



Submitted to: Kuiseb Copper Company (Pty) Ltd
Attention: Dr. Branko Corner
P O Box 2055
Swakopmund, Namibia

REPORT:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT - EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES ON EPL 9013, KHOMAS AND OMAHEKE REGIONS, NAMIBIA

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ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE CONSULTANCY CONTACT DETAILS:

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



Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 91193, Klein Windhoek, Namibia
Tel: +264 81 669 7608
Email: info@eccenvironmental.com

Quality Assurance

Authors:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'KO' followed by a stylized flourish.

Kelly Ochs

Environmental Compliance Consultancy

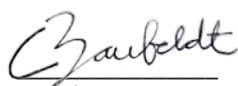
Checked By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Shinyemba'.

Samuel Shinyemba

Environmental Compliance Consultancy

Approved by Authorised Representative:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Baufeldt'.

Carlene Baufeldt

Environmental Compliance Consultancy

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd (ECC) (herein referred to as the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP)), has been engaged by Kuiseb Copper Company (Pty) Ltd (KCC or Proponent) to conduct a scoping plus impact assessment for the exploration activities for base and rare metals, and precious metals on exclusive prospecting licence (EPL) 9013, within the Khomas and Omaheke Regions, Namibia.

In line with the requirements of the Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007 (EMA) and associated 2012 Regulations, the Proponent must obtain an environmental clearance certificate before commencing with exploration activities. The application will be submitted to the mining commissioner (MC) as the competent authority of the Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy (MIME) and reviewed by the environmental commissioner (EC) of the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) for a record of decision (RoD).

The environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) process includes:

- Screening of listed activities under the EMA, such as mineral extraction, limited vegetation clearing, waste generation and possible groundwater abstraction for drilling;
- Scoping plus impact assessment, define the baseline and identify potential environmental and social receptors, supported by field and desktop assessments;
- Stakeholder engagement, including notification to authorities, adjacent landowners, potential interested and affected parties (I&APs) and the public through direct communication and newspaper adverts; and
- Development of a combined scoping plus impact assessment with an environmental and social management plan (ESMP) to ensure responsible management of identified impacts.

Potential impacts include:

- Socio-economic environment:
 - Employment creation;
 - Visual impacts;
 - Noise impacts;
 - Air quality impacts;
 - Impacts on heritage and cultural artifacts; and
 - Occupational health and safety.
- Biophysical environment:
 - Water use, contamination and management;
 - Waste generation and management;
 - Biodiversity impacts (flora and fauna); and
 - Soil impacts.

The impacts are anticipated to be low in significance and will be readily mitigable through adherence to the ESMP.

Public participation is a key part of the ESIA process, therefore, I&APs are invited to register and submit comments on the Project by 17 April 2026. This will ensure stakeholder inputs are considered and integrated into the Project and the ESIA process.

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ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Description
%	percentage
ECC	Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd
BID	background information document
Co	cobalt
CoW	City of Windhoek
Cu	copper
DD	diamond drilling
DEAF	Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry
DWA	Department of Water Affairs
E	east
EAP	environmental assessment practitioner
EC	environmental commissioner
ECC	Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd
EMA	Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007
EPL	exclusive prospecting licence
ESIA	environmental and social impact assessment
ESMP	environmental and social management plan
GDP	gross domestic product
GN	government notice
I&APs	interested and affected parties
km	kilometre
KCC	Kuiseb Copper Company (Pty) Ltd
KRC	Khomas Regional Council
Ltd	limited
Li	lithium
MAFWLR	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform
MC	mining commissioner
MEFT	Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism
MIME	Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy
OMR	Omaheke Regional Council
Pty	proprietary
RAB	rotary air blast drilling
RC	reverse circulation
RoD	record of decision
SW	southwest
WVC	Witvlei Village Council

1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

1.1 PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (Pty) Ltd (ECC) (herein referred to as the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP)), has been engaged by Kuiseb Copper Company (Pty) Ltd (KCC or Proponent) to conduct an environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) process for the exploration activities for base and rare metals and precious metals on exclusive prospecting licence (EPL) 9013 (the Project), within the Khomas and Omaheke Regions, Namibia.

