

Environmental Assessment Scoping Report for

*Subdivision of Erf 1508,
Otjiwarongo Extension 5,
Permanent Closure and
Rezoning of Erf A from “Public
Open Space” to “Residential 1”,
Otjiwarongo, Otjozondjupa
Region*

April 2026




APP - 007430

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PROJECT DETAILS

Title	Environmental Scoping Report for the: Subdivision of Erf 1508, Otjiwarongo Extension 5, Permanent Closure and Rezoning of Erf A from “Public Open Space” to “Residential 1”, Otjiwarongo, Otjozondjupa Region		
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

Mr Petrus Ngulondo hereinafter referred to as the proponent intends to undertake the following activities:

- **Subdivision of Erf 1508, Otjiwarongo Extension 5 into Erf A and Remainder;**
- **Permanent Closure of newly created Erf A as “Public Open Space”; and**
- **Rezoning of newly created Erf A from “Public Open Space” to “Residential 1” with a density of 1:700**

The above development triggers listed activities in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Government Notice No. 30 of 2012).

As such the proponent appointed Stubenrauch Planning Consultants (SPC) to undertake an independent Environmental Assessment (EA) in order to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the above activities. The competent authority is the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism: Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry (MEFT: DEAF).

Project Description

Erf 1508 in Otjiwarongo Extension 5 has remained vacant for an extended period and currently detracts from the visual cohesion of the surrounding fully developed residential neighbourhood. The proposed development involves the construction of a single residential dwelling, which will transform the underutilised erf into a functional property and enhance the overall streetscape.

Vacant land within established residential areas can create safety and security concerns due to limited visibility and potential unauthorised access. Development of the erf will improve natural surveillance and contribute to improved safety for neighbouring residents.

The proposal is fully compatible with the existing residential land use of the area. With an erf size of approximately 1,093 m² and a density of 1:700, only one dwelling unit is permitted, ensuring minimal impact on traffic and municipal infrastructure. A portion of the erf will remain as public open space, preserving opportunities for future recreational use by the local authority.

Public Participation

Communication with Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) about the proposed development was facilitated through the following means and in this order:

- A Background Information Document (BID) containing descriptive information about the proposed activities was compiled and sent out to all identified and registered I&APs via email on **22 January 2026**;

- Notices were placed in the New Era and The Namibian newspapers dated **22 & 29 January 2026**, briefly explaining the activity and its locality, inviting members of the public to register as I&APs (**Appendix B**); and
- A notice was fixed at the project site (see **Appendix A**);

Public consultation was carried out according to the Environmental Management Act's EIA Regulations. After the initial notification, the I&APs were given two weeks to submit their comments on the project (until **24 February 2026**). The comment period remained open until the final scoping report was submitted to MEFT.

The Draft Scoping Report was circulated from the **26 March 2026 until the 14 April 2026** so that the public could review and comment on it. The overall commentary received from the public on the draft report was documented in the comments and responses report document of this report.

Conclusions and Recommendations

None of the negative construction phase impacts were deemed to have a high significant impact on the environment. The construction impacts were assessed to a **Medium to Low (negative)** significance, without mitigation measures. With the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures in Chapter 7 as well as in the EMP, the significance of the construction phase impacts is likely to be reduced to a **Low (negative)**.

With reference to **Table 7**, none of the negative operational phase impacts were deemed to have a high significance impact on the environment. The operational impacts were assessed to a **Medium (negative)** significance, without mitigation measures. With the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures in Chapter 7 as well as in the EMP, the significance of the construction phase impacts is likely to be reduced to a **Low (negative)**.

It is recommended that this project be authorised as the proposed development represents the appropriate and intended use of the vacant erf within an established residential area of Otjiwarongo Extension 5. Should the development not proceed, the erf would remain underutilised and continue to detract from the visual cohesion and functional character of the surrounding neighbourhood.

The erf has remained vacant for an extended period, contributing little to the built environment and potentially presenting minor safety and security concerns associated with undeveloped land. The proposed construction of a single dwelling will formalise the residential use in accordance with the existing zoning and planning framework, ensuring alignment with municipal land use objectives.

The development is not expected to result in negative socio-economic or environmental impacts. Instead, it will enhance the streetscape, improve natural surveillance, and contribute positively to the orderly development of Otjiwarongo.

The local community is expected to benefit from the development as a result of the potential job opportunities during construction as well as the increased development within the area. The significance of the social impact was therefore deemed to be **Medium (positive)**. The “no go” alternative was thus deemed to have a High (negative) impact, as all the benefits resulting from the development would not be realised.

The significance of negative impacts can be reduced with effective and appropriate mitigation provided in this report and the EMP. If authorised, the implementation of the EMP should be included as a condition of approval.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CRR	Comments and response report
dB	Decibels
DESR	Draft Environmental Scoping Report
EA	Environmental Assessment
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EAR	Environmental Assessment Report
ECC	Environmental Clearance Certificate
ECO	Environmental Control Officer
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMA	Environmental Management Act
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
FESR	Final Environmental Scoping Report
GTZ	Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
I&AP	Interested and Affected Party
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
MET	Ministry of Environment and Tourism
MET: DEA	Ministry of Environment and Tourism: Department of Environmental Affairs
MURD	Ministry of Urban and Rural Development
MWT	Ministry of Works and Transport
NAMPAB	Namibia Planning Advisory Board
NPC	Namibia Planning Commission
POS	Public Open Space
PPP	Public Participation Process
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SME	Small Medium Enterprise
SPC	Stubenrauch Planning Consultants
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VMMC	Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

Mr Petrus Ngulondo hereinafter referred to as the proponent intends to undertake the following activities:

- **Subdivision of Erf 1508, Otjiwarongo Extension 5 into Erf A and Remainder;**
- **Permanent Closure of newly created Erf A as “Public Open Space”; and**
- **Rezoning of newly created Erf A from “Public Open Space” to “Residential 1” with a density of 1:700**

The above are listed activities in terms of the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Government Notice No. 30 of 2012).

In terms of the Environmental Management Act (No. 7 of 2007) and Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (Government Notice No. 30 of 2012), the following listed activities in **Table 1** were triggered by the proposed project:

Table 1: List of triggered activities identified in the EIA Regulations which apply to the proposed project.

Activity description and No(s):	Description of relevant Activity	The portion of the development as per the project description that relates to the applicable listed activity
5.1 (d) Land Use and Development	The rezoning of land from use for nature conservation or zoned open space to any other land use.	The proposed project includes the rezoning of land from Public Open Space to Residential.

The above activities will be discussed in more detail in Chapter 4. The proponent appointed Stubenrauch Planning Consultants (SPC) to undertake an independent Environmental Assessment (EA) in order to obtain an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) for the above activities. The competent authority is the Ministry of Environment and Tourism: Department of Environmental Affairs (MET: DEA).

The process will be undertaken in terms of the gazetted Namibian Government Notice No. 30 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (herein referred to as EIA Regulations) and the Environmental Management Act (No 7 of 2007) (herein referred to as the EMA). The EIA process will investigate if there are any potential significant bio-physical and socio-economic impacts associated

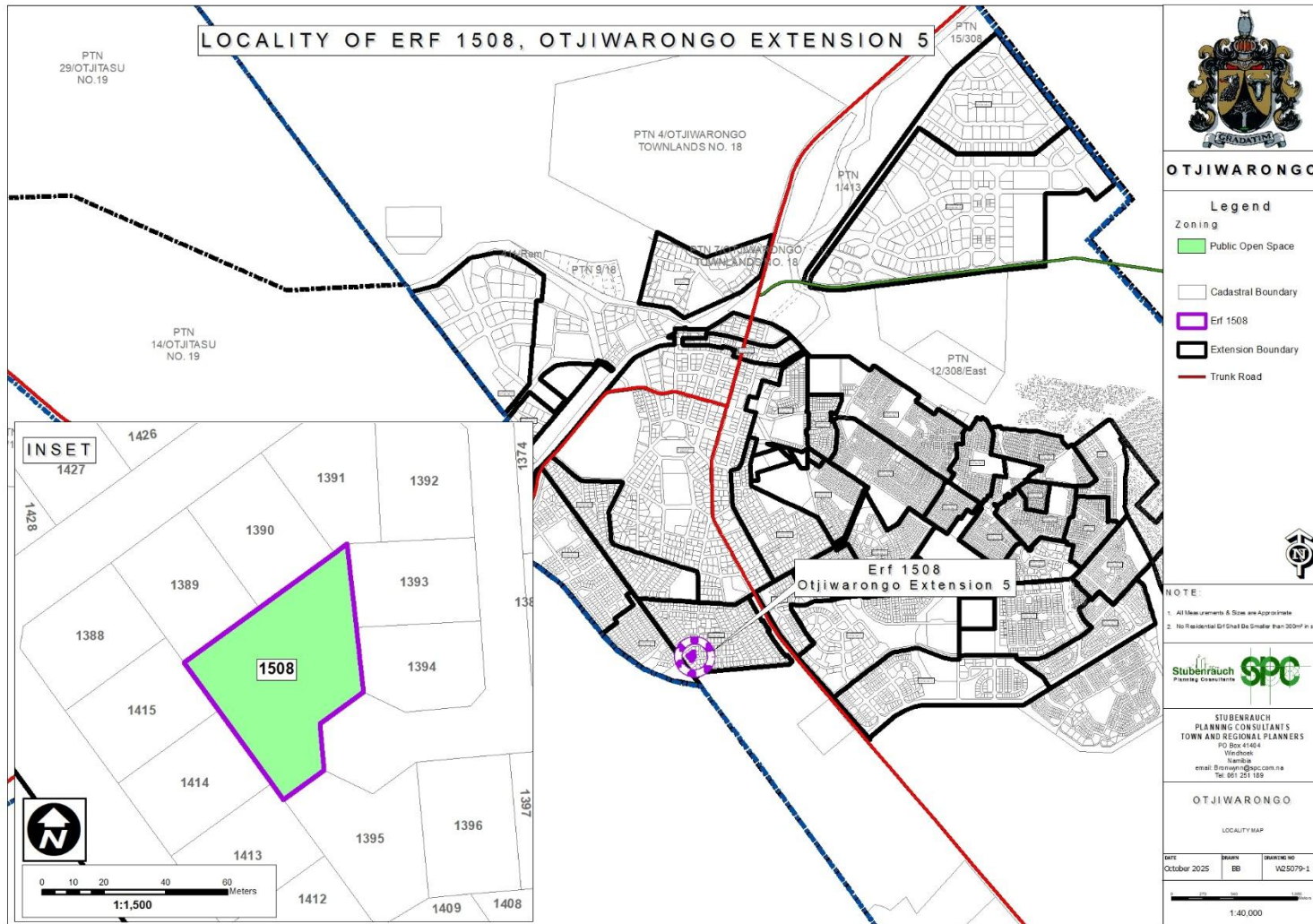
with the intended activities. The EIA process would also serve to provide an opportunity for the public and key stakeholders to provide comments and participate in the process.

