



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND TOURISM

OFFICE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSIONER

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE

ISSUED

In accordance with Section 37(2) of the Environmental
Management Act (Act No. 7 of 2007)

TO

Hope and Gorob Mining Pty Ltd. (subsidiary of Virgo Resources Limited)
P.O. Box 26412, Windhoek

TO UNDERTAKE THE FOLLOWING LISTED ACTIVITY

**Exploration Activities on EPL 5796 Located in the Namib Naukluft
National Park, Erongo Region.**

Issued on the date: **2022-10-17**
Expires on this date: **2025-10-17**



(See conditions printed over leaf)

This certificate is printed without erasures or alterations



CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

1. This environmental clearance is valid for a period of 3 (three) years, from the date of issue unless withdrawn by this office
2. This certificate does not in any way hold the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism accountable for misleading information, nor any adverse effects that may arise from these activities. Instead, full accountability rests with the proponent and its consultants
3. This Ministry reserves the right to attach further legislative and regulatory conditions during
4. the operational phase of the project
5. Annexure A: Conditions applicable to activities in Proclaimed Conservancy/ Protected Areas applies.
6. All applicable and required permits are obtained and mitigation measures stipulated in the EMP are applied particularly with respect to management of ecological impacts.
7. Strict compliance with national heritage guidelines and regulations is expected throughout the life-span of the proposed activity, therefore any new archaeological finds must be reported to the National Heritage Council for appropriate handling of such.



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND TOURISM

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Cnr Robert Mugabe &
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Private Bag 13306
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OFFICE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSIONER

NOTIFICATION OF DECISION

REF NUMBER: ECC00252

DATE OF ISSUE: 08 SEPTEMBER 2022

DETAILS OF PROPONENT:

Hope and Gorob Mining Pty Ltd. (subsidiary of Virgo Resources Limited)
P.O. Box 26412
Windhoek
Namibia

Dear Sir/ Madam

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION ON APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE TO UNDERTAKE THE PROPOSED LISTED ACTIVITY: Exploration Activities on EPL 5796 Located in the Namib Naukluft National Park, Erongo Region.

Notice is herewith given in accordance with section 37(2) of the Environmental Management Act, Act 7 of 2007 and Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2012 (GG 4878): that a decision in respect to your application No. **APP 68** for Environmental Clearance Certificate to undertake a listed activity has been reached.

DECISION

An Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) to undertake the listed activities specified in the environmental assessment report and draft management plan dated July 2022, is granted (**ECC00252**). The applicant / proponent is therefore advised to comply with conditions of approval set out in **Section C** of this notification.

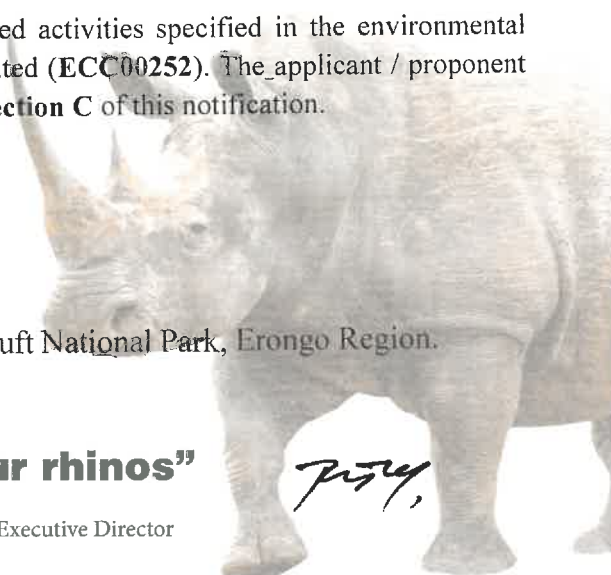
A. DETAILS OF THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY

A1: TITLE OF THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY

Exploration Activities on EPL 5796 Located in the Namib Naukluft National Park, Erongo Region.

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"Stop the poaching of our rhinos"

All official correspondence must be addressed to the Executive Director



A2: DETAILS OF ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

A. Speiser Environmental Consultants cc

P. O. Box 40386 Windhoek

Alex Speiser

Cell: 0811245655

Email: aspeiser@slrconsulting.com

A3: LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY

(Annexure A – proposed site map)


B. RELEVANT LISTED ACTIVITIES

Legislation	Description of Listed Activity	Relevance to Proposed Activity
Regulation 29(sub-regulation 5) of Government Notice No. 29 of 2012	MINING AND QUARRYING ACTIVITIES 3.1 The construction of facilities for any process or activities which requires a licence, right or other form of authorisation, and the renewal of a licence, right or other form of authorisation, in terms of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining Act), 1992. 3.2 Other forms of mining or extraction of any natural resources whether regulated by law or not. 3.3 Resource extraction, manipulation, conservation and related activities. 3.4 The extraction or processing of gas from natural and non-natural resources, including gas from landfill sites. 3.5 The extraction of peat.	Exploration Activities on EPL 5796 Located in the Namib Naukluft National Park, Erongo Region.