In terms of the Environmental Management Act No. 7 of 2007 (EMA) and its associated 2012 Regulations, an environmental clearance certificate application is being compiled for the Project and will be submitted to the mining commissioner (MC) as the competent authority at the Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy (MIME). The application will then be forwarded to the environmental commissioner (EC) at the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT) for review and a record of decision (RoD) regarding the proposed Project.

The purpose of this background information document (BID) is to provide stakeholders and interested and affected parties (I&APs) with an overview of the proposed Project and the ESIA steps/process. In addition, an invitation is extended to all stakeholders and I&APs to register for the Project to ensure continued engagement throughout the ESIA process.

Registration provides a platform for participants to submit comments, concerns or recommendations regarding the proposed Project. This BID includes the following information:

- Description of the proposed Project and location;
- The necessity of the Project, benefits or significant adverse impacts anticipated;
- The alternatives considered within the Project to reduce any adverse impacts or enhance any potential benefits that will be considered and assessed;
- Description of how the ESIA and environmental clearance certificate application process works;
- Description of the public participation process and how to get involved; and
- Next steps and the way forward.

1.2 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

MIME issued the Proponent a notice of preparedness to grant on 08 October 2025 for base and rare metals and precious metals on EPL 9013.

The exploration schedule (3 years) involves *inter alia*:

- Desktop interpretation of aeromagnetic and radiometric data;

- Possible acquisition of heli-borne electromagnetic data, and interpretation thereof;
- Desktop compilation of all past historical exploration data;
- Ground follow-up including geological mapping for control of the interpretation;
- Geochemistry comprising soil sampling;
- Shallow drilling (e.g. rotary air blast drilling (RAB) or reverse circulation (RC)) traversing interpreted high priority areas;
- Diamond core-drilling (DD) in identified target areas; and
- Integrated evaluation of all datasets.

EPL 9013 is located approximately 55 km southwest (SW) of Witvlei and approximately 125 km east (E) of Windhoek. The EPL can be accessed via the B6 road, as shown in Figure 1.