1.2 PROJECT LOCATION

Erf 1508 is located within the predominately residential neighbourhood of Otjiwarongo Extension 5. Erf 1508, Otjiwarongo Extension 5 is located along Schneider Street which is the cul-de-sac street as depicted in **Figure 1** below.

1.3 LAND USE

Erf 1508, Otjiwarongo Extension 5 currently lies vacant with the development potential for residential development as it is currently unutilised. It is surrounded by residential uses.



1.4 TERMS OF REFERENCE AND SCOPE OF PROJECT

The scope of this project is limited to conducting an environmental impact assessment and applying for an Environmental Clearance Certificate for the following as indicated in section 1.1 above:

- **Subdivision of Erf 1508, Otjiwarongo Extension 5 into Erf A and Remainder;**
- **Permanent Closure of newly created Erf A as “Public Open Space”; and**
- **Rezoning of newly created Erf A from “Public Open Space” to “Residential 1” with a density of 1:700**

1.5 ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

In undertaking this investigation and compiling the Environmental Scoping Report, the following assumptions and limitations apply:

- Assumes the information provided by the proponent is accurate and discloses all information available.
- The limitation that no alternative except for the preferred layout plans and the ‘no-go’ option was considered during this assessment. The unique character and appeal of Otjiwarongo were however taken into consideration with the design perspective. Various layout alternatives were initially considered by the proponent, also taking terrain and environmental constraints into account, thus the current design plans being the most feasible result.

1.6 CONTENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

Section 8 of the gazetted EIA Regulations requires specific content to be addressed in a Scoping / Environmental Assessment Report. **Table 2** below is an extract from the EMA and highlights the required contents of a Scoping / Environmental Assessment Report whilst assisting the reader to find the relevant section in the report.

Table 2: Contents of the Scoping / Environmental Assessment Report

Section	Description	Section of FESR/ Annexure
8 (a)	The curriculum vitae of the EAPs who prepared the report;	Refer to Annexure D
8 (b)	A description of the proposed activity;	Refer to Chapter 4
8 (c)	A description of the site on which the activity is to be undertaken and the location of the activity on the site;	Refer to Chapter 3
8 (d)	A description of the environment that may be affected by the proposed activity and the	Refer to Chapter 3

Section	Description	Section of FESR/ Annexure
	manner in which the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic and cultural aspects of the environment may be affected by the proposed listed activity;	
8 (e)	An identification of laws and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the scoping report;	Refer to Chapter 2
8 (f)	Details of the public consultation process conducted in terms of regulation 7(1) in connection with the application, including	Refer to Chapter 5
	(i) the steps that were taken to notify potentially interested and affected parties of the proposed application	Refer to Chapter 5
	(ii) proof that notice boards, advertisements and notices notifying potentially interested and affected parties of the proposed application have been displayed, placed or given;	Refer to Annexures A and B for site notices and advertisements respectively.
	(iii) a list of all persons, organisations and organs of state that were registered in terms of regulation 22 as interested and affected parties in relation to the application;	Refer to Annexure C
	(iv) a summary of the issues raised by interested and affected parties, the date of receipt of and the response of the EAP to those issues;	Refer to Annexure C
8 (g)	A description of the need and desirability of the proposed listed activity and any identified alternatives to the proposed activity that are feasible and reasonable, including the advantages and disadvantages that the proposed activity or alternatives have on the environment and on the community that may be affected by the activity;	Refer to Chapter 4

Section	Description	Section of FESR/ Annexure
8 (h)	A description and assessment of the significance of any significant effects, including cumulative effects, that may occur as a result of the undertaking of the activity or identified alternatives or as a result of any construction, erection or decommissioning associated with the undertaking of the proposed listed activity;	Refer to Chapter 7
8 (i)	terms of reference for the detailed assessment;	NB – Assessment of impacts are included in this EA Report
8 (j)	An environmental management plan	Refer to Annexure F

2 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 LEGISLATION RELEVANT TO THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

There are multiple legal instruments that regulate and have a bearing on good environmental management in Namibia. **Table 3** below provides a summary of the legal instruments considered to be relevant to this development and the environmental assessment process.

Table 3: Legislation applicable to the proposed development

LEGISLATION/POLICIES	RELEVANT PROVISIONS	RELEVANCE TO PROJECT
The Constitution of the Republic of Namibia as Amended	Article 91 (c) provides for duty to guard against “the degradation and destruction of ecosystems and failure to protect the beauty and character of Namibia.” Article 95(l) deals with the “maintenance of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and biological diversity” and sustainable use of the country’s natural resources.	Sustainable development should be at the forefront of this development.
Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 (EMA)	Section 2 outlines the objective of the Act and the means to achieve that. Section 3 details the principle of Environmental Management	The development should be informed by the EMA.
EIA Regulations GN 28, 29, and 30 of EMA (2012)	GN 29 Identifies and lists certain activities that cannot be undertaken without an environmental clearance certificate. GN 30 provides the regulations governing the environmental assessment (EA) process.	5.1 (d) Land Use and Development Activities
Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)	Article 1 lists the conservation of biological diversity amongst the objectives of the convention.	The project should consider the impact it will have on the biodiversity of the area.
Draft Procedures and Guidelines for conducting EIAs and compiling EMPs (2008)	Part 1, Stage 8 of the guidelines states that if a proposal is likely to affect people, certain guidelines should be considered by the proponent in the scoping process.	The EA process should incorporate the aspects outlined in the guidelines.

LEGISLATION/POLICIES	RELEVANT PROVISIONS	RELEVANCE TO PROJECT
Namibia Vision 2030	Vision 2030 states that the solitude, silence and natural beauty that many areas in Namibia provide are becoming sought after commodities and must be regarded as valuable natural assets.	Care should be taken that the development does not lead to the degradation of the natural beauty of the area.
Water Act No. 54 of 1956	Section 23(1) deals with the prohibition of pollution of underground and surface water bodies.	The pollution of water resources should be avoided during construction and operation of the development.
The Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) Policy on HIV & AIDS	MET has recently developed a policy on HIV and AIDS. In addition, it has also initiated a programme aimed at mainstreaming HIV and gender issues into environmental impact assessments.	The proponent and its contractor have to adhere to the guidelines provided to manage the aspects of HIV/AIDS. Experience with construction projects has shown that a significant risk is created when migrant construction workers interact with local communities.
Urban and Regional Planning Act 5 of 2018	The Act provides to consolidate the laws relating to urban and regional planning; to provide for a legal framework for spatial planning in Namibia; to provide for principles and standards of spatial planning; to establish the urban and regional planning board; to decentralise certain matters relating to spatial planning; to provide for the preparation, approval and review of the national spatial development framework, regional structure plans and urban structure plans; to provide for the preparation, approval, review and amendment of zoning schemes; to provide for the establishment of townships; to provide for the alteration of boundaries of approved townships, to provide for the disestablishment of approved townships; to provide for the change of name of approved townships; to provide for the subdivision and consolidation of land; to provide for the alteration,	The subdivision and consolidation of land as well as the establishment of townships is to be done in accordance with the act.

LEGISLATION/POLICIES	RELEVANT PROVISIONS	RELEVANCE TO PROJECT
	suspension and deletion of conditions relating to land; and to provide for incidental matters.	
Local Authorities Act No. 23 of 1992	The Local Authorities Act prescribes the manner in which a town or municipality should be managed by the Town or Municipal Council.	The development must comply with provisions of the Local Authorities Act.
Labour Act no. 11 of 2007	Chapter 2 details the fundamental rights and protections. Chapter 3 deals with the basic conditions of employment.	Given the employment opportunities presented by the development, compliance with the labour law is essential.
National Heritage Act No. 27 of 2004	The Act is aimed at protecting, conserving and registering places and objects of heritage significance.	All protected heritage resources (e.g. human remains etc.) discovered, need to be reported immediately to the National Heritage Council (NHC) and require a permit from the NHC before they may be relocated.
Roads Ordinance 17 of 1972	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 3.1 deals with width of proclaimed roads and road reserve boundaries • Section 27.1 is concerned with the control of traffic on urban trunk and main roads • Section 36.1 regulates rails, tracks, bridges, wires, cables, subways or culverts across or under proclaimed roads • Section 37.1 deals with Infringements and obstructions on and interference with proclaimed roads. 	Adhere to all applicable provisions of the Roads Ordinance.
Public and Environmental Health Act of 2015	This Act (GG 5740) provides a framework for a structured uniform public and environmental health system in Namibia. It covers notification, prevention and control of diseases and sexually transmitted	Contractors and users of the proposed development are to comply with these legal requirements.

