

# PROPOSED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EPL6987 FOR NUCLEAR FUEL MINERALS

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT - MARCH 2019

**CLIENT:** Manmar Investments One Eight Two (Pty)



## NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

### PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The purpose of this Non-Technical Summary (NTS) is to provide interested and affected parties (I&APS) with a background of the proposed exploration works that are to be undertaken by Manmar Investments One Eight Two (Pty) on EPL 6987.

Furthermore, it's aim is to invite I&APs to register in the **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping process**. Through registering, I&APs will be kept informed about the proposed project and will be offered the opportunity to submit comments pertaining to the project, allowing for their input to be considered in the assessment and development processes.

This NTS includes the following:

- What is the proposed project and where is it located
- Why the project is deemed necessary, what benefits or adverse impacts are anticipated
- What alternatives to the project have been considered and assessed
- How the EIA process works
- The public participation process and how to become involved, and
- The next steps and way forward

### PROPOSED PROJECT

Marenica Energy Ltd is an Australian Security Exchange Listed Company specialising in Uranium mining. Marenica is the holding company of Manmar Investments One Eight Two (Pty) which exploration interests in Namibia. Manmar Investments One Eight Two (Pty) propose to undertake exploration activities on EPL 6987 for Nuclear Fuel Minerals in the Erongo Region. This proposed activity triggers the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 due to it meeting the threshold of the following listed activity:

#### MINING AND QUARRYING ACTIVITIES

(3.1) The construction of facilities for any process or activities which requires a licence, right or other form of authorisation, and the renewal of a licence, right or other form of authorisation, in terms of the Minerals (Prospecting and Mining Act), 1992.

(3.2) Other forms of mining or extraction of any natural resources whether regulated by law or not.

(3.3) Resource extraction, manipulation, conservation and related activities

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (ECC) has been engaged by Manmar Investments One Eight Two (Pty) to undertake an environmental impact assessment (EIA) and an environmental management plan (EMP) in terms of the Environmental Management Act 2007 and its Regulations.

An Environmental Clearance application will be submitted to the relevant competent authorities: Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) and the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET).

## SCOPING

A SCOPING PROCESS IS A SHORTER PROCESS THAN A 'FULL' EIA BUT APPLIES THE SAME PRINCIPALS AND ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY.

## INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

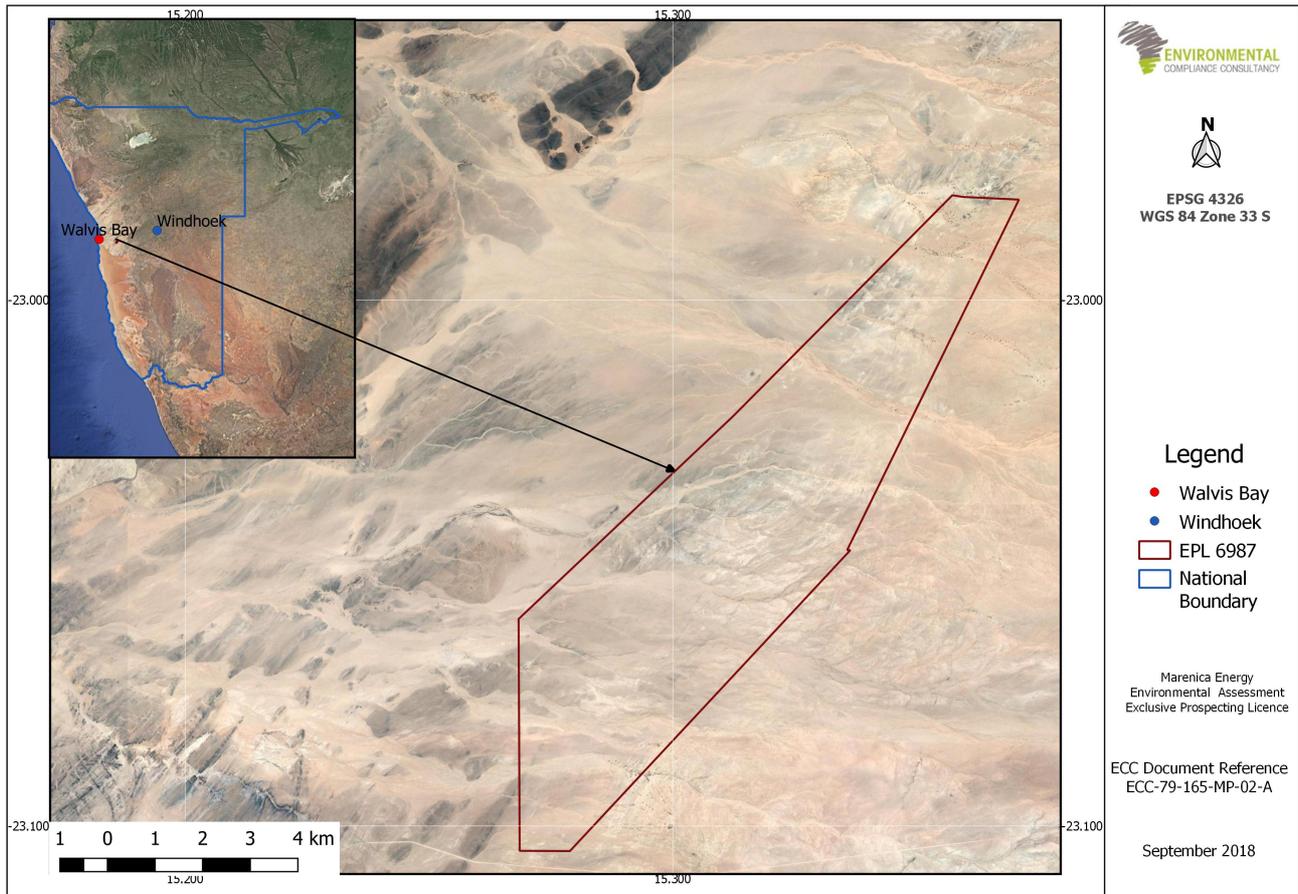
WHY IS AN INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT PROCESS IMPORTANT?

