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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT

PROPOSED BLOCK 3B/4B EXPLORATION EIA





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Abbreviation List

EA	Environmental Authorisation
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIMS	Environmental Impact Management Services (Pty) Ltd
EMPr	Environmental Management Programme
I&AP	Interested and Affected Party
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act
PASA	Petroleum Agency of South Africa
PPP	Public Participation Process
PPR	Public Participation Report



1 INTRODUCTION

Africa Oil SA Corp, Ricocure (Pty) Ltd and Azinam Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary of Eco Atlantic) (the Joint Venture Partners of the Block 3B/4B Exploration Right - hereafter jointly referred to as the Applicants) have appointed Environmental Impact Management Services (Pty) Ltd (EIMS) as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to assist with undertaking the required authorisation processes (including the statutory public participation), and to compile and submit the required documentation in support of application for:

- Environmental Authorisation (EA) in accordance with the NEMA- Listed activity 18 (GNR 984)

The Applicants are the holders of an existing Exploration Right for Block 3B/4B in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (No. 28 of 2002 – MPRDA), as amended. The licence block covers an area of approximately 11 100 km², and is situated between latitudes 31°S and 33°S on the continental shelf in water depths ranging from 200 m to 2 000 m.

Block 3B/4B is located approximately 120 km west of St Helena Bay and approximately 145 km south-west of Hondeklip Bay off the West Coast of South Africa. The area of primary interest is in the north of this block, but this could also cover other areas in future. As part of the process of applying for the Exploration Right, the applicant undertook and completed the reprocessing project covering 2 000 km², which is a subset of the 10 000 km² BHP/Shell 3D seismic datasets, focussed primarily on the most northern portion of Block 3B/4B. Based on analysis of the reprocessed 3D dataset, the JV Partners are now proposing to drill an exploration well in the area of primary interest in order to fully appraise the hydrocarbon potential of the geological structure or “prospect”. In the event that the well is successful, it is envisaged that up to four additional wells could be drilled.

2 OBJECTIVES OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

South Africa, being one of the countries with the most progressive constitutions, enshrined the public’s right to be involved in decisions that may affect them in its Constitution. Section 57(1) of the new Constitution that provides: *“The National Assembly may (b) make rules and orders concerning its business, with due regard to representative and participatory democracy, accountability, transparency and public involvement”*. This provision, along with several others gave rise to many new trends in South African legislation. In environmental legislation, the idea of public participation (or stakeholder engagement) features strongly and especially the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, NEMA) and the recent regulations passed under the auspices of this Act makes very strict provisions for public participation in environmental decision-making.

Public participation can be defined as...*“a process leading to a joint effort by stakeholders, technical specialists, the authorities and the proponent who work together to produce better decisions than if they had acted independently”*¹. From this definition, it can be seen that the input of the public is regarded as very important indeed.

The Public Participation Process (PPP) is designed to provide sufficient and accessible information to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) in an objective manner to assist them to:

- During the Scoping and EIA Process:
 - Contribute relevant local information and knowledge to the environmental assessment; Verify that their comments have been recorded;
 - Comment on the findings of the environmental assessments; and
 - Provide relevant local information and knowledge to the environmental assessment.

The PPP is a requirement of several pieces of South African Legislation and aims to ensure that all relevant I&APs are consulted, involved and their opinions are taken into account and a record included in the reports submitted to Authorities. The process ensures that all stakeholders are provided this opportunity as part of a transparent

¹ Greyling, T. (1999) Towards Managing Environmental Disputes: Appropriate Public Participation. Prepared for Conference on Environmental Dispute Resolution 10-11 June 1998, Fourways, Gauteng, Manyaka Greyling Meiring (Pty) Ltd, South Africa



process which allows for a robust and comprehensive environmental study. The PPP for the necessary authorisation required for the proposed Block 3B/4B Exploration Project needs to be managed sensitively and according to best practises in order to ensure and promote:

- Compliance with international best practice options;
- Compliance with national legislation;
- Establishment and management of relationships with key stakeholder groups and
- Encouragement of involvement and participation in the environmental study and authorisation/approval process.