LEGISLATION/POLICIES	RELEVANT PROVISIONS	RELEVANCE TO PROJECT
	infections; maternal, ante-natal and neo-natal care; water and food supplies; infant nutrition; waste management; health nuisances; public and environmental health planning and reporting. It repeals the Public Health Act 36 of 1919 (SA GG 979).	
Nature Conservation Ordinance no. 4 of 1975	Chapter 6 provides for legislation regarding the protection of indigenous plants	Indigenous and protected plants must be managed within the legal confines.
Water Quality Guidelines for Drinking Water and Wastewater Treatment	Details specific quantities in terms of water quality determinants, which wastewater should be treated to before being discharged into the environment (see Appendix B).	These guidelines are to be applied when dealing with water and waste treatment
Environmental Assessment Policy of Namibia (1995)	The Policy seeks to ensure that the environmental consequences of development projects and policies are considered, understood and incorporated into the planning process, and that the term ENVIRONMENT is broadly interpreted to include biophysical, social, economic, cultural, historical and political components.	This EIA considers this term of Environment.
Water Resources Management Act No. 11 of 2013	Part 12 deals with the control and protection of groundwater Part 13 deals with water pollution control	The pollution of water resources should be avoided during construction and operation of the development. Should water need to be abstracted, a water abstraction permit will be required from the Ministry of Water, Agriculture and Forestry.
Forest Act 12 of 2001 and Forest Regulations of 2015	To provide for the establishment of a Forestry Council and the appointment of certain officials; to	Protected tree and plant species as per the Forest Act No 12 of 2001 and Forest Regulations of 2015 may

LEGISLATION/POLICIES	RELEVANT PROVISIONS	RELEVANCE TO PROJECT
	<p>consolidate the laws relating to the management and use of forests and forest produce; to provide for the protection of the environment and the control and management of forest fires; to repeal the Preservation of Bees and Honey Proclamation, 1923 (Proclamation No. 1 of 1923), Preservation of Trees and Forests Ordinance, 1952 (Ordinance No. 37 of 1952) and the Forest Act, 1968 (Act No. 72 of 1968); and to deal with incidental matters.</p>	<p>not be removed without a permit from the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry.</p>
<p>Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Ordinance No 45 of 1965</p>	<p>Part II - control of noxious or offensive gases, Part III - atmospheric pollution by smoke, Part IV - dust control, and Part V - air pollution by fumes emitted by vehicles.</p>	<p>The development should consider the provisions outlined in the act. The proponent should apply for an Air Emissions permit from the Ministry of Health and Social Services (if needed).</p>

LEGISLATION/POLICIES	RELEVANT PROVISIONS	RELEVANCE TO PROJECT
Hazardous Substance Ordinance 14 of 1974	To provide for the control of substances which may cause injury or ill-health to or death of human beings by reason of their toxic, corrosive, irritant, strongly sensitizing or flammable nature or the generation of pressure thereby in certain circumstances; to provide for the division of such substances into groups in relation to the degree of danger; to provide for the prohibition and control of the importation, manufacture, sale, use, operation, application, modification, disposal or dumping of such substances; and to provide for matters connected therewith.	The handling, usage and storage of hazardous substances on site should be carefully controlled according to this Ordinance.
Soil Conservation Act No 76 of 1969	Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to the combating and prevention of soil erosion, the conservation, improvement and manner of use of the soil and vegetation and the protection of the water sources	The proposed activity should ensure that soil erosion and soil pollution is avoided during construction and operation.

This EIA process will be undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations. A Flow Diagram (refer to **Figure 2** below) provides an outline of the EIA process to be followed.

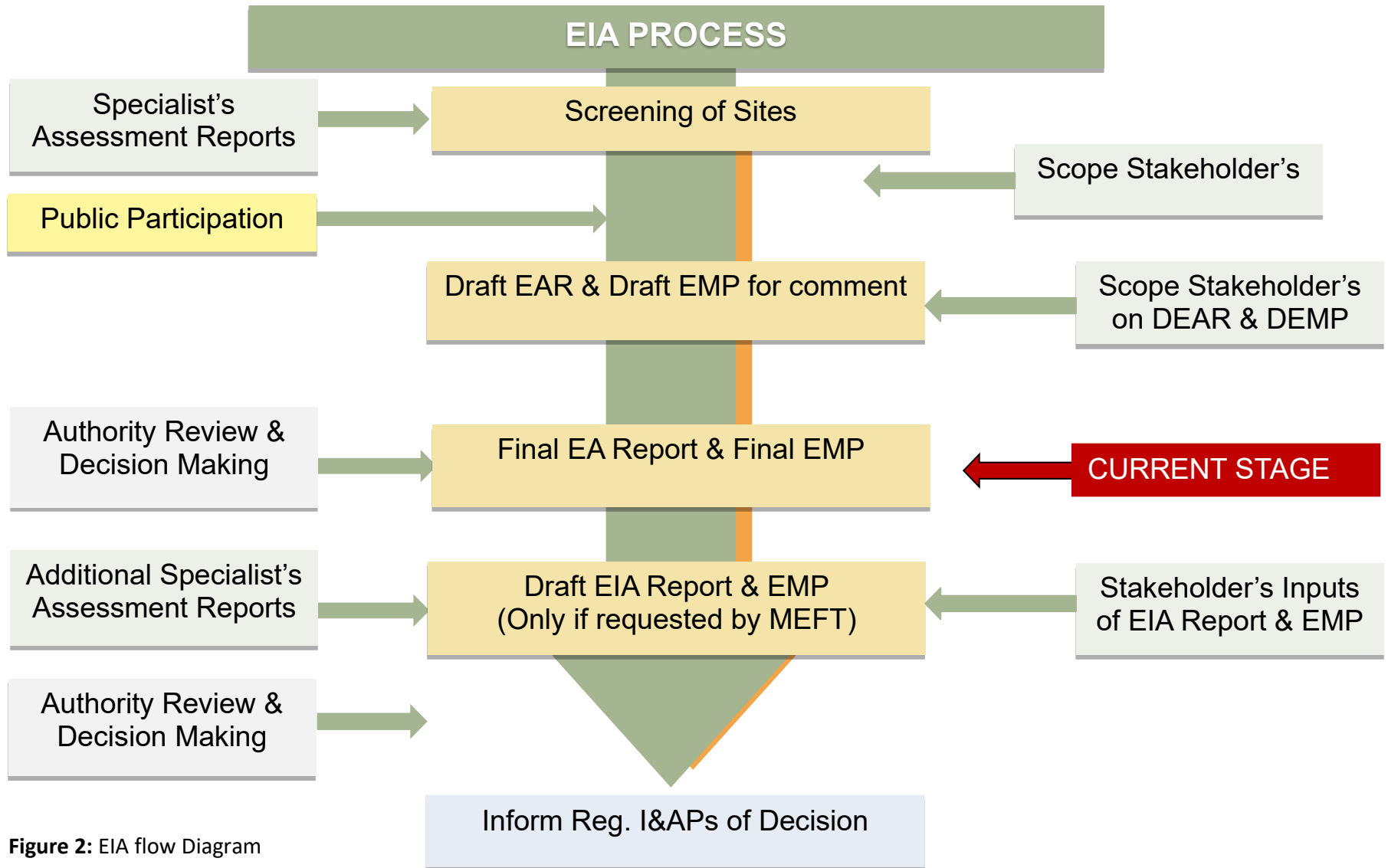


Figure 2: EIA flow Diagram

3 ENVIRONMENTAL BASELINE DESCRIPTION

3.1 SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

3.1.1 Socio-Economic Context

The statistics shown in **Table 4** below are derived from the 20 Namibia Population and Housing Census (Namibia Statistics Agency, 2023), and presented from a local and regional perspective.

Table 4: Statistics of the Otjiwarongo Constituency (Namibia Statistics Agency, 2023)

OTJOZONDJUPA REGION	
ATTRIBUTE	INDICATOR
Population	280 811
Females	107 531
Males	113 280
Population under 5 years	13.9%
Population aged 5 to 14 years	22.0%
Population aged 15 to 34 years	34.9%
Population aged 35 to 59 years	23.5%
Population aged 60 years and above	5.7%
Female: male ratio	100:105
Literacy rate of 15 years old and above	83.0%
People above 15 years who have never attended school	14.9%
People above 15 years who are currently attending school	15.1%
People above 15 years who have left school	68.2%
Income from pension	9.2%
Income from business and non-farming activities	10.1%
Income from farming	10.1%
Wages and salaries	659.6%
OTJIWARONGO	
ATTRIBUTE	INDICATOR
Population	54 893
Males	27 707
Females	28 186

3.1.2 Archaeological and Heritage Context

The steam locomotive which is located outside of the rail station is one of the few heritage monuments in Otjiwarongo. The rail station was built in 1912 by Henschel and ceased operations in 1960.

No archaeological and heritage sites are however known to be located within the proposed development area

3.2 BIO-PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

3.2.1 Climate

Otjiwarongo has a semi-arid climate with hot summers and mild winters. The average annual temperature ranges between 19-20°C as indicated in Figure 5 below. The average maximum temperature for Otjiwarongo below varies between 32 and 34°C with the average minimum temperature between 4 and 6°C below (Robertson, Jarvis, Mendelsohn, & Swart, 2012).

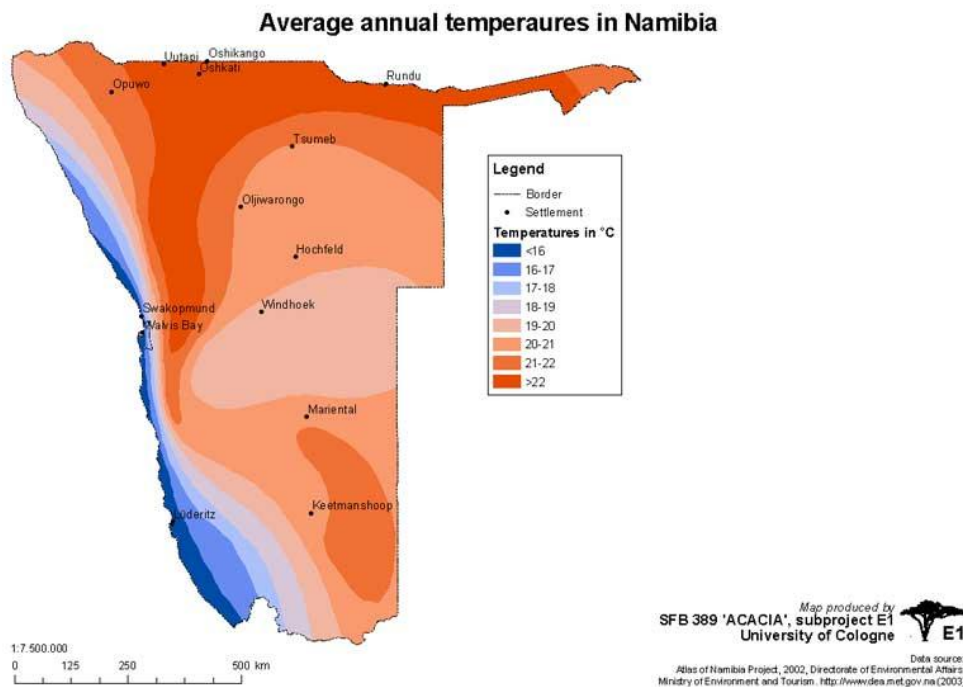


Figure 3: Annual average temperature (http://www.uni-koeln.de/sfb389/e/e1/download/atlas_namibia/e1_download_climate_e.htm#temperature_annual)

Rainfall is mostly experienced during the summer, with the average annual rainfall ranging between 400-450 mm per year as indicated in Figure 6 below. Most of the rain in Otjiwarongo is experienced between December and March.