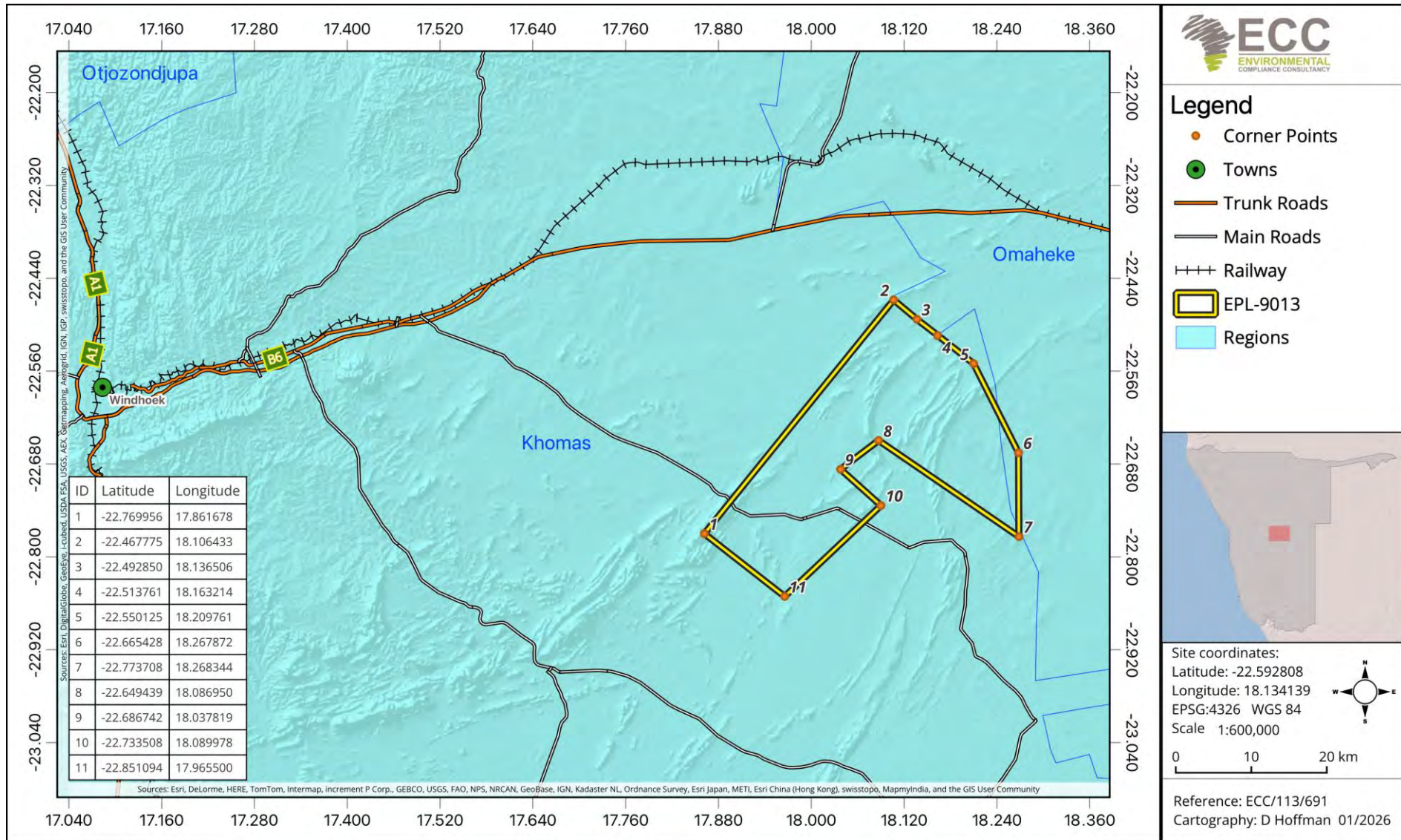


Figure 1 - Location of EPL 9013, Khomas and Omaheke Regions, Namibia

1.3 NEED FOR THE PROJECT

Exploration activities for base, rare and precious metals are critically important to Namibia's long-term economic sustainability and resource security. The mining sector remains one of the country's key contributors to gross domestic product (GDP), export earnings and government revenue and continued exploration ensures that mineral reserves are replenished as existing mines mature or become depleted (Chamber of Mines of Namibia, 2023). Through exclusive prospecting licence (EPL) fees, environmental clearance processes and associated professional services, exploration already contributes to the economy even before a mine is developed. If economically viable deposits are discovered, projects can transition into long-term operations that generate royalties, corporate taxes, employment and foreign direct investment, thereby strengthening national fiscal stability (Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME), 2022).

In addition, Namibia's exploration for base and rare metals such as copper (Cu), lithium (Li), cobalt (Co) and rare earth elements positions the country strategically within the global energy transition. These minerals are essential for renewable energy technologies, battery storage systems, electric vehicles and modern electrical infrastructure (International Energy Agency, 2023). By investing in exploration, Namibia enhances its potential to supply critical minerals to international markets, while diversifying beyond its traditional diamond and uranium sectors. Exploration activities also stimulate regional development, particularly in rural areas, through employment creation, local procurement, infrastructure improvements and skills transfer. Exploration supports Namibia's broader development objectives under Vision 2030 and national industrialisation goals while ensuring the long-term sustainability of the mining sector (National Planning Commission, 2021).

1.4 EXPLORATION PHASE

All proposed exploration activities will be undertaken within the boundaries of EPL 9013 on selected target areas. Note that this EPL forms an integral part of a larger exploration area, adjoining in the east (E), with licences currently held by Kuseb Copper Company (Pty) Ltd.