As such, the purpose of the PPP and stakeholder engagement process is to:

- Introduce the proposed project and process for the authorisation project;
- Explain the environmental authorisation;
- Determine and record issues, concerns, suggestions, and objections to the project;
- Provide opportunity for input and gathering of local knowledge;
- Establish and formalise lines of communication between the I&APs and the project team;
- Identify all significant issues for the project; and
- Identify possible mitigation measures or environmental management plans to minimise and/or prevent negative environmental impacts and maximise and/or promote positive environmental impacts associated with the project.

This Public Participation Report (PPR) lists all verbal and written issues raised by I&APs and stakeholders from the 30-day initial notification and call to register period from the 12 June 2023 to date. A breakdown of the PPP is given within the remaining sections of this PPR.

3 LEGAL COMPLIANCE

The PPP must comply with all environmental legislation that requires public participation as part of an application for authorisation or approval; namely:

- NEMA

Adherence to the requirements of the above-mentioned Acts will allow for an Integrated PPP to be conducted, and in so doing, satisfy the requirement for public participation referenced in the Acts. The details of the Integrated PPP are provided below.

4 IDENTIFICATION OF INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

An initial I&AP database has been compiled from historic projects in the area, desktop based I&AP identification and newspaper advertisements to obtain the contact details of the potentially affected I&APs. The I&APs referred to in the PPR include:

- Pre-identified and registered key stakeholders;
- Regulatory authorities;
- Specialist interest groups; and
- All I&APs who responded to the initial notifications and requested to be registered.



Efforts to pre-identify key I&APs involved various avenues such as consultation with the proponent and government departments, review of related previously conducted studies, and identification of key interest groups and authorities within the vicinity of the study area and municipality. Refer Appendix 1 or the Key Stakeholder/I&AP Database.

4.1 LIST OF AUTHORITIES NOTIFIED

The following authorities, but not limited to, were notified of the proposed project and invited to participate in the public participation process:

- Abidjan Convention
- Benguela Current Commission
- Bergrivier Local Municipality
- CapeNature
- Cederberg Local Municipality
- City of Cape Town
- Commission on Restitution of Land Right (Northern Cape)
- Confederation of Namibian Fishing Association
- Confederation of Namibian Fishing Associations and Namibian Hake Association
- Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Land Reform and Rural Development
- Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
- Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
- Department of Transport
- DHSWS NC
- Eskom
- Heritage Western Cape
- Kamiesberg Local Municipality
- Matzikama Local Municipality
- Nama Khoi Local Municipality
- Namakwa District Municipality
- Namibian Crab Association
- Namibia Hake Fishing Association
- Namibian Hake & Tuna Longline Association
- Namibian Large Pelagic Association
- Namibian Line Fish Association
- Namibian Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR)
- Namibian National Marine Information and Research Centre (NatMIRC)
- Namibian Rock Lobster Fishing Association
- Namibian Small Pelagic Association
- National Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs
- National Department of Environmental Affairs, Forestry and Fisheries.
- National Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and Environment
- National Department of Rural Development and Land Affairs
- National Department of Water and Sanitation
- Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Land Reform and Rural Development
- Northern Cape Provincial Heritage Resource Agency
- Northern Cape Department of Agriculture
- Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development



- Northern Cape Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs
- Northern Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism
- Northern Cape Department of Environment and Conservation
- Northern Cape Department of Nature and Conservation
- Northern Cape Department of Roads and Public Works
- Northern Cape Department of Social Development
- Northern Cape Department of Water and Sanitation
- Northern Cape Protech and Agri Revolution (Pty) Ltd
- Northern Cape: Department of Transport, Safety and Liasion
- Office of the Provincial Head: Northern Cape Region
- Paternoster Fishery Group
- Petroleum Agency of South Africa
- Richtersveld Local Municipality
- Saldanha Bay Local Municipality
- SANPARKS
- South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)
- South African National Biodiversity Institute
- Swartland Local Municipality
- Transnet
- West Coast District Municipality
- West Coast National Park
- Western Cape Government
- Western Cape Government: Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