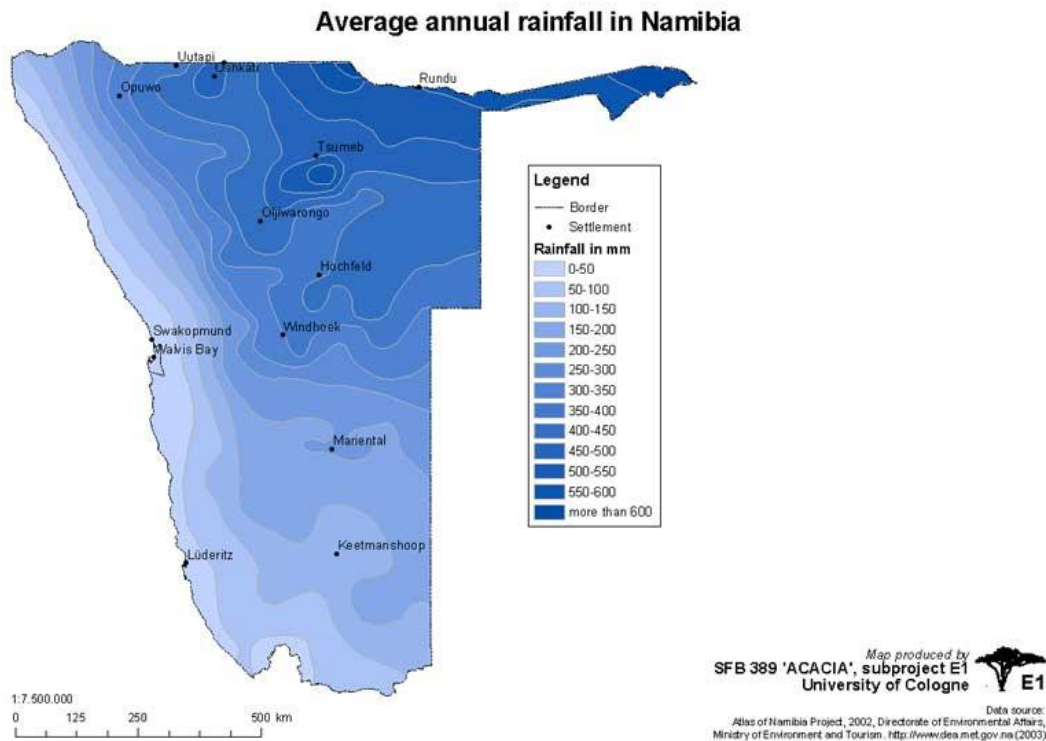


Figure 4: Average annual Rainfall (http://www.uni-koeln.de/sfb389/e/e1/download/atlas_namibia/pics/climate/rainfall-annual.jpg)

3.2.2 Topography, Geology, Soil and Hydrogeology

The geology of Otjiwarongo belongs to the Damara Supergroup and Gariep Complex with the dominant soils being schists. Rocky outcrops are also recorded to occur in the region.

The underlying geology is primarily schists which is known for having low groundwater potential. Otjiwarongo belongs to the Brandberg, Erongo and Waterberg groundwater area, within an area known to have only moderately productive aquifers. The most significant aquifer in this area is the marble aquifer north-east of Otjiwarongo, with several boreholes been drilled to accommodate the demand (Ministry of Agriculture Water and Rural Development, 2011).

The surface water in the area is generally determined by the rainfall, the evapotranspiration and the amount of water that drains to the groundwater aquifers (Green Earth Environmental Consultants, 2019). The Omatjenne Dam is located 15km northwest of Otjiwarongo and dams the Omatjenne River, which has been recorded to hold 0% water in 2018/2019.

3.3 TERRESTRIAL ECOLOGY

3.3.1 Flora and Fauna

Otjiwarongo belongs to the Acacia Tree and Shrub Savanna Biome which is characterized by large, open expanses of grasslands dotted with Acacia trees (Mendelsohn, Jarvis, Roberts & Roberston, 2002). The vegetation type for Otjiwarongo is described as Thornbush Shrubland which comprises of various soils and dominated by Acacia shrublands. Trees commonly found within the region are Black Thorn (*Acacia mellifera*), Camel Thorn (*Acacia erioloba*) and Shepherds Tree (*Boscia albitrunca*). Trees protected under the Forestry Act 12 of 2001 should be protected within the layout of the proposed townships.

The Otjiwarongo area generally demonstrates high terrestrial diversity. Plant diversity in the area is recorded to be between 300-399 species (Mendelsohn et al., 2002). Bird diversity is recorded to be between 201-230 species, mammal diversity between 91-105 species and reptile diversity between 81-85 species (Mendelsohn et al., 2002).

4 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

4.1 PROJECT COMPONENTS

As previously outlined in Section 1.1, the proposed project involves the following activities:

- **Subdivision of Erf 1508, Otjiwarongo Extension 5 into Erf A and Remainder;**
- **Permanent Closure of newly created Erf A as “Public Open Space”; and**
- **Rezoning of newly created Erf A from “Public Open Space” to “Residential 1” with a density of 1:700**

These components will be described in further detail below, in terms of their design, layout and footprint.

4.2 ALTERNATIVES

As pointed out in Section 1.4 above various layout alternatives were initially considered by the proponent, ultimately resulting in the final layouts. As such only the no-go alternative will be discussed below.

4.2.1 No – Go Alternative

The no-go alternative represents the baseline against which the proposed development is assessed. Under this scenario, Erf 1508 would remain vacant and underutilised within an otherwise fully developed residential area of Otjiwarongo Extension 5. The construction of the proposed single dwelling would not proceed, and the erf would continue to detract from the visual cohesion and functional character of the surrounding neighbourhood.

In practical terms, the continued vacancy of the property would mean that the land remains unused despite being appropriately zoned for residential development. The potential benefits associated with improved streetscape appearance, enhanced natural surveillance, and increased property utilisation would not be realised. The existing minor safety and security concerns typically associated with undeveloped urban erven would persist.

Given that the proposed project is fully compatible with the current zoning, limited to a single dwelling at low density, and expected to result in minimal environmental and infrastructure impacts, the no-go alternative is not considered the preferred option. The development represents the orderly and intended use of residential land within the municipality.

4.3 THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Erf 1508 has remained vacant for an extended period and currently detracts from the appearance and cohesion of the surrounding, fully developed residential neighbourhood. The construction of a single dwelling will transform the erf into a functional residential property, improve the streetscape, and contribute to a more consistent and attractive built environment.

Vacant open spaces can present safety and security concerns by providing concealed areas for unauthorised access. Developing the erf will improve visibility and natural surveillance, thereby enhancing safety for surrounding residents.

The proposed development is compatible with the existing residential land use of Otjiwarongo Extension 5 and will blend in with the surrounding properties without altering the character of the area. At a low density of 1:700 and an erf size of 1,093 m², only one dwelling unit is permitted, ensuring minimal traffic and infrastructure impacts.

A portion of the erf will remain as public open space, preserving the opportunity for future recreational development by the local authority. The proposal therefore balances residential needs with the retention of community open space.

4.3.1 The Subdivision of Erf 1508, Otjiwarongo Extension 5 into Erf A and the Remainder

The Proponent intends to subdivide erf 1508, Otjiwarongo into Erf A and the Remainder, this step is required to facilitate the allocation of a portion of the public open space to the Proponent as depicted in **Figure 5 and 6** below. The subdivision will create erven with the sizes as depicted by **Table 5** below.

Table 5: Summary of Erf sizes

Erf No.	Current Zoning	Proposed Zoning	Area (m ²)
A/1508	Public Open Space	Residential 1 (1:700)	1093
RE/1508	Public Open Space	Public Open Space	1377
1508	Public Open Space	Public Open Space	2470

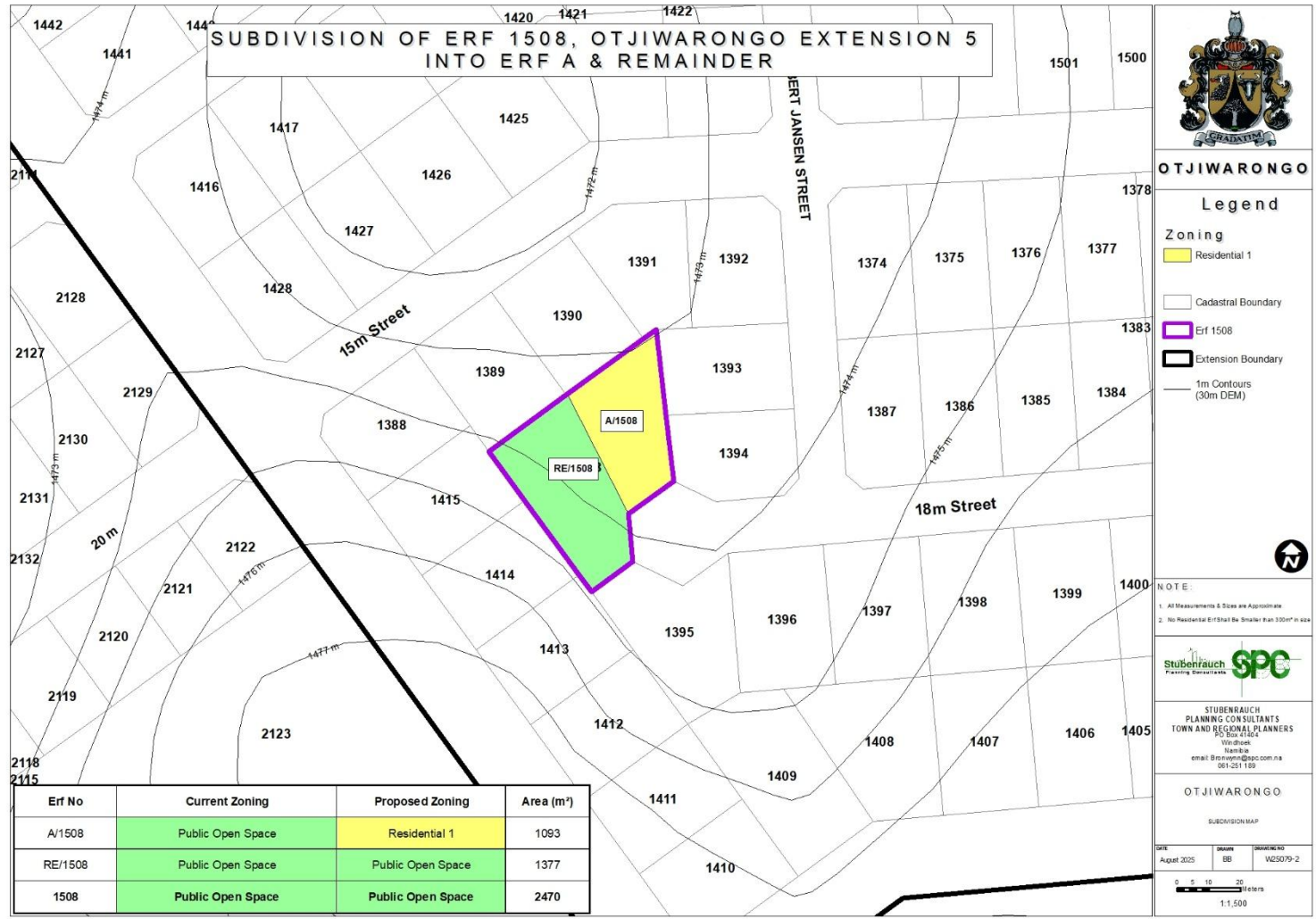


Figure 5: The proposed subdivision of Erf 1508, Otjiwarongo Extension 5 into Erf A & Remainder

