

20 April 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DESALINATION PLANT AND WATER CARRIAGE SYSTEM TO SECURE WATER SUPPLY TO THE CENTRAL COAST, WINDHOEK AND EN-ROUTE USERS (REF: APP-00687)

The Namibia Water Corporation Limited (NamWater), as the national water utility of Namibia, has been assigned as the Project Executing Agency, to undertake a Feasibility Study for the proposed development of the Desalination Plant and Water Carriage System to secure water supply to the Central Coast, Windhoek and En-route Users. The primary objectives of the Feasibility Study is to establish feasible and affordable comprehensive water supply options and concepts that would secure and diversify the sources of Namibia's water supply. This will consider expanding the conventional water resources. or a climate-independent supply of water (desalination) or a combination thereof and thus contribute to increased resilience in the project area up to the year 2050.

The proposed Desalination Plant and Water Carriage System project will consist of three key components:

- A desalination plant on the central coast of Namibia to supply; i) the Central Coast only or ii) the Central Coast, Windhoek and En-route Users;
- A water transmission pipeline system: i) connecting to existing NamWater Coastal areas' infrastructure; ii) between the coast and central Namibia (i.e. Windhoek); with support infrastructure, including amongst others, water reservoirs, booster pump stations along the pipeline route; and
- Hybrid of existing grid and Solar photovoltaic (PV) power supply plants and infrastructure to supply electricity to the desalination plant and the base and booster pump stations.

The Environmental Management Act, 2007 (Act No. 7 of 2007) ("EMA") and associated EIA Regulations sets out that, activities listed in terms of the Act that may not be undertaken without undertaking an EIA and obtaining an Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) from the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT). Several of these activities would be triggered by the proposed Project and as a result, NamWater has made application to the Ministry of Agriculture Water and Land Reform (MAWLR), as the Competent Authority, for listed activities relating to the to the proposed Project.

SLR Environmental Consulting (Namibia) Pty Ltd and The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research have been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioners to undertake the Scoping Phase of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment.



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In this regard, the Draft Scoping Report for the proposed Project is now available for public review. This document outlines the steps undertaken to date, including public participation; gives detail on the proposed Project activities; provides a description of the affected environment and identifies the issues of concern that need to be further investigated in order to undertake the impact assessment.

The Draft Scoping Report has been distributed for a 21-day comment period from **21 April to 21 May 2021** in order to provide Interested and Affected Parties with an opportunity to comment on any aspect of the proposed Project and the findings of the scoping process to date. Copies of the full report are available on the SLR website (at <https://slrconsulting.com/za/slr-documents/>) or the data free website or the data-free website (at <https://slrpublicdocs.datafree.co/public-documents/>).

Hard copies of the Draft Scoping Report are also available the following locations:

- Swakopmund Community Library
- Usakos Town Council
- Municipality Walvisbaai Library
- Hentiesbay Community Library
- Karibib Community Library
- Okahandja Community Library
- Omaruru Community Library
- Arandis Town Council
- Windhoek Public Library
- Namibian Scientific Society

Electronic copies (compact disk) of the report are available from SLR, at the contact details provided below.

Kindly send your comments to SLR at the address, telephone/fax numbers or e-mail address shown below by no later than **21 May 2021** for them to be included in the Final Scoping Report.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned should you have any queries in this regard.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rmogotshi', is written over a horizontal line.

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