4.2 LIST OF OTHER KEY I&APS AND STAKEHOLDERS IDENTIFIED AND NOTIFIED

The following key I&APs, but not limited to, were notified of the proposed project and invited to participate in the public participation process:

- !Khora | Guallaes
- !Khora | Quallaes
- Abolobi Express
- African Conservation Trust
- African Tuna Traders Cc
- Afriforum
- Afro Fishing (Pty) Ltd
- Agri South Africa
- Agri Western Cape
- AGS Nollothville
- Aikonese Tribal Council
- Alectrona
- Alexander Bay Community Works Programme
- Alexander Bay High School
- Alexkor Soc Ltd
- Amahlubi Traditional Council
- Amawandle Hake (PTY) LTD
- ANC Women League
- Anomes Geral Trading Catering
- Aquarius Fishing (Pty) Ltd
- Argus Media
- Aukolokie Visserye
- Aukotowa Fisheries



- Bakoena Traditional Council
- Balobi Fishing Enterprises
- Balobi Group
- Balobi Processors (Pty) Ltd
- BEAHS Transport
- Belton Park Trading 127 (Pty) Ltd
- Bester
- Bex Group
- Bhana Coastal/Compass Trawling
- Birdlife Africa
- Birdlife South Africa
- Bloomberg News
- Blue Continent Products (Pty) Ltd
- Botoko Brading E Investments
- Breakwater Products
- C.W.P
- Calamari Fishing (Pty) Ltd
- Camcor Trading
- Cape Columbine Conservancy, Paternoster
- Cape Nature
- Caper Pilchard Pioneer CC
- Capfish
- Capricon Marine Environment (Capmarine)
- Centre For Environmental Rights
- Century 21
- Chapmans Peak Fisheries
- CHDC
- Chochoqua Khoisan Community
- Coastal Links South Africa
- Cochoqua Tribal Authority
- Cochoqua Tribal Council
- Combined Fishing Enterprises CC
- Concerned Residents Action Group - Yzerfontein
- Coqhuqua Tribe
- Council Of Geoscience
- CPA LID
- CSIR
- CWP
- DAERLD
- Daily Maverick
- Dargle Conservancy
- Darling Black Business Forum
- Dawsons
- Dazzalle Traders (Pty) Ltd
- De Beers Consolidated Diamond Mines
- De Beers Group Services
- De Beers Marine (Pty) Ltd
- Department Of Forestry, Fisheries And Environment
- Diamond Fields South Africa (Pty) Ltd
- Dupwest Inc.
- Dyer Eiland Visserye (Pty) Ltd
- E-Centre Doringbaai WCG
- Edwards Fishing CC
- Eigelaars Bote (EDMS) BPK
- Elwandle
- Endangered Wildlife Trust
- Environmental Specialist Journalist
- Environmental Traits (Youth Group)
- Exigent Environmental
- Extinction Rebellion
- Extinction Rebellion Cape Town
- Eyethu Fishing (PTY) LTD