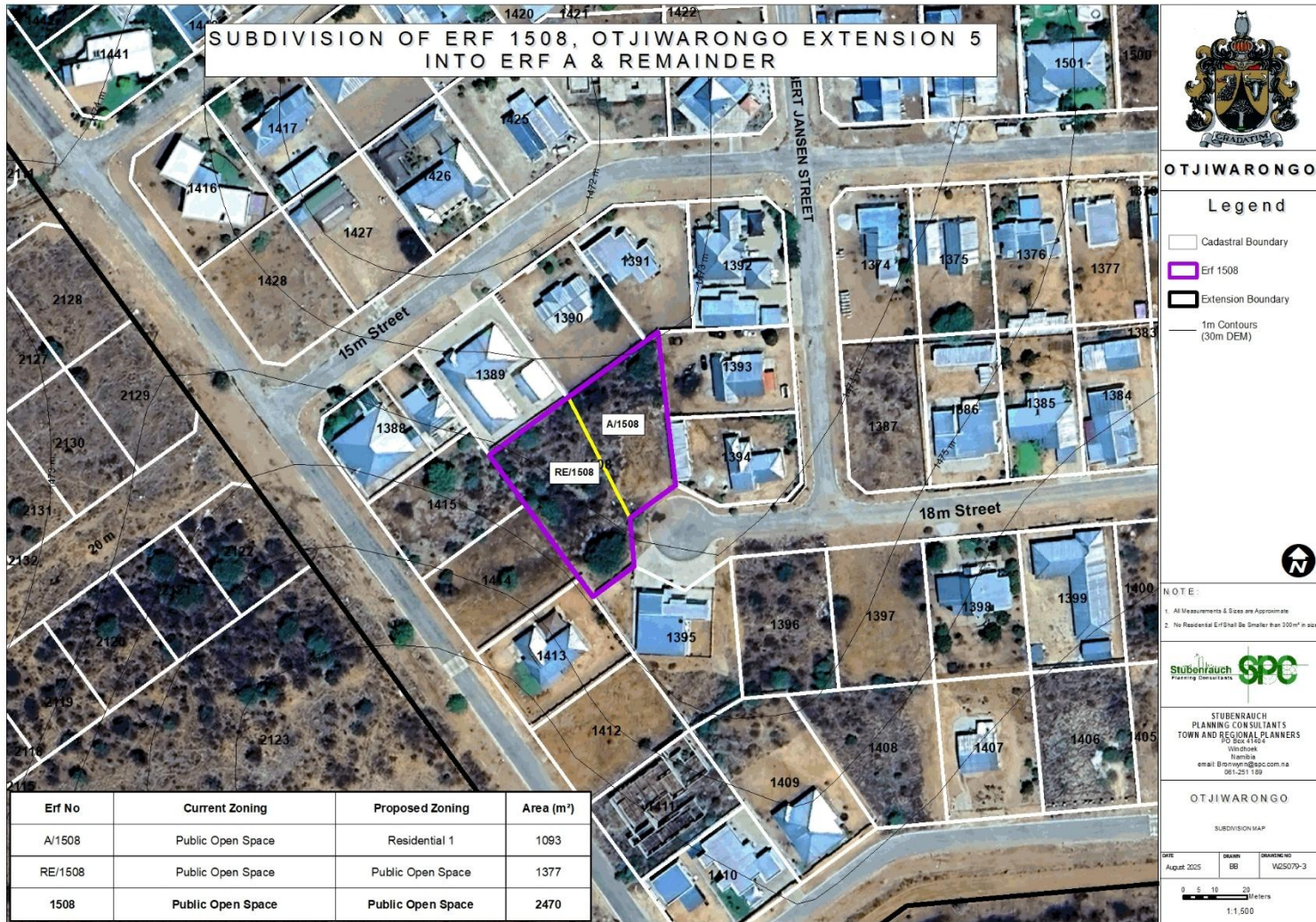


Figure 6: Aerial Map of the proposed subdivision of Erf 1508, Otjiwarongo Extension 5 into Erf A & Remainder

4.3.3 Rezoning of newly created Erf A/1508 from “Public Open Space” to “Residential 1” with a density of 1:700

In order to align the intended residential use with the appropriate legal zoning, the newly created Erf A/1508, Otjiwarongo Extension 5 will need to be rezoned to “Residential 1” with a density of 1:700. The development potential will be capped at 1 dwelling unit at the proposed density of 1:700. The remaining extent of Erf 1508, Otjiwarongo Extension 5 will be left as Public Open Space. The subject rezonings will occur as depicted by **Figure 8** below.

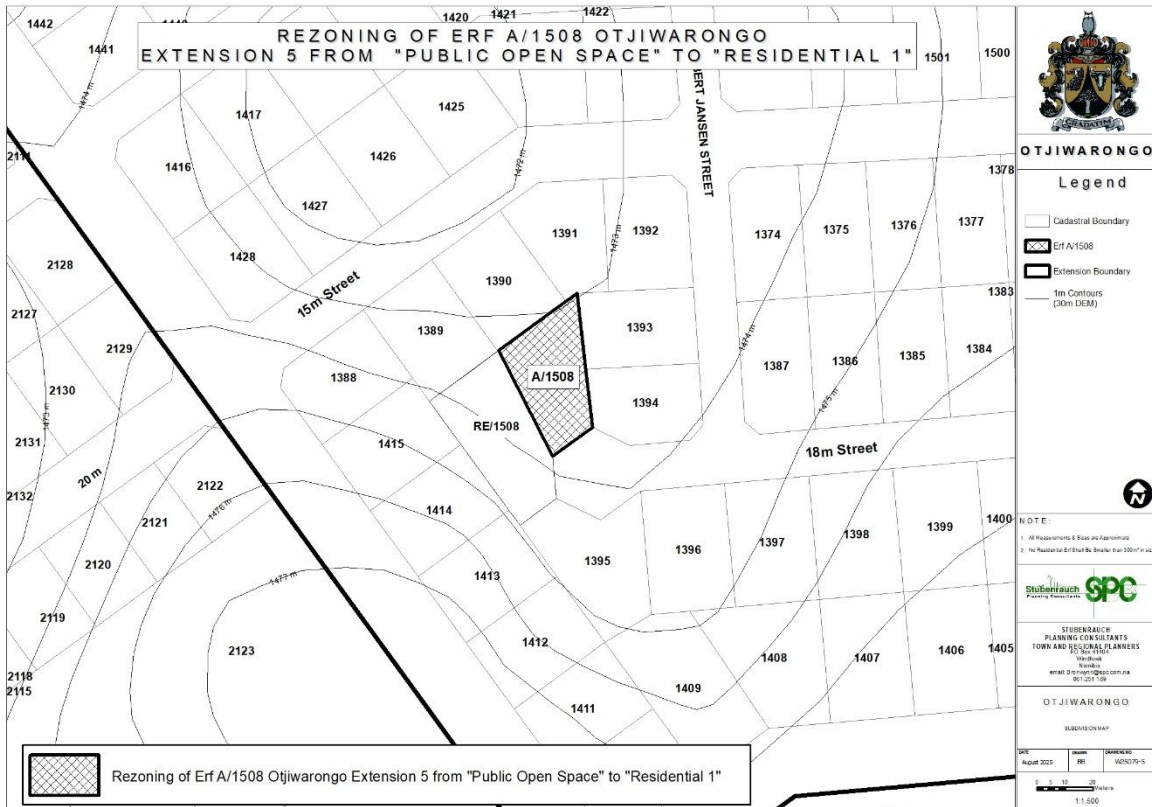


Figure 8: Rezoning of newly created Erf A/1508 from “Public Open Space” to “Residential 1” with a density of 1:700

4.3.4 Engineering Services and Access Provision

4.3.4.1 Water, sewer and Electricity

The proposed Erf A/1508, Otjiwarongo Extension 5 will be connected to the bulk water and sewer supply of the Municipal Council of Otjiwarongo which currently caters for Otjiwarongo Extension 5.

The proposed Erf A/1508, Otjiwarongo Extension 5 will be connected to the bulk water and sewer supply of the Municipal Council of Otjiwarongo which currently caters for Otjiwarongo Extension 5.

4.3.4.2 Access Provision

Access to the newly created Erf A/1508, Otjiwarongo Extension 5 will continue to be gained from the internal street network (18m) of the Otjiwarongo Extension 5 neighbourhood. Direct access to Erf will be gained from the cul-de-sac street. It should be noted that the proposed rezoning will not add additional traffic within the area as it is merely a formalization of an existing situation.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

5.1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

In terms of Section 21 of the EIA Regulations a call for open consultation with all I&APs at defined stages of the EIA process is required. This entails participatory consultation with members of the public by providing an opportunity to comment on the proposed project. Public Participation has thus incorporated the requirements of Namibia's legislation, but also takes account of international guidelines, including Southern African Development Community (SADC) guidelines and the Namibian EIA Regulations. Public participation in this project has been undertaken to meet the specific requirements in accordance with the international best practice. Please see **Table 6** below for the activities undertaken as part of the public participation process. The I&APs were given time to comment from **22 January 2026 to 24 February 2026**.

