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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

PROPOSED QUARRYING ACTIVITIES ON MINING CLAIMS 72236, 72237, 72238, 7739 AND 72240, HARDAP REGION, NAMIBIA

PREPARED FOR JOINTMEN INVESTMENTS CC

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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

PROPOSED QUARRYING ACTIVITIES ON MINING CLAIMS 72236, 72237, 72238, 72239 AND 72240 FOR DIMENSION STONES, HARDAP REGION, NAMIBIA

1 PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The purpose of this Non-Technical Summary (NTS) is to provide Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) a background to the proposed project and to invite I&APs to register as part of the Environmental Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) process.

The proposed project involves quarrying activities for dimension stones on Mining Claims (MC) 72236, 72237, 72238, 72239 and 72240 held by Jointmen Investments CC.

Through registering for the project, all I&APs will be kept informed throughout the ESIA process, and a platform for participation will be provided to submit comments / recommendations pertaining to the project.

This NTS includes the following information:

- The proposed project and location;
- The necessity of the project, potential benefits or adverse impacts anticipated;
- The alternatives to the project that have been considered and assessed;
- How the ESIA process works;
- The public participation process and how to become involved; and
- Next steps and the way forward.

2 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT

2.1 Brief Introduction

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (ECC) has been engaged by the proponent (Jointmen Investment CC) to undertake an ESIA 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, the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) and Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT).

2.2 Location

Jointmen Investments CC intends to conduct quarrying activities on five registered mining claims if awarded by MME. The claims are situated in a cluster in an area west of the Rehoboth townlands. The claims are located within the Hardap Region. The location is shown in Figure 1.

2.3 What is Proposed

Jointmen Investments CC intends to undertake quarrying activities to extract economically viable granite from the five mining claims. Granite is a type of dimension stone used mainly in the building construction industry with an established global market. The extraction, processing and sale of granite locally will assist the growth of the domestic market as well.

2.4 Why is the Project Needed

Jointmen Investments CC intends to pursue mining opportunities in Namibia with the aim of identifying new mining prospects in the Hardap Region. Namibia is rich with natural resources and the minerals sector is a key contributor to the nations GDP in Namibia.

Successful mining operations would contribute to the national and local economy.

2.5 Operation Phase

The proposed quarrying activities are high-impact and intrusive events that require stringent management measures to reduce adverse impacts during the operational phase. The following are envisaged during the proposed project:

- Vegetation removal due to localised blasting activities and opening up of the quarry site;
- Limited vegetation clearing for the possible creation of tracks, lay-down areas, workshops, storage areas, etc.,
- Construction of adhoc structures (sheds and an office block, ablution blocks, etc.) to support operations;
- Onsite cutting of granite blocks;
- Transportation of ore from site at an approximate rate of 40-60 trips per day.

