector (management and policy), ecological research and stakeholder engagement. Consequently, the team offers a wealth of experience and appreciation of the environmental and social priorities and national policies and regulations in Namibia.

1.6. OBJECTIVES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT

The primary objective of this EA Report is to present stakeholders, I&APs and the Competent Authority, the DEA, with an overview of the predicted impacts and associated management actions required to avoid or mitigate the negative impacts; or to enhance the benefits of the proposed RNI Investment operations.

In broad terms, the 2012 EMA EIA Regulations (GG 4878) stipulates that an EIA Process must be undertaken providing to determine the potential environmental impacts, mitigation and closure outcomes, as well as the residual risks of any listed activity.

Therefore, based on these (EIA Regulations), the objectives of the Environmental Assessment (EA) Process is to:

- determine the policy and legislative context within which the activity is located and note how the proposed activity complies with and responds to the policy and legislative context;
- describe the need and desirability of the proposed activity, including the need and desirability of the activity in the context of the preferred location;
- identify the location of the development footprint within the preferred site based on an impact and risk assessment process inclusive of cumulative impacts and a ranking process of all the identified development footprint alternatives focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage and cultural aspects of the environment;
- determine the nature, significance, consequence, extent, duration and probability of

the impacts occurring to inform identified preferred alternatives; and the degree to which these impacts (a) can be reversed; (b) may cause irreplaceable loss of resources, and (c) can be avoided, managed or mitigated; and

- identify suitable measures to avoid, manage or mitigate identified impacts;

In terms of legal requirements, a crucial objective of the Environmental Scoping or EIA Report is to satisfy the requirements of EIA Regulations in respecting to obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate. This section regulates and prescribes the content of the Scoping Report and specifies the type of supporting information that accompany the submission of the ECC application to the Competent Authority.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This section provides an overview of the exploration and mining development programme on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL 9079), sites and technology selection process for identifying the most suitable exploration techniques to be adopted.

2.1. OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED MINING AND EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES

The immediate focus of planned exploration focused on interpreting the pending rock and soil samples as well as the historical data. The core activities of RNI Investment's proposed operations, is to implement their prospecting programme to determine the viability of the EPL for potential development into a sustainable mine operation by way of continuing to explore (desktop geological study, collection of bulk and or geological samples and identification of previous activity in the area where similar mineral mining were conducted) and to obtain bulk-samples for further laboratory analysis by use of hand-held equipment and to small degree drilling (as illustrated in **Figure 3**).

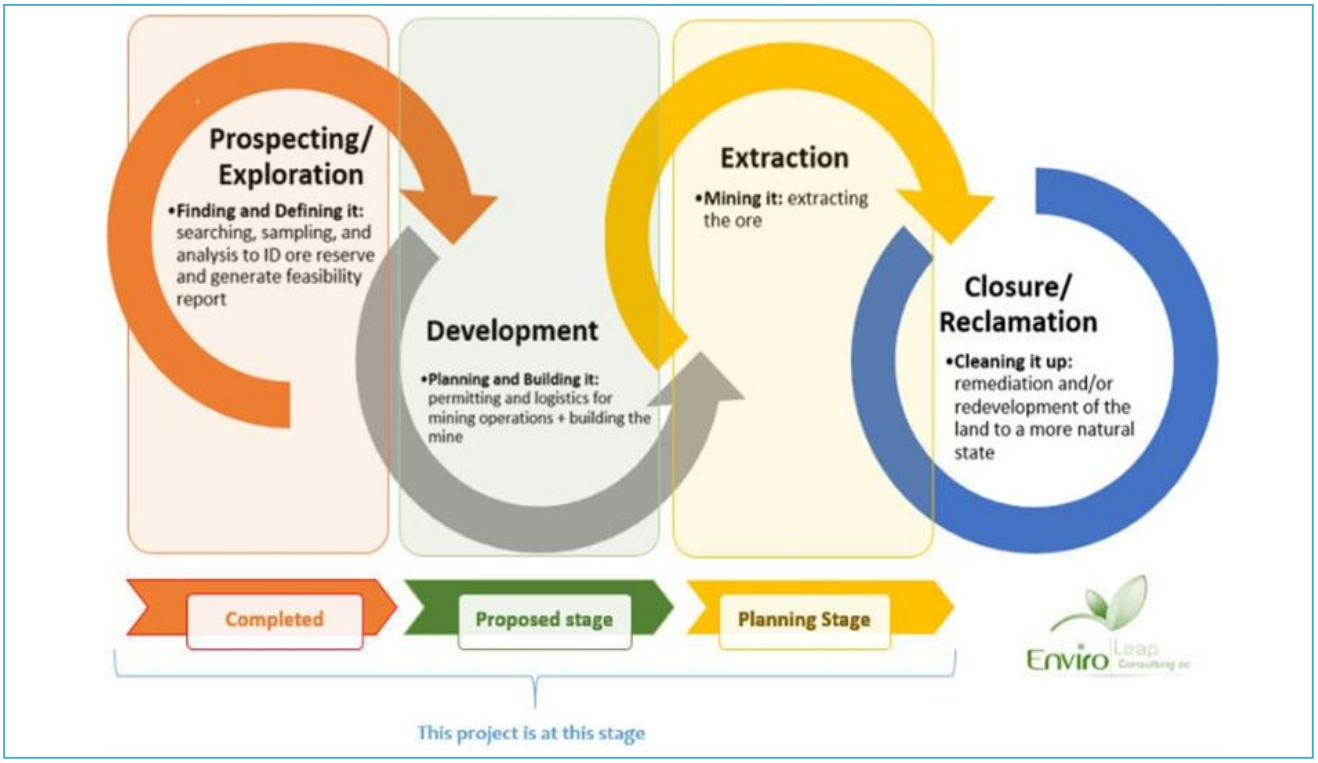

Figure 3: Shows a mineral discovery development life cycle, highlighting the current stage

The proposed exploration activities mainly consist of the following prospecting activities:

- Geological mapping: this mainly entails a desktop review of geological area maps and ground observations. This includes the review of geological maps of the area and on-site ground traverses and observations and an update where relevant, of the information obtained during previous geological studies of the area.

- Lithology geochemical surveys: rock samples shall be collected and taken for trace element analysis to be conducted by analytical chemistry laboratories to determine if sufficient quantities of base & rare or precious metal or other minerals of interest are present.

Also, trenches or pits may be dug depending on the commodity (in a controlled environment e.g. fencing off and labelling activity sites) adopting manual or excavator to further investigate the mineral potential.

These consists of small pits (±20cm X 20cm X 30cm) will be dug where 1 kg samples can be extracted and sieved to collect 50 g of material. As necessary, and to ensure adequate risks mitigation, all excavations will either be opened and closed immediately after obtaining the needed samples or the sites fenced off until the trenches or pits are closed. At all times, the landowner and other relevant stakeholder will be engaged to obtain authorisation where necessary.

- Geophysical surveys: entails data collection of the substrata (in most cases service of an aero-geophysical contractor will be soured), by air or ground, through sensors such as radar, magnetic and electromagnetic to detect any mineralization in the area, and are conducted to ascertain the mineralisation.

  Ground geophysical surveys shall be conducted, where necessary using vehicle-mounted sensors or handheld by staff members, while in the case of air surveys the sensors will be mounted to an aircraft, which then flies over the target area.

- Bulk Sampling: Evidence of previous mining activity or abandoned mine sites will be sought within the EPL area, samples collected and sorted for further laboratory analysis to determine local concentration of (Ore containing Lithium, Tantalum and Copper and other mineral of interest) as per the sample analysis results, **Figure 3**).

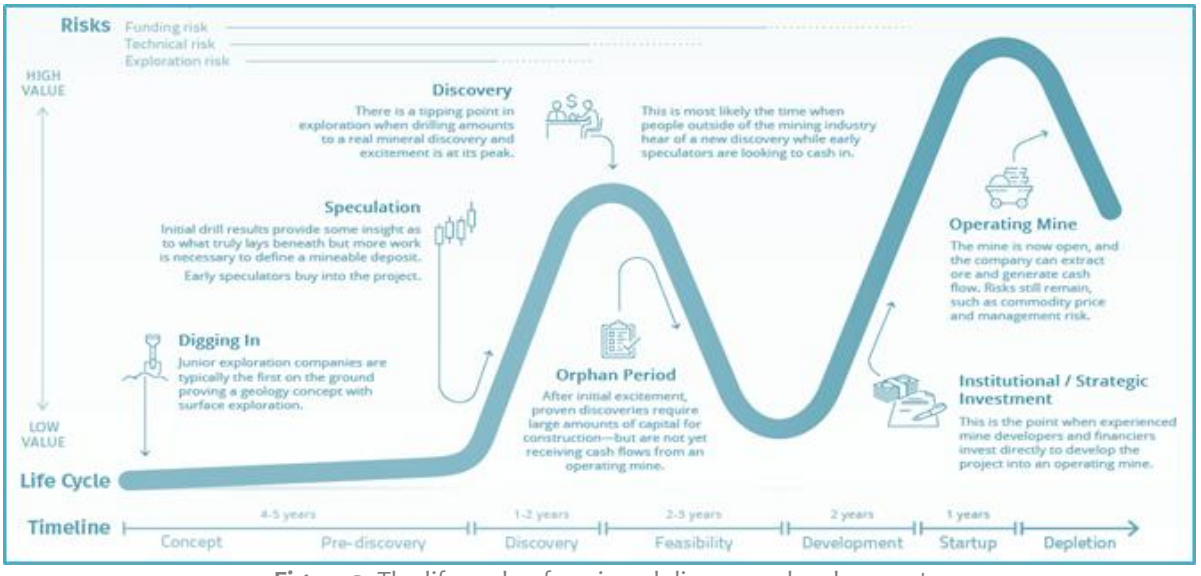

Figure 3: The life cycle of a mineral discovery development

A typical bulk-sampling site will consist of a front-end loaders and excavator equipment, and overburden material is excavated, lithium ore extracted and stored in large bags prior to being exported to and a drill equipment parking and maintenance yard (including a fuel and lubricants storage facility).

- Drilling / Bulk Sampling: Should analyses by an analytical laboratory be positive, holes are drilled and drill samples collected for further analysis. This will determine the depth of the potential mineralization. If necessary new access tracks to the drill sites will be created and drill pads will be cleared in which to set the rig. However, at this stage the proponent does not intent to conduct any sampling activities.

  A typical drilling site will consist of a drill-rig, drill core and geological samples store and a drill equipment parking and maintenance yard (including a fuel and lubricants storage facility).

2.2. PROJECT RATIONALE (MOTIVATION, NEED AND DESIRABILITY)

2.2.1 Project Motivation

The proposed activity responds to Namibia's strategic vision 2030 and the NDP5 of creating a conducive environment within which its citizens prospers and contribute to the national development goals by creating employment opportunities. Overall, this activity contribute to the nation's efforts of elevating poverty amongst the rural citizens.

Critically, going ahead with the proposed activity on EPL 9079 creates a potential for the following marginal net benefits:

- Contribution Taxes and Royalty
- Technological Skill and Knowledge transfer
- Creates the most needed employment opportunities

2.2.2 Project Need and Desirability

Mining contributes about 25% to the Namibian GDP income, and thus the largest contributor to the Namibian economy. As in many African countries, mining is a key source of mineral commodities essential for maintaining and improving standards of living. Most important, the Namibian government makes provision for its citizens to obtain various prospecting license in order to create self-employment or business opportunities.

Rhonium Namibia Investments cc , were therefore presented an opportunity to venture into the sector by undertaking prospecting activities to determine viability for potential establishing a Mine and or a Marble Quarry in respect to Dimension Stone, Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Mineral, Precious Metals commodities.

Overall, the exploration activities is expected to generate full time medium to long term direct employment for at least 5-10 workers. The majority of workers to be employed on the proposed exploration project are expected to be skilled and/or semi-skilled (general labourers and operators).

2.3. PROJECT LOCATION

The Exclusive Prospecting License is situated in North-east Namibia, with its boundaries extending across the Otjozondjupa Region and approximately 16 km North-east of the Otavi Town.

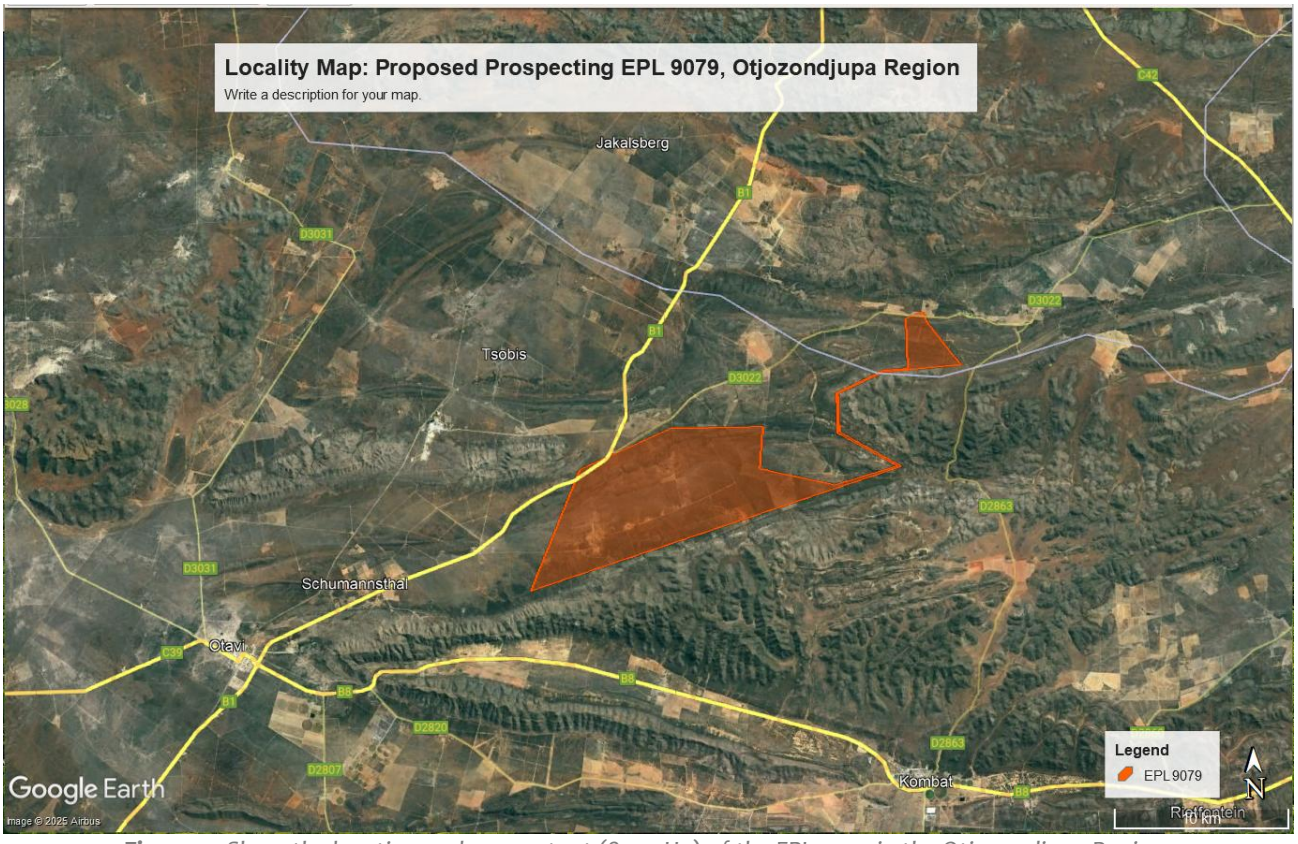

Figure 4: *Show the location and area extent (8473 Ha) of the EPL 9079 in the Otjozondjupa Region*

Table 3: *Mining Claim's Centre coordinates of the proposed development site*

Corner point	Latitude	Longitude
A – EPL 9079 Corner Point 1	19°36'37.81"S	17°29'58.73"E
B – EPL 9079 Corner Point 2	19°32'53.45"S	17°31'41.18"E
C – EPL 9079 Corner Point 3	19°31'36.26"S	17°34'41.51"E
D – EPL 9079 Corner Point 4	19°28'27.13"S	17°42'47.08"E
E – EPL 9079 Corner Point 5	19°29'53.35"S	17°44'34.99"E
F – EPL 9079 Corner Point 6	19°33'9.02"S	17°42'26.66"E
Commercial / Resettlement Farms		
Farm 1	Farm Kleinberg No. 743	
Farm 2	Farm Ombanje No. 787	
Farm 3	Farm	
Farm 4	Farm Sumas No. 746	
Farm 5	Farm Sumas No. 752	
Farm 6	Farm Maieberg No. 790	
Farm 7	Farm FMB / 759/REM	
Farm 8	Farm Elandstal No. 1331	
Farm 9	Farm Ghaub No. 590	

The EPL is accessible directly via the B1 Highway connecting Otavi to Tsumeb and then D3022 gravel road. Other section of the EPL will only be accessed by foot to ensure minimum impacts on the receiving environment.

