



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT FORESTRY AND TOURISM

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SUBJECT: REPORT ON THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING AND SITE VISIT FOR THE PROPOSED COPPER PROCESSING PLANT BY HJ GOLD BAY MINERALS IN KARIBIB

1. BACKGROUND

HJ Gold Bay Investment proposed the construction and operation of a copper processing plant within the industrial zone of Karibib Town. To facilitate this development, the investor has successfully secured a land parcel (Plot No. 57) measuring approximately 2 hectares in Karibib industrial area.

In compliance with the Environmental Management Act, Act No 7 of 2007, HJ Gold Bay Investment has appointed Trinity Environmental Solutions as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner to conduct the necessary environmental studies on the impacts that will be associated with the project.

2. CONSULTATIVE MEETING

A public consultative meeting and site inspection were conducted on 15 April 2026.

- Following a directive from the Deputy Director, the meeting was attended by the Chief Warden and the Warden (Environmental Officer). The meeting

included approximately 15 participants, comprising local community members, interested and affected parties, and other stakeholders.

- The meeting was held on-site at Plot No. 57, Karibib, allowing stakeholders to assess the physical characteristics of the proposed development area.

3. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCESS DESCRIPTION

The consultative meeting was facilitated by Mr. Don Murorua, who gave an overview of the environmental and social impact assessments. The presentation by HJ Gold Bay Minerals highlighted the following technical aspects:

3.1 Site Characteristics

The proposed site is currently bare area with little woody vegetation but covered with seasonal grass. The project will require minimal to no clearing of trees or indigenous bushes.

3.2 Processing Method

The plant will utilize a hydrometallurgical leaching process to extract pure copper. This method involves the application of chemical solvents to dissolve the metal into a solution for recovery.

3.3 Infrastructure

For environmental safety, the following infrastructure will be established:

- Leaching Pods: Three (3) leaching pods, each measuring 12m x 25m, will be constructed. These pods will feature a redundant containment system consisting of reinforced concrete lined with heavy-duty geomembrane (industrial plastic) to prevent any seepage into the ground. All leaching activities will be contained within a specialized building to mitigate environmental exposure.
- Chemical Storage: A dedicated, secure chemical storage tank system will be installed, adhering to international safety standards for hazardous substances.

4. IDENTIFIED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION

The meeting addressed several key environmental concerns as follows:

- **Vegetation Loss:** The lack of significant tree cover means the ecological damage regarding habitat destruction is minimal.
- **Air Quality:** The presentation indicated that while chemical solutions can produce vapors, these will be diluted and managed within the facility. Emissions are expected to remain well within breathable safety limits.
- **Soil and Groundwater Protection:** The primary risk of soil pollution is mitigated through the zero-discharge design of the water-resistant, lined leaching ponds.
- **Occupational Health and Safety:** A dedicated Health and Safety Officer will be appointed. All personnel will be provided and mandated to wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and undergo safety training relevant to chemical handling.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the site visit and the presentation of the project and information provided during the consultative meeting, the following is recommended:

1. The project, as proposed, appears to have a minimum and manageable environmental impact to environment and to the people.
2. A comprehensive Environmental Scoping Report must be submitted. This report should provide a detailed Environmental Management Plan outlining all mitigating measures.
3. Regular inspections should be scheduled once the plant is operational to ensure compliance with the proposed safety measures.

Compiled by



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