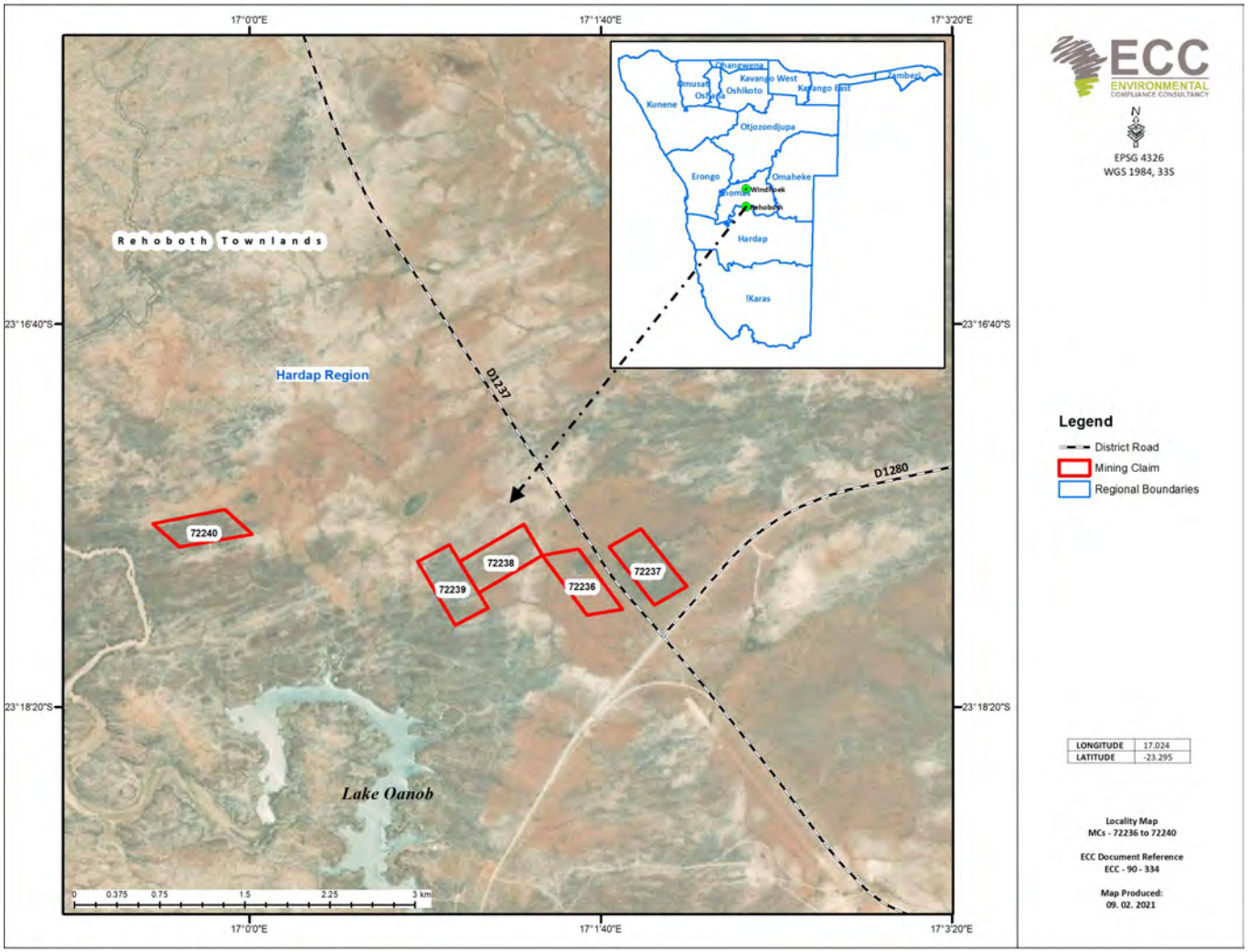

FIGURE 1 – LOCALITY MAP OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

2.6 Potential Impacts of the Project

2.6.1 Socio-economic

The potential social impacts are anticipated to be of moderate significance that may transpire beyond the site and into the local community. These potential impacts may include the following:

- Moderate disruption to the residents of the farmstead closest to Mining claim 72237, including an increase in noise levels and dust arising from quarrying and block cutting activities;
- Potential disturbance to tourists visiting the Oanob Lake Resort during business hours;
- Potential indirect disturbance to the surrounding social environment during blasting and quarrying activities;
- Potential to unearth, damage or destroy undiscovered heritage remains;
- Some jobs will be created as a result of the project; and
- There will be economic benefits due to increased investment and investor confidence in the Namibian minerals sector.

2.6.2 Environmental

The potential environmental impacts are anticipated to be of moderate significance as well, and those that may occur shall be contained within the EPL site, these potential impacts may include the following:

- Vegetation loss due to quarrying activities: The vegetation cleared for the quarry site(s)is not expected to recover;
- Potential vegetation loss due to possible tracks creation, creation of lay-down areas, site office and ablution blocks;
- Permanent modification of the surface landscape;
- Potential use of resources, including surface and groundwater; and
- Minor risk of loss of contaminant of hydrocarbons, chemical or drill fluids from mining activities potentially leading to localised ground contamination; this aspect will be controlled at all times.
- The potential for noise and dust pollution to occur.
- The potential for ground vibrations from blasting to travel along rift lines / geological fractures through the nearest town – Rehoboth.

3 CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

Best practice environmental assessment methodology calls for consideration and assessment of alternatives to a proposed project.

During the assessment, alternatives will take the form of a consideration of optimisation and efficiency to reduce potential effects e.g., different types of technology or operations, route access and quarrying methods.

4 THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

This ESIA, conducted by ECC, is undertaken in terms of the Environmental Management Act, 2007 and its regulations. The process followed in this ESIA is set out in the flowchart in Figure 2.