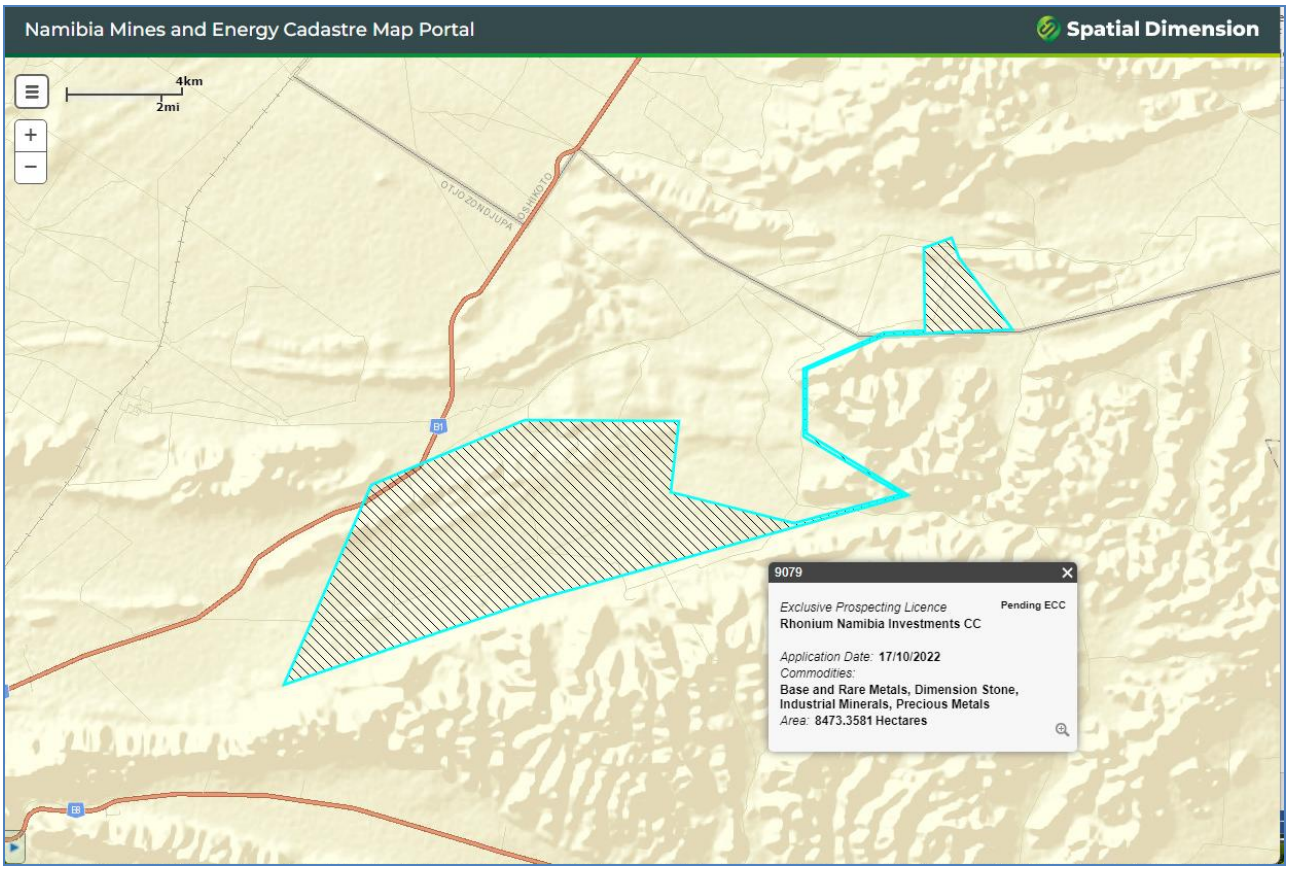

Figure 5: Evidence of the proposed prospecting license on the Ministry of Mine's cadastre (MME, 2025)

2.4. SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

2.4.1 Current Land Uses

The area covered by the Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL 9079) is predominantly a small stock-farming area, the stock mostly consisting of animals such as sheep or goats. Game farming and irrigation farming along the Naute Dam and the Orange River have gained significantly in importance.

A number of lodges are found in the general surrounding areas but not necessary within the proposed project boundary, the Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL 9079). The area is not part of the communal conservancy system in Namibia with no protected area bordering the Exclusive Prospecting License area.

There are numerous existing tourism ventures in the area with the tourism potential viewed as relatively high (Mendelsohn et al. 2002). The socioeconomic activities in and around the Town of Otavi or Tsumeb is dependent on mining, farming (small stock and cattle), tourism and trading.

2.4.2 Supporting Infrastructure and Services

The Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL 9079) area is accessible directly via the B1 Highway connecting Otavi to Tsumeb and then D3022 gravel road. Other section of the EPL will only be accessed by foot to ensure minimum impacts on the receiving environment.

Within the EPL, the area is accessible through various internal local tracks and some of the minor roads require high clearance 4 x 4 vehicles that may need to be upgraded as required. The following supporting infrastructures and services will be required:

(i) External and internal roads network: The Proponent will upgrade the already existing external and internal road networks and created additional new access road linking the quarries (mine) sites to the main access;
(ii) Water supply: Raw water will be sourced from local groundwater resources. The Proponent will utilize the existing boreholes and will also drill additional boreholes as nay be require;
(iii) Energy: Proposed mining operations on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL 9079) will use onsite administrations and offices (supporting infrastructure): The Proponent will utilize containerized systems;
(iv) Staff transport arrangements from Otavi or Tsumeb to the mine sites will be provided by the Proponent, and;
(v) Otavi or Tsumeb based staff accommodation services: Will use the already existing properties in the town of Otavi or Tsumeb.

2.4.4 Waste (Domestic / Hazardous) Management

In terms of waste generation and management, the predominant type of waste that will be generated during the operations, in small volumes, is domestic waste i.e. packaging material (paper, wooden box and plastic sampling bags), waste rock and potentially hydrocarbons from storage and handling or fuels and lubricants onsite. Domestic waste must be stored in heavy duty garbage bags in specifically designated bins and disposed of correctly at the Otavi or Tsumeb waste disposal site.

Domestic Waste: Different waste containers will be provided onsite for waste sorting and safe disposal of waste generated onsite. These will be collected on a monthly basis and sent to nearest approved waste management facility in the area such as Otavi or Tsumeb.

Sanitation: Portable ablution facilities with septic tanks will be put up for sanitation purposes for the exploration and mining teams and will be emptied in good time according to manufacturers' instructions.

2.5. MINE CLOSURE, DECOMMISSIONING, REHABILITATION AND AFTERCARE

In line with the new regulatory requirements by the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME), a Mine Closure Plan will be required to be submitted to the regulators. The Mine Closure will provide a detailed plan of actions and commitments including financial and human resources for effective management of the likely environmental liabilities at mine closure and aftercare stages of the proposed mining and ongoing activities in the Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL 9079).

Regular assessments and evaluation of the environmental liabilities during the mining stage shall be undertaken to ensure that adequate provision of the necessary resources towards good environmental management at mine closure and aftercare stages.

The following is the summary of the activities to be associated with the mine closure and aftercare stages:

- Implementation of sustainable socioeconomic plan.
- Closure of open pits.
- Closure of solid waste transfer station.
- Backfill all excavated areas.
- Closure of the mined blocks storage area.
- Decommissioning of water and electricity infrastructure.
- Overall land reclamation and restoration of internal roads, and.
- Revegetation and aftercare as may be required.

2.5.1 Site Closure Plan

The Site Closure Plan activities consist of following four (4) steps that will be implemented by Proponent and where applicable in consultation with the key stakeholders:

(i) Ongoing rehabilitation: This will be implemented during the exploration phase and from day one (1) of the mine starting to produce coupled with the recruitment of a new workforce. Unwanted exploration and mine sites excavated or disturbed during the mine operation phase will not wait the final mine closure rehabilitation but will be attended to as ongoing activities and financed within an ongoing annual mine operational budget allocation to be detailed in the Site Closure Plan Report.

(ii) Site closure: Once exploration stops, the number of workers will be reduced and a small Labour force will be retained to permanently shut down the mine. The cost of the early retirement and retrenchments will be funded from the final Site Closure Plan budget allocations to be detailed in the Site Closure Plan Report.

(iii) Decommissioning: Will be undertaken by a small crews or contractors who will be responsible for decommissioning or taking apart the mining supporting infrastructure and equipment. The cost of the decommissioning will be funded from the final Mine Closure Plan budget allocations to be detailed in the Mine Closure Plan Report.

(iv) Final rehabilitation\Remediation\reclamation: The objective of reclamation will be to return the Exclusive Prospecting License area to an acceptable standard of socioeconomic use, ensuring that any landforms and structures are stable, and any watercourses are of acceptable water quality. Reclamation will involve a number of activities such as removal of any hazardous materials, reshaping the land, restoring topsoil, and planting native grasses, trees, or ground cover as may be applicable.

(v) Post-closure and aftercare including monitoring: Monitoring programmes will be used to assess the effectiveness of the reclamation measures and to identify any corrective action that may be needed during the post closure and aftercare stage. In addition, the project area (EPL 9079) will also require long-term care and maintenance after mine closure such as periodic monitoring and maintenance of waste rock containment structures and secured hazardous areas, and monitoring any ongoing remediation technologies that have been implemented.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

This chapter of the Scoping Report provides an overview of the affected environment for the proposed exploration activities. The receiving environment is understood to include biophysical, socio-economic and heritage aspects which could be affected by the proposed development or which in turn might impact on the proposed development.

3.1 BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Namibia is characterized by four land type systems , the Namib, which runs along the entire west coast from the port town of Lüderitz, northwards into southern Angola; the Succulent Karoo which lies south of Lüderitz and extends across the Orange River into South Africa; the Nama Karoo which occurs immediately to the east of the previous two desert systems and covers most of the southern third of Namibia, tapering to a narrow belt from central Namibia northwards; and the Southern Kalahari which extends eastwards across to Botswana.

3.1.1 Climatic Conditions

The proposed mining project area is located in the Nama-Karoo is a large, landlocked region on the central plateau of the western half of South Africa and extends into south-eastern Namibia. Its extensive surface (248 284 km2 or 19.6% of the area covered by the map) is flanked by six biomes: the Succulent Karoo to the south and west, Desert to the northwest, the arid Kalahari form of the Savanna Biome to the north, Grassland to the northeast, Albany Thicket to the southeast and small parts of Fynbos to the south.

In Otavi, the wet season is hot and partly cloudy and the dry season is warm, windy, and clear (***Figure 6***). Over the course of the year, the temperature typically varies from 9°C to 32°C and is rarely below 5°C or above 36°C (Cowling et al., 1994 and Mendelsohn et al. 2003).

The *hot season* lasts for *3.8 months*, from *September 11* to *January 4*, with an average daily high temperature above *31°C* (**Figure 7**). The hottest month of the year in Otavi is *October*, with an average high of *32°C* and low of *18°C*. The *cool season* lasts for *2.1 months*, from *May 28* to *August 1*, with an average daily high temperature below *26°C*. The coldest month of the year in Otavi is *July*, with an average low of 9°C and high of 25°C.

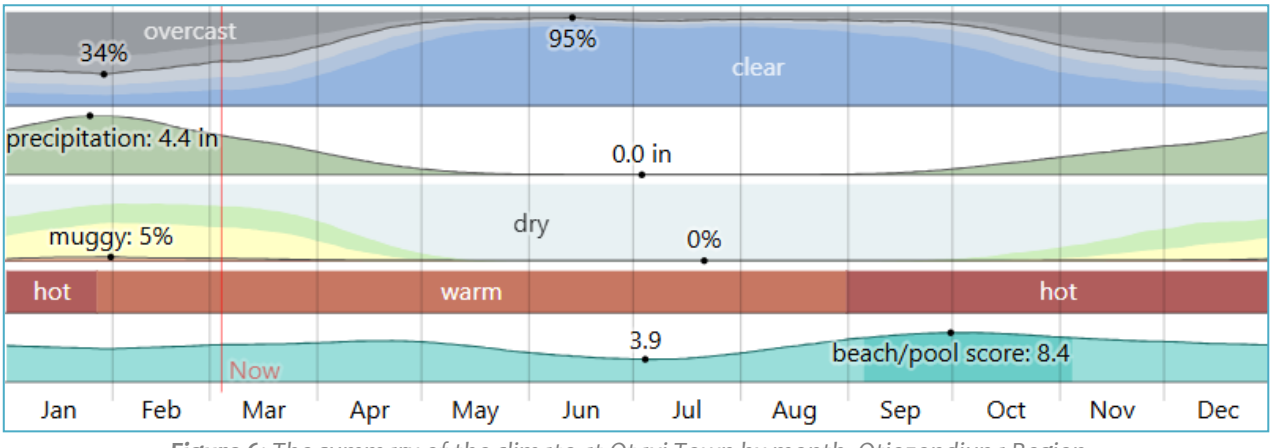

Figure 6: *The summary of the climate at Otavi Town by month, Otjozondjupa Region*

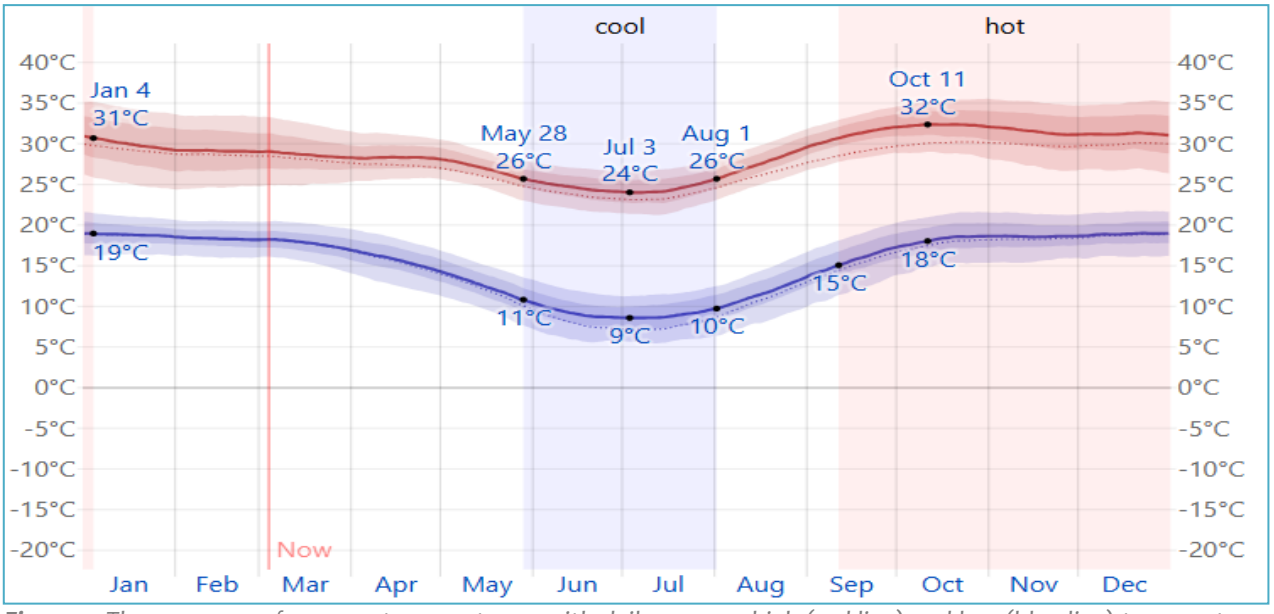

Figure 7: *The summary of average temperatures, with daily average high (red line) and low (blue line) temperature, with 25th to 75th and 10th to 90th percentile bands. The thin dotted lines are the corresponding average perceived temperatures.*

Rainfall is highly erratic and unpredictable with an inter-annual coefficient of variation that ranges from about 30% in the north-east to over 100% in the driest areas. A wet day is one with at least 1.00 millimeters of liquid or liquid-equivalent precipitation.

The *rainy* period of the year lasts for *6.8 months*, from *October 3* to *April 29*, with a sliding 31-day rainfall of at least *13 millimetres*. The month with the most rain in Otavi is *January*, with an average rainfall of *106 millimetres*. The *rainless* period of the year lasts for *5.2 months*, from *April 29* to *October 3*. The month with the least rain in Otavi is *July*, with an average rainfall of *0 millimetres*.