Table 6: Table of Public Participation Activities

ACTIVITY	REMARKS
Placement of site notice/poster in Otjiwarongo	See Annexure A
Placing advertisements in local newspapers namely the New Era and the Namibian newspapers (22 January 2026 and 29 January 2026).	See Annexure B
Written notice to surrounding property owners and Interested and Affected Parties via Email (22 January 2026)	See Annexure C

5.1.1 Environmental Assessment Phase 2

The second phase of the PPP involved the lodging of the Draft Environmental Scoping Report (DESR) to all registered I&APs for comment. Registered and potential I&APs were informed of the availability of the DESR for public comment *via* a letter/email dated **26 March 2026**. An Executive Summary of the DESR was also included in the letters to the registered I&APs. I&APs had until **14 April 2026** to submit comments or raise any issues or concerns they may have with regard to the proposed project.

6 ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this chapter is to describe the assessment methodology utilized in determining the significance of the construction and operational impacts of the proposed project, and where applicable the possible alternatives, on the biophysical and socio-economic environment.

Assessment of predicted significance of impacts for a proposed development is by its nature, inherently uncertain – environmental assessment is thus an imprecise science. To deal with such uncertainty in a comparable manner, a standardised and internationally recognised methodology has been developed. Such accepted methodology is applied in this study to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed development, outlined as follows in **Table 7**.

Table 7: Impact Assessment Criteria

CRITERIA	CATEGORY
Impact	Description of the expected impact
Nature Describe type of effect	Positive: The activity will have a social / economical / environmental benefit. Neutral: The activity will have no effect Negative: The activity will have a social / economical / environmental harmful effect
Extent Describe the scale of the impact	Site Specific: Expanding only as far as the activity itself (onsite) Small: restricted to the site's immediate environment within 1 km of the site (limited) Medium: Within 5 km of the site (local) Large: Beyond 5 km of the site (regional)
Duration Predicts the lifetime of the impact.	Temporary: < 1 year (not including construction) Short-term: 1 – 5 years Medium term: 5 – 15 years Long-term: >15 years (Impact will stop after the operational or running life of the activity, either due to natural course or by human interference) Permanent: Impact will be where mitigation or moderation by natural course or by human interference will not occur in a particular means or in a particular time period that the impact can be considered temporary
Intensity Describe the magnitude (scale/size) of the Impact	Zero: Social and/or natural functions and/ or processes remain unaltered Very low: Affects the environment in such a way that natural and/or social functions/processes are not affected Low: Natural and/or social functions/processes are slightly altered

CRITERIA	CATEGORY
	<p>Medium: Natural and/or social functions/processes are notably altered in a modified way</p> <p>High: Natural and/or social functions/processes are severely altered and may temporarily or permanently cease</p>
<p>Probability of occurrence Describe the probability of the Impact <u>actually</u> occurring</p>	<p>Improbable: Not at all likely</p> <p>Probable: Distinctive possibility</p> <p>Highly probable: Most likely to happen</p> <p>Definite: Impact will occur regardless of any prevention measures</p>
<p>Degree of Confidence in predictions State the degree of confidence in predictions based on availability of information and specialist knowledge</p>	<p>Unsure/Low: Little confidence regarding information available (<40%)</p> <p>Probable/Med: Moderate confidence regarding information available (40-80%)</p> <p>Definite/High: Great confidence regarding information available (>80%)</p>
<p>Significance Rating The impact on each component is determined by a combination of the above criteria.</p>	<p>Neutral: A potential concern which was found to have no impact when evaluated</p> <p>Very low: Impacts will be site specific and temporary with no mitigation necessary.</p> <p>Low: The impacts will have a minor influence on the proposed development and/or environment. These impacts require some thought to adjustment of the project design where achievable, or alternative mitigation measures</p> <p>Medium: Impacts will be experienced in the local and surrounding areas for the life span of the development and may result in long term changes. The impact can be lessened or improved by an amendment in the project design or implementation of effective mitigation measures.</p> <p>High: Impacts have a high magnitude and will be experienced regionally for at least the life span of the development, or will be irreversible. The impacts could have the no-go proposition on portions of the development in spite of any mitigation measures that could be implemented.</p>

*NOTE: Where applicable, the magnitude of the impact has to be related to the relevant standard (threshold value specified and source referenced). The magnitude of impact is based on specialist knowledge of that particular field.

For each impact, the EXTENT (spatial scale), MAGNITUDE (size or degree scale) and DURATION (time scale) are described. These criteria are used to ascertain the SIGNIFICANCE of the impact, firstly in the case of no mitigation and then with the most effective mitigation measure(s) in place. The decision as to which combination of alternatives and mitigation measures to apply lies with the proponent, and their acceptance and approval ultimately with the relevant environmental authority.

The SIGNIFICANCE of an impact is derived by taking into account the temporal and spatial scales and magnitude. Such significance is also informed by the context of the impact, i.e. the character and identity of the receptor of the impact.

6.1 MITIGATION MEASURES

There is a mitigation hierarchy of actions which can be undertaken to respond to any proposed project or activity (See **Figure 9** below). These cover avoidance, minimization, restoration and compensation. It is possible and considered sought after to enhance the environment by ensuring that positive gains are included in the proposed activity or project. If negative impacts occur, then the hierarchy indicates the following steps.

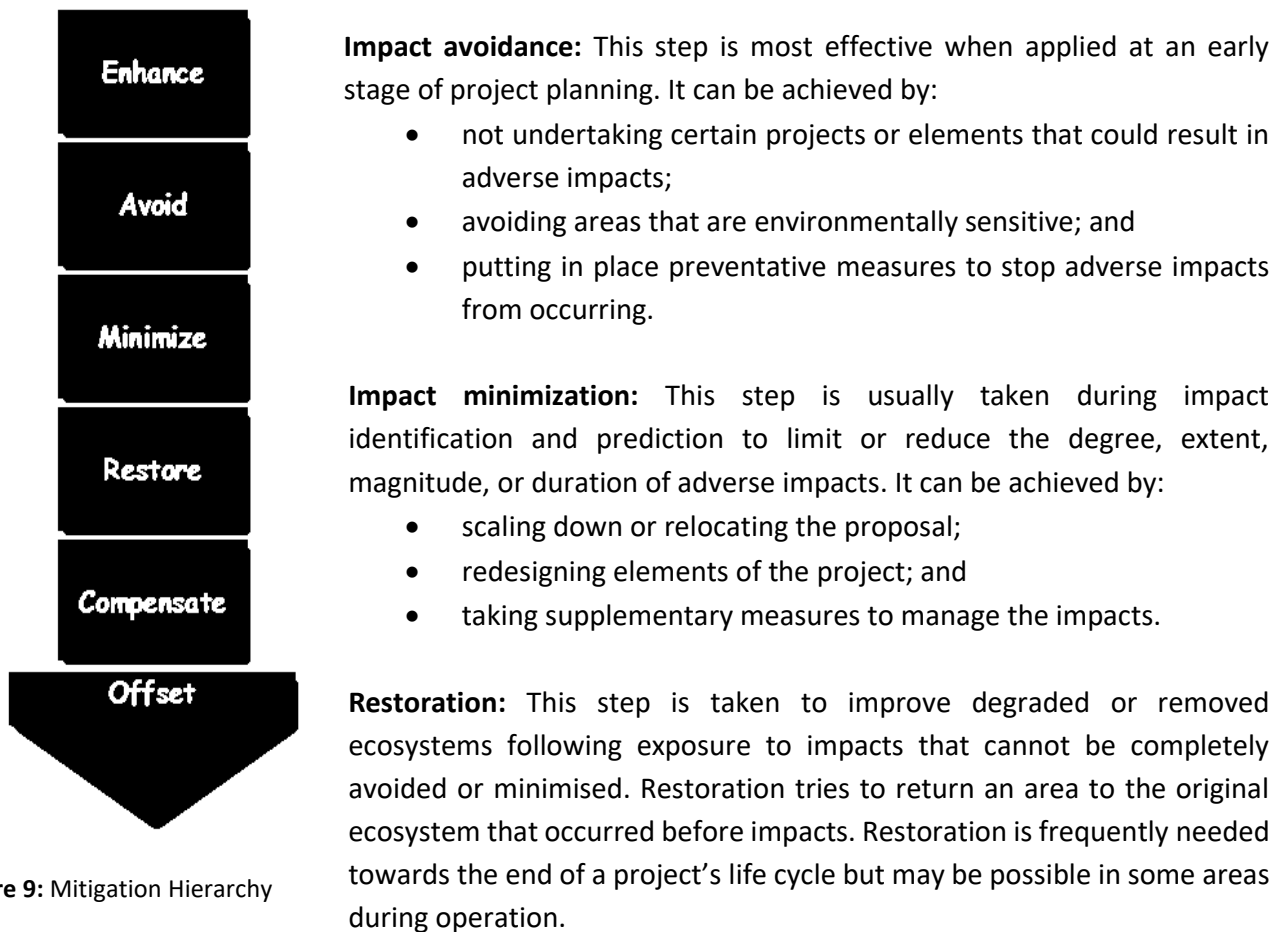


Figure 9: Mitigation Hierarchy

Impact compensation: This step is usually applied to remedy unavoidable residual adverse impacts. It can be achieved by:

- rehabilitation of the affected site or environment, for example, by habitat enhancement;
- restoration of the affected site or environment to its previous state or better; and
- replacement of the same resource values at another location (off-set), for example, by wetland engineering to provide an equivalent area to that lost to drainage or infill.

7 ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION MEASURES

7.1 INTRODUCTION

This Chapter describes the potential impacts on the biophysical and socio-economic environments, which may occur due to the proposed activities described in Chapter 4. These include potential impacts, which may arise during the operation of the proposed development (i.e. long-term impacts) as well as the potential construction related impacts (i.e. short to medium term). The assessment of potential impacts will help to inform and confirm the selection of the preferred layouts to be submitted to MEFT: DEAF for consideration. In turn, MEFT: DEAF's decision on the environmental acceptability of the proposed project and the setting of conditions of authorisation (should the project be authorised) will be informed by this chapter, amongst other information, contained in this EA Report.