- Fisher Folk Women
- Fishermans Cor Limited
- Fishermen Development Organisation
- Fishing & Diving
- Fishsa
- Flinke Pikkewyntjies Kleuterskool
- Frackfree SA
- Fravardin Skyrti Holdings International
- Fresh Tuna Exporters Association
- Friends Of Verlorenvlei
- Gansbaai Marine (PTY) LTD
- GCL Inv Pty Ltd
- Green Connection (The)
- Green Town Organisasie
- Groot Paternoster Pvt Nature Reserve
- Groundwork
- Heavenly Dine General Trading
- Henbase 2655 CC
- Hicksons Fishing Company Ltd
- Hondeklip Bay Women's Group
- Hondeklipbaai NPRC
- Hondeklipbaai Visserye Bpk.
- Hooked on Africa
- Hout Bay Boat Owners (Pty) Ltd
- Hout Bay Public Library
- Hout Bay Seal Rescue Centre
- iAfrica
- iGas
- Ikamva Lethu Fishing Company (Pty) Ltd
- Imbiza
- Imdhgroup
- Imizamo Yethu Fishiing Community
- Imizamo Yethu Fishing Co-Operation
- Impact Oil And Gas
- Impala Fishing (PTY) LTD
- Independent (The)
- Ingwe Emnayama Fishing Enterprises (Pty) Ltd
- Inline Images
- IRASA Khoisan
- Irvin & Johnson Limited
- Isinda Tient Pty Ltd
- Iziko Museums of South Africa
- Jaffa'S Bay Fishing CC
- Japan Marine Supplies & Services
- Jayfish Cc
- Kamiesberg Municipality
- Katz Korana Royal House
- Katz Royal House
- Kaytrad
- Kernel Marine Pty Ltd
- Kernel Resources/West Coast Resources
- Khoisan
- Khulani Fishing (PTY) LTD
- Kigoda
- Kleinood
- Knysna Fishing Company (Pty) Ltd
- Kobush
- Komicx Products (PTY) LTD
- Kouga Council
- La Baleine (Pty) Ltd
- Lambertsbay Tourism
- Langebaan Residents And Ratepayers Association



- Langebaan Residents Association
- Large Pelagic SMME Association
- Laureate Private Resorts
- Leeto Restaurant (Pty) Ltd
- Legal Resource Centre
- Lehlevo Corporate
- Lente Briesie Bejaarde Klub
- Longtime Hondeklipbaai Fishing Primary Co – Operative
- Longtime Hondeklipbaai SSF Coop
- Lucky Star Ltd
- Lusitania Fishing
- Lusitania Trawling Services
- Mabour Ink Energy (Pty) Ltd
- Manetrade 2094 CC
- Marinata Vissersvroue Organiesasie BK
- Marine Products Cape Town
- Masakhane Fishing
- Masifundise Development Trust
- Mattanja Eiendoms Belleggings (Pty) Ltd
- Matzikama Municipality
- Matziwama Youth Development Organisation
- Maverick Traders SA (Pty) Ltd
- Moneyline 344 (Pty) Ltd
- Mount Pleasant Fishing (PTY) LTD
- Nalitha
- Namakwa District Local Economic Development
- Namakwa District Municipality: Environmental Management Unit
- Namaqua Fishing Company Ltd
- Namaqua Integrated Development Agency (NIDA)
- Namaquarights
- Namasan Oil & Gas
- National Roads Agency
- Natural Justice
- North Western Cape Mining Forum
- Observatory Civic Association
- Oceana Group
- Oceana Group Limited
- Oceans Not Oil
- Oranjevis St Helena Bay
- ORXY Mining
- Pakamani Fishing (Pty) Ltd
- Paternoster Vissery Bpk
- Perma Culture Trust
- Pescaluna
- PetroSA (SOC) Limited
- Phakamisa Fishing (Pty) Ltd
- Pioneer Fishing (Pty) Ltd
- Pioneer Fishing (West Coast) (Pty) Ltd
- Poli Engineering Pty Ltd
- Port Engineering And Mosiac
- Port Lobster Fisheries
- Port Nolloth Abalone
- Port Nolloth Fish Factory
- Port Nolloth Sea Farm Ranching
- Port Nolloth Sea Farms Ranching And Strandvelt Conservation Club.
- Port Splendour Pty Ltd
- Premier Fishing (SA) (Pty) Ltd
- Protect The West Coast (PTWC) NGO
- Quayside Fish Suppliers Cape (Pty) Ltd
- R.N.Y.S.C



