BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID) FOR PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EPL NO: 10141 in OKAHANDJA DISTRICT, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION.

# INTRODUCTION

Kalahari Geological and Environmental Solutions Cc has been appointed by **Ludi Namibia Mining and Investment (PTY) LTD.** to act on her behalf in obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate to conduct exploration activities on EPL no 10141 in the Okahandja district in Otjozondjupa region (refer to in Figure 1).

# **ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION**

In terms of the Namibia Environmental Management Act, 7 of 2007. An environmental clearance application will be submitted to the Ministry of Environmental, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) for approval before the commencement of the anticipated mining activities.

The following are listed activities triggered by the proposed project under the Environmental Management Act, No 7 of 2007.

The Minerals (Prospecting and Mining) Act (No 33 of 1992) regulates reconnaissance license, prospecting license, and mining of minerals and dimension stone or rocks. The Act details reporting requirements for monitoring of activities and compliance to environmental performance, such as disposal methods and rehabilitation.

The Mining Commissioner, appointed by the Minister, is responsible for implementing the provisions of this Act as well as the associated regulations such as the Health and Safety Regulations. Several explicit references to the environment and its protection are contained in the Minerals Act, which provides for environmental impact assessments, rehabilitation of prospecting and mining areas and minimizing or preventing

## PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

- Provide a brief description of the proposed project and EIA process that will be followed and to obtain initial comments and contributions from Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) on the issues relating to the proposed development.
- Provide the objectives of the project and approach to the EIA and EMP to be undertaken; and
- Invite Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to register and provide input throughout the EIA process.

# **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The proposed project to carry out an exploratory study on EPL no: 10141 is located in the Okahandja district Area in Otjozondjupa Region. The EPL is linked to the national road network by B2. To access the claim, an existing Main road M0087 which passes through the EPL will be used.

The nature, extent, duration, intensity, probability and significance of the potential impacts associated with the proposed project will be discussed in the Draft Scoping Report which will be circulated to all registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) in due course.

The prospecting operations will be small scale and disturbance from drilling and trenching will produce little to no overburden due to outcropping. All trench and drill sites will be rehabilitated to the almost pre-prospecting state.

# NEED AND DESIRABILITY OF THE PROJECT

The mining sector in Namibia significantly contributes to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) that is through fees and equities as well as export revenues. The proponents', mining and exporting goods/minerals will contribute to sustaining Namibia's economy and has the potential to create employment.

Furthermore, small-scale mining can lead to the enrichment of communities and economically empower disadvantaged groups by virtue of its low investment costs and short lead time from discovery to production. The project also will reduce the unemployment rate in Namibia.

#### Who is doing the EIA

In terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations, an independent Environmental Impact Assessment Practitioner ust be appointed to conduct the EIA. Kalaharis Geological and Environmental Solutions Cc has been appointed to conduct the EIA.

Kalahari Geological and Environmental Solutions will identify and asses the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed activity by conducting an objective and independent EIA in which all the relevant information and opinions of Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) will be collected and passed on to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism (MEFT). In this way an informed decision-making process can take place

# POTENTIAL ENVIRNMENTAL ISSUES

The potential impacts are anticipated to be of low significance, and in an event where impacts occur, they will be contained within the licence area. The following table summarizes potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project and will be considered in the EIA process.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT	POTENTIAL IMPACTS
Biodiversity	Possible disturbance to surrounding fauna and flora.
Air Quality	Dust generation from exploration activities, and vehicular movement.
Landscape	Excavations which may change landscape.
Socio-Economic	The project will have positive socioeconomic impacts job creation and economic contributions.

More potential impacts may be identified during scoping when stakeholders provide their comments and these will be incorporated into the list and used to determine the final scope of the investigation.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

Public participation is the cornerstone of the Environmental Impact Assessment process.

These include the ongoing provision of sufficient information (in a transparent manner) to Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs). During the public participation process, inputs from a broad variety of stakeholders will complement the EIA.

I&APs will be given the opportunity to comment on the findings of both the Scoping and EIA Report, during the specified comment periods. I&APs are hereby invited to comment on environmental, social and economic issues relating to the proposed project.

### **GET INVOLVED**

To ensure that you are registered as an Interested & Affected party please complete and submit the form on page 4 to <u>kalaharigeoenviro@gmail.com</u> Your involvement is highly appreciated

# THE EIA PROCESS

#### STEPS IN THE EIA PROCESS PHASE I - Project launch/ Screening ( Jan 2025)

• Identify social and environmental issues

#### PHASE II – Scoping Phase with Assessment (Feb-May 2025)

• Inform other regulatory authorities and IAPs of the proposed project

(By means of Newspaper advertisements, emails, and site notices)

- Consult key stakeholders
- Conduct specialist studies where necessary
- Compile Scoping report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP)
- Avail the documents for comment to regulatory authorities and I&APs
- Amend document where necessary
- Submission of the final scoping report and Environmental Management Plan to the competent authorities for their review and decision.



FIGURE 1 : LOCALITY MAP

#### FOR PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EPL NO: 10141 in OKAHANDJA DISTRICT, OTJOZONDJUPA REGION.

#### **REGISTRATION AND RESPONSE FORM FOR INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES**

DATE:		
DETAILS OF THE INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY		
FULL NAME:		
NAME OF ORGANIZATION:		
POSTAL ADDRESS:	POSTAL CODE:	
STREET ADDRESS:	POSTAL CODE:	
TELEPHONE NUMBER:	FAX NUMBER:	
CELL PHONE NUMBER:	E-MAIL ADDRESS:	

INTEREST IN THE PROPOSED PROJECT:	
COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:	
KINDLY RETURN COMPLETED FORMS TO:	
Email: <u>kalaharigeoenviro@gmail.com</u>	