The baseline and potential impacts that could result from the proposed development are described and assessed with potential mitigation measures recommended. Finally, comment is provided on the potential cumulative impacts which could result should this development, and others like it in the area, be approved.

7.2 PLANNING AND DESIGN PHASE IMPACTS

During the planning and design phase consideration should be given on aspects such as impacts of traffic and existing municipal infrastructure.

7.2.1 Traffic Impacts

There are no negative impacts anticipated from the proposed development on the surrounding areas.

7.2.2 Existing Service Infrastructure Impacts

The proposed development will have minimal impact on existing municipal services. The property is already connected to the municipal water, sewer, and electricity networks, all of which can adequately accommodate the practice's low demand. Waste generation is limited, with general waste managed through municipal collection and medical waste disposed of via licensed service providers. Road access and traffic impacts are negligible, with parking available on-site. Overall, the activity operates within the capacity of existing infrastructure and poses no significant environmental or service-related impacts.

7.3 CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS ON THE BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The construction phase impacts are those impacts on the biophysical and socio-economic environment that would occur during the construction phase. These impacts are inherently temporary in duration but may have longer lasting effects.

7.3.1 Flora and Fauna Impacts (Biodiversity)

The trees located on the subject site should be accommodated in the proposed use for the erf. Trees protected under the Forestry Act 12 of 2001 should be protected within the development and may not be removed without a permit from the local Department of Forestry.

It is anticipated that the proposed development area and associated infrastructure (e.g. water, sewage, access route, etc.) would have localized negative implications on the environment and associated fauna and flora should the proposed mitigation measures as outlined in the EMP be enforced.

7.3.2 Surface and Ground Water Impacts

Surface and groundwater impacts may be encountered during the construction and operation phase, especially if development takes place within the rainy season. The risk of contaminating such water sources can be increased by accidental spillage of oils and fuels and any other equipment used during construction. This risk is minimized by the fact that the construction phase will be a short-term activity.

7.3.3 Soil Erosion Impacts

Given the characteristics of the proposed site, soil erosion is likely to be encountered especially if construction will take place during the rainy season, the removal of vegetation will render the soil vulnerable to erosion as they also serve the purpose of keeping the soils compacted.

7.4 CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

7.4.1 Heritage impacts

No archaeological and heritage resources are expected to be found on the site. The project management should however be made aware of the provisions of the National Heritage Act regarding the prompt reporting of archaeological finds. Section 3.1.2 provides an overview of the archaeological and heritage context of the town and region.

7.4.2 Health, Safety and Security Impacts

Due to the demand for construction workers during the construction of the proposed project an influx of migrant workforce who will require temporary accommodation in Otjiwarongo might be

experienced. Experience with other construction projects in a developing-world context has shown that, where migrant construction workers have the opportunity to interact with the local community, a significant risk is created for the development of social conditions and sexual behaviors that contribute to the spread of HIV and AIDS.

In response to the threat the pandemic poses, MEFT has developed a policy on HIV and AIDS. This policy, which was developed with support from USAID, GTZ and the German Development Fund, provides for a non-discriminatory work environment and for workplace programs managed by a Ministry-wide committee. The MEFT has also recently initiated a programme aimed at mainstreaming HIV and gender issues into environmental impact assessments.

7.4.3 Traffic Impacts

The proposed development is expected to generate low traffic volumes, limited to staff, patients, and occasional service providers. These trips are comparable to normal residential traffic levels and will not significantly affect the capacity or safety of the surrounding road network. Access to the site is via existing municipal roads, and on-site parking is available to accommodate visitors. As such, no adverse traffic impacts are anticipated, and the activity is considered compatible with the existing transport infrastructure.

7.4.4 Noise Impacts

Construction may result in associated noise impacts. These noise impacts will mainly be associated with construction machinery and construction vehicles. The impact is however limited mainly to the construction period only.

7.4.5 Dust and Emission Impacts

Excavation and stockpiles during the construction phase could result in dust impacts, if not managed correctly. Dust could impact negatively on the health of the nearby community if mitigation measures are not implemented. Dust impacts are primarily associated with the construction phase.

7.4.6 Municipal Services

The construction phase will result in additional people on-site, who will require provision of the following services:

- Potable water for domestic (ablution and drinking) and construction purposes.
- Temporary toilets during the construction phase.
- Solid waste management (domestic and construction waste).

These services if not managed well are likely to create an opportunity for water wastage; litter; solid and human waste pollution.

7.4.7 Storage and Utilisation of Hazardous Substances

Hazardous substances are regarded by the Hazardous Substance Ordinance (No. 14 of 1974) as those substances which may cause injury or ill-health to or death of human beings by reason of their toxic, corrosive, irritant, strongly sensitizing or flammable nature or the generation of pressure thereby in certain circumstances. During the construction period, the use and storage of these types of hazardous substances, such as shutter oil, curing compounds, types of solvents, primers and adhesives and diesel, on-site could have negative impacts on the surrounding environment if these substances spill and enter the environment. The warehouse in Portion 402 is intended to store the necessary hardware material such as wiring, nuts and bolts, fencing, etc. None of these are deemed as hazardous.

7.5 OPERATIONAL PHASE IMPACTS

The operational phase impacts are those impacts on the biophysical and socio-economic environment that would occur during the operational phase of the proposed project and are inherently long-term in duration.

7.5.1 Visual and Sense of Place Impacts

The extent of this disturbance will depend on how highly the interested and affected parties valued the initial aesthetic quality of the site. The intended activities for the proposed site may alter the sense of place for the existing community and property owners situated in close proximity to the site, as well as the residents of Otjiwarongo who frequent the site.

7.5.2 Noise Impacts

Due to the nature of the land uses proposed for the subject even it is not expected that the noise levels will be significant if managed well.

7.5.3 Emission Impacts

The air quality in the area is considered to be fairly good. Additional emissions are not expected due to the land uses that are intended for the site.

7.5.4 Waste Impacts

Increased amounts of waste may be generated as a result of the operational activities at the sites. In addition, the effective waste management on site should be practiced as per the recommendations in the EMP.

7.5.5 Social Impacts

The proposed development will have a positive socio-economic impact as it will provide Mr Ngulondo with the opportunity to enter the housing market and during the construction phase temporary jobs will be provided.

7.6 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

The cumulative impact of the proposed developments regarding the degradation of the project area is very difficult to rate. If all proposed mitigation measures are however in place to minimise the overall impacts then the cumulative impact can be expected to be rated as **Medium-Low (negative)** for the proposed developments.

7.7 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

An Environmental Management Plan (EMP) is contained in **Annexure E** of this report. The purpose of the EMP is to outline the type and range of mitigation measures that should be implemented during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the project to ensure that negative impacts associated with the development are avoided or mitigated.

7.8 SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS

A summary of all the potential impacts from the proposed project assessed above is included in **Table 8**. The **Tables 9 – 12** provide a summary of the mitigation measures proposed for the impacts. While some difference in magnitude of the potential impacts would result from the proposed alternatives this difference was not considered to be significant for any of the potential impacts. As such, the table below applies to all proposed alternatives.

Table 8: Summary of the significance of the potential impacts

Description of potential impact	Project alternative	No mitigation / mitigation	Extent	Magnitude	Duration	Significance	Probability	Confidence	Reversibility	Cumulative impact
PLANNING AND DESIGN PHASE										
1. Traffic Impacts	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Medium	Medium term	Medium	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium (-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Low	Medium term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Medium term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Medium term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
2. Proposed services	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Medium	Medium term	Medium	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium (-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Low	Medium term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Medium term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Medium term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
CONSTRUCTION PHASE										
3. Biodiversity (Fauna and Flora)	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Medium-Low	Short term	Medium	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium (-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
4. Surface & ground water	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Medium	Short term	Medium	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium (-ve)

Description of potential impact	Project alternative	No mitigation / mitigation	Extent	Magnitude	Duration	Significance	Probability	Confidence	Reversibility	Cumulative impact
		Mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Medium - low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium - Low (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
5. Soil erosion	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Medium	Short term	Medium - low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium - low (-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
6. Heritage	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Very low	Short term	Very low	Probable	Certain	Irreversible	Very low(-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Negligible	Short term	Negligible	Probable	Certain	Irreversible	Negligible (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
7. Health, safety and security	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Medium-Low	Short term	Medium-Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium-Low (-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
8. Traffic impacts	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Very low	Short term	Very low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Very low

Description of potential impact	Project alternative	No mitigation / mitigation	Extent	Magnitude	Duration	Significance	Probability	Confidence	Reversibility	Cumulative impact
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
9. Noise impacts	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Medium	Short term	Medium - low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium - Low (-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Very low (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
10. Emissions impacts	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Medium	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Very Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Very Low (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
11. Municipal services	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Very low	Short term	Very low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Very low (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
12. Waste	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Medium	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium (-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Very low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)

Description of potential impact	Project alternative	No mitigation / mitigation	Extent	Magnitude	Duration	Significance	Probability	Confidence	Reversibility	Cumulative impact
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
13. Hazardous Substances	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Low	Short term	Medium	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium (-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Very low	Short term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Very low (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
OPERATIONAL PHASE										
1. Visual & sense of place	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Medium	Medium term	Medium	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium (-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Medium-Low	Medium term	Medium-Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium-Low (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Medium term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Medium term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
2. Noise	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Medium-Low	Medium term	Medium-Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium-Low (-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Low	Medium term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Medium term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Medium term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral

Description of potential impact	Project alternative	No mitigation / mitigation	Extent	Magnitude	Duration	Significance	Probability	Confidence	Reversibility	Cumulative impact
3. Emissions	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Medium-Low	Medium term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Low	Medium term	Very Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Very Low (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Medium term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Medium term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
4. Waste	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	Low	Long term	Medium	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Medium (-ve)
		Mitigation	Local	Very low	Long term	Low	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Low (-ve)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Short term	Neutral	Probable	Certain	Reversible	Neutral
5. Social impact	Otjiwarongo	No mitigation	Local	High	Long term	Medium (+)	Probable	Probable	Reversible	Medium (+)
		Mitigation	Local	High	Long term	Medium (+)	Probable	Probable	Reversible	Medium (+)
	No go	No mitigation	Local	Neutral	Long term	Neutral	Probable	Probable	Reversible	Neutral
		Mitigation	Local	Neutral	Long term	Neutral	Probable	Probable	Reversible	Neutral

Table 9: Proposed mitigation measures for the planning and design phase

PLANNING AND DESIGN PHASE IMPACTS	
Impact	Mitigation Measures
Traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that road junctions have good sightlines. • Provide formal road crossings at relevant areas. • Provide for speed reducing interventions such as speed bumps at relevant road sections.
Existing Service Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is recommended that alternative and renewable sources of energy be explored and introduced into the proposed development to reduce dependency on the grid. • Solar geysers and panels should be considered to provide for general lighting and heating of water and buildings. • Water saving mechanisms should be considered for incorporation within the developments in order to further reduce water demands. • Re-use of treated wastewater should be considered wherever possible to reduce the consumption of potable water.