The *wetter season* lasts *4.2 months* (***Figure 8***), from *November 24* to *March 29*, with a greater than *24%* chance of a given day being a wet day. The month with the most wet days in Otavi is *January*, with an average of *13.1 days* with at least *1.00 millimetres* of precipitation.

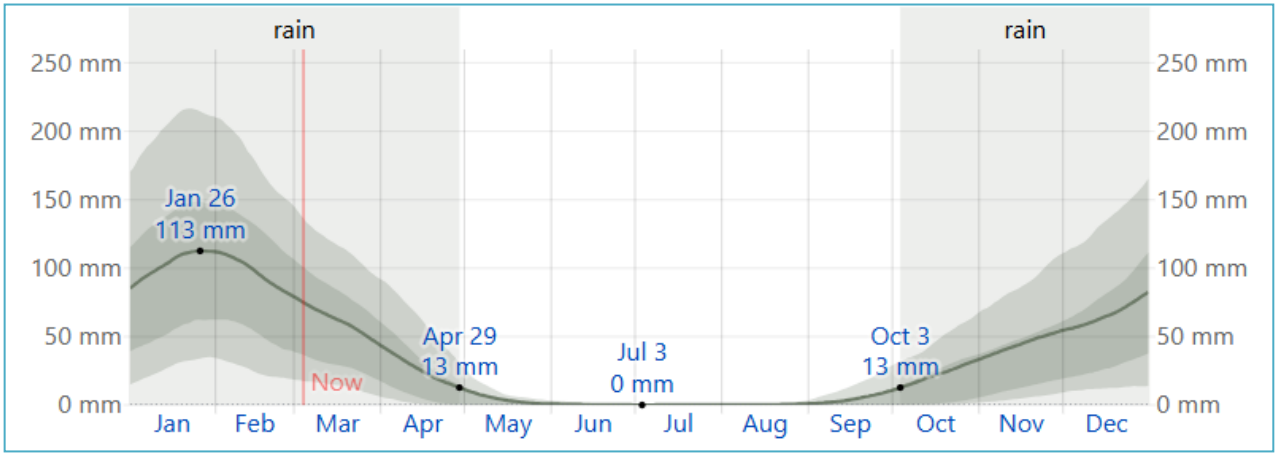

Figure 8: *The summary of the rainfall, the average rainfall (solid line) accumulated over the course of a sliding 31-day period cantered on the day in question, with 25th to 75th and 10th to 90th percentile bands.*

The *drier season* lasts *7.8 months*, from *March 29* to *November 24*. The month with the fewest wet days in Otavi is *July*, with an average of *0.0 days* with at least *1.00 millimetres* of precipitation. Among wet days, the month with the most days of *rain alone* in Otavi is *January*, with an average of *13.1 days* and the peak probability of rain being *47%* on *February 1*.

Within the Otavi Town, the predominant average hourly wind direction varies throughout the year. Although the prominent winds blows from the *east* for *5.6 months, from May 20 to November 7*, with average wind speeds of more than *3.9 meters per second* (**Figure 9**). The *windiest* month of the year in Otavi is *September*, with an average hourly wind speed of *4.4 meters per second*.

The *calmer* time of year lasts for *6.4 months*, from *November 7* to *May 20*. The *calmest* month of the year in Otavi is *February*, with an average hourly wind speed of *3.3 meters per second*. (Robertson et. al, 2012).

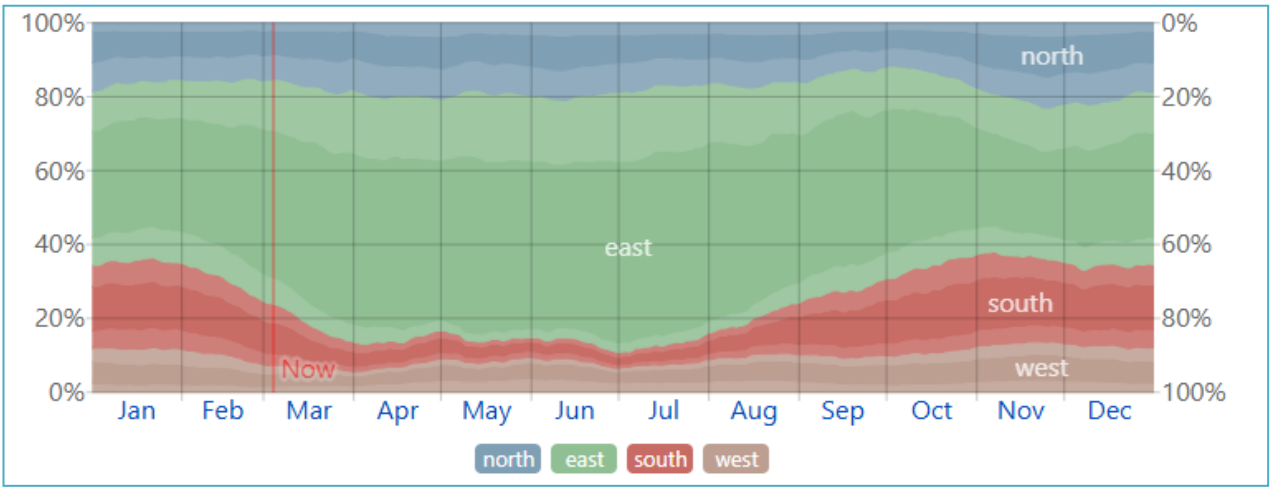

***Figure 9**: The summary of the windrose (speed and direction), the mean wind direction is from each of the four cardinal wind directions, and the lightly tinted areas at the boundaries are the percentage of hours spent in the implied intermediate directions (northeast, southeast, southwest, and northwest).*

3.1.2 Geology

The EPL 9079 is situated in a predominantly carbonate-hosted Pb-Zn-Cu (Ag) met- allogenic province known as the Otavi Mountainland. The carbonate rocks are of late Proterozoic age, and constitute the Otavi Group of the Damara Sequence. The Damara orogen is made up of a 400 km-wide northeast-trending intracontinental arm and a north- south trending coastal arm. The intracontinental arm separates the northern Congo Craton from the southern Kalahari Craton (Figure 10).

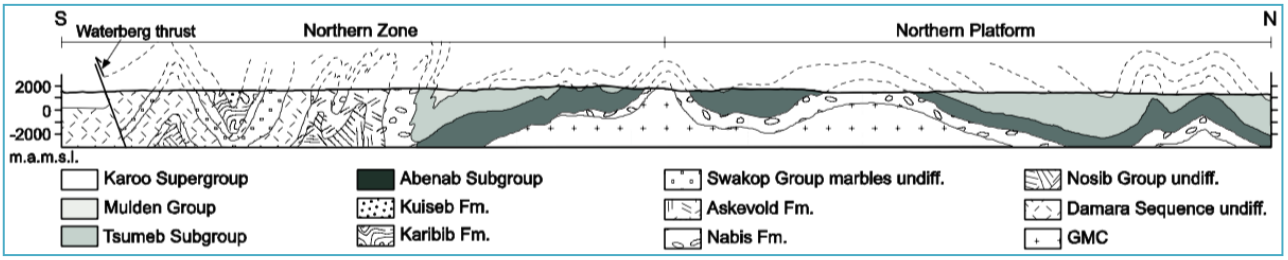

***Figure 10**: Structural section across the Northern Platform, Otavi-Mountain Landscape area and around Kombat.*

The Otavi Mountainland is located on the eastern side of the Northern Carbonate Platform of the Damara Orogen. This orogen is considered to be a late-Proterozoic orogenic belt generated during the Pan-African collision of the Sao Francisco- Congo and Kalahari cratons. The Damara Belt is an intracontinental, NE-trending branch of the Damara Orogen and can be divided in three major zones that are separated by the NE-trending lineaments in the Damara Belt. These zones comprise the Northern, the Central and the Southern Zone. The Otavi Mountainland Land is located at the transition of the Northern Zone to the Northern Platform (see Fig.1.), which consists of Cryogenian and Ediacaran platform carbonates (Laukamp, 2007).

The first deformational event D1 has an early Ediacaran age (~650Ma) and caused an E-W shortening due to accretion of a coastal terrane to the Kaoko Belt in the west, the closure of the proto-Atlantic. It resulted in the formation of large recumbent SE-vergent folds in the Kaoko Belt and gentle N/S-trending open warps in the Otavi Mountainland (Dean, 1995). Northerly directed thrusting has taken place. South of Kombat stratigraphic replication in the Tsumeb Group can be observed. During this period karst structures developed. D1 preceded the deposition of the Mulden Group. Due to the imperfect record of deformation retained in the relatively competent dolostone sequence at Kombat, this early phase of folding, if present, is not recognized (Innes and Chaplin, 1986).

The main deformational event D2 is correlated with a tectonothermal event (~537-550M) due to the collision of the Kalahari and Sao Francisco-Congo Cratons and the closure of the intracontinental arm. It has formed the first macro- scopically recognizable folding in Kombat. The deformation resulted in Green- schist facies metamorphism of the Otavi and Mulden Groups with an increasing grade towards the south. In the northern part of the intracontinental arm relatively high temperature rocks were thrust N-wards onto the lower temperature Mulden rocks. This leads to a complex D2 history in the Kombat environment. At Kombat large-scale, isoclinal, folds can be observed. They trend E-W and are northward-vergent, locally recumbent. Small-scale folds of that deformation event are disharmonic folds with a near-vertical E-W-trending axial planar cleavage S1. Mineralization and calcitization are commonly associated with shearing that is parallel S1 (Dean, 1995). A crenulation cleavage S2 has been superposed to S1 into which the sulphides are mobilized (Innes and Chaplin, 1986). D2 can be divided in D2a (late Ediacaran and early Cambrian) where the isoclinal folds were formed and D2b. During late D2b and syn-D3 emplacement of granites in the Damara Belt took place and the Otavi Syncline was ruptured along its synclinal axis.

In addition shear zones can be found that crosscut the Otavi Syncline and there- fore they might belong to another deformation event. They may represent zones of shear extensions of attenuated fold hinges (Innes and Chaplin, 1986). Within the shear zones transposition of sedimentary and mineral layering and of sulphide veinlets can be recognized.

The third deformational event D3 (~450-457Ma) is also correlated with a tectonothermal event. The early Paleozoic uplift caused the fragmentation of the Otavi Mountainland. Extensional normal faults were formed and NE-trending (e.g. Asis Ost and Kombat West fault) structures were reactivated. In the Otavi Mountainland the deformation resulted in NW-trending open and upright warps (Dean, 1995). As a result of the interference NE-trending cross-warps were formed at Kombat, thus leading to the canoe-like shape of the Otavi Valley.

3.1.3 Terrestrial Ecology Baseline and Sensitivity

Namibia recognizes the value of its wildlife, flora and landscapes and strives to protect them through its constitution, a range of environmental legislation, 21 state-protected areas, 86 communal conservancies and several transboundary initiatives. Furthermore, many areas in Namibia are internationally recognized as special in one way or another, often because of the wildlife or ecosystems they support; these designated areas include four Ramsar sites, two world heritage sites, nineteen important bird areas, four endemic bird areas and seven ecologically or biologically significant marine areas.

Often patterns of diversity in different animal groups are similar, and many show similarities to the patterns of diversity of plant groups (**Figure 11**). For instance, northern areas generally have the greatest numbers of species of mammals and birds because of the higher rainfall there and the presence of wetland and forest habitats not found elsewhere in Namibia.

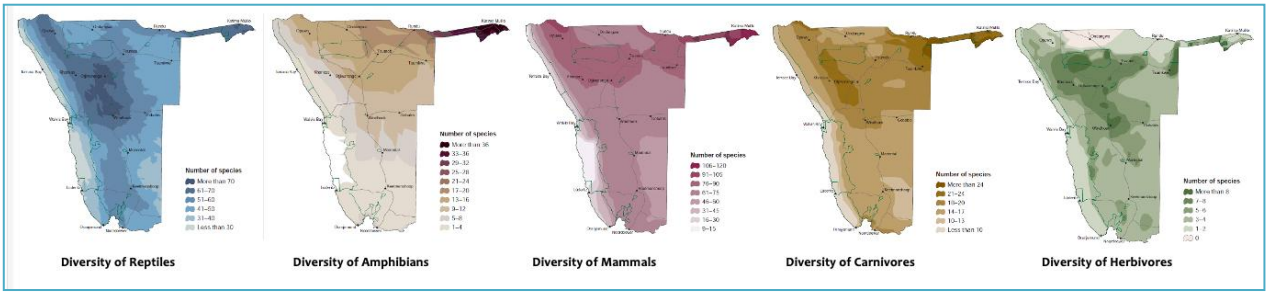

Figure 11: *Illustration of Biodiversity / various species diversity across Namibia*

The greatest diversity is found in north-eastern Namibia where there is the combination of wetlands, high rainfall and dense vegetation, and where a few tropical species find suitable habitat not available elsewhere in Namibia.

The Otavi Mountainland dominates the north-eastern third of the Otjozondjupa Region with more small-leaf deciduous and more thorny species in the south. The western parts are covered in thorny species growing on rockier, shallow soils. These areas are the most degraded in the country as a result of bush encroachment. This problem is largely and directly due to a lack of fires in areas used for livestock farming; farmers prevent fires and there is little grass to burn anyway because of heavy grazing.

Thirty mammal species have been identified on and below the plateau within the Otjozondjupa region. Plateau mammals include leopard *Panthera pardus* , cheetah *Acinonyx jubatus*, caracal *Felis caracal*, eland *Taurotragus oryx*, wildebeest *Connochaetes taurinus* and introduced giraffe *Giraffa camelopardalis*, roan antelope *Hippotragus equinus*, sable antelope *H. niger*, hartebeest *Alcelaphus buselaphus*, klipspringer *Oreotragus oreotragus*, topi *Damaliscus lunatus*, impala *Aepyceros melampus*, and duiker *Cephalophus* spp.

There is much more wildlife on freehold farms than in parks or any other areas of the country. This is largely due to the value and use of wildlife by freehold farmers. Low densities of wildlife in the eastern communal areas are the result of hunting, low levels of protection and the poor nutrient status of the Kalahari Sands that cover almost all the communal areas.

There are approximately 60 tree species in the region and the plateau features broad-leaved tree shrub savannah habitat dominated by *Terminalia sericea*, *Burkea africana*, *Combretum collinum*, *C. psidioides* and *Peltophorum africanum*.

Isolated grass savannah valleys are dominated by *Anthephora pubescens* and *Eragrostis superba*. A dense *Acacia* shrub, *A. mellifera detinens*, is found below the plateau. Flame lily *Gloriosa superba*, white bauhinia *Bauhinia petersiana*, the quasi endemic *Cheilanthes dinteri* and ten fern species are found, including *Microlepia speluncae*. The Otjozondjupa has the third highest volume of woody standing stock in Namibia at 16%.

Figure 15*. Shows the most common type of vegetation in the fore-background of the farm house at the project site, consisting of characterized woody species well adapted to the mountainous areas*

3.2 SOCIO-ECONOMICAL ENVIRONMENT

3.2.1 Demographic Profile

Otjozondjupa is the fourth largest region in the country with a total surface area of 105 460 km², representing about 7.8% of the total area of Namibia. The Region is bordering Kavango Region on the north, Oshikoto Region in the north-west, Kunene and Erongo regions in the west, Omaheke and Khomas regions in the south, and the Botswana border to the east.

The 2023 Namibia Population and Housing Census results show that Otjozondjupa had a population of 220 811 people of which 107 531were women and 113 280 were men. The population grew at an average annual rate of 0.6 per cent between 2001 and 2011.The population of Otjozondjupa increased from 102,536 in 1991 to 135,384 in 2001; to 143,903 in 2011; and 220,811 people by 2023. According to the average annual population growth rate, the population size of Otjozondjupa region of the year is projected to be at 205, 448 people (NSA, 2023).

In terms of education, 52% of girls and 48% of boys between the ages of 6 and 15 were attending school, and of those 15 years and older, 77% had left school, 7% were currently at school, and 7% had never attended (NSA, 2014). In 2001, the employment rate for the labour force (67% of those 15+) was 71% employed and 29% unemployed. For those 15 years old or

older and not in the labour force (24%), 28% were students, 40% homemakers, and 32% retired or unable to work (NSA, 2024).

Area	Population		
	Total population	Male	Female
Otjozondjupa	220 811	113 280	107 531
Grootfontein	36 951	18 705	18 246
Okahandja	46 061	22 565	23 496
Okakarara	30 987	16 382	14 605
Omatako	18 283	10 792	7 491
Otavi	18 279	9 937	8 342
Otjiwarongo	54 893	26 707	28 186
Tsumkwe	15 357	8 192	7 165

Table 5: Population by constituency and sex as per the Namibia 2023 Census (NSA, 2023)

The region is predominantly comprised of farming activities of Okahandja and Otjiwarongo as key economic drivers given that these parts are well known and most suitable for cattle farming. The Otavi and Grootfontein districts, and to a lesser extent also Otjiwarongo, are the granary of Namibia. The region also has a great potential to establish industries connected with such farming activities and by-products of it. It further has the advantage of combining communal and commercial farming in the same region.