- Rainbow Nation
- Reiger Visserye Cc
- Richtersveld Church Council And Local Entrepreneur Enterprise Development
- Richtersveld Environmental Care
- Richtersveld GEV/CPA
- Richtersveld Naledi YSC
- Risar Fishing
- Roger Seldon Music
- Rosalin Rubgy Club
- S.S.F
- SA Deepsea Trawling Industry Association
- SA Fisheries Museum Velddrif
- SA Foundation For The Conservation Of Coastal Bird
- SA Hake Longline Association
- SA Tuna Association
- SA Tuna Longline Association
- Sailors Joy Fishing (Pty) Ltd
- SAMSA Port Nolloth
- San Council
- SANBI
- SANCCOB
- SANRAL
- SAPFIA
- SAPFU
- Save Langebaan Lagoon Afriforum Env Afffling West Coast
- Scotia Inn Hotel
- Sea Harvest Corporation Ltd
- Sea Point Library
- Sea Search Africa
- Sea Vuna Fishing Company (Pty) Ltd
- Shell Namibia/South Africa
- Shelley Point Estate, St Helena Bay
- Sigma Coatings (Pty) Ltd
- Siphon Shipping
- Sisonke Environmental Justice Network (SEIJN);
- Siyanqoba Rural Transformation Forum;
- Siyaphambili Emajuba Farmdwellers Association (SEFA);
- Rural Network; Landless People's Movement (LPM);
- Bothas Pass Community, Bosworth Community
- SLR Consulting (Africa)
- Small Scale Fishers Bigai Civil Society Organization
- SMIT Amandla Marine (Pty) Ltd
- Smook Property Group
- Sonwabe
- Sonwabe Co. OP
- Soundprops 1167 Investments (Pty) Ltd
- South African Aboriginal Council
- South African Association For Marine Biological Research (SAAMBR)
- South African Commercial Fisherman Corp
- South African Commercial Line Fishing Association
- South African Deepsea Trawling Industry Association (SADSTIA)
- South African Hake Longline Association
- South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA)
- South African Pelagic Fishing Industry Association
- South African Tuna Longline Association



- South African Underwater Fishing Federetation (SAUFF)
- South African United Fishing Front (SAUFF)
- South African Whale Disentanglement Network (SAWDN)
- South Durban Community Environmental Alliance (SDCEA)
- Southern Sea Fishing
- Spirit Of Endeavour Fisher Folk Women
- Sprititual Leaders Forum
- SSF - Doringbaai
- SSF (Laingville)
- St Francis Sea Products (Pty) Ltd
- St Helena Bay Water Quality Trust
- St Helena Bay Hotel
- Stamatis Fishing CC
- Strandloper Ocean Boutique Hotel (Pty) Ltd
- Strandveld Conservation Club
- Striker Fishing Enterprises (Pty) Ltd
- Suid Kaap Fisheries
- Tabernakel Sending Kerk
- Taiyo Fishing
- Team Save The Wild Coast
- Terrasan Pelagic Fishery (Pty) Ltd
- The Collective South Africa
- The Cottage Collection (Pty) Ltd
- Adrian Pole Attorneys
- The Tuna Hake Fishing Corp Ltd
- TIRADE PROPS 153 (PTY) LTD
- Total E&P South Africa B.V.
- Total Energies
- Trakprops 22 Pty Ltd
- Trans Hex Group (Pty) Ltd And Belton Park Trading 127 (Pty) Ltd
- Transnet Corporate JHB
- Transnet National Ports Authority
- Transnet Soc Ltd
- Tuna Hake Association
- Tunacor
- Turbby Transport
- Ubuntu Rural Women
- Uhlaza
- Ukloba Fishing (Pty) Ltd
- Umbono Capital
- Umzamani Fishing CC
- Umzimvubu Catchment Partnership Programme(UCPP)
- University Of Cape Town (UCT)
- Vertivi Katolieke Kerk
- Viking Aquaculture
- Viking Fishing
- Viking Inshore Fishing (Pty) Ltd
- Visko Seeproducte (Pty) Ltd
- VM Young Visserye Bk
- Vredendal Khoi Leadership
- Vryheidsfront Plus
- VUCIC
- VVVT
- Ward 66 – Environmental & Coastal Conservation
- WCCT E-Centre Doringbaai
- WCIC
- We Are South Africans
- Weskus Guriqua Sanvraad
- Weskus Vissers KO-OP Bpk