NAMIBIAN LAW AND INTERNATIONAL BEST PRACTICE CALL FOR THE PROFESSIONALS CARRYING OUT AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS TO BE INDEPENDENT (I.E. HAVE NO CONNECTION TO THE PROJECT PROPONENT OR INTEREST IN THE PROJECT'S OUTCOME) TO ENSURE PROCESS INTEGRITY.

**APPLICANT: MANMAR INVESTMENTS ONE EIGHT TWO (PTY)**

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER: ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE CONSULTANCY**  
**COMPETENT AUTHORITY: MINISTRY OF MINES AND ENERGY**

**SITE LOCATION**



**FIGURE 1 - LOCATION OF EPL 6987**

**SCOPE OF ASSESSMENT**

The proposed exploration activities are low-impact and non-intrusive. The following are envisaged during the proposed project:

- Potential creation of access tracks, where existing tracks cannot be utilised
- Limited vegetation clearing for the creation of tracks
- Creation of exploration boreholes
- Exploration methods may include aerial or remote sensing, electromagnetic surveys, drilling, mineral sampling, and
- Storage of exploration mineral samples.

Whilst the potential environmental and social effects are anticipated to be of minor significance from the above activities due to the nature of the site’s environment and design of the exploration methods and programme, as well as the implementation of best practice measures as per the Environmental Management Plan, it is acknowledged that this EPL is located in the Namib-Naukluft National Park. It is therefore imperative that the potential impacts within the national park be thoroughly assessed and in particular, shall be reviewed against the ‘no mining and prospecting zones’ identified in National Policy on the Prospecting and Mining in protected areas recently passed by the Cabinet. During the assessment process and in the event that part or any of the EPL is found to be within any of these zones, further engagement with all relevant stakeholders shall be undertaken.

ECC will prepare a scoping report that presents the assessment findings as well as stakeholder and I&AP concerns. An EMP shall also be developed, setting out auditable management actions for Marenica to ensure judicious and sustainable management of their activities in respect of the surrounding environment on the EPL site.