The economic growth potential of the area is considerable, but needs an intensive general development policy. It is a profitable tax-generating area, which predominantly comes from diamond mining for the central government.

3.2.2 Heritage and Culture Profile

In Namibia, archaeological resources are often vulnerable to developmental and mining impacts. Typical sites do not only include those found in the mountains, hills and outcrops but also those generally found in the flat areas (Namib Desert) and or in riverbeds. Others includes surface scatters of stone artefacts, rock shelters with evidence of occupation, including rock art, graves, stone features such as hunting blinds and huts, and more recent site such as colonial battlefields, road-works and historical mines.

Some of these site types are might be obvious to some observer, such as rock art or historical mines. Others are quite ambiguous and might appear less significant than they are, such as pre-colonial stone features. This means that it is very difficult for mining projects to avoid damage to archaeological heritage sites if they have not been located, identified and made known during EIA process. In the light of the evidence found during the field assessment and other desktop review of previous field surveys, it can be concluded that should a detailed heritage assessment be necessary and conducted it may yield the following results:

It is safe to assume that Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL 9079) will have some sites of archaeological significance and that these will probably date to the late precolonial and early colonial periods Proponent must not disturb major natural cavities that may be unearthed because they could hold some highly significant historical or cultural sites that would require detailed documentation and possibly mitigation measures to be adopted in the event of encroachment by mining activity.

4. APPROACH TO EIA PROCESS AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

This chapter presents the approach to the Environmental Scoping Assessment process, for the proposed RNI Investment's exploration activities and gives particular attention to the legal context and guidelines applicable to this assessment. The assessment approach and the steps in the Public Participation component of this scoping report were undertaken in accordance with Regulations 29 and 30 of Government Notice No. 30 of 2012. Overall, this section highlights information including the approach to stakeholder engagement, identification of issues, overview of relevant legislation, and key principles and guidelines that provide the context for this scoping assessment process. Hence, in a nutshell, the purpose of the environmental assessment is to:

- Address issues that have been identified through the Scoping Process;
- Assess alternatives to the proposed activity in a comparative manner;
- Assess all identified impacts and determine the significance of each impact; and
- Recommend actions to avoid/mitigate negative impacts and enhance benefits.

4.1 OVERVIEW OF APPROACH ADPTED FOR COMPILING THE SCOPING AND EMP REPORTS

The objectives of the environmental scoping assessment are noted in Section 1 of this Report. Section 6 of this Scoping Report includes a summary of the findings, the overall conclusions and the recommendations. The Scoping Report was made available for a 30-day I&AP and authority review period, as outlined in the EMA Regulations of 2012. Although adverts were put in local newspapers **Confidante** newspaper on **24th – 30th January 2025** and **31st – 06th January 2025,** and then in **The Windhoek Observer** newspaper on the **24th** and 31st **January 2025** in order to notify and inform the public of the proposed projects and invite I&APs to register.

As previously noted, the Scoping Report includes an Environmental Management Plan (EMP, **Appendix B**). The EMP is based broadly on global environmental management principles and embodies an approach of continual improvement and mitigation actions.
These are drawn primarily based on the identified potential impacts for both the construction and operational phases of RNI Investment's proposed operations. If the project components are decommissioned or re-developed, this will need to be done in accordance with the relevant environmental standards and clean-up / remediation requirements applicable at the time.

4.2 LEGAL CONTEXT FOR THIS EIA

In accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations No. 30 of 2012 gazette and the Environmental Management Act, (EMA), 2007, (Act No. 7 of 2007), the activity to be undertaken by Rhonium Namibia Investments cc may not be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate.

4.3 LEGISLATION AND GUIDELINES PERTINENT TO THIS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

As the main source of legislation, the Namibian constitution makes provision for the creation and enforcement of applicable legislation. In this context and in accordance with its constitution, Namibia has passed numerous laws (those of relevant to this project are listed in Table 2) intended to protect the natural environment and to mitigate adverse environmental impacts.

Namibia's policies provide the framework to the applicable legislation. Whilst policies do not often carry the same legal recognition as official statutes, policies can be and are used in providing support to legal interpretation when deciding cases. Below are several of the key legislations applicable to the governance of certain component / aspects of the proposed operation activity. Key acts and policies currently in force include:

- Namibia's Environmental Assessment (EIA) Policy for Sustainable Development and Environmental Conservation (1995)
- Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007);
- Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Government Notice No. 30 of 2012)
- Namibia Agriculture Policy of 2015
- Namibia Vision 2030, and other national development plan e.g. Harambee Prosperity Plan
- Social Security Act, 1994 (Act No. 34 of 1994) and the Affirmative Action (Employment) Act, 1998 (Act No. 29 of 1998)

4.3.1 Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007

The environmental management act No.7 of 2007 aims to promote the sustainable use of natural resources and provides the framework for the environmental and social impact assessment, demands precaution and mitigation of activities that may have negative impacts on the environment and provision for incidental matters. Furthermore, the act provides a list of activities that may not be undertaken without an environmental clearance certificate.
The purpose of the Environmental Management Act is:

a) to ensure that people carefully consider the impact of developmental activities on the environment and in good time
b) to ensure that all interested or affected people have a chance to participate in environmental assessments
c) To ensure that the findings of environmental assessments are considered before any decisions are made about activities which might affect the environment see ***Figure*** 16.

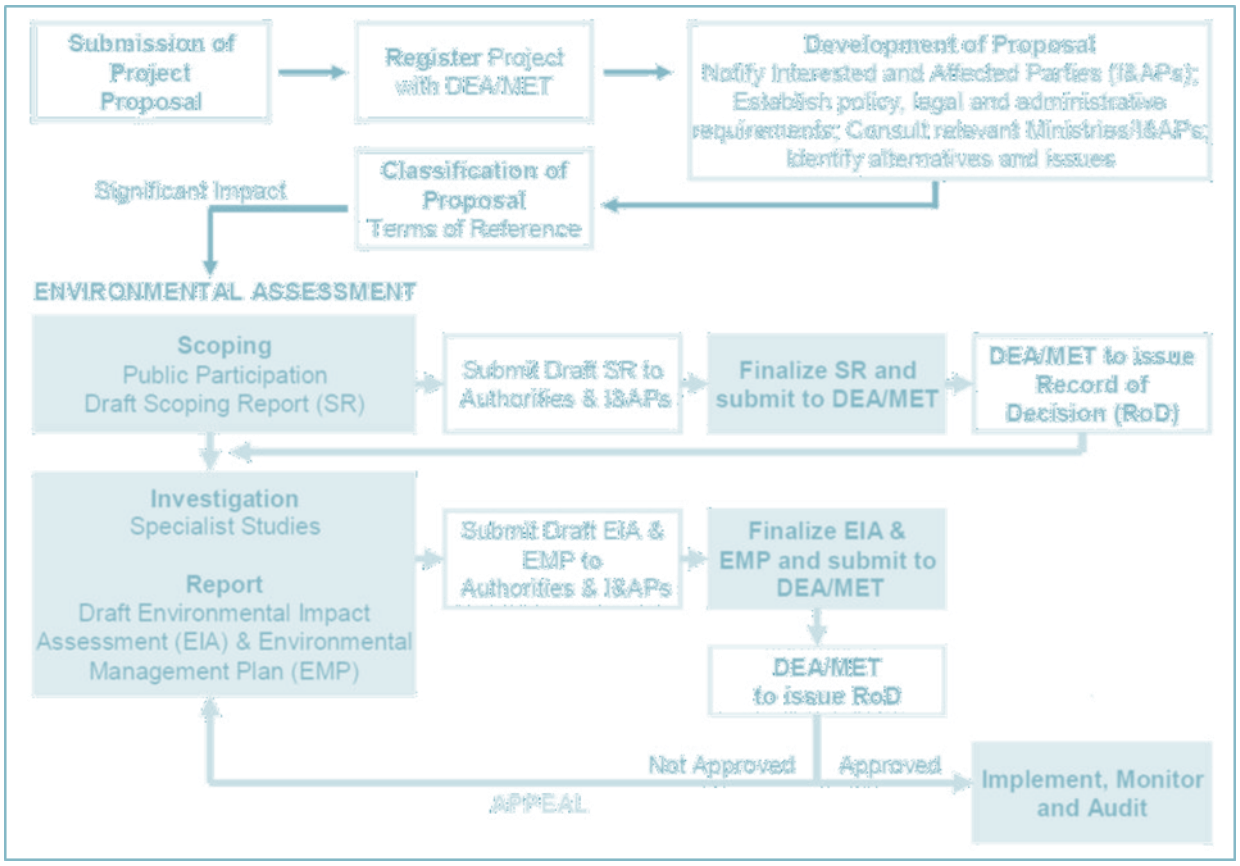

***Figure** 16: Illustration of the environmental assessment process in Namibia (Source: Risk Based Solution)*

4.3.2 Environmental Assessment Policy (1995)

The Environmental Assessment Policy for Sustainable development and Environmental Conservation emphasize the importance of environmental assessments as a key tool towards implementing integrated environmental management. Sets an obligation to Namibians to prioritize the protection of ecosystems and related ecological.
The policy subjects all developments to environmental assessment and provides guideline for the Environmental Assessment. The policy advocates that Environmental Assessment take due consideration of all potential impacts and processes mitigations measures should be incorporated in the project design and planning stages (as early as possible).

4.3.12 Minerals Act

This Act No. 33 of 1992 provides a legal framework for regulating and governing all activities that explicitly entails the prospecting, exploration and mining of minerals within the boundaries of Namibia and the Ministry of Mine and Energy is the competent authority in this regard.

It also makes explicit reference to the protection and conservation of the natural environment by requiring for the development of an environmental impact assessment and management plan in which measures to avoid and or mitigate potential impacts relating to minerals development activities are clearly considered.

4.3.3 Other Legal Requirements and relevance to the proposed activity

In addition to the EMA and the Environmental Assessment Policy, there exist other regulatory frameworks that RNI Investment must comply with. This is due to the supporting infrastructure that are needed to compliment the proposed logistics hub. As such, MDL will be required to obtain additional specific permits for the supporting infrastructure as listed in table 4 below. The process of obtaining the additional permits can be undertaken concurrently to the EIA process.

Furthermore, the proponent has the responsibility to ensure that the project activities conform to all other relevant legal documents and guidelines as listed in ***Table 5*** below).

***Table** 6: Other relevant legislation and applicability thereof* (Source: Risk Based Solution)

Legislation	Relevance
Labour Act, 1992, (Act No. 6 of 1992) and Regulations Related to Health and Safety of Employees	• Labour matters, rights and duties of employees. • Health and Safety of Employees Construction safety; • Electrical safety; Machinery safety; • Hazardous substances; Physical hazards and general provisions;
Social Security Act, 1994 (Act No. 34 of 1994) and the Affirmative Action (Employment) Act, 1998 (Act No. 29 of 1998)	• Establishment of the Social Security Commission • Administration of a pension and incidental matters fund – affirmative employment opportunities
The Forest Act	• Declaration of protected areas in terms of soils and water resources • Proclamation of protected species of plants and the conditions under which these plants can be disturbed, conserved, or cultivated.
Nature Conservation Amendment Act	• Declaration of protected areas and protected species.
National Heritage Act	• Protection and conservation of places and objectives of significance, as all archaeological and paleontological objects belong to the state

4.3.4 Precautionary and Polluter Pays Principles

The Precautionary Principle is worldwide accepted when there is a lack of sufficient knowledge and information about proposed development possible threats to the environment. Hence if the anticipated impacts are greater, then precautionary approach is applied.

Equally, the Polluter Pays Principle ensures that the proponent takes responsibility of their actions. Hence in cases of pollution, the proponent bears the full responsibility and cost to clean up the environment.

4.4 PRINCIPLES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION / CONSULTATION

The PPP for this Scoping Process was driven by a stakeholder engagement process that includes inputs from authorities, I&APs and the project proponent. In respect to provisions of the EIA Regulations, "Public Consultation" means a process referred to in regulation 21, in which potential interested and affected parties are given an opportunity to comment on, or raise issues relevant to, specific matters. This stems from the requirement that people have a right to be informed about potential decisions that may affect them and that they must be afforded an opportunity to influence those decisions. Effective public participation also improves the ability of the Competent Authority (CA) to make informed decisions and results in improved decision-making as the view of all parties are considered.

Contrary, it is important to recognize and highlight two key aspects of public participation which must be considered at the outset:

- There are practical and financial limitations to the involvement of all individuals within a PPP. Hence, public participation aims to generate issues that are representative of societal sectors, not each individual. Consequently, the PPP is designed to be inclusive of a broad range of sectors relevant to the proposed activity.

- The PPP will aim to raise a diversity of perspectives and will not be designed to force consensus amongst I&APs. Certainly, diversity of opinion rather than consensus building is likely to enrich ultimate decision-making. Therefore, where possible, the PPP will aim to obtain an indication of trade-offs that all stakeholders (i.e. I&APs, technical specialists, the authorities and the development proponent) are willing to accept with regard to the ecological sustainability, social equity and economic growth associated with the project.

4.5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The key steps and or approach adopted for this particular Scoping assessment has been confirmed with the DEA through the registration of the proposed activity / operations on their Online EA system.

All advertisements, notification letters and emails etc. served to notify the public and organs of state, on both the call for registration as I&APs and of the availability of the Scoping and EMP reports for an opportunity to comment or provide input on the reports. Although adverts were put in local **Confidante** newspaper on **24th – 30th January 2025** and **31st – 06th January 2025,** and then in **The Windhoek Observer** newspaper on the **24th** and 31st **January 2025** in order to notify and inform the public of the proposed projects and invite I&APs to register.

The correspondence sent to or received from I&APs and other competent authorities during the Scoping Phase were incorporated into the stakeholder engagement report appended to this report (**Appendix A**).

4.6 APPROACH TO IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND SPECIALIST STUDIES

Potential environmental impacts were identified through both desktop literature review and consultation with I&APs, regulatory authorities, specialist and Enviro-Leap Consulting. In case of social impacts, the assessment focused on third parties only (third parties include members of the public and other local and regional institutions) and did not assess health and safety impacts on workers because the assumption was made that these aspects are separately regulated by health and safety legislation, policies and standards.

The impacts are discussed under issue headings in this section. The discussion and impact assessment for each sub-section covers the construction, operational, decommissioning and closure phases where relevant. This is indicated in the table at the beginning of each sub-section. Included in the table is a list of project activities/infrastructure that could cause the potential impact per mining phase.

Mitigation measures to address the identified impacts are discussed in this section and included in more detail in the ERCP report that is attached in **Appendix B**. In most cases (unless otherwise stated), these mitigation measures have been taken into account in the assessment of the significance of the mitigated impacts only.

Both the criteria used to assess the impacts and the method of determining the significance of the impacts is outlined in ***Table 7***. This method complies with the method provided in the Namibian EIA Policy document and the draft EIA regulations. ***Part A*** provides the approach for determining impact consequence (combining severity, spatial scale and duration) and impact significance (the overall rating of the impact). Impact consequence and significance are determined from ***Part B*** and **C**. The interpretation of the impact significance is given in ***Part D***. Both mitigated and unmitigated scenarios are considered for each impact.

