

**ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OIL AND GAS SHORE-
BASE EQUIPMENT STORAGE AND INSPECTION FACILITY ON A PORTION OF
ERF 598 IN NAUTILUS EXTENSION 1, LÜDERITZ**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT



Prepared by:



Prepared for:



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1 INTRODUCTION

Namibia is experiencing significant growth in offshore oil and gas exploration activities. These activities require supporting shore-base infrastructure for the storage, inspection, testing and maintenance of specialised equipment, as well as the storage and handling of various chemicals and products. Logistics Support Services (Pty) Ltd (the Proponent) therefore proposes to develop a property to provide these services to oil and gas operators and service providers in Lüderitz.

Geo Pollution Technologies (Pty) Ltd (GPT) was appointed by the Proponent to undertake an environmental assessment for the proposed development and operation of what they refer to as Yard 4, on a 40,000 m² portion of Erf 598, Nautilus, Lüderitz, //Kharas Region (Figure 1). The site currently comprises a largely undeveloped open yard, with portions prepared as working platforms. The proposed development will include equipment-storage areas, a warehouse, workshop, pressure-test bay, washing bay and dedicated chemical-storage facility.

The Proponent requested that an application for an environmental clearance certificate (ECC) for the proposed construction and operational activities on the property be lodged with the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT). The ECC application will be made in terms of the Environmental Management Act, Act No. 7 of 2007 (EMA). A scoping environmental impact assessment (EIA) report and an environmental management plan (EMP) will be submitted to the MEFT's Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) in support of an application for an ECC. The environmental assessment will include all potential construction (including future minor upgrades and maintenance) and operational activities associated with the planned project.