## NEED FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT

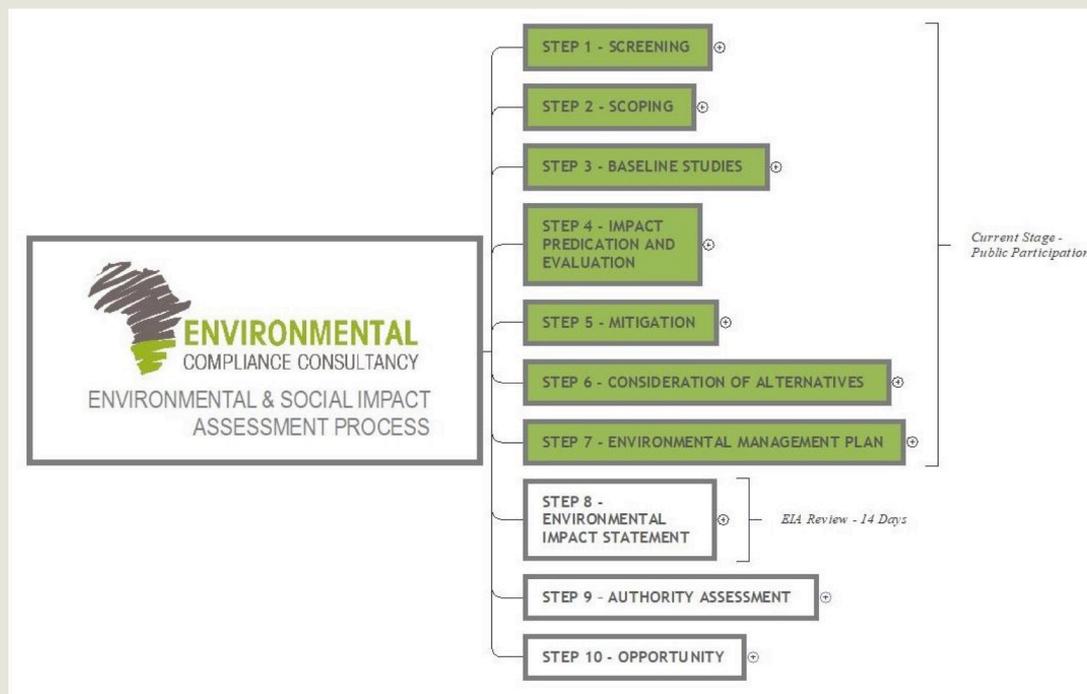
Manmar Investments One Eight Two (Pty) intends to pursue exploration opportunities with the aim of identifying new mining prospects. Namibia is rich in natural resources and the mining industry is the largest income earner in Namibia. Exploration could lead to mining activities which would contribute to the national and local earnings of the country.

## WHAT ALTERNATIVES ARE BEING CONSIDERED?

Best practice environmental assessment methodology calls for consideration of different alternatives to a project being developed. In a project such as this one, it is difficult to identify alternatives to satisfy the need of the proposed project; the activities shall be specific to the EPL site. Various other EPLs exist, however this EPL was identified as having the potential for uranium reserves. During the assessment, alternatives will take the form of a consideration of optimisation and efficiency interventions to reduce potential effects e.g. different types of technology or operations.

## THE EIA PROCESS

The EIA process that shall be followed in terms of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007. ECC shall conduct the environmental application process and manage the public participation process. The EIA process is set out in the flowchart in Figure 2 below. This project is currently at the Scoping phase and the public participation process is being conducted.



**FIGURE 1 – FLOWCHART OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

ECC will perform the following:

- Identify key stakeholders, authorities and municipalities, environmental groups and interested or affected members of the public, hereafter referred to as I&APs
- Compile an NTS for the proposed development (this document)
- Advertise the environmental application in two national newspapers
- Place on-site notices at conspicuous places at/ near the proposed development boundary
- If required host a public meeting to encourage stakeholder participation and engagement, and provide details of issues identified by the environmental practitioner, stakeholders, and I&APs
- Record all comments of I&APs and present such comments, as well as responses provided by ECC, in a full Comments and Responses Report, which will be included in the Scoping Report that is submitted to MME and the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET), and
- Circulate all I&AP comments for consideration to the project team.

# MOVING FORWARD...

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Public participation is an important part of the EIA process; it allows the public and other stakeholders to raise concerns or provide valuable local environmental knowledge that can benefit the assessment, in addition, it can aid the design evolution process.

The commenting period for the project for all I&APs will be 14 days from notification (newspaper adverts). The draft scoping report will be made available to all relevant stakeholders and I&APs for further comment, before the final submission to the Ministry of Mines and Energy and the Ministry of Environment and Tourism.

I&APs are encouraged to register in this Scoping Process using our website.

<http://eccenvironmental.com/project/marenica-energy-ltd/>

Comments must be submitted in writing and can be emailed to the following address:

[info@eccenvironmental.com](mailto:info@eccenvironmental.com)

Tel: +264 81 669 7608

Please note the EIA review period will be 14 days from the date that I&AP have been notified.

## CONTACT US

We welcome any enquiries regarding this document and its content, please contact:

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