Table 10: Proposed mitigation measures for the construction phase

CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS	
Impact	Mitigation Measures
Flora and Fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapt the proposed developments to the local environment – e.g. small adjustments to the site layout could avoid potential features such as water bodies and vegetation. • Prevent the destruction of protected and endemic plant species. • Prevent contractors from collecting wood, veld food, etc. during the construction phase. • Do not clear cut the entire development site, but rather keep the few individual trees/shrubs not directly affecting the developments as part of the landscaping. • The plants that are to be kept should be clearly marked with “danger tape” to prevent accidental removal.

CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS	
Impact	Mitigation Measures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular inspection of the marking tool should be carried out. • The very important plants should be “camped off” to prevent the unintended removal or damage to these trees. • Recommend the planting of local indigenous species of flora as part of the landscaping as these species would require less maintenance than exotic species. • Transplant removed plants where possible, or plant new plants in lieu of those that have been removed. • Prevent the introduction of potentially invasive alien ornamental plant species such as; <i>Lantana</i>, <i>Opuntia</i>, <i>Prosopis</i>, <i>Tecoma</i>, etc.; as part of the landscaping as these species could infest the area further over time.
Surface and Ground Water Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is recommended that construction takes place outside of the rainy season in order to limit flooding on site and surface water pollution. • No dumping of waste products of any kind in or in close proximity to surface water bodies. • Heavy construction vehicles should be kept out of any surface water bodies and the movement of construction vehicles should be limited where possible to the existing roads and tracks. • Ensure that oil/ fuel spillages from construction vehicles and machinery are minimised and that where these occur, that they are appropriately dealt with. • Drip trays must be placed underneath construction vehicles when not in use to contain all oil that might be leaking from these vehicles. • Contaminated runoff from the construction sites should be prevented from entering the surface and ground water bodies. • All materials on the construction site should be properly stored. • Disposal of waste from the sites should be properly managed and taken to the designated landfill site. • Construction workers should be given ablution facilities at the construction sites that are located at least 30 m away from any surface water and regularly serviced.

CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS	
Impact	Mitigation Measures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washing of personnel or any equipment should not be allowed on site. Should it be necessary to wash construction equipment these should be done at an area properly suited and prepared to receive and contain polluted waters.
Soil Erosion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is recommended that construction takes place outside of the rainy season in order to limit potential flooding and the runoff of loose soil causing further erosion. • Appropriate erosion control structures must be put in place where soil may be prone to erosion. • Checks must be carried out at regular intervals to identify areas where erosion is occurring. • Appropriate remedial actions are to be undertaken wherever erosion is evident.
Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project management should be made aware of the provisions of the National Heritage Act regarding the prompt reporting of archaeological finds. • In the event of such finds, construction must stop, and the project management or contractors should notify the National Heritage Council of Namibia immediately.
Health, Safety and Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction personnel should not overnight at the site, except the security personnel. • Ensure that all construction personnel are properly trained depending on the nature of their work. • Provide for a first aid kit and a properly trained person to apply first aid when necessary. • Restrict unauthorised access to the site and implement access control measures. • Clearly demarcate the construction site boundaries along with signage of “no unauthorised access”. • Clearly demarcate dangerous areas and no-go areas on site. • Staff and visitors to the site must be fully aware of all health and safety measures and emergency procedures on site. • The contractor must comply with all applicable occupational health and safety requirements. • The workforce should be provided with all necessary Personal Protective Equipment where appropriate.

CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS	
Impact	Mitigation Measures
Traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit and control the number of access points to the site. • Ensure that road junctions have good sightlines. • Construction vehicles need to be in a road worthy condition and maintained throughout the construction phase. • Transport the materials in the least number of trips as possible. • Adhere to the speed limit. • Implement traffic control measures where necessary.
Noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No amplified music should be allowed on site. • Inform immediate neighbours of construction activities to commence and provide for continuous communication between the neighbours and contractor. • Limit construction times to acceptable daylight hours. • Install technology such as silencers on construction machinery if noise levels are significantly high. • Do not allow the use of horns as a general communication tool but use it only where necessary as a safety measure.
Dust and Emission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is recommended that dust suppressants such as Dustex be applied to all the construction clearing activities to ensure at least 50% control efficiency on all the unpaved roads and reduce water usage. • Construction vehicles to only use designated roads. • During high wind conditions the contractor must make the decision to cease works until the wind has calmed down. • Cover any stockpiles with plastic to minimise windblown dust. • Provide workers with dust masks.

CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS	
Impact	Mitigation Measures
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The removal of chicken manure will occur after every cycle to prevent accumulation on site, keeping the nutrient rich manure from polluting surface and groundwater bodies, avoiding offensive smells and ensuring the hygiene and health of the new flock. • The chicken coops must be dry cleaned efficiently to remove as much litter as possible and to • reduce the amount of wash water used. • It is recommended that waste from the temporary toilets be disposed of at an approved Wastewater Treatment Works. • A sufficient number of waste bins should be placed around the site for the general waste. • A sufficient number of skip containers for the heavy waste and rubble should be provided around the site. • Solid waste will be collected and disposed of at an appropriate local land fill or an alternative approved site, in consultation with the local authority.
Hazardous Substances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storage of the hazardous substances in a bunded area, with a volume of 120 % of the largest single storage container or 25 % of the total storage containers whichever is greater. • Refuel vehicles in designated areas that have a protective surface covering and utilise drip trays for stationary plant.

Table 11: Proposed mitigation measures for the operational phase

OPERATIONAL PHASE IMPACTS	
Impact	Mitigation Measures
Visual and Sense of Place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is recommended that more 'green' technologies be implemented within the architectural designs and building materials of the development where possible in order to minimise the visual prominence of such a development within the more natural surrounding landscape. • Natural colours and building materials such as wood and stone should be incorporated as well as the use of indigenous vegetation in order to help beautify the development. • Visual pollutants can further be prevented through mitigations (i.e. keep existing trees, introduce tall indigenous trees; keep structures unpainted and minimise large advertising billboards).
Noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not allow commercial activities that generate excessive noise levels. • Continuous monitoring of noise levels should be conducted to make sure the noise levels does not exceed acceptable limits. • No activity having a potential noise impact should be allowed after 18:00 hours if possible.
Emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider tarring of the internal road network. • Manage activities that generate emissions.
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solid waste will be collected from site regularly. • Waste should be disposed of at an appropriate local land fill, in consultation with the local authority. • No waste may be buried or burned.
Social Impacts	No specific mitigation measures are required, only that the local community be consulted in terms of possible job creation opportunities and must be given first priority if unspecialised job vacancies are available.

8 CONCLUSION

The purpose of this Chapter is to briefly summarise and conclude the DFESR and describe the way forward.

8.1 CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS

With reference to **Table 8**, none of the negative construction phase impacts were deemed to have a high significance impact on the environment. The construction impacts were assessed to a **Medium to Low (negative)** significance, without mitigation measures. With the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures in Chapter 7 as well as in the EMP, the significance of the construction phase impacts is likely to be reduced to a **Low (negative)**.

8.2 OPERATIONAL PHASE

The most significant operational phase impact **medium (positive)** is the social impact. This is as a result of the potential job opportunities during operational phase as well the increased development within the area. By providing employment, the farm can contribute to reducing unemployment rates and improving economic well-being of individuals and families in Otjiwarongo.

8.3 LEVEL OF CONFIDENCE IN ASSESSMENT

With reference to the information available at the project planning cycle, the confidence in the environmental assessment undertaken is regarded as being acceptable for the decision-making, specifically in terms of the environmental impacts and risks. The Environmental Assessment Practitioner believes that the information contained within this FESR is adequate to allow MEFT: DEAF to be able to determine the environmental acceptability of the proposed project.

It is acknowledged that the project details will evolve during the detailed design and construction phases. However, these are unlikely to change the overall environmental acceptability of the proposed project and any significant deviation from what was assessed in this FESR should be subject to further assessment. If this was to occur, an amendment to the Environmental Authorisation may be required in which case the prescribed process would be followed.

8.4 MITIGATION MEASURES

With the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures in Chapter 7 as well as in the EMP, the significance of the construction and operational phase impacts is likely to be reduced to a **Low (negative)**. **It is further extremely important to include an Environmental Control Officer (ECO) on site during the construction phase of the proposed project to ensure that all the mitigation measures discussed in this report and the EMP are enforced.**

It is noted that where appropriate, these mitigation measures and any others identified by MEFT: DEAF could be enforced as Conditions of Approval in the Environmental Authorisation, should MEFT: DEAF issue a positive Environmental Authorisation.

8.5 OPINION WITH RESPECT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Regulation 15(j) of the EMA, requires *that the EAP include an opinion as to whether the listed activity must be authorised and if the opinion is that it must be authorised, any condition that must be made in respect of that authorisation.*

It is recommended that this project be authorised, as the development will transform a long-vacant erf in Otjiwarongo Extension 5 into a functional residential property, improving the streetscape and enhancing safety through increased natural surveillance.

The proposal is fully compatible with the surrounding low-density residential area and will not place strain on infrastructure or traffic. Overall, the development will have a positive impact on the neighbourhood, and the significance of the impact is considered to be **Medium (positive)**.

The “no go” alternative on the other hand was deemed to have a **High (negative)** impact, as all the social benefits resulting from the development would not be realised.

The significance of negative impacts can be reduced with effective and appropriate mitigation provided in this report and the EMP. If authorised, the implementation of an EMP should be included as a condition of approval.

8.6 WAY FORWARD

The FESR is herewith submitted to MEFT: DEAF for consideration and decision making. If MEFT: DEAF approves, or requests additional information / studies all registered I&APs and stakeholders will be kept informed of progress throughout the assessment process.

9 REFERENCES

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