The following exploration activities are envisaged during the initial tenure period of the EPL (3 years). Prior to expiry, the tenure period can be renewed for two (2) additional periods of (2) years each, should results prove positive/promising:

- Desktop interpretation of aeromagnetic and radiometric data;
- Possible acquisition of heli-borne electromagnetic data and interpretation thereof;
- Desktop compilation of all past historical exploration data;
- Ground follow-up including geological mapping for control of the interpretation;
- Geochemistry comprising soil sampling;
- Shallow drilling (e.g. RAB or RC) traversing interpreted high priority areas;
- Diamond core-drilling in identified target areas; and
- Integrated evaluation of all datasets.

2 CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

Best practice in environmental assessment methodology requires the identification and evaluation of feasible alternatives to a proposed Project. However, for a project of this nature, it is challenging to identify viable alternatives that would be feasible and meet the same project objectives.

However, during the ESIA assessment, the following alternatives may arise for consideration of optimisation and using eco-friendly solutions to reduce potential impacts. These could include:

- Different exploration techniques e.g., type of drilling method, soil sampling methods;
- Different types of technology e.g., using modern, low impact equipment such as dust suppression and fuel-efficient machines;
- Different target zone types e.g. different commodities.

3 THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

As previously stated, the scoping plus impact assessment for the proposed Project will be undertaken in terms of the EMA and its 2012 Regulations. The process followed for this scoping plus impact assessment set out in the flowchart in Figure 2 and includes:

1. Screening phase (completed); and
2. Scoping plus impact assessment phase which includes the following:
 - Project overview and description.
 - Biophysical and social baseline studies (desktop studies and field-based heritage assessment).
 - Impact methodology and assessment, including mitigation measures and developing monitoring and conceptual rehabilitation plans.
 - This phase culminates in the drafting of the scoping plus impact assessment and the environmental and social management plan (ESMP) and submission to MIME as the competent authority and MEFT to make a RoD.