C. CONDITIONS

C1: Conditions of Approval

1. This certificate does not in any way hold the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism accountable for misleading information, nor any adverse effects that may arise from these activities. Instead, full accountability rests with the proponent and its consultants.
2. This Ministry reserves the right to attach further legislative and regulatory conditions during the operational phase of the project.



3. Regular environmental monitoring and evaluations on environmental performance should be conducted. Targets for improvements should be established and monitored throughout this process.
4. This environmental clearance is valid for a period of 3 (three) years, from the date of issue unless withdrawn by this office.

C2: Clearance Certificate Validity

1. On expiry of the ECC, the proponent is required to submit within a period not exceeding one month, and in the prescribed form and manner an application to the Office of the Environmental Commissioner for the renewal of the ECC.
2. Failure to renew an expired environmental clearance certificate shall result in permanent termination of the environmental clearance certificate.
3. In terms of Section 3 (2)C of the Environmental Impact Assessment, you are instructed to, within 14 days of this notice issuance date, ensure that all registered interested and affected parties ("I&APs") are notified that an environmental clearance certificate has been issued in respect to your application and of their right to appeal.

C3: Compliance with authorization under other laws

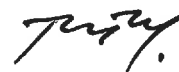
4. All other applicable and required permits or authorization from relevant competent authorities must be obtained prior to commencing the proposed activities and accordingly adhered to.

C4: Implementation and Monitoring

5. The granting of the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) constitute, an approval for the implementation of mitigation measures proposed in your approved Environmental Management Plan (EMP), hence making the approved EMP legally binding document.
6. The proponent shall appoint a suitably experienced environmental control officer, or site agent where appropriate, before the commencement of any listed activities to ensure compliance with the conditions of approval and mitigation stipulated in the approved EMP.
7. A copy of the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC), EMP, Environmental Audit and monitoring reports must be kept at the site of the authorized activity and readily available for inspection by officials of the Ministry and registered Interested and affected Parties (I&APs) on request.
8. The proponent agrees to fully indemnify the Government of the Republic of Namibia in the event that the Government is held liable in respect of any loss, damage or injury sustained to an employee, contractor and/or visitor whilst such employee, contractor and/or visitor is in the auspices, direction or invitation of the holder.
9. Entry and exit points to the Park as well as the driving routes to be followed in the Park shall be determined by this Ministry in its sole discretion and shall be communicated to the Holder in writing. The proponent shall strictly adhere to the designated entry points, exit points and driving routes. Only existing tracks or roads may be used unless prior approval is obtained from the Ministry.
10. All tracks or roads must be established, constructed and rehabilitated under the supervision of officials designated by the Ministry for this purpose.



11. Should any heritage remains be exposed during excavations or any other actions on the site, these must immediately be reported to the National Heritage Council of Namibia. Heritage remains uncovered or disturbed during earthworks must not be further disturbed until the necessary approval has been obtained from National Heritage Council.
12. Using the best and affordable methodology, the Proponent must ensure that all listed activity's operations footprints are thoroughly rehabilitated prior to closure of the operation. Wherever possible, the Proponent must proceed with the rehabilitation process concurrently with the progression of the project rather than wait until the damage is far beyond the available means of management.
13. Officials of the environmental commissioner's office may from time-to-time conduct spot-inspection (non-auditing) without prior notice and or Auditing Inspection (dates to be agreed prior to arrival to the site), hence access to the site and the aforementioned documentation must be granted to any authorized official representing the Office of the Environmental Commissioner and Registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs)
14. Any changes to, or deviations from the scope of the alternative described in section B above must be accepted or approved, in writing, by the Office of the Environmental Commissioner before such changes or deviations may be implemented. In assessing whether to grant such acceptance/ approval or not, the Competent Authority may request information in order to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations, and it may be necessary for the holder to apply for further authorisation in terms of the applicable legislation.
15. Officials representing the Office of the Environmental Commissioner must be, in possession and or by request and for the purpose of inspection referred to in C4(13) present their staff identification card in order to gain entry to the premises
16. The proponent is required, from the date of commencing implementation of project activities, to compile and submit environmental monitoring reports (on project progress and the environmental management profile) on a bi-annual basis to Office of Environmental Commissioner
17. Any changes to, or deviations from the scope of project activities approved in respect to the assessment received and reviewed for the purpose or granting this ECC Number (**ECC00252**) are subject to an amendment application and approval by the Environmental Commissioner prior to adopting / implementing any such changes / deviations.
18. For the purpose of amending and or transferring the ECC, the proponent submit in the prescribed form and manner an application to the Office of the Environmental Commissioner, clearly indicating the need for amendment and or transfer of the ECC
19. Non-compliance with a condition of this Environmental Clearance Certificate or EMP may render the Proponent liable to criminal prosecution.



D. DISCLAIMER

1. The decision taken by the Office of Environmental Commission is based mainly on information provided the proponent or their representative, therefore, it must be noted here that the proponent is accountable for any wrong and misleading information that may have been presented in the environmental assessment documents.

Yours sincerely,

Timoteus Mufet

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSIONER



ANNEXURE A: SITEMAP / SITE LAYOUT