***Table** 7: Criteria for Assessing Impacts*

PART A: DEFINITION AND CRITERIA		
Definition of SIGNIFICANCE		**Significance = consequence probability**
Definition of CONSEQUENCE		**Consequence is a function of severity, spatial extent and duration**
Criteria for ranking of the SEVERITY/NATURE of environmental impacts	**H**	Substantial deterioration (death, illness or injury). Recommended level will often be violated. Vigorous community action. Irreplaceable loss of resources.
	M	Moderate/measurable deterioration (discomfort). Recommended level will occasionally be violated. Widespread complaints. Noticeable loss of resources.
	L	Minor deterioration (nuisance or minor deterioration). Change not measurable/will remain in the current range. Recommended level will never be violated. Sporadic complaints. Limited loss of resources.
	L +	Minor improvement. Change not measurable/will remain in the current range. Recommended level will never be violated. Sporadic complaints.
	M +	Moderate improvement. Will be within or better than the recommended level. No observed reaction.
	H +	Substantial improvement. Will be within or better than the recommended level. Favorable publicity.
Criteria for ranking the DURATION of impacts	**L**	Quickly reversible. Less than the project life. Short-term
	M	Reversible overtime. Life of the project. Medium-term
	H	Permanent beyond closure – Long-term.
Criteria for ranking the SPATIAL SCALE of Impacts	**L**	Localized-Within the site boundary.
	M	Fairly widespread–Beyond the site boundary. Local
	H	Widespread – Far beyond site boundary. Regional/national

PART B: DETERMINING CONSEQUENCE					
SEVERITY = L					
DURATION	Long-term	**H**	Medium	Medium	Medium
	Medium term	**M**	Low	Low	Medium
	Short-term	**L**	Low	Low	Medium
SEVERITY = M					
DURATION	Long-term	**H**	Medium	High	High
	Medium term	**M**	Medium	Medium	High
	Short-term	**L**	Low	Medium	Medium
SEVERITY = H					
DURATION	Long-term	**H**	High	High	High
	Medium term	**M**	Medium	Medium	High
	Short-term	**L**	Medium	Medium	High
			L	**M**	**H**
			Localized Within site boundary Site	Fairly widespread Beyond site	Widespread Far beyond site boundary
			SPATIAL SCALE		

PART C: DETERMINING SIGNIFICANCE					
PROBABILITY (of exposure to impacts)	Definite/Continuous	H	Medium	Medium	High
	Possible/frequent	M	Medium	Medium	High
	Unlikely/seldom	L	Low	Low	Medium
			L	M	H
			CONSEQUENCE		

PART D: INTERPRETATION OF SIGNIFICANCE	
Significance	**Decision guideline**
High	It would influence the decision regardless of any possible mitigation.
Medium	It should have an influence on the decision unless it is mitigated.
Low	It will not have an influence on the decision.

*H = high, M = medium and L = low and + denotes a positive impact.

This section outlines the assessment methodology and legal context for specialist studies, as recommended by the DEA 2006 Guideline on Assessment of Impacts. In addition to the above, the impact assessment methodology includes the following aspects:

Spatial extent – The size of the area that will be affected by the impact/risk:

- Site specific;
- Local (<10 km from site);
- Regional (<100 km of site);
- National or International (e.g. Greenhouse Gas emissions or migrant birds).

Consequence – The anticipated consequence of the risk/impact:

- Extreme (extreme alteration of natural systems, patterns or processes, i.e. where environmental functions and Processes are altered such that they permanently cease);
- Severe (severe alteration of natural systems, patterns or processes, i.e. where environmental functions and processes are altered such that they temporarily or permanently cease);
- Substantial (substantial alteration of natural systems, patterns or processes, i.e. where environmental functions and processes are altered such that they temporarily or permanently cease);
- Moderate (notable alteration of natural systems, patterns or processes, i.e. where the environment continues to function but in a modified manner); or
- Slight (negligible alteration of natural systems, patterns or processes, i.e. where no natural systems/environmental functions, patterns, or processes are affected).

Duration – The timeframe during which the impact/risk will be experienced:

- Short term (less than 1 year);
- Medium term (1 to 10 years);
- Long term (the impact will cease after the operational life of the activity (i.e. the impact or risk will occur for the project duration))
- Permanent (mitigation will not occur in such a way or in such a time span that the impact can be considered transient (i.e. the impact will occur beyond the project decommissioning)).

Probability – The probability of the impact/risk occurring:

- Very likely or Likely;
- Unlikely or Very unlikely; and
- Extremely unlikely

5. ASSESSMENT OF ALTERNATIVES AND IMPACTS

5.1 ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION

This chapter discusses the alternatives, as well as the selection process of the preferred alternatives that have been considered and assessed as part of the Scoping Phase. The 2012 EIA Regulations (GG4878) define "alternatives", in relation to a proposed activity, "as different means of meeting the general purpose and requirements of the activity, which may include alternatives to the:

- property on which or location where the activity is proposed to be undertaken;
- type of activity to be undertaken;
- design or layout of the activity;
- technology to be used in the activity; or
- operational aspects of the activity; and
- Includes the option of not implementing the activity".

The Scoping Report therefore provided a full description of the process followed to reach the proposed preferred activity, site and location within the site. It further includes the following as a minimum:

- The consideration of the no-go alternative as a baseline scenario;
- A comparison of the reasonable and feasible alternatives; and
- Providing a methodology for the elimination of an alternative.

5.1.1 NO-GO ALTERNATIVE

The no-go alternative assumes that the proposed project will not go ahead i.e. the proposed RNI Investment's proposed mineral prospecting does not realize. This alternative entails that the operations would not drive any environmental change and result in no additional environmental impacts on the prospecting license site.

It favors the *status quo* or baseline against which other alternatives are compared and will be considered throughout the report. However, the likely negative environmental impacts of other current and future user that may still happen in the absence of the proposed activities includes: Natural dust and generation of particulate matter during windy event particularly resulting from other regional economic activities such as construction, mining and tourism, pollution and environmental degradation associated with current land use along and around the proposed project route and sites.

Therefore, in terms of the "No-go Alternative", potential economic gains that may never be realized if the proposed project activities do not go-ahead include: loss in income for both the local community and the partnering investor, unemployment and the loss of socio- economic benefits derived from current and future export and import trading opportunities. Most importantly, is the reduced regional integration in terms of trade and investment, loss of direct and indirect contracts and employment opportunities, export earnings, foreign direct investments and various taxes payable to the Government.

5.1.5 CONCLUDING STATEMENT ON ALTERNATIVES

Namibia's industrial ambition is articulated in Vision 2030, which stipulates that the country should be an industrialized nation with a high income by the year 2030. In terms of the production and export structure, Namibia aspire to build the bridge from producing and exporting predominantly primary commodities to offering value added and service-orientated products. The production and export structure would also be more diverse, enabling the economy to better withstand exogenous shocks.

Despite the limited capacity to process minerals locally, Namibia is considered the preferred nation of choice in terms mining given its vast unexploited distribution of mineral resources. Alternative prospecting techniques and use equipment is recommended as far as enhancing environmental safety is concerned.

In case of social impacts, the assessment focused on third parties only (third parties include members of the public and other local and regional institutions) and did not assess health and safety impacts on workers because the assumption was made that these aspects are separately regulated by health and safety legislation, policies and standards.

The No-Action Alternative comparative assessment, suggests that environmental impacts of a future in which the proposed activities do not take place, may be good for the receiving environment because there will be no potential negative or positive environmental impacts associated with the proposed activities (mineral exploration).

5.2 ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION

Mitigation measures to address the identified impacts are discussed in this section and included in more detail in the EMP report that is attached in **Appendix B**. In most cases (unless otherwise stated), these mitigation measures have been taken into account in the assessment of the significance of the mitigated impacts only

5.2.1 IMPACTS ON THE BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Potential impacts in respect to the Biophysical (**Table 7**) environment involves particularly the terrestrial environments and relate mainly to the mineral prospecting and mining activities in regard to sampling (quarrying).

Potential impacts in respect to the Biophysical environments (**Table 8 - 10**) involves, given that the proposed activity entails non-invasive and consumptive mining development activities but rather limited to prospecting presents mainly secondary potential impacts. Geological surveys and rock sampling, and desktop research creates opportunity for the project staff members to access otherwise reserved areas and thus temptations for poaching and collection of natural resources. Details of the potential impacts are demonstrated in the following tables:

Table 8: Impact on the Biophysical Environment – prospecting license site Access and use of vehicles

Impact Event	Disturbances on Biodiversity					
Description	Off-road driving is a major concern, particularly with regard to uncontrolled use of 4x4 vehicles and quad-bikes. This leads to physical degradation and the destruction of unique habitats, especially in environmentally sensitive areas					
Nature	Tracks leave scars that can remain for centuries, affecting the aesthetic qualities of the dunes and the surrounding gravel plains, reducing the attractiveness of the area as a recreational destination. Littering of the beaches and the desert due to increasing tourism is a general problem. Camping outside of designated areas occurs during peak holiday periods.					
Phases: Phases during which the project has implications of accessing the prospecting license area are highlighted below; Significance assessment was carried out on the use of access tracks which presents a short-term risk.						
Construction Phase	**Operational Phase**			**Decommissioning Phase**		**Post Closure**
• No Construction envisaged at this stage	• Accessing of prospecting license area for surveys and sampling with project vehicles • Upgrading of access tracks (e.g. grading)			N/A		N/A
Severity	Taken together, the disturbances will have a minimum to medium severity given that limited number of vehicles will be used and no new access track will be created, these can be drastically minimized to very low with mitigation measures.					
Duration	The Significance of the potential impacts is medium given the project location and surrounding land-uses					
Spatial Scale	Low, localized if activities are restricted to the known pegmatite belts area within the prospecting license thus limiting potential impacts spatially					
Probability	Low to Medium, especially in respect to wildlife / livestock collision and poaching as access / entry into the farm or the EPL area will be controlled security					
Unmitigated	**Severity**	**Duration**	**Spatial Scale**	**Consequence**	**Probability of Occurrence**	**Significance**
	L-M	L	L	H	L	H
Mitigated	**Severity**	**Duration**	**Spatial Scale**	**Consequence**	**Probability of Occurrence**	**Significance**
	L	L	L	L	L	H
Description of Mitigation Measures	• Strict compliance with the Relevant authorities guidelines and EMP is recommended in respect to managing incidental events; • Exploration activity must be limited to the pre-identified pegmatites belts within the prospecting license area • Unless necessary and agreed with the Relevant authorities, no new access tracks shall be created and no lodging shall be allowed in sensitive zones					

Table 9: Impact on the Biophysical Environment – Sampling / trenching for geological sampling

<table>
<tr><td>Impact Event</td><td colspan="6">Disturbances on Biodiversity in respect to sampling and trenching activities</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="6">Should analyses by an analytical laboratory be positive, geological boreholes or trenches are drilled / dug and geological samples collected for further analysis. This will determine the depth of the potential mineralization. If necessary new access tracks to the drill sites will be created and drill pads will be cleared in which to set the rig. Two widely used sampling options may be adopted, these are the reverse circulation sampling and/or diamond-core sampling / trenching.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Nature</td><td colspan="6">Depending on the scale of sampling / trenching (intensity), potential impacts relating to vegetation clearing for access tracks and drill transects may arise from the project activities. Consequential impacts therefore are:
• Noise from sampling machineries and potential spill of hydrocarbons
• Disturbance of habitats (protected plant species) and species displacement
• Potential littering with solid waste</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="7">Phases: Phases during which the project has implications of sampling / impacts apply are highlighted below; Significance assessment was carried out on the sampling / trenching phase which presents a long term risk.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Construction Phase</td><td colspan="3">Operational Phase</td><td>Decommissioning Phase</td><td colspan="2">Post Closure</td></tr>
<tr><td>• No Construction envisaged at this stage</td><td colspan="3">• Accessing of prospecting license area for surveys and sampling with project vehicles
• Upgrading of access tracks (e.g. grading)</td><td>N/A</td><td colspan="2">N/A</td></tr>
<tr><td>Severity</td><td colspan="6">Taken together, the disturbances will have a medium severity given that limited number of vehicles will be used and no new access track will be created, these can be drastically minimized to very low with mitigation measures.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Duration</td><td colspan="6">The Significance of the potential impacts is Medium given the project location i.e. situated within a Commercial Farm</td></tr>
<tr><td>Spatial Scale</td><td colspan="6">Low, localized if activities are restricted to the known pegmatite belts area within the prospecting license area thus limiting potential impacts spatially</td></tr>
<tr><td>Probability</td><td colspan="6">Low to Medium, especially in respect to wildlife / livestock collision and poaching as project staff will be at all times accompanied by the property owner or representative</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Unmitigated</td><td>Severity</td><td>Duration</td><td>Spatial Scale</td><td>Consequence</td><td>Probability of Occurrence</td><td>Significance</td></tr>
<tr><td>M</td><td>L</td><td>L</td><td>H</td><td>L</td><td>M</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Mitigated</td><td>Severity</td><td>Duration</td><td>Spatial Scale</td><td>Consequence</td><td>Probability of Occurrence</td><td>Significance</td></tr>
<tr><td>L</td><td>L</td><td>L</td><td>L</td><td>L</td><td>M</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description of Mitigation Measures</td><td colspan="6">• Strict compliance with the Forestry Act and Regulations in respect to vegetation clearing, Relevant authorities guidelines and EMP is recommended in respect to managing incidental events;
• Exploration activity must be limited to the pre-identified pegmatites belts within the prospecting license area thus reducing the spatial impacts to key areas of the EPL
• Unless necessary and agreed with the relevant authorities, no new access tracks shall be created and no lodging shall be allowed in sensitive zones
• Temporary bins and spill kits must be provided to ensure that all waste material including hydrocarbons are well contained prior to final disposal at approved sites in either or Otavi Town
• Unless in an emergency, no equipment (vehicles and drill rigs) should be serviced in the field thus preventing unnecessary spillage of hydrocarbons</td></tr>
</table>

Table 10: *Impact on the Biophysical Environment – Waste Management (Effluent, Solid and Hydrocarbons)*

<table>
<tr><td>Impact Event</td><td colspan="6">Waste generation and disposal</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="6">Operational activities relating to mainly the lodging and to a lesser degree the actual geological surveying and sampling activities present an opportunity for the generation of both solid waste (litter material) and hydrocarbons (fuel and lubricants).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Nature</td><td colspan="6">In general, prospecting activities generates very little domestic solid waste which includes but may not be limited to:
Litter materials i.e. plastic bags, cartons, food packages and
Effluents and sewer may only be generated in case where a base-camp is necessary and a bathroom with flushing toilets are used
Minor hydrocarbons spillage(fuels and lubricants), possible contamination of soils and groundwater, in case of hydrocarbon spillage mainly from maintenance of equipment and vehicles</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="7">Phases: Phases during which the project has implications of waste generation are highlighted below; Significance assessment was carried out on the sampling / trenching phase which requires on-site stays.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Construction Phase</td><td colspan="2">Operational Phase</td><td colspan="2">Decommissioning Phase</td><td colspan="2">Post Closure</td></tr>
<tr><td>No Construction envisaged at this stage</td><td colspan="2">Lodging is envisaged at existing mainly in Otavi or Tsumeb or temporarily pre-identified and agreed site</td><td colspan="2">N/A</td><td colspan="2">N/A</td></tr>
<tr><td>Severity</td><td colspan="6">Taken together, waste generation in respect to the proposed activities presents impacts that are of very-low severity as in general little is generated.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Duration</td><td colspan="6">The duration of the potential impacts is bound to the duration of the proposed operations thus short-term in nature</td></tr>
<tr><td>Spatial Scale</td><td colspan="6">Low, waste generation shall be limited mainly to the lodging areas and subject to property owners and thus not entirely influence by the proposed project</td></tr>
<tr><td>Probability</td><td colspan="6">Very Low, shall be limited mainly to the lodging areas and subject to property owners and thus not entirely influence by the proposed project</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Unmitigated</td><td>Severity</td><td>Duration</td><td>Spatial Scale</td><td>Consequence</td><td>Probability of Occurrence</td><td>Significance</td></tr>
<tr><td>L</td><td>L</td><td>L</td><td>M</td><td>L</td><td>L</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Mitigated</td><td>Severity</td><td>Duration</td><td>Spatial Scale</td><td>Consequence</td><td>Probability of Occurrence</td><td>Significance</td></tr>
<tr><td>L</td><td>L</td><td>L</td><td>L</td><td>L</td><td>L</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description of Mitigation measures</td><td colspan="6">Given that lodging is recommended to be at existing camp-sites and or lodges, this aspect shall be managed as part of the current property owners compliance requirements
In the field, hydrocarbon waste shall be contained (in spill kits) and stored in appropriate heavy-duty plastic cabbage , transported to the nearest waste-oil recycling / solid waste disposal facility in or Otavi Town
A sufficient number of spill kits shall be acquired and strategically placed, particularly near every sampling site to ensure that timely response to any potential fuel and lubricant spills is conducted (should the project require any sampling activities to be undertaken). These shall include an on-site used oil disposal bin(s)
Equally, effluent waste shall be managed in compliance with the lodging host's requirements, although during any sampling activities – temporary dry-pit toilet facility must be provided at every site.</td></tr>
</table>

5.2.2 IMPACTS ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

Table 11: *Environmental Impact: Human Health and Safety*

Impact Event	**Disturbances to the social environments**					
Description	During the exploration stage, social impacts are most likely to be minimal and often positive. At this stage, usually the level of interaction between project staff and or project equipment with the local community is significantly minimum and therefore potential health and safety risks very low. However, in a case of a pandemic it is recommended that all protocol in this respect are observed throughout the exploration phase.					
Nature	The inter-migration of project staff in-and-out of the region may present potential risks of disease transmission particularly in respect to Pandemic outbreak and other contagious diseases between the local community and project staff. The most significant impact in respect to health is the potential for increasing the strain on the already under capacitated local health services facility should project staff fall ill while in the field.					
Phases: Phases during which sources of social (health and safety) impacts apply are highlighted below;						
Construction Phase	**Operational Phase**			**Decommissioning Phase**	**Post Closure**	
N/A	• Use of the lodging and other social facilities, as well as other social interactions			N/A	N/A	
Severity	In the unmitigated scenario, the potential risk for transmission of contagious / infectious diseases is High					
Duration	The Significance of the potential impacts is subject to the compliance with national health protocols, however given the minimal interaction of project staff and the local community impacts are classified as incidental and short-term.					
Spatial Scale	Medium, in case of near-miss incidents (were cases are not detected) the risk may be medium to high but localized					
Probability	Low, especially given that there are clear guideline and protocols governing health and safety of both contagious diseases and if they are well observed					
Unmitigated	**Severity**	**Duration**	**Spatial Scale**	**Consequence**	**Probability of Occurrence**	**Significance**
	H	**M**	**M**	**H**	**L**	**H**
Mitigated	**Severity**	**Duration**	**Spatial Scale**	**Consequence**	**Probability of Occurrence**	**Significance**
	M-L	**L**	**L**	**M**	**L**	**H**
Description of Mitigation Measures	• Strict compliance with the EMP is recommended in respect to managing incidental events; • It is strictly advised that project staff ensures that in respect to Pandemic outbreak, are tested prior to venturing in the field (and carries a health certificate indicating a negative result, which is not older than 72 hours) • Carry sufficient First Aid equipment to ensure that minor injuries reduces need to access local health facility and therefore minimizing potential strain on local services • Strict compliance with national health protocols as and when directive are issued in respect to any disease outbreak and or recurring pandemics such as HIV / AIDS and Pandemic outbreak • Strict ban on use of any toxic substances within and during the working environment must be prohibited and serious punitive actions taken against any transgressors is recommended.					