- WESSA
- West Cape News
- West Coast Guriqua Council
- West Coast Indigenous Council
- West Coast Marine Conservation Society
- West Point Processors (Pty) Ltd
- Western Cape Commercial Linefish Association
- Western Cape Marine Conservation Society
- WFC
- Whistle Blowers
- Wild Trust
- Wildlife And Environment Society Of South Africa (WESSA)
- Wildoceans
- Wildtrust
- World Wildlife Fund
- WPFC
- XR
- Young Spurs Rugby Club
- Yzerfontein Small Scale
- Zenzano Property Development Group
- ZWM Fishing (Pty) Ltd

5 NOTIFICATION OF INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

This section provides details on the notifications that were distributed as part of the consultation process to date.

5.1 INITIAL NOTIFICATION OF KEY I&APS

The PPP commenced on the 12 June 2023 with site notice placement followed by an initial notification and call to register which started on 15 June 2023. Notification during this initial consultation was given in the manner described below.

5.1.1 NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS AND NATIONAL GAZETTE NOTICE

An initial round of newspaper advertisements has been published during June 2023. The advertisements described the proposed project, Scoping and EIA process urging I&APs to register to receive notifications regarding opportunities to participate in the EA process. In addition, a notice in the National Gazette was placed on 15 June 2023.

The newspaper advertisements included the following information:

- Project name;
- Applicant name;
- Project location;
- Nature of the activity;
- Legislative requirements;
- Public meeting details; and
- Relevant EIMS contact person for the project:

The advertisements and notices were placed as follows:



Table 1: Newspaper Languages Publication Date Advertisements DetailsNewspaper		
Cape Times	English and isiXhosa	14 June 2023
Sentinel News	English and Afrikaans	15 June 2023
Weslander	English and Afrikaans	15 June 2023
Ons Kontrei	English and Afrikaans	16 June 2023
Die Plattelander	English and Afrikaans	15 June 2023

Please refer Appendix 2 to for proof of adverts and notices placed.

5.1.2 FAXES AND EMAILS

Notification letters in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa were distributed to pre-identified I&APs through either faxes, and/or emails and/or SMS. Please refer to Appendix 3 for initial notification and proofs.

The notification documents included the following information:

- List of anticipated activities to be authorised;
- Sufficient detail of the proposed project to enable I&APs to assess/surmise what impact the development will have on them or on the use of their land;
- The purpose of the proposed project;
- Details of the application processes associated with proposed activities;
- Details of the affected properties (including a locality map);
- Details of the South African environmental legislation that must be adhered to;
- Contact details of the EAP.

5.1.3 SITE NOTICE PLACEMENT

One hundred and fifty (150) A1 Correx site notices (in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa) were placed at key locations along the West Coast, stretching from Hout Bay to Alexander Bay on the 12 -17 June 2023. The on-site notices included the following information:

- Project name;
- Applicant name;
- Project location;
- Map of proposed project area;
- Project description;
- Legislative requirements; and
- Relevant EIMS contact person for the project.

Please refer to Appendix 4 for proof of site notice and site notice distribution.



5.1.4 RADIO ADVERTISEMENTS

An initial round of Radio advertisements has been published during June 2023. The advertisements described the proposed project, Scoping and EIA process urging I&APs to register to receive notifications regarding opportunities to participate in the EA process.