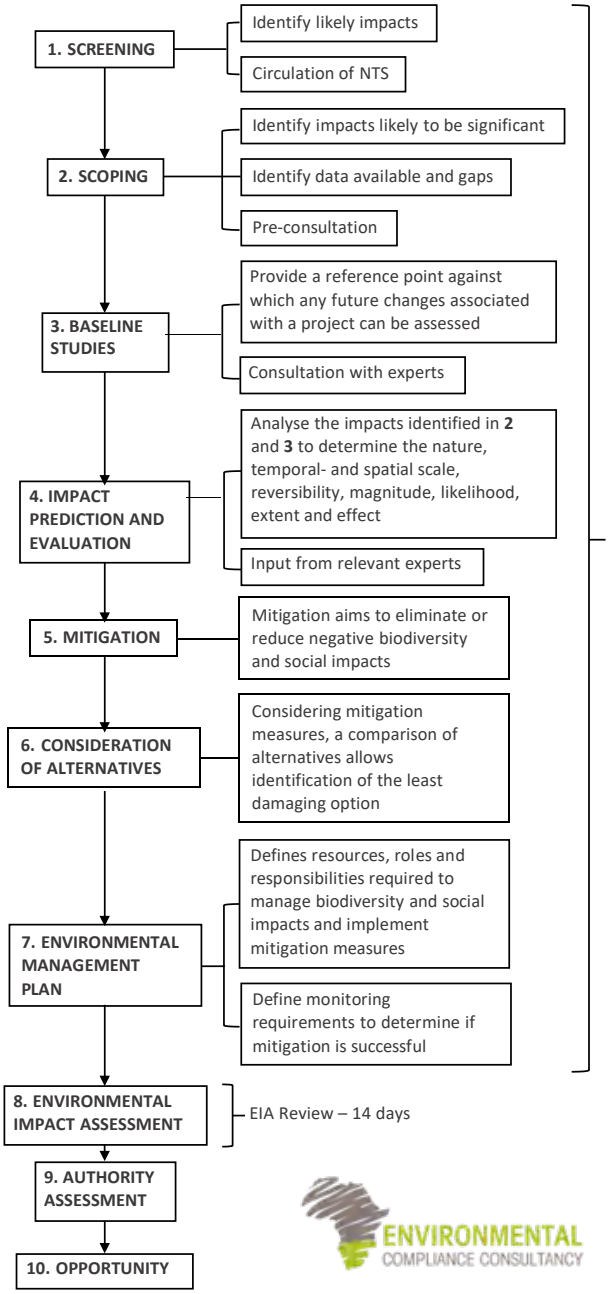

FIGURE 2 - FLOWCHART OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

4.1 SCREENING

A review of the proposed project screening findings against the listed activities was conducted; the findings of which are summarised below.

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

- Minerals (e.g., soil and sand), will be sourced out within the project's footprint / locally as far as possible

FORESTRY ACTIVITIES

(4) The clearance of forest areas, deforestation, afforestation, timber harvesting or any other related activity that requires authorisation in term of the Forest Act, 2001 (Act No. 12 of 2001) or any other law.

- Vegetation loss due to quarrying activities: The vegetation cleared for the quarry site(s) is not expected to recover; and
- Potential limited vegetation loss due to possible tracks creation, creation of lay-down areas, site office, and accommodation and ablution blocks.

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE TREATMENT, HANDLING AND STORAGE

The manufacturing, storage, handling or processing of a hazardous substance defined in the Hazardous Substance Ordinance, 19974.

- The storage and transfer of hydrocarbons on site may pose a pollution threat if a spill occurs.

WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(8.1) The abstraction of ground or surface water for industrial or commercial purposes

- Operational activities may require that ground and surface water will need to

be abstracted, or sourced. Should a borehole be drilled the relevant permit should be acquired from the MAWLR (Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform).

WASTE MANAGEMENT, TREATMENT, HANDLING AND DISPOSAL ACTIVITIES

(2.1) The construction of facilities for waste sites, treatment of waste and disposal of waste.

- Waste storage sites may be developed on site.

(2.2) Any activity entailing a scheduled process referred to in the Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Ordinance, 1976.

- Dust emissions into the receiving environment are expected to occur due to rock cutting and blasting activities as well as vehicular traffic.

The potential environmental and social effects are anticipated to be of minor significance, and those that may occur shall be contained on the EPL 7688site.

4.2 Scoping

Due to the nature of the proposed project, and the implementation of industry best practice mitigation measures during the operational phase of the project, the effects on the environment and society are expected to be reduced and localised.

4.3 Baseline Studies

For the proposed project, baseline information was obtained through a desk-based study and site verification processes through focusing on the environmental receptors that could be affected by the proposed project. ECC will also engage with stakeholders, I&APs and the proponent to seek input into the assessment.

4.4 Impact Assessment

Impacts will be assessed using the ECC ESIA methodology. The ESIA will be conducted in terms of the Environmental Management Act, 2007 and its regulations. ECC's methodology for impact assessments was developed using IFC standards in particular Performance Standard1 'Assessment and management of environmental and social risks and impacts' (IFC 2012, 2017) and Namibian Draft Procedures and Guidance for ESIA and EMP (GRN, 2008) including international and national best practice with over 25 years of combined ESIA experience.

4.5 Environmental Management Plan

An EMP shall be developed for the proposed project setting out auditable management actions for Jointmen Investments CC to ensure careful and sustainable management measures are implemented for their activities in respect of the surrounding environment and community.

4.6 Public Participation and Advertising

Public participation is an important part of the ESIA 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 process. This project is currently at the scoping phase and public participation phase.

At this phase ECC will perform the following:

- Identify key stakeholders, authorities, municipalities, environmental groups and

interested or affected members of the public, hereafter referred to as I&APs;
- Distribute the NTS for the proposed project (this document);
- Advertise the environmental application in two national newspapers;
- Place notices on-site at or near the boundary;
- 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 the comments and responses report, which will be included in the scoping report that shall submitted with the application, and
- Circulate I&AP comments to the project team for consideration of project design.

Comments must be submitted in writing and can be emailed using the details in the contact us section below.

CONTACT US

We welcome any enquiries regarding this document and its content. Please contact:

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