Table 12: *Impact on the Social Environment – Air and Noise Pollution*

Impact Event	**Disturbances to the social environment**					
Description	Should analyses by an analytical laboratory be positive, geological boreholes or trenches are drilled / dug and geological samples collected for further analysis. This will determine the depth of the potential mineralization. If necessary new access tracks to the drill sites will be created and drill pads will be cleared in which to set the rig. Two widely used sampling options may be adopted, these are the reverse circulation sampling and/or diamond-core sampling, and alternatively trenches may be dug for sampling.					
Nature	Depending on the scale of sampling / trenching (intensity), potential noise impacts relating to the use of large vehicles such as a drill rig truck and or excavator may be generated. Consequential impacts therefore are: • Noise from sampling / trenching machineries may be anticipated					
Phases: Phases during which sources of social (Air and Noise Pollution) impacts apply are highlighted below;						
Construction Phase	**Operational Phase**		**Decommissioning Phase**		**Post Closure**	
• Land preparation and setting-up of drill sites • Setting-up Base- camp for project staff	• Accessing of prospecting license area for surveys and sampling with project vehicles • Upgrading of access tracks (e.g. grading)		• Structure demolition and ground leveling activities • Temporary lodging for decommissioning staff		N/A	
Severity	Taken together, the disturbances will have a high severity in the unmitigated scenario. In the mitigated scenario, many of these disturbances can be prevented or mitigated to acceptable levels, which reduces the severity to low.					
Duration	The Significance of the potential impacts is subject to the proposed operation's life-time, however the identified impact's duration is incidental and short-term.					
Spatial Scale	Low, localized although cumulative as haulage along the designated routes may lead to increased traffic. The noise aspect is mainly limited to the feedlot facility site which far from residential areas.					
Probability	Very Low, the only noisy activities associated with the proposed operation are limited to the construction and decommissioning					
Unmitigated	**Severity**	**Duration**	**Spatial Scale**	**Consequence**	**Probability of Occurrence**	**Significance**
	L	L	L	M	L	H
Mitigated	**Severity**	**Duration**	**Spatial Scale**	**Consequence**	**Probability of Occurrence**	**Significance**
	L	L	L	L	L	H
Description of Mitigation Measures	• Strict compliance with the EMP is recommended in respect to managing incidental events; • Noise complaint register must be kept and maintained regularly with mitigation measures adopted accordingly. • All excessive noise generating activities must be strictly carried out during the day between 08h00 (am) and 17h00 (pm) week days only. • Conditions of the Environmental Clearance Certificate and Surface-use Agreement (with the property owner) must be accordingly adhere to. • As much as possible, it is recommended that vehicles with the most minimum footprint are used such as smallest excavator and or portable drill rig (drawn on a trailer).					

Table 13: *Impact on the Social Environment – Culture, Heritage and Scenic values*

Impact Event	**Disturbances to the heritage and scenic value of the environment**					
Description	The rapid on-ground survey and desktop review for cultural and heritage sites, reveals that generally there were low/no occurrence of known cultural heritage or archaeological sites, hence the assumption is that the occurrence of undiscovered sites within the prospecting license area is low. However, evidence cultural heritage were observed at or Otavi Town.					
Nature	Any sites that did exist here would either have been discovered already during previous investigations (due to the accessibility of the site to archaeologists) or have been destroyed during previous exploration and mining operations and or other land-uses such farming and tourism undertaken in the area.					
Phases: Phases during which sources of social (cultural, heritage and scenic values) impacts apply are highlighted below;						
Construction Phase	**Operational Phase**		**Decommissioning Phase**		**Post Closure**	
• Land preparation and construction activities • Temporary lodging for construction staff	• Reconnaissance activities mapping		• Structure demolition and ground leveling activities • Temporary lodging for decommissioning staff		N/A	
Severity	Severity is Low, disturbances relating to field-based will be low with extremely unlikely probability of occurrence without mitigations					
Duration	The significance of the potential impacts is subject to the proposed operation's life-time (in this case short-term), hence potential impacts is incidental in nature					
Spatial Scale	Localized, although chances of damaging artifacts are very high when encountered, the probability of finding these on the prospecting license area are low and may be limited to certain rock outcrops and along river valleys.					
Probability	Very Low, the nature of operation significantly limits exploration activities to one known pegmatite belt that falls within the mining area.					
Unmitigated	**Severity**	**Duration**	**Spatial Scale**	**Consequence**	**Probability of Occurrence**	**Significance**
	L	L	M	H	L	H
Mitigated	**Severity**	**Duration**	**Spatial Scale**	**Consequence**	**Probability of Occurrence**	**Significance**
	L	L	L	H	L	M
Description of Mitigation Measures	• Strict compliance with the EMP is recommended in respect to managing incidental events • Contractors working on the site should be made aware that under the National Heritage Act, 2004 (Act No. 27 of 2004) any items protected under the definition of heritage found in the course of development should be reported to the National Heritage Council • The chance finds procedure as outlined in the EMP must be implemented at all times, and. • Detailed field survey should be carried out if suspected archaeological resources or major natural cavities / shelters have been unearthed during the proposed exploration and test mining operations. • A stakeholder complaint register must be kept and maintained regularly with mitigation measures adopted accordingly, recording all concerns relating impacts of the proposed exploration activities on the cultural and scenic value of the environment which may be reported by interested and affected parties.					

Table 14: Impact on the Economic Aspect

Impact Event	Disturbances on social and economic aspects					
Description	Potential economic gains that may never be realized if the proposed project activities does not go-ahead include: loss in potential alternative income for the town, unemployment and the loss of socio-economic benefits derived from future mining development opportunities.					
Nature	However, it is imperative that the community is made aware that a major possible impact of exploration is the unrealistic expectations about the development of a mine. It's important for local communities to bear in mind that most exploration activity will not advance to mine development.					
Phases: Phases during which sources of social (potential social and economic gain) impacts apply are highlighted below;						
Construction Phase	**Operational Phase**		**Decommissioning Phase**		**Post Closure**	
• Land preparation and construction activities	• Use of the lodging and other social facilities, as well as other social interactions • Potential Mine development		• Structure demolition and ground leveling activities		• Retrenchments, retirement and job losses due to closure	
Severity	In the unmitigated scenario, this implies in the case where the activity take not take effect, no economic benefits shall realize hence, the severity in respect to unemployment shall be very high. However, with the implementation of the proposed operations, the severity of unemployment shall be reduced to medium.					
Duration	The Significance of the potential impacts is subject to the proposed operation's life-time, with a long-term potential					
Spatial Scale	Low, localized and only limited to the or Otavi Town community					
Probability	Low – Medium, probability in respect to job creation on both the temporary (during exploration) and long-term (during the operational phase) phases					
Unmitigated	**Severity**	**Duration**	**Spatial Scale**	**Consequence**	**Probability of Occurrence**	**Significance**
	L-M	L	L	L	L	L
Mitigated	**Severity**	**Duration**	**Spatial Scale**	**Consequence**	**Probability of Occurrence**	**Significance**
	L	M+	M+	H+	H+	H+
Description of Mitigation Measures	• It is critical that timely and continuous communication and dissemination of information with the local community is ensured to alleviate potential sense of social marginalization, drive gender equality and enhance the understanding and perception of the benefits associated with Rhonium Namibia Investments cc activities • To enhance the positive impacts relating to marginal net benefits for the micro-economy (local residence of or Otavi Town and Erongo at large) and national economy at larger, legislative provisions to Affirmative Action and Labour Welfare must be observed • It is strictly recommended that Rhonium Namibia Investments cc negotiates and signs a Surface Use Agreement detailing aspects of conduct and benefit distribution with all key stakeholder i.e. property owner					

6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 CONCLUSIONS

Namibia is an up-and-coming source country for critical minerals, which are important for renewable energy technologies. The country has the potential to develop new mining projects for cobalt and lithium, and therefore it has in recent years seen great interest towards the exploration and development of mineral commodities by foreign investor.

There are thus, many companies engaged in the exploration and mining activities for various metals / minerals including individual small-medium-scale minors such as RNI Investment. This creates opportunities that attracts international investment to support increased exploration activities particularly with an interest in finding lithium. Rhonium Namibia Investments cc, was presented an opportunity to undertaking an exploration programme in respect in respect to Dimension Stone (Marble).

While increased economic activities can stimulate demographic changes and alter social, economic and environmental practices in many ways. Adverse environmental and socio-economic impacts have become a major area of concern for the business community, their customers, and other key stakeholders. Therefore, to ensure that development activities are undertaken in an economic, social and environmental sound / sustainable manner, the Namibian Constitution and Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 provides for an environmental assessment process.

A key consideration in respect to the proposed project alternatives, is that of prospecting license location / site particularly considering that it falls within a farming. Primarily, the key objective in respect to land-use here is generation of economic benefits from farming activities i.e. livestock and or game farming. Hence, the pre-dominant land-use in these environments is usually non-intrusive and includes alternative tourism operations. However, tourism may have not proven to be the sole economically rewarding land-use option given the prolonged effects of natural disasters and pandemics. This has created an uncertainty which resulted in communities looking beyond farming and tourism for alternative income streams and thus increased mining activities are observed in the area.

In case of social impacts, the assessment focused on third parties only (third parties include members of the public and other local and regional institutions) and did not assess health and safety impacts on workers because the assumption was made that these aspects are separately regulated by health and safety legislation, policies and standards.

The No-Action Alternative comparative assessment, suggests that environmental impacts of a future in which the proposed activities do not take place, may be good for the receiving environment because there will be no potential negative or positive environmental impacts associated with the proposed activities (mineral prospecting).

Overall, potential impacts may vary in terms of scale (locality), magnitude and duration e.g. minor negative impacts in the form of visual intrusion, dust and noise pollution especially during the field-based activities i.e. sampling and or trenching.

Below (**Table 15**) is a summary of the likely positive impacts that have been assessed for the different phases of the proposed Rhonium Namibia Investments cc's mineral prospecting activities:

Table 15: Summary of key potential environmental concerns during the preparation (construction of quarry infrastructure), operational and, closure and decommissioning of the proposed mine development

Potential Source of concern	Description of Potential Concern	Assessment classification
Surface Ephemeral Watercourse and Groundwater Contamination		
Site preparation and base-camp activities	Potential release of sediments resulting in high concentration of total suspended solids in watercourse	Localized, Low negatives impacts
Construction of linear infrastructure i.e. access roads	Potential for effects on aquatic biodiversity resulting from stream-crossing due to creation of access roads	Localized, Low negatives impacts
Fuel and Chemical storage, handling and haulage	Potential release of hydrocarbons form petroleum product and chemicals in an event of spillage may lead to contamination of waters	Localized, impacts Low negatives
Operation and maintenance of mine equipment on-site e.g. vehicles etc.	Potential release of sediments resulting In high concentration of total suspended solids in receiving water	Localized, impacts Low negatives
Terrestrial Biodiversity and Ecosystem disturbance		
Site preparation and exploration operational activities	Clearing of vegetation around the mine site may impact on biodiversity i.e. in the case where rare, threatened or keystones are present in the EPL area	Localized, Low negatives impacts
Construction of linear infrastructure i.e. access roads, water pipelines and powerlines	Activities might dislocate or disrupt local wildlife and migratory species Access to the area may also result in increased pouching of wildlife and natural resources	Localized, Low negatives impacts
Operation vehicles and Earth-moving equipment and other mine activities	Operation of vehicles and equipment may result in collisions with wildlife Some animals may be drawn to the site by lighting, odour etc. leading hazards to both the wildlife and workers	Localized, Low negatives impacts
Noise, Dust / Air Pollution		
Noise from operational activities, including vehicles, blasting and drilling	Noise may affect wildlife populations and other local receptors such as people living in nearby settlements / farms Blasting may result in generation of excessive noise and vibrations	Localized, Low negatives impacts
Dust from construction and operational activities, including vehicles, blasting and drilling	Pits operations, haulage roads, waste- rock / stockpile, vehicle movement around and within the mine area can be a great source of dust	Localized, Low negatives impacts
Socio-economic concerns		
Development spin-off in the form of upgraded roads, water and energy benefits to local community	The development has the potential to contribute significantly toward rural development through upgrading of roads, provision of solar power for water supply	Localized, impacts High positive
Potential creation and livelihoods community employment uplifting of local	The development has the potential to contribute toward employment creation and boost the micro-economy by supporting local SMEs	Localized, impacts High positive

6.2 RECOMMENDATONS

Enviro-Leap environmental practitioner confidently recommends that the proposed project can proceed and should be authorized by the DEAF. The proposed operations is considered to have, overall low negative environmental impacts and potential for the enhancement of socio-economic benefits provided all protocols including the proposed mitigation measures are adhered to.

Based on this, it recommended that the proponent must upon obtaining their Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC), implement all appropriate management and mitigation measures and monitoring requirements as stipulated in this Scoping Report, the earlier detailed EIA and it EMP (compiled by RBS, 2019) and or as condition of the ECC. These measures must be undertaken to promote and uphold good practice environmental principles and adhere to relevant legislations by avoiding unacceptable impacts to the receiving environment.

6.3 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND MONITORING

It is important that channels of communication are maintained over the life-time of the proposed mineral prospecting project, and with all key stakeholders, members of the general public (including I&APs), as well as the local and traditional authorities, **Table 16** shows the stakeholders engagement recommendations.

Table 16: *Actions relating to stakeholder communication*

Issue	Management commitment	Phase
Development and maintenance of a Stakeholder engagement plan	On obtaining the Environmental Clearance Certificate and other relevant authorization it is recommended that the proponent undertakes a stakeholder engagement process to develop a Communication and Monitoring Plan for continuous reporting and feedback	All
Understanding who the stakeholders are	Maintain and update the stakeholder register, including stakeholders' needs and expectations. Ensure that all relevant stakeholder groups are included building on pre-identified and registered I&APs.	All
	A representative database would include all relevant local government, service providers and contractors, indigenous populations, local communities, Traditional Authorities (TAs), NGOs, shareholders, the investment sector, community-based organizations, suppliers and the media.	All
	Ensure that marginalized and vulnerable groups are also considered in the stakeholder communication process.	All
	Record partnerships as well as their roles, responsibilities, capacity and contribution to development.	All
Liaising with interested and affected parties at all phases	Devise and implement a stakeholder communication and engagement strategy.	All
Responsibility	Rhonium Namibia Investments cc and Enviro-Leap Consulting (On-contract)	

A stakeholder engagement plan is an important tool in ensuring that a good working relationship is maintained between the proponent and the community within which the activities are undertaken. It is crucial that this plan is developed in the same transparent manner and approach as the environmental assessment, and that it remains a living document which allows the stakeholder to engage with throughout the duration of the

proposed activity.

