

PROPOSED WATER SUPPLY PIPELINE TO OKANGUATI FROM OHAMAREMBA, KUNENE REGION, NAMIBIA

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) - SEPTEMBER 2017

CLIENT: POWERCONSULT CC ON BEHALF OF KUNENE REGIONAL COUNCIL

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT



PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide interested and affected parties (I&APS) with a background to the proposed water supply pipeline project and invite I&APS to register in the Scoping process of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Through registering, the I&APS will be kept informed throughout the scoping/EIA and a pathway provided to submit comments pertaining to the project.

This BID includes the following:

- Introduction
- How the EIA process works
- Public participation process and how to become involved
- What is proposed and where
- Why the project is needed and what benefits or impacts are anticipated
- Alternatives being considered
- Next steps and way forward

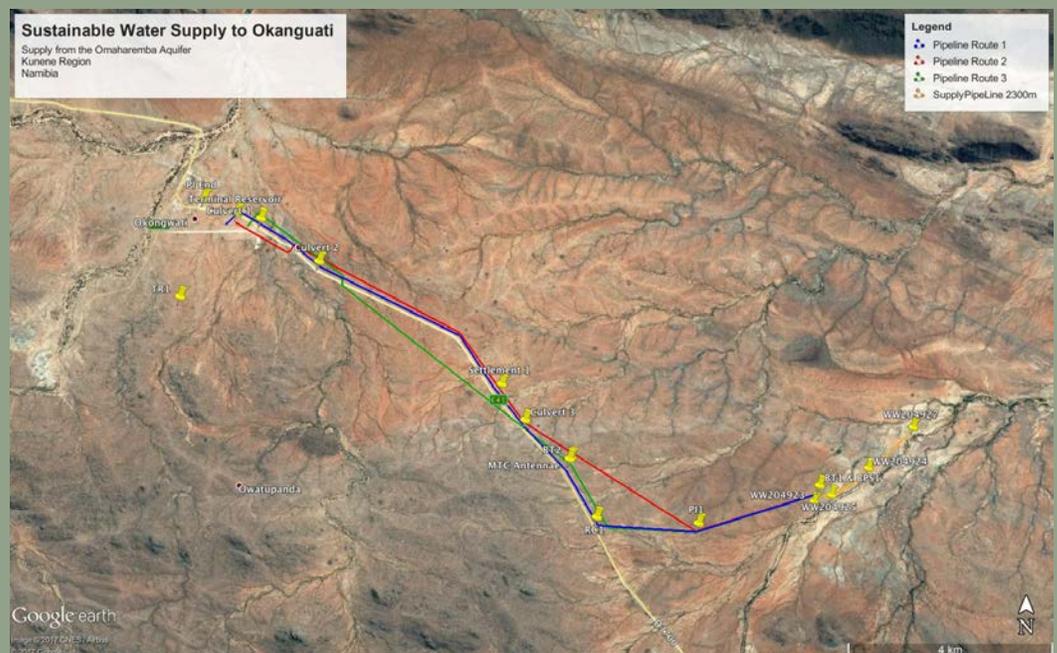
Project Introduction

Environmental Compliance Consultancy [ECC] has been engaged by Powerconsult cc on behalf of the Kunene Regional Council to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed water supply pipeline to Okanguati from the Ohamaremba aquifer.

Kunene Regional Council intends to assess and design suitable water supply solutions to Okanguati in the Kunene region of Namibia. The project will include the installation of a 15km long, 160mm diameter belowground pipeline, associated pumps, 33kV powerline and infrastructure to supply water to the Okanguati settlement from the Ohamaremba aquifer. The project will supply an estimated volume of 200-800 cubes of water per day.

The requirement for the pipeline is to address the current critical shortage of potable water available for the residents of Okanguati.

The proposed project triggers listed activities in accordance with the Environmental Management Act 2007. An application for Environmental Clearance will be submitted in the form of an Environmental Impact Assessment to the relevant competent authorities and Ministry of Environment and Tourism in accordance with the Act.



