

PROOF OF CONSULTATION

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT: EPL 9654

ECC Application Reference: APP- 006569

October 2025

1. PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS

Public consultation is an essential component of an Environmental Assessment (EA) process. It provides potential Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) with an opportunity to comment on and raise any issues relevant to the project for consideration as part of the assessment process, thus assisting the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) in identifying all potential impacts and the extent to which further investigations are necessary. Public consultation can also aid in identifying possible mitigation measures. Public consultation for this scoping study has been conducted in accordance with the EMA and its EIA Regulations.

1.1 Pre-identified and Registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs)

Relevant and applicable national, regional, and local authorities, local leaders, and other interested members of the public were identified. Pre-identified I&APs were contacted directly, while other parties who contacted the Consultant after project advertisement notices in the newspapers were registered as I&APs upon their request. Newspaper advertisements for the proposed exploration activities were placed in two widely read national newspapers in the region (New Era and The Namibian). The project advertisement/announcement ran for two consecutive weeks, inviting members of the public to register as I&APs and submit their comments. The summary of pre-identified and registered I&APs is listed in **Table 5** below.

Table 1: Summary of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs)

National (Ministries and State-Owned Enterprises)
Ministry of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism
Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy
Regional, Local, and Traditional Authorities
Hardap Regional Council
Klein Aub Constituency Office
General Public
Landowners /Interested members of the public

1.2 Communication with I&APs

Regulation 21 of the EIA Regulations sets out the steps to be taken during a public consultation process, and these have been used to guide this process. Communication with I&APs concerning the proposed development was facilitated through the following means and in this order:

- A Background Information Document (BID) containing brief information about the proposed exploration works was compiled and emailed to pre-identified Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), and upon request to all newly registered I&APs;
- Project Environmental Assessment notices were published in the *New Era* Newspaper and *The Namibian* Newspaper (**30 July 2025 and 06 August 2025**), briefly explaining the activity and its locality and inviting members of the public to register as I&APs and submit their comments/concerns.
- Public notices were placed at a public place at Klein Aub Settlement Office (**Figure 11**) to inform members of the public about the EIA process.
- Public meetings were scheduled and held on **18 October 2025**, at the Klein Aub Settlement office at 09h30 (**Figures 12& 13**).

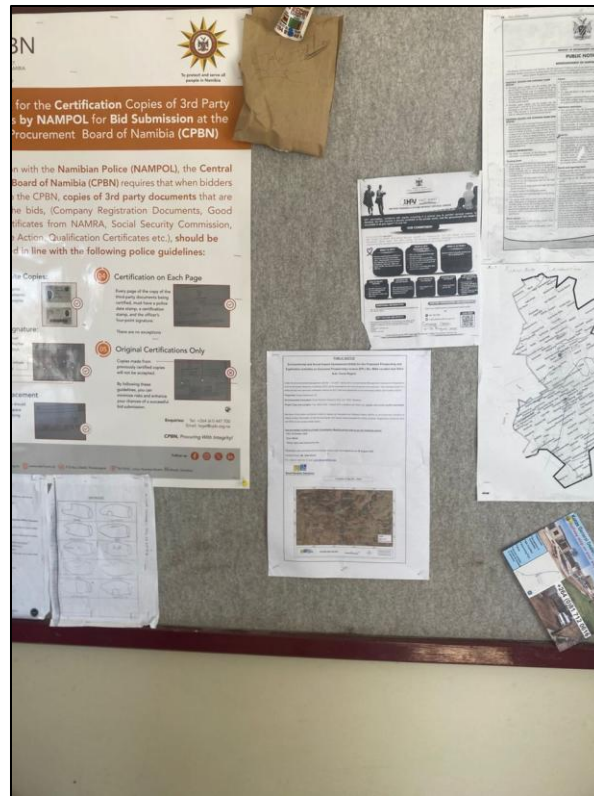


Figure 1: Public notice placed at Klein Aub Settlement Office notice board, Hardap Region



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Figure 2: Farm to farm consultation, 17 October 2025, Hardap Region



Figure 3: Public consultation meeting, no attendance, 18 October 2025, Hardap Region

Issues raised by I&APs have been recorded and incorporated in this environmental and social impact assessment report and the EMP. The summarised matters raised during the public meeting are presented in **Table 6** below.

Table 2: Summary of main issues raised, and comments received during public meeting engagements

Issue	Concern
Poaching	Poaching associated with the proposed prospecting and exploration activities is a concern in the area.
Field fires	Exploration activities create fires, and project owners primarily do not mitigate them.



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Access agreement	The proponent must ensure that farmers are consulted when seeking an access agreement.
Tourism	The EPL covers tourism attractions, and exploration activities may affect them.