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APPENDIX A: ENVIRONMENTALMANGEMENT PLAN

Environmental Management & Monitoring Plan

Prospecting Activities in respect to Dimension Stone, Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Mineral, Precious Metals on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) 9079, Otjozondjupa Region

Draft Version for Submission

AUGUST 31

Compiled for: The Director
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EnviroLeap Consulting cc
...a leap towards better environmental compliance.
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OVERALL OBJECTIVES OF THE EMP

The following overall environmental objectives have been set for the Rhonium Namibia Investments cc exploration and mining development project:

- To comply with national legislation and standards for the protection of the environment.
- To limit potential impacts on biodiversity through the minimization of the footprint (as far as practically possible) and the conservation of residual habitat within the mine area.
- To keep surrounding communities informed of mining activities through the implementation of forums for communication and constructive dialogue.
- To develop, implement and manage monitoring systems to ensure good environmental performance in respect of the following: ground and surface water, air quality, noise and vibration, biodiversity and rehabilitation.

KEEPING EMPS UP TO DATE

This Environmental Management Plan (EMP) document is designed to meet legal requirements and avoid or minimize the impacts associated with the implementation of Rhonium Namibia Investments cc exploration and mining development. It is the intention that this EMP should be seen as a "living document" which will be amended during the operation, as the activities might change or new ones be introduced.

Should a listed activity(s) as define in the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations: Environmental Management Act, 2007 (Government Gazette No. 4878) be triggered (as a result of future modifications/changes at the mine), this EMP will be updated as a result of another EIA process as stipulated in the regulations.

IMPACTS MANAGEMENT / MITIGATION MEASURES

Table 17. Impact on the Biophysical Environment – prospecting license site Access and use of vehicles

Issue	Management commitment	Phase
Understanding who the stakeholders are	• Maintain and update the stakeholder register, including stakeholders' needs and expectations. • A representative database would include all relevant local government, service providers, indigenous populations, Traditional Authorities (TAs), NGOs or community-based organizations • Ensure that marginalized and vulnerable groups are also considered in the stakeholder communication process. • Record partnerships as well as their roles, responsibilities, capacity and contribution to development.	All
Liaising with interested and affected parties at all phases in the mine life	Devise and implement a stakeholder communication and engagement strategy.	All
Responsibility	Rhonium Namibia Investments cc and Enviro-Leap Consulting (On contract basis)	

Table 18. Impact on the Biophysical Environment – prospecting license site Access and use of vehicles

Impact Event	Disturbances on Biodiversity in respect to access tracks	
Desired mitigation outcome	The objective of the mitigation in respect to impacts on biodiversity is to ensure that as much as possible, disturbance on biodiversity is avoided and prevented while the proposed prospecting activities is undertaken.	
Proposed Mitigation Measures	• Strict compliance with the Relevant authorities guidelines and EMP is recommended in respect to managing incidental events; • Exploration activity must be limited to the pre-identified pegmatites belts within the prospecting license area • Unless necessary and agreed with the relevant authorities, no new access tracks shall be created and no lodging shall be allowed in sensitive zones	All
Responsibility	Rhonium Namibia Investments cc and Enviro-Leap Consulting (On contract basis)	

Table 19. Impact on the Biophysical Environment – Bulk sampling and ore extraction

Impact Event	Disturbances on Biodiversity in respect to sampling and trenching activities	
Desired mitigation outcome	The objective of the mitigation in respect to impacts on biodiversity is to ensure that as much as possible, disturbance particularly on wildlife (poaching) and flora (clearing / damage) species is reduced and or prevented.	
Proposed Mitigation Measures	• Strict compliance with the Forestry Act and Regulations in respect to vegetation clearing, Relevant authorities guidelines and EMP is recommended in respect to managing incidental events; • Should the proponent require clearing, removal and transplantation of any protected plant species – services of an appropriately qualified botanist / ecologists must be sought and relevant permissions obtained prior to any such activity being undertaken • A plant survey must be conducted and all protected species clearly marked and protected prior to setting-up any sampling site and or digging any trench for geological sampling • Exploration activity must be limited to the pre-identified pegmatites belts within the prospecting license area thus reducing the spatial impacts to key areas of the EPL • Unless necessary and agreed with the relevant authorities, no new access tracks shall be created and no lodging shall be allowed in sensitive zones • Temporary bins and spill kits must be provided to ensure that all waste material including hydrocarbons are well contained prior to final disposal at approved sites in either or Otavi Town • Unless in an emergency, no equipment (vehicles and drill rigs) should be serviced in the field thus preventing unnecessary spillage of hydrocarbons	All
Responsibility	Rhonium Namibia Investments cc and Enviro-Leap Consulting (On contract basis)	

IMPACTS ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

Table 20. Impact on the Biophysical Environment – Waste Management (Effluent, Solid and Hydrocarbons)

Impact Event	Waste generation and disposal	Phase
Desired mitigation outcome	The objective of the mitigation in respect to waste generation is to ensure that the best scenic value and integrity of the affected environment maintained and or enhanced by reducing chances of littering through proper use of waste management facilities.	
Proposed Mitigation Measures	• Environmental awareness is an important aspect of environmental management, therefore all project staff and service providers must be educated of the environmental compliance requirements and urged to comply accordingly on induction with the project site. • Given that lodging is recommended to be at existing camp-sites and or lodges, this aspect shall be managed as part of the current property owner's compliance requirements • In the field, hydrocarbon waste shall be contained (in spill kits) and stored in appropriate heavy-duty plastic cabbage, transported to the nearest waste-oil recycling / solid waste disposal facility in Otavi Town • A sufficient number of spill kits shall be acquired and strategically placed, particularly near every sampling site to ensure that timely response to any potential fuel and lubricant spills is conducted (should the project require any sampling activities to be undertaken). These shall include an on-site used oil disposal bin(s) • Equally, effluent waste shall be managed in compliance with the lodging host's requirements, although during any sampling activities – temporary dry-pit toilet facility must be provided at every site.	All
Responsibility	Rhonium Namibia Investments cc and Enviro-Leap Consulting (On contract basis)	

Table 21. Environmental Impact: Human Health and Safety

Impact Event	Prevention and mitigation of any health and safety hazards / risks	Phase
Desired mitigation outcome	The objective of the mitigation in respect to health and safety hazards is to ensure that the health, safety and protection of both the project staff and community receive priority in terms of budgetary provision and compliance	
Proposed Mitigation Measures	• Strict compliance with the EMP is recommended in respect to managing incidental events; • Carry sufficient First Aid equipment to ensure that minor injuries reduce need to access local health facility and therefore minimizing potential strain on local services • Strict compliance with national health protocols as and when directive is issued in respect to any disease outbreak and or recurring pandemics such as HIV / AIDS and Pandemic outbreak • Strict ban on use of any toxic substances within and during the working environment must be prohibited	All
Responsibility	Rhonium Namibia Investments cc and Enviro-Leap Consulting (On contract basis)	

Table 22: Impact on the Social Environment – Air and Noise Pollution

Impact Event	Disturbances to the social environment	Phase
Desired mitigation outcome	The objective of the mitigation in respect to ambient air quality and sense of place / noise and chance is to ensure that all possible receptors are identified and practical measures are put in place to reduce these impacts and or respond with appropriate mitigation to complaints	
Proposed Mitigation Measures	• Strict compliance with the EMP is recommended in respect to managing incidental events; • Noise complaint register must be kept and maintained regularly with mitigation measures adopted accordingly. • All excessive noise generating activities must be strictly carried out during the day between 08h00 (am) and 17h00 (pm) week days only. • Conditions of the Environmental Clearance Certificate and Surface- use Agreement (with the relevant Traditional Authority and Town) must be accordingly adhered to. • As much as possible, it is recommended that vehicles with the most minimum footprint are used such as smallest excavator and or Front-end loaders (drawn on a trailer).	
Responsibility	Rhonium Namibia Investments cc and Enviro-Leap Consulting (On contract basis)	

Table 23: Impact on the Social Environment – Culture, Heritage and Scenic values

Impact Event	Disturbances to the heritage and scenic value of the environment	Phase
Desired mitigation outcome	The objective of the mitigation in respect to impacts on cultural and archaeological heritage integrity is to ensure that at all times, project staff are vigilant of the potential to intrude, disturb and or damage important artifacts and therefore must avoid wondering onto any protected and or sensitive known or identified site.	
Proposed Mitigation Measures	• Strict compliance with the EMP is recommended in respect to managing incidental events • Contractors working on the site should be made aware that under the National Heritage Act, 2004 (Act No. 27 of 2004) any items protected under the definition of heritage found in the course of development should be reported to the National Heritage Council • he chance finds procedure as outlined in the EMP must be implemented at all times, and. • etailed field survey should be carried out if suspected archaeological resources or major natural cavities / shelters have been unearthed during the proposed exploration and test mining operations.	
Responsibility	Rhonium Namibia Investments cc and Enviro-Leap Consulting (On contract basis)	

Table 24: Impact on the Economic Aspect

Impact Event	Disturbances on social and economic aspects	Phase
Desired mitigation outcome	The objective of the mitigation in respect to economic impacts relating to the proposed activity, is to ensure that potential negative economic impacts on other and existing land-use are prevented, reduced and or mitigated and the positive ones enhanced.	
Proposed Mitigation Measures	• It is critical that timely and continuous communication and dissemination of information with the local community is ensured to alleviate potential sense of social marginalization, drive gender equality and enhance the understanding and perception of the benefits associated with Rhonium Namibia Investments cc 's activities • To enhance the positive impacts relating to marginal net benefits for the micro-economy (local residence of or Otavi Town Towns Settlement and the region at large) and national economy at larger, legislative provisions to Affirmative Action and Labour Welfare must be observed • It is strictly recommended that Rhonium Namibia Investments cc negotiates and signs a Surface Use Agreement detailing aspects of conduct and benefit distribution with all key stakeholder i.e. property owner	All
Responsibility	Rhonium Namibia Investments cc and Enviro-Leap Consulting (On contract basis)	

Table 25: Site Closure and Rehabilitation

Impact Event	Disturbances on social and economic aspects	Phase
Desired mitigation outcome	The Proponent will commit to establishing a rehabilitation plan as part of the mine closure plan. A conceptual mine closure plan with costing is under development must be compiled by RNI Investment Mining in association with Enviro-Leap and forms part of the environmental compliance and monitoring programme.	
Proposed Mitigation Measures	• RNI Investment 'shall submit regular (bi-annual or annual Environmental Reports) to the relevant Ministry stating the exploration activities and environmental performance of the project. • Staff of the MET or Ministry of Mines and Energy may at any time inspect the exploration area. Internal and external monitoring should involve RNI Investment Mining's safety and environmental officer and members of the MEFT. • Should the decision be taken that the project is not economically viable the area will be rehabilitated. The rehabilitation measures that are set out in the Rehabilitation Plan (to be compiled and approved by MEFT) are binding to all personnel on site including the crew and contractors.	Closure
Responsibility	Rhonium Namibia Investments cc and Enviro-Leap Consulting (On contract basis)	

APPENDIX B: PUBLIC CONSULTATION

CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classifieds advert with us, please contact Ms. Fransina Fredericks
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CALL FOR REGISTARTION AS INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING IN RESPECT TO BASE & RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS AND PRECIOUSE METAL ON EPL 10170, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION

1. PROJECT SITE AND DESCRIPTION

Ms. Mickal Ngajozikue Tjituka (the Proponent), intends to apply to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for their proposed prospecting activities in respect to **Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals and Precious Metals** on an approximate area of **99107.8 Ha** in the Otjozondjupa Region. The key component of the proposed activity entails geological mapping and survey and manual sample collection for laboratory analysis, and small-scale mining operation. Access to the sampling or survey sites will be by existing tracks and on foot where vehicle access is limited.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Enviro-Leap Consulting invites all Interested and Affected Party (I & AP) to register and receive Environmental Assessment (BID, Scoping and EMP) documents relating to the proposed project for their comments and input. Interested and Affected Parties are herewith request to register by writing to us at the address below no later than **25 February 2025.**

3. COMMENTS AND QUERIES

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

ENVIROLEAP CONSULTING cc

CALL FOR REGISTARTION AS INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

CALL FOR REGISTARTION AS INTERESTED & AFFECTED PARTIES ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING IN RESPECT TO BASE & RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS AND PRECIOUSE METAL ON EPL 10169, KHOMAS REGION

1. PROJECT SITE AND DESCRIPTION

Ms. Mickal Ngajozikue Tjituka (the Proponent), intends to apply to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for their proposed prospecting activities in respect to **Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals and Precious Metals** on an approximate area of **98636.8 Ha** in the Khomas Region. The key component of the proposed activity entails geological mapping and survey and manual sample collection for laboratory analysis, and small-scale mining operation. Access to the sampling or survey sites will be by existing tracks and on foot where vehicle access is limited.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Enviro-Leap Consulting invites all Interested and Affected Party (I & AP) to register and receive Environmental Assessment (BID, Scoping and EMP) documents relating to the proposed project for their comments and input. Interested and Affected Parties are herewith request to register by writing to us at the address below no later than **25 February 2025.**

3. COMMENTS AND QUERIES

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ENVIROLEAP CONSULTING cc

CALL FOR REGISTARTION AS INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING IN RESPECT TO BASE & RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS AND PRECIOUSE METAL ON EPL 10168, HARDAP REGION

1. PROJECT SITE AND DESCRIPTION

Ms. Mickal Ngajozikue Tjituka (the Proponent), intends to apply to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for their proposed prospecting activities in respect to **Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals and Precious Metals** on an approximate area of **25547.9 Ha** in the Hardap Region. The key component of the proposed activity entails geological mapping and survey and manual sample collection for laboratory analysis, and small-scale mining operation. Access to the sampling or survey sites will be by existing tracks and on foot where vehicle access is limited.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Enviro-Leap Consulting invites all Interested and Affected Party (I & AP) to register and receive Environmental Assessment (BID, Scoping and EMP) documents relating to the proposed project for their comments and input. Interested and Affected Parties are herewith request to register by writing to us at the address below no later than **25 February 2025.**

3. COMMENTS AND QUERIES

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

ENVIROLEAP CONSULTING cc

CALL FOR REGISTARTION AS INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING IN RESPECT TO DIMENSION STONE, BASE AND RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERAL, PRECIOUS METALS ON EPL 8858, KARAS REGION

1. PROJECT SITE AND DESCRIPTION

Epako One Zero One Investments cc (the Proponent), intends to apply to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for their proposed prospecting activities in respect to **Dimension Stone, Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Mineral, Precious Metals** on an approximate area of **33379 Ha** in the Otjozondjupa Region. The key component of the proposed activity entails geological mapping and survey and manual sample collection for laboratory analysis, and small-scale mining operation. Access to the sampling or survey sites will be by existing tracks and on foot where vehicle access is limited.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Enviro-Leap Consulting invites all Interested and Affected Party (I & AP) to register and receive Environmental Assessment (BID, Scoping and EMP) documents relating to the proposed project for their comments and input. Interested and Affected Parties are herewith request to register by writing to us at the address below no later than **25 February 2025**.

3. COMMENTS AND QUERIES

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

ENVIROLEAP CONSULTING cc

CALL FOR REGISTARTION AS INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING IN RESPECT TO DIMENSION STONE, BASE AND RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERAL, PRECIOUS METALS ON EPL 9079, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION

1. PROJECT SITE AND DESCRIPTION

Rhonium Namibia Investments cc (the Proponent), intends to apply to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for their proposed prospecting activities in respect to Dimension **Stone, Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Mineral, Precious Metals** on an approximate area of **8473.8 Ha** in the Otjozondjupa Region. The key component of the proposed activity entails geological mapping and survey and manual sample collection for laboratory analysis, and small-scale mining operation. Access to the sampling or survey sites will be by existing tracks and on foot where vehicle access is limited.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Enviro-Leap Consulting invites all Interested and Affected Party (I & AP) to register and receive Environmental Assessment (BID, Scoping and EMP) documents relating to the proposed project for their comments and input. Interested and Affected Parties are herewith request to register by writing to us at the address below no later than **25 February 2025.**

3. COMMENTS AND QUERIES

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

ENVIROLEAP CONSULTING cc

Early Signs of Financial Trouble

Eddie King

Early signs of financial trouble often go unnoticed until they escalate into more severe issues. Recognising these signs can help individuals and small businesses take proactive steps to mitigate financial distress and avoid potential defaults.

One of the primary indicators of financial trouble is consistent difficulty meeting monthly financial obligations.

This might manifest as struggling to pay bills on time, such as a home loan, personal loan, or vehicle instalments, or only being able to make minimum credit card payments or interest on overdraft facilities.

Such patterns suggest that expenses are exceeding income, which could lead to accumulated debt over time.