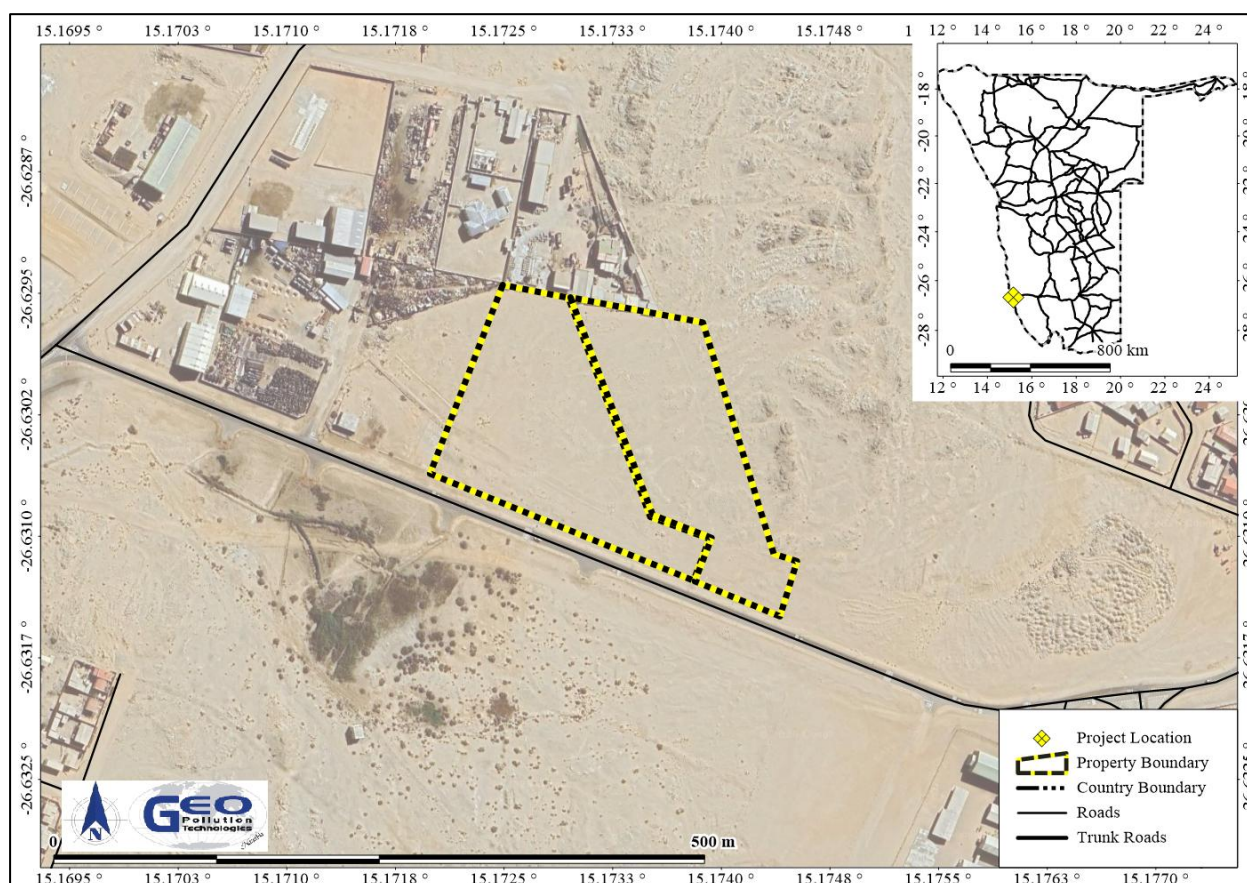


Figure 1-1 Project location

2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Activities which are considered for the environmental assessment are divided into the following phases: planning, construction (including continued maintenance), operational and decommissioning phases. A brief outline of expected activities for each phase is detailed below.

2.1 PLANNING PHASE

While planning for construction, operations, and decommissioning of the warehouses, it is the responsibility of the Proponent to ensure they are, and remain, compliant with all legal requirements. The Proponent must also ensure that all required management measures are in place prior to, and during all phases, to ensure potential impacts and risk are minimised. Typical planning activities include:

- ◆ Obtain permits and approvals from local and national authorities.
- ◆ Ensure compliance to land use rights.
- ◆ Appoint a health, safety and environmental coordinator, or similar, to implement the EMP.
- ◆ Provide for a fund to cater for environmental incidents such as pollution clean-up and ecological restoration if ever required.
- ◆ Ensure all appointed contractors and employees enter into agreements which includes the EMP.
- ◆ Establish and / or maintain a reporting system to report on aspects of construction, operations and decommissioning as outlined in the EMP and as required by the DEA.

2.2 INFRASTRUCTURE AND CONSTRUCTION

Yard 4 will be developed on a 40,000 m² portion of Erf 598. The proposed infrastructure will include an approximately 4,000 m² warehouse, a 700 m² workshop, a 75 m² pressure-test bay, a 60 m² washing bay, a 200 m² chemical-storage facility, offices, ablutions and associated equipment- and material-storage areas.

The chemical-storage facility will include impermeable surfaces, secondary containment and a collection pit to contain liquids in the event of a spill. Separate compartments will be provided to segregate incompatible chemicals. Appropriate ventilation, fire detection and suppression equipment, emergency eyewash and shower facilities, security measures and safety signage will also be provided.

The washing bay will be equipped with a contained wastewater-collection system and oil separator. Provision will be made to reuse collected water where practicable to reduce water consumption. Construction will also include foundations, access points, stormwater controls, service connections and other supporting infrastructure required for the operation of the facility.

2.3 OPERATIONAL PHASE

Yard 4 will be used by oil and gas service providers for the receipt, storage, inspection, testing, washing, maintenance and dispatch of equipment and materials. Equipment will be stored within designated areas and handled using appropriate lifting and material-handling equipment. Maintenance and assembly activities will take place within the workshop.

Hydrostatic, hydraulic and gas pressure testing will be undertaken within the dedicated pressure-test bay. The system will be operated remotely from outside the test area and will include emergency shutdown controls, pressure-relief systems, warning lights and access-control measures.

Various liquid and solid chemicals may be stored within the dedicated chemical-storage facility. These may include acids, oxidisers, solvents, biocides, corrosion inhibitors, gelling agents, lubricants and similar products used in oil and gas operations. The anticipated chemical list is indicative and additional products may be stored where required. Chemicals will generally be received in sealed intermediate bulk containers, drums, cans, bags or buckets.