Proposed Pipeline Route

Need for the Pipeline Project

The proposed pipeline and powerline installations from the Omaharemba Aquifer to the Okanguati settlement will meet the following needs of the settlement:

- Water supply to household use in the Okanguati settlement
- Water supply to the School
- Short/medium term job opportunities to locals during construction and operational phases of the project

Scope of Work

The scope of work for the EIA includes but not limited to assessment of:

- Impacts of construction of pipeline and other structures belowground and aboveground to environment;
- Risks of powerline to endangered bird species;
- Impacts of water abstraction on ground water table;
- A hydrogeological study to be completed for pipeline and boreholes to determine aquifer boundaries and structures;
- Appropriate maintenance plan for the pipeline and powerline and their impacts;
- Strategies for implementing appropriate groundwater monitoring system;
- Any other impacts that may be found to be associated with the proposed project

What alternatives are being considered?

Alternatives being considered for the project these include:

- Geophysical survey to examine the water sources in the Ohamaremba area
- Design alternatives to reduce cost of construction and alteration of Environment
- Route design and positioning
- Below or aboveground pipeline

One key component for consideration in the undertaking of this environmental impact assessment is the process of conducting a project alternatives assessment. The alternative assessment will look at options in project siting, technologies and land uses and will be included in the EIA.

Applicant – Kunene Regional Council

Environmental Assessment Practitioner – Environmental Compliance Consultancy (ECC)

Competent Authority – Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET)
– Ministry of Agricultural Water and Forestry

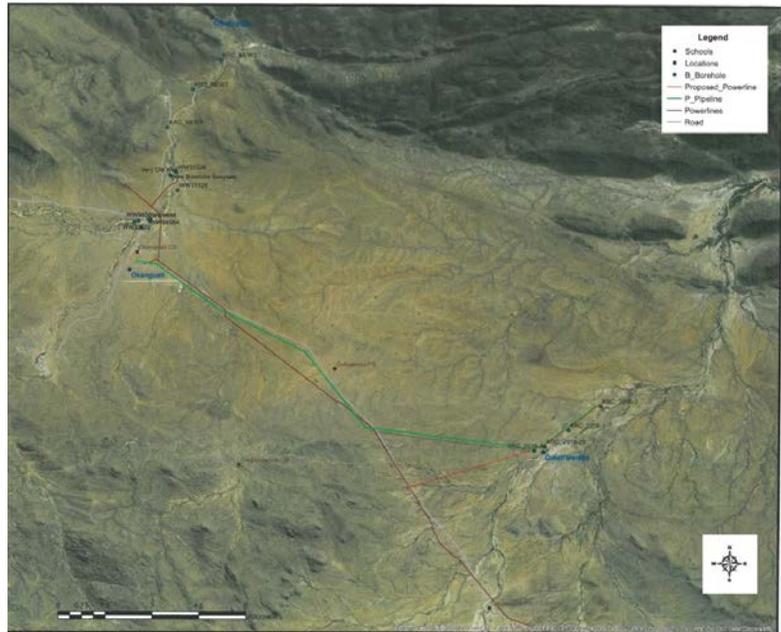


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What is Proposed?

The proposed project installation will include the following:

- Water Pipeline (P_Pipeline)
 - a) $\pm 20\text{km}$ (20 000m) long
 - b) 160mm wide in diameter
 - c) Associated water pumps
- Electricity Powerline (Proposed_Powerline)
 - a) 33kV powerline
 - b) $\pm 2.45\text{km}$ (2 450m) long
- Associated infrastructure