Another sign is the increasing use of credit for everyday expenses. If there is a noticeable shift towards using credit cards for routine purchases, such as groceries, rates and taxes, or water bills, it might indicate inadequate cash flow or depleted savings. This reliance on credit can quickly lead to high-interest charges and growing debt balances.

A reduction in cash flow can also be a significant warning for businesses. This situation could be due to decreased customer demand, late client payments, or a considerable account loss.

When revenue begins to fall, it might not immediately impact a business's operations, but over time, it can prevent the business from meeting its financial obligations.

Further, sudden or unexpected expenses can worsen financial issues. For individuals, this might be emergency medical bills or critical home repairs. For businesses, unexpected costs might arise from equipment failures or the need for sudden regulatory compliance upgrades.

Without a sufficient emergency fund, these expenses can force reliance on additional borrowing, pushing finances towards a potential default.

Regular monitoring of financial statements can also reveal troubles early. A decline in savings or an increase in debt-to-income ratio are key metrics that signal weakening financial health.

For businesses, regular reviews of cash flow statements can help catch issues before they become unmanageable.

Addressing these signs involves careful budget review and adjustment, seeking ways to increase income, and possibly consulting with financial advisors to devise debt management strategies.

Proactively taking these steps can help avoid the severe repercussions associated with financial default.

Eddie King is Bank Windhoek's credit executive officer. The views expressed herein are his own.

CLASSIFIEDS

CALL FOR REGISTARTION AS INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING IN RESPECT TO BASE & RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS AND PRECIOUSE METAL ON EPL 10170, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION

1. PROJECT SITE AND DESCRIPTION

Ms. Mickal Ngajozikue Tjituka (the Proponent), intends to apply to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for their proposed prospecting activities in respect to **Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals and Precious Metals** on an approximate area of **99107.8 Ha** in the Otjozondjupa Region. The key component of the proposed activity entails geological mapping and survey and manual sample collection for laboratory analysis, and small-scale mining operation. Access to the sampling or survey sites will be by existing tracks and on foot where vehicle access is limited.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Enviro-Leap Consulting invites all Interested and Affected Party (I & AP) to register and receive Environmental Assessment (BID, Scoping and EMP) documents relating to the proposed project for their comments and input. Interested and Affected Parties are herewith request to register by writing to us at the address below no later than **25 February 2025.**

3. COMMENTS AND QUERIES

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

ENVIROLEAP CONSULTING cc

CALL FOR REGISTARTION AS INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

CALL FOR REGISTARTION AS INTERESTED & AFFECTED PARTIES ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING IN RESPECT TO BASE & RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS AND PRECIOUSE METAL ON EPL 10169, KHOMAS REGION

1. PROJECT SITE AND DESCRIPTION

Ms. Mickal Ngajozikue Tjituka (the Proponent), intends to apply to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for their proposed prospecting activities in respect to **Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals and Precious Metals** on an approximate area of **98636.8 Ha** in the Khomas Region. The key component of the proposed activity entails geological mapping and survey and manual sample collection for laboratory analysis, and small-scale mining operation. Access to the sampling or survey sites will be by existing tracks and on foot where vehicle access is limited.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Enviro-Leap Consulting invites all Interested and Affected Party (I & AP) to register and receive Environmental Assessment (BID, Scoping and EMP) documents relating to the proposed project for their comments and input. Interested and Affected Parties are herewith request to register by writing to us at the address below no later than **25 February 2025.**

3. COMMENTS AND QUERIES

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ENVIROLEAP CONSULTING cc

CALL FOR REGISTARTION AS INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING IN RESPECT TO BASE & RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERALS AND PRECIOUSE METAL ON EPL 10168, HARDAP REGION

1. PROJECT SITE AND DESCRIPTION

Ms. Mickal Ngajozikue Tjituka (the Proponent), intends to apply to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for their proposed prospecting activities in respect to **Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Minerals and Precious Metals** on an approximate area of **25547.9 Ha** in the Hardap Region. The key component of the proposed activity entails geological mapping and survey and manual sample collection for laboratory analysis, and small-scale mining operation. Access to the sampling or survey sites will be by existing tracks and on foot where vehicle access is limited.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Enviro-Leap Consulting invites all Interested and Affected Party (I & AP) to register and receive Environmental Assessment (BID, Scoping and EMP) documents relating to the proposed project for their comments and input. Interested and Affected Parties are herewith request to register by writing to us at the address below no later than **25 February 2025.**

3. COMMENTS AND QUERIES

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

ENVIROLEAP CONSULTING cc

CALL FOR REGISTARTION AS INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING IN RESPECT TO DIMENSION STONE, BASE AND RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERAL, PRECIOUS METALS ON EPL 8858, KARAS REGION

1. PROJECT SITE AND DESCRIPTION

Epako One Zero One Investments cc (the Proponent), intends to apply to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for their proposed prospecting activities in respect to **Dimension Stone, Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Mineral, Precious Metals** on an approximate area of **33379 Ha** in the Otjozondjupa Region. The key component of the proposed activity entails geological mapping and survey and manual sample collection for laboratory analysis, and small-scale mining operation. Access to the sampling or survey sites will be by existing tracks and on foot where vehicle access is limited.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Enviro-Leap Consulting invites all Interested and Affected Party (I & AP) to register and receive Environmental Assessment (BID, Scoping and EMP) documents relating to the proposed project for their comments and input. Interested and Affected Parties are herewith request to register by writing to us at the address below no later than **25 February 2025**.

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ENVIROLEAP CONSULTING cc

CALL FOR REGISTARTION AS INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED PROSPECTING IN RESPECT TO DIMENSION STONE, BASE AND RARE METALS, INDUSTRIAL MINERAL, PRECIOUS METALS ON EPL 9079, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION

1. PROJECT SITE AND DESCRIPTION

Rhonium Namibia Investments cc (the Proponent), intends to apply to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate for their proposed prospecting activities in respect to Dimension **Stone, Base and Rare Metals, Industrial Mineral, Precious Metals** on an approximate area of **8473.8 Ha** in the Otjozondjupa Region. The key component of the proposed activity entails geological mapping and survey and manual sample collection for laboratory analysis, and small-scale mining operation. Access to the sampling or survey sites will be by existing tracks and on foot where vehicle access is limited.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Enviro-Leap Consulting invites all Interested and Affected Party (I & AP) to register and receive Environmental Assessment (BID, Scoping and EMP) documents relating to the proposed project for their comments and input. Interested and Affected Parties are herewith request to register by writing to us at the address below no later than **25 February 2025.**

3. COMMENTS AND QUERIES

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

ENVIROLEAP CONSULTING cc

REZONING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Afrishine Investment cc, intends to apply to the Rundu Town Council and the Urban and Regional Planning Board on behalf of the registered owner of Erf 9089, Rundu Extension 29, for the:

- Rezoning of Erf 9089 Rundu Extension 29 from Industrial to Institutional
- Consent to commence with the development while the rezoning is in process

The rezoning of Erf 9089, Rundu Extension 29 as well as the consent use sought, would enable the owner of the property to optimize the development potential of their property and thus cater towards the need to contribute towards the hospitality industry in the town.

Take note that a similar notice of the intent to rezone, have been posted on site, published in the Government Gazette as well as on the Notice Board of the Rundu Town Council. The consultation with neighboring erf owners duly took place too.

Take note that any person objecting to the proposed rezoning as set out above may lodge such objection together with the grounds thereof with the Chief Executive Officer, Rundu Town Council, Private Bag 2128, Rundu and/or the applicant in writing within 14 working days of the publication of this notice. The last date for comments/ objections is thus 20 February 2025.

Applicant:
Afrishine Investment cc
P O Box 793
Swakopmund
Mobile: +264 81 3236024
E-mail: @htskevanhu@gmail.com

Namibia Underutilising Youth Demographic Dividends

...405,599 Youth Not Formally Employed

Nghiinomenwa-Vali Erastus

Of Namibia's 1.8 million working-age population, approximately 1.02 million are youth between the ages of 15 and 34.

However, only 252,886 of them are formally employed.

Alarmingly, the country has 405,599 youth who are formally unemployed, according to the 2023 Population and Housing Census Labour Force statistics.

Data compiled by the Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) indicates that 61.4% of economically capable youth are not participating in the commercial sector, highlighting a significant employment gap and an underutilised labour force.

In terms of gender distribution, female youth are more affected, with 65.8% not employed in the formal sector compared to 57.0% of males.

The NSA's combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force indicator underscores the severity of youth unemployment in Namibia.

The agency also notes an increasing number of discouraged job seekers, individuals who have ceased searching for employment after prolonged, unsuccessful attempts.

Namibia's youth unemployment crisis mirrors that of many developing economies where job opportunities remain scarce.

The report further reveals that economically idle youth are more concentrated in urban areas (nearly 230,000) than in rural regions (approximately 175,000).

Another crucial insight from the report is that, of the 1.01 million individuals classified as outside the labour force, 341,931 (33.9%) are considered part of the Potential Labour Force.

There is also a high number of young people who are registered as jobseekers but could not find employment.

These are individuals of working age who are not employed but do not meet the official definition of unemployment.

During the reference period, they did not actively seek employment, possibly due to discouragement or a perceived lack of suitable job opportunities, but expressed a desire to work and were available for employment.

erastus@thvillager.com.na

APPENDIX C: RESUME OF EAP

...a leap towards better environmental compliance.

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Mr. LAWRENCE TJATINDI
Project Manager and Environmental Practitioner

ID Number :	82110710012	EMAIL:	eap.trigen@gmail.com
Country of Résidence :	Namibia	Cell:	+264-81-486-9948
Nationality:	Namibian		

PROFESSIONAL OVERVIEW

Experience Internationally:

Countries worked:	Namibia
Languages:	English (*fluently written, spoken and read*); Otjiherero (fluently spoken, written and read) Afrikaans (*well spoken, fairly written and read)*
Languages:	Project Management Tailings Risk and water balance Waste water treatment technologies Feasibility studies – Mining Projects Water Supply and reticulation design

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:

2009	University of Stellenbosch	*Senior Management Development Program (Business School)*
2007	University of Cape Town	*Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering*

EMPLOYMENT RECORD:

May 2022 - Current: Enviro-Leap Consulting Cc
Position: Project Management and Environmental Practitioner

- Update stakeholder register and manage engagement plan
- Conduct environmental compliance inspections and audits
- Represent Enviro-Leap at stakeholder engagement meetings
- Coordinate closure and rehabilitation of mining development projects
- Attend site visits for new projects
- Meet with clients to align requirements with Enviro-Leap' s output.Compile and review environmental policies and audits

January 2018 – April 2022 (fixed- term 4 plus years)
Position: Senior Engineer – Water and Tailings Risk Management: Dundee Precious Metal Tsumeb Smelter
Responsibilities:

- Waste water treatment and effluent quality compliance monitoring
- Ensure compliance with water abstraction permit
- Internal auditing of Tailings compliance with corporate standards and international good practice
- Operationalization of recommendations from Expert reviews and mandatory audits.
- Ensure tailings operation is in line with design specifications
- Provide specifications that feeds into the tailings design tables

P. O. Box 25874, Windhoek +264-81-486-9948 eap.trigen@gmail.com

April 2015 – December 2017
Position: Senior Metallurgist – Product Recovery Section: Langer Heinrich Uranium Mine
Responsibilities:

- Technical advisor to the recovery section – Setting metallurgical Operating parameters
- Test work lead for Membrane technology – Nano Filtration, Ultra Filtration, Reverse Osmosis
- Test work lead for Ion exchange separation efficiency – NIMCIX and Fixed Bed ion exchange

August 2010 to July 2014
Position: Technical Metallurgist – Water Management and Tailings Planning: Rössing Uranium Mine
Responsibilities:

- Technical advisor to the tailings management team
- Recommend improvement initiatives for return dam solution
- Formulation of 5 year deposition planning

Position: Process Control Metallurgist
Responsibilities:

- Technical advisor for the recovery section of the refinery

Position: Test work Lead – Pre-feasibility study for heap leaching of low grade Uranium ore
Responsibilities:

- Lead the test work team for the feasibility study for Heap Leaching
- Write up of study findings
- Design test work program for the study

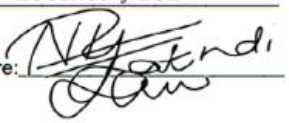
February 2007 – July 2010
Position: Graduate Metallurgist – Sulphuric acid and water treatment plant: Skorpion Zinc mine

- Completed graduate development program
- Junior area metallurgist for the acid and water section of the plant
- Custodian of water balance of the plant
- Metal accountant for the refinery section

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, Shadrack Tjiramba, hereby certify to the best of my knowledge that the information provided herein correctly describe me, my qualifications and experience.

Date: 20 January 2024

Signature: 

P. O. Box 25874, Windhoek +264 81 622 9933: Email eap.trigen@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Mr. SHADRACK TJIRAMBA
Research and Environmental Management Specialist

ID Number :	80011910445	EMAIL:	eap.trigen@gmail.com
Country of Résidence :	Namibia	Cell:	+264-816229933
Nationality:	Namibian		

PROFESSIONAL OVERVIEW

Experience Internationally:

Countries worked: Namibia, South Africa.

Languages: English (*fluently written, spoken and read*);
Otjiherero (fluently spoken, written and read)
Afrikaans (*well spoken, fairly written and read*),

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:

2009	The University Western Cape	*Post-Graduate Diploma Sustainable Land Management (NQA Level 8) Sustainable Development, Resource Economics, 2009), South Africa*
2007	University of South Africa (UNISA)	*Bachelor of Laws (LLB)*
2005	Polytechnic of Namibia	*B-Tech Land Management, 2005*

EMPLOYMENT RECORD:

May 2020-Current: Enviro-Leap Consulting Cc
Position: Lead Consultant Environmental Management

- Compile and review environmental assessment reports (environmental scoping and management plans (EMP)) for our clients in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Management Act, No.7 of 2007 and its regulations of 2012
- Compile and review environmental policies and audits
- Reviewed and updated the Solid Waste Management Policy for Dundee Metals Mining
- Conduct environmental compliance inspections and audits
- Facilitate stakeholder engagement
- Coordinate closure and rehabilitation of development projects, such as mining sites, hazardous substance spill sites
- Prepared training manuals and facilitated workshops for Communal Land Boards

August 2015 – July 2018 (fixed- term 3 years)
Position: Project Coordinator-Basket Fund, GIZ (Deutcshe Gesellschaft Fur Internationale) Responsibilities:

- Coordinate project activities in the Omaheke and Otjozondjupa Region's
- Provide technical expertise/advise to various regional councils, land boards, traditional authorities, local level planning committees
- Coordinate the processes of revising and developing the Namibian environmental legislations (plans, strategies, regulations and Act amendments), as well as dissemination of information on these tools
- Prepare tender documents
- Coordinate project procurement needs in line with GIZ procurement policies.
- Financial reporting in line with financial guidelines for grant agreement GIZ
- Coordinate, manage the planning and implementation of project consultants' key performance areas.
- Supervise project staff and resource allocation
- Reporting in line with donor requirements

January 2019 – June 2019
Position: Social Policy Consultant – Gender Mainstreaming: Benguela Convention Commission. Responsibilities:

- Conducted and compiled a draft Situation Analysis Report, summarizing the findings of desk review, gender survey through the field mission and interviews
- Compiled a draft Action Plan for BCLME III Project and Gender Policy for BCC
- Hosted and facilitated a situation analysis findings validation workshop
- Produced final Situation Analysis Report, Gender Action Plan for BCLME III Project, including a proposed gender-responsive Project Results Framework with gender-responsible outputs, sex- disaggregated indicators, baseline and targets. Gender Policy for BCC

August 2011 to Dec 2012
Project Coordinator-MCA Agriculture & Environment:

- Managed the Millennium Challenge Accounts Namibia Agriculture and Environment project's activities.
- Co-Developed, implemented and monitored local-level integrated activities and annual work plans for the CBNRM.
- Undertook and provided training and technical support to the targeted conservancies as per the objectives of the CBNRM
- Ensured project compliance with donor requirements through production of and submission of technical reports according to Donor procedures trainings for land management for farmers

February 2004 – March 2009
Researcher: Land, Environment and Development Project-Legal Assistance Centre. June 2006 – November 2009

- Assist with desktop and field research on land, environmental and urban housing (informal settlements).
- Assist in the compilation of research questionnaires
- Conduct interviews
- Assist with project administration
- Laise with stakeholders NGO's, Government Agencies, Farmer's Associations, Ministry of Environment
- Draft research reports

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, Shadrack Tjiramba, hereby certify to the best of my knowledge that the information provided herein correctly describe me, my qualifications and experience.

Date: 20 January 2024

Signature: 

P. O. Box 25874, Windhoek +264 81 622 9933: Email eap.trigen@gmail.com