All chemicals will be stored and handled in accordance with their safety data sheets, compatibility requirements and applicable legal provisions. Incompatible chemicals will be segregated, containers

will remain closed when not in use, and spill-containment measures will be maintained. Personnel responsible for chemical handling and pressure testing will receive appropriate training.

Equipment washing will take place within the contained washing bay. Wastewater will be collected and passed through an oil separator before being reused where suitable or disposed of through an approved method. Administrative activities, site security, housekeeping, environmental monitoring, inventory control and public liaison will continue throughout operations.

2.4 DECOMMISSIONING PHASE

Decommissioning of the warehouses and support infrastructure is not foreseen during the validity of the ECC. Decommissioning will however be assessed, since activities like the removal of old infrastructure during construction and maintenance activities or upgrades form part of decommissioning. Where decommissioning occurs, rehabilitation of the area may be required. Decommissioning will entail partial or complete removal of all infrastructure, including buildings and underground infrastructure. After decommissioning, any pollution present on the site must be removed or remediated.

2.5 PRELIMINARY IDENTIFIED IMPACTS

During the preparation of the EMP, all components of the environment will be considered. However, only those components which are, or may be, significantly impacted, or are deemed to be sensitive, will be assessed. These include the following:

- ◆ Human component (employee and visitor health and safety).
- ◆ Infrastructure (aesthetics, fire, integrity, etc.).
- ◆ Neighbours (dust, noise, aesthetics, waste, traffic).
- ◆ Groundwater, surface water and soil (ore dust, hydrocarbon spills, effluent generation and disposal, waste, pollutants).
- ◆ Ecosystem and biodiversity (dust, pollutants).
- ◆ Social and cultural aspects (demographic processes, sense of place, community services etc.).
- ◆ Economic characteristics (revenue generation, employment, training, skills, revenue).

3 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Geo Pollution Technologies invites all IAPs to provide in writing, any issues and suggestions regarding the project. This correspondence must include:

- ◆ Name and surname
- ◆ Organization represented or private interest
- ◆ Position in the organization
- ◆ Contact details
- ◆ Any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which you may have in the approval or refusal of the application

All contributions by IAPs become public knowledge and will be circulated along with the reports as per the EMA requirements. The comments, inputs and suggestions will also be submitted to the DEA along with how any issues have been addressed in the EIA. The public participation process will remain ongoing during the environmental assessment. However, all comments and concerns should be provided timeously to ensure incorporation into the final report. The deadline for submission of comments will be communicated to all registered IAPs.

For any additional information the project team may be contacted at:



Your Rights as an IAP according to the Environmental Management Act, No7 of 2007, Government Notice No 30 (Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations)

Section 23.

- (1) A registered interested or affected party is entitled to comment in writing, on all written submissions made to the Environmental Commissioner by the applicant responsible for the application, and to bring to the attention of the Environmental Commissioner any issues which that party, believes may be of significance to the consideration of the application, as long as -*
 - (a) comments are submitted within 7 days of notification of an application or receiving access to a scoping report or an assessment report;*
 - (b) the interested and affected party discloses any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which that party may have in the approval or refusal of the application.*
- (2) Before the applicant submits a report compiled in terms of these regulations to the Environmental Commissioner, the applicant must give registered interested and affected parties access to, and an opportunity to comment in writing on the report.*
- (3) Reports referred to in sub regulation (2) include*
 - (a) scoping reports;*
 - (b) scoping reports amended and resubmitted;*
 - (c) assessment reports; and*
 - (d) assessment reports amended and resubmitted.*
- (4) Any written comments received by the applicant from a registered interested or affected party must accompany the report when the report is submitted to the Environmental Commissioner.*
- (5) A registered interested or affected party may comment on any final report that is submitted by a specialist reviewer for the purposes of these regulations where the report contains substantive information which has not previously been made available to a registered interested or affected party.*

Section 24:

The applicant responsible for an application must ensure that the comments of interested and affected parties are recorded in reports submitted to the Environmental Commissioner in terms of these regulations, and comments by interested and affected parties on a report which is to be submitted to the Environmental Commissioner may be attached to the report without recording those comments in the report itself.