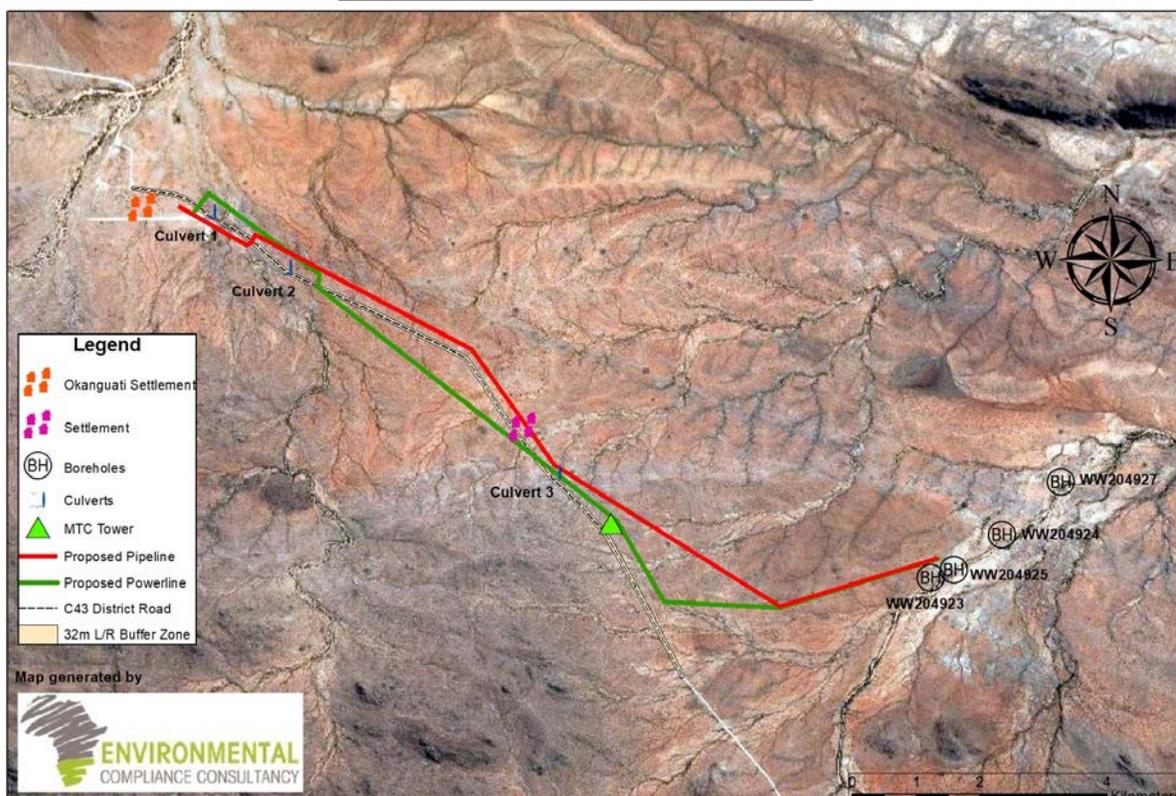


Site location

The site is located in the Epupa Constituency in the Kunene Region of Namibia. The proposed pipeline installation is to be situated adjacent to the (D3700) C43 district road that links Okanguati to Opuwo. The pipeline will be installed under certain restrictions:

- Subject to the Roads Authority, the road reserve for the district road is 60m (30m on each side from the road centerline)
- The water pipeline should be no closer than 32m, on either side, of the road centerline.

