

# Meeting Minutes

**17 April 2026**

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING MINUTES:**

**PROJECT: Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) for Proposed Exploration Activities on Exclusive Prospecting License (EPL) No. 10770 located Located North of Otjiwarongo in the Otjozondjupa Region, Namibia.**

**Date:** Monday, 16 March 2026 & Tuesday, 17 March 2026

**Time:** 10:00

**Venue:** Separate one-on-one stakeholder engagements

Separate one-on-one stakeholder engagements were conducted by an Environmental Consultant (Mr. Mandume Leonard) and an Archaeologist (Ms. Loide Shipingana) from Excel Dynamic Solutions (Pty) Ltd (EDS).

In addition, telephonic communication was used to engage with stakeholders who were unavailable for in-person consultations.

These minutes encompass feedback and discussions gathered from both the separate one-on-one stakeholder engagements, as well as insights shared through phone conversations.

## **1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOMING REMARKS**

The Environmental Consultant (Mr Mandume Leonard) commenced each separate one-on-one stakeholder engagement by introducing the team and outlining the purpose of the consultation, which was to engage Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) on the proposed prospecting and exploration activities within EPL 10770. During each engagement, stakeholder names and contact details were recorded for purposes of maintaining communication and providing updates on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

## **2. MEETING AGENDA AND PRESENTATION**

The agenda of the meeting included the following main points:

### **2.1 Brief Description of the Project**

Mr Mandume Leonard provided each stakeholder with an overview of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, citing the relevant legislation, including the Environmental Management Act and the 2012 EIA Regulations governing public consultation. He further explained the significance of obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the proposed project and emphasized the stakeholder's important role in contributing to the EIA process through their comments and feedback on the potential environmental, social, and economic impacts of the proposed development.

### **2.2 Presentation of Potential Project Impacts**

To ensure transparency and that each stakeholder had a clear understanding of both the benefits and potential risks associated with the proposed project activities, the Environmental Consultant also presented the pre-identified positive and negative environmental and social impacts of the proposed development.

### **2.3 Public Open Discussion (Interactive Session)**

Mr Mandume Leonard afforded each stakeholder the opportunity to raise any concerns, issues, and/or comments relating to the proposed project activities. The concerns, issues, and comments recorded during the one-on-one engagements are presented in Table 1 below.

**Table 1: Comments and issues raised**

<b>Comment/ issue No.</b>	<b>Commenter name &amp; issue / comment / question</b>	<b>Response and name of responder:</b>
1.	At what stage should we expect to receive and sign the access agreement with the Proponent?	<b>Mr. Mandume Leonard (ML):</b> The access agreement will be shared before any on-site exploration activities begin. Stakeholders will have the opportunity to review the agreement, seek clarification, and, if necessary, obtain legal advice before signing. Once the Proponent has received the Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC), they will begin drafting the access agreement, which will then be sent to you for review. You will have the opportunity to review and provide any necessary feedback or additional conditions to ensure that the agreement reflects your interests and concerns. After these discussions, the agreement will be finalized and executed prior to the commencement of any exploration activities on your farms.
2.	One of the primary concerns surrounding this project is the potential impact on the safety of farm residents. In particular, we are concerned about the uncontrolled movement of people, machinery, and blasting activities within the farm area. Could you please provide further details on the proposed safety measures that will be implemented to mitigate these risks?	<b>ML:</b> Any arrangements for establishing a camping site on the farm would require an agreement between the farm owners and the proponent. In order to ensure safety control, it is recommended that once the proponent receives the Environmental Clearance Certificate, they should engage in discussions with the landowners to develop an access agreement. The access agreement will outline the procedures for managing the movement of personnel, machinery, and blasting activities within the farm area, thereby mitigating potential risks to safety.

Comment/ issue No.	Commenter name & issue / comment / question	Response and name of responder:
3.	If we, as farmers, are unable to reach an agreement with the Proponent?	<b>ML:</b> You can seek assistance from the Office of Ancillary Rights within the Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy. This office acts as a mediator, facilitating discussions between the Proponent and the affected landowners to ensure that an agreement is reached that is mutually beneficial and respects the interests of all parties.
4.	Does Phase 1 and Phase 2 each have their own separate contract agreement?	<b>ML:</b> Yes, Phase 1 and Phase 2 are having separate contract agreements.
5.	At what stage of the process do we start dealing with the owner of the EPL?	<b>ML:</b> Once they receive the Environmental Clearance Certificate and prior to the prospectors entering your farms, whereby you need to establish clear communication with the EPL owner to discuss access arrangements, terms, and any necessary precautions.

## **FINAL REMARKS AND CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**

Mr Mandume Leonard thanked each stakeholder for their valuable input, comments, and concerns raised during the one-on-one engagements. He further advised that all comments, concerns, and recommendations had been duly noted for consideration and would be addressed in the Environmental Scoping Assessment (ESA) Report, with relevant recommendations incorporated into the draft Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

Furthermore, stakeholders were informed that the draft engagement minutes, Environmental Assessment Report, and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) would be circulated to them for review and additional comment using the contact details provided during the consultation process.

Once the review of the draft ESA Report and EMP is done, the documents will be finalized and submitted to the Environmental Commissioner at the Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry (DEAF) for evaluation and consideration of an ECC.