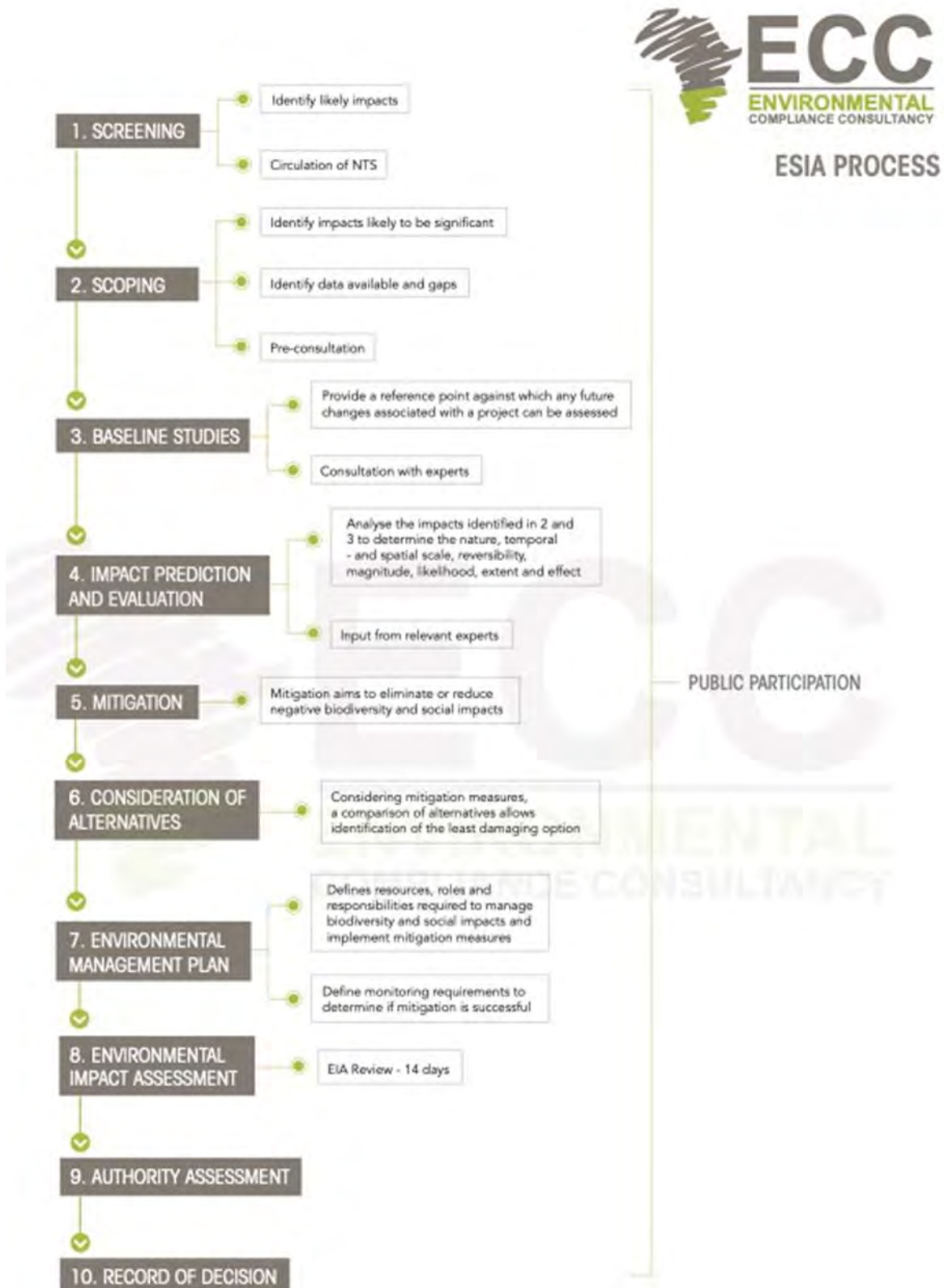


Figure 2 - Flowchart of the ESIA process

3.1 SCREENING

A review of the planned Project was undertaken and the screening findings against the listed activities were identified. The findings are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1 – Listed activities potentially triggered by the Project

Source: Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007, and its 2012 Regulations

Listed activity	As defined by the Regulations of Act	Relevance to the Project
Waste management, treatment, handling and disposal activities	2.3 The importing, processing, use and recycling, temporary storage, transit, or exporting, of waste.	– Waste generated during exploration activities will mainly comprise general and hazardous waste, which will be collected in skips and disposed of offsite at the Kupferberg Waste Disposal Site in Windhoek. – Portable or chemical toilets will be used during field exploration activities. Domestic effluent will be removed by a registered service provider and disposed of off-site to a licenced municipal wastewater treatment facility.
Mining and quarrying activities	3.1 The construction of facilities for any process or activities that require 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.	– Exploration activities are listed activities in the Environmental Management Act, No. 7 of 2007 (EMA) and the Regulations of 2012. Environmental clearance is required from the DEAF prior to the commencement of the exploration program. – Base and rare metals and precious metals will be explored within EPL 9013. – The Proponent will undertake rock chip sampling, shallow RAB, RC drilling and DD, if results permit.

Listed activity	As defined by the Regulations of Act	Relevance to the Project
	3.3 Resource extraction, manipulation, conservation and related activities.	
Forestry activities	4. The clearance of forest areas, deforestation, afforestation, timber harvesting or any other related activity that requires authorisation in terms of the Forest Act, 2001 (No. 12 of 2001) or any other law.	Limited vegetation clearing may be required for tracks and drilling access. Protected plant species will be preserved and tracks will be rehabilitated.
Water resource developments	(8.1) The abstraction of ground or surface water for industrial or commercial purposes.	During exploration, groundwater may need to be abstracted from nearby boreholes. A licence to abstract and use water will be obtained from the Department of Water Affairs (DWA) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform (MAFWLR), in liaison with farmer owners.
Hazardous substance treatment, handling and storage	(9.1) The manufacturing, storage, handling or processing of a hazardous substance as defined in the Hazardous Substances Ordinance, 1974.	- Portable or chemical toilets will be used during exploration activities. - Potential refuelling on site using a fuel bowser and/or jerry cans. - Potential release of fuels, oils and lubricants during exploration activities from drill rigs, fuel bowser/jerry cans and support fleet and associated hydrocarbon and hazardous waste.