The newspaper advertisements and notice included the following information:

- Project name;
- Applicant name;
- Project location;
- Nature of the activity;
- Legislative requirements; and
- Relevant EIMS contact person for the project.

The advertisements and notices were placed as follows:

Table 2: Radio Advertisements Details

Radio Station	Languages	Publication Date
KFM	English	14-16 June 2023
Radio NFM	English and Afrikaans	14-16 June 2023
Radio West Coast	English and isiXhosa	12-16 June 2023
Radio Namakwaland	English and Afrikaans	12-15 June 2023

Please refer to Appendix 5 for proof of adverts and notices placed.

5.2 GRASSROOTS COMMUNICATION FRAMEWORK

As part of an innovative strategy to strengthen/improve the public participation process reach and inclusivity, Abalobi Express Consulting and Project Management (Pty) Ltd (hereinafter referred to as Abalobi Express) was commissioned to facilitate a more profound approach to community engagement. Through the implementation of the Grassroots Communication Framework, the initiatives of Abalobi Express involved the following:

1. Distribute information to identified communities and allow for interested members to register as I&APs and gain a better understanding of the proposed project and
2. Conduct surveys as part of community screening to collect information that would assist in better understanding the dynamics of the communities engaged with.

As part of this initiative, information was disseminated through the distribution of pamphlets and placement of additional notices across over 60 different communities and towns along the west coast of South Africa. Within these communities, a total of 1264 households were engaged who participated in surveys across the sixteen local municipalities and three district municipalities considered affected.

Through surveys and the dissemination of information, communities were engaged in a different, more inclusive approach. More insight was gathered on how communities may be interested and affected, allowing community members the opportunity to share comments, sentiments, as well as information on their own backgrounds. This allowed for the collection of information related to the potentially affected communities in a more direct way.

Following the initiatives of the Grassroots Communication Framework, various findings were collated to provide the EAP with additional information which allowed for better planning of engagement opportunities such as



public meetings and focus group discussions. Communities were also engaged through the Grassroots Communication Framework (GCF) during the Scoping and EIA Phases of the project, essentially aiding in notifying the public of upcoming events and opportunities to engage with the project.

Please refer to Appendix 6 for the detailed report prepared by Abalobi Express regarding the above initiative. This survey was undertaken in conjunction with the dissemination of project information and leaflets provided in a non-technical nature.

6 REPORT AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT

6.1 SCOPING REPORT REVIEW NOTIFICATIONS

The Scoping Report and associated appendices was made available for public review and comment from the 19 July 2023 until the 21 August 2023. Notification letters in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa were distributed to registered I&APs through either registered mail, faxes, and/or emails and/or SMS to inform them of the availability of the SR. Please refer to Appendix 7 for SR notification and proof. Subsequently, the SR was made available at the following locations:

The Hout Bay Public Library (Melkhout Crescent, Hout Bay, Cape Town)

The Sea Point Public Library (Civic Centre, Cnr Three Anchor Bay and Main Roads, Sea Point, Cape Town)

Yzerfontein Tourism Office (50 Main Road, Yzerfontein)

The Vredenburg Public Library (2 Academy Street (close to West Coast College), Vredenburg)

St Helena Bay Library (2 Albertros Street, St Helena Bay)

Elandsbaai Public Library (Main Road, Elandsbaai)

The Lamberts Bay Public Library (Church Street, Lamberts Bay)

Kamiesburg Local Municipality in Hondeklip Bay (Wag Way street)

A. J Bekeur Library (Robson Street, Port Nolloth, Richtersveld)

Additionally, a reminder notification was sent out to remind the registered I&APs of the SR Review Period, as well as public meetings held in the various venues. Please refer to Appendix 8 for reminder notification proof.

6.2 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT REVIEW NOTIFICATIONS

The EIA Report (EIAR) and associated appendices was made available for public review and comment from 8 January 2024 until 8 February 2024. Notification letters in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa were distributed