32m Left/Right Road Reserve on C43

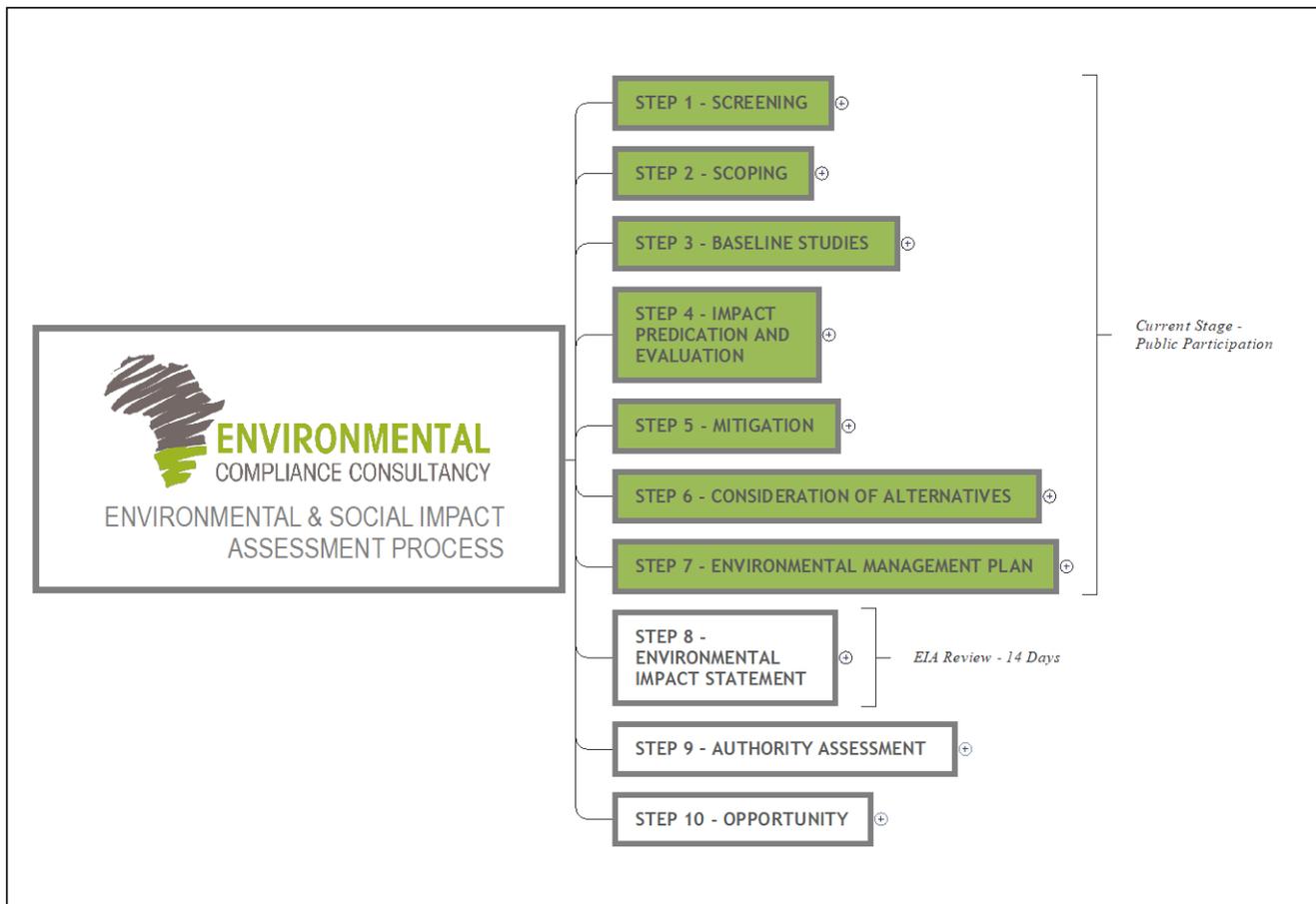


THE EIA PROCESS

The Environmental Impact Assessment process followed is in accordance with Environmental Management Act 2007. The environmental practitioner is required to conduct the environmental application process and manage the public participation process. According to the EIA process flowchart below, this project is currently at the Scoping phase and the public participation process is being conducted. 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 IAPs.
- Compile a Background Information Document (BID) for the proposed development,
- Advertise the environmental application in two newspapers, namely: 'The Namibian' and 'The Informat'.
- Place on-site notices at conspicuous places at/ near the proposed development boundary;
- Host a Public meeting to encourage stakeholder participation and engagement, and provide details of issues identified by the EAP, stakeholders and IAPs;
- Record all comments of IAPs 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 MET;
- Circulate all I&AP comments to the project team;

The commenting period for all IAPs will be 14 days from notification. The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) will be made available to all relevant stakeholders and IAPs for further comment, before the final scoping is submitted to MET and the Competent Authority. The following process flowchart illustrates the environmental process to be followed during the EIA for the proposed project.



Moving Forward...

Public Participation

HOW TO GET INVOLVED?

Public participation is an important part of the EIA process, as it allows public to obtain information about the proposed project.

Public participation occurs at various stages throughout a project lifecycle including:

- Advertising in newspapers
- Distributing this BID to identified stakeholders
- Providing access to draft scoping reports
- Registered I&APS will also be informed of the availability of the draft scoping report for a 14 day comment period, during which the period the public will have the opportunity to review the draft document and raise any issues of concerns
- Advertising the decision received from MET and affording an opportunity to I&APS to appeal the decision

At ECC we make sure all information is easily accessible to the public, follow our social media pages to be kept up to date.



https://www.facebook.com/environmentalECC/?ref=br_rs



<https://twitter.com/ECCEnvironment>



<http://eccenvironmental.com/projects/>



I&APS Next Steps

1. Register as I&AP on our website.
 - <http://eccenvironmental.com/projects/>
2. Follow ECC on Facebook and social media to keep up to date
3. Comments must be submitted in writing and can be emailed to the following address:
 - info@eccenvironmental.com
 - Tel: +264 81 626 7278
 - Please note the EIA review period will be 14 days from the date that I&AP have been notified.

Contact Us:

Environmental Compliance Consultancy Contact Details

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

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