3.2 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

A notice must be provided to the public and key stakeholders to inform them about the Project and to invite them to register as I&APs. ECC's stakeholder engagement process follows the outlined procedure as per Section 21 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (GN 30 of 2012), which is summarised as follows:

- Written notice is given to all identified stakeholders, I&APs, the landowners and adjacent communities to the site where the activity is being undertaken or to any alternative site. For this Project that includes:
 - o The relevant farm owners (landowners);
 - o The general public with an interest in the Project;
 - o MEFT, MIME and MAFWLR;
 - o Khomas Regional Council (KRC);
 - o City of Windhoek (CoW);
 - o Omaheke Regional Council (ORC);
 - o Witvlei Village Council (WVC); and
 - o Namibia National Farmers Union (NNFU).
- Site notices will be erected on the boundary of EPL 9013 (coordinates will be provided in the scoping plus impact assessment report);
- Adverts published in the newspapers (Republikein, Namibian Sun and the Allgemeine Zeitung) for two (2) consecutive weeks;
- An I&AP register will be maintained for the duration of the assessment and I&APs are allowed to register and submit comments until the final ESIA and ESMP are submitted to MIME and MEFT for a RoD; and
- The registered I&APs, local authorities and government offices are given seven (7) days to review the draft scoping plus impact assessment report and the draft ESMP before it is finalised to be submitted to the competent authority and MEFT for a RoD.

3.2.1 SCOPING PLUS IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

As determined during the screening phase, a scoping plus impact assessment report will be compiled and submitted for this scale of Project as the Project activities are deemed non- or minimally invasive. Furthermore, the potential impacts can generally be mitigated or effectively managed. Therefore, a standalone ESIA with multiple detailed specialist studies is not required.

The potential social, economic and biophysical impacts to be considered with due regard to the nature and scale of the proposed operations, its location within the broader ecological, commercial and social environments that have been anticipated may include the following:

Socio-economic environment:

- Employment creation;
- Visual impacts;
- Noise impacts;
- Air quality impacts;
- Impacts on heritage and cultural artifacts; and
- Occupational health and safety.

Biophysical environment:

- Water use, contamination and management;
- Waste generation and management;
- Biodiversity impacts (flora and fauna); and
- Soil impacts.

3.2.2 DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (ESMP)

An ESMP shall be developed for the proposed Project setting out auditable management actions for the Project to ensure careful and sustainable management measures are implemented for their activities in respect of the surrounding environment and community. The ESMP becomes legally binding upon approval and issuing of the environmental clearance certificate.

Environmental clearance certificates are issued for a period of three (3) years, and renewal is subject to compliance with the provisions and conditions of the environmental clearance certificate. Further to this, the EPL will only be officially granted by MIME on receipt of the approved ESMP and environmental clearance certificate.

4 THE WAY FORWARD – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation is an important part of the ESIA process. It allows you, the public and stakeholders to raise concerns or provide valuable local environmental knowledge that can benefit the assessment process as well as aid the planning process for the scoping phase and impact assessment process. At this phase ECC will perform the following:

- Identify relevant key stakeholders, authorities, municipalities, environmental groups and I&APs;
- Conduct a public consultation process in accordance with Regulation 21 of the EMA 2007 as outlined in Section 3.2; and
- Prepare the draft scoping plus impact assessment report for public and stakeholder review for seven (7) days.

Your request for registration as an I&AP as well as any comments on the BID or Project must be submitted in writing and can be emailed using the details in the contact us section below. Registration as an I&AP for the Project can be completed online on ECCs website on the Projects page, or by using this link: <https://eccenvironmental.com/projects/>

Registration as an I&AP should be submitted on or before **17 April 2026**.

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

Environmental Compliance Consultancy (ECC)

info@eccenvironmental.com

Tel: +264 816 697 608

www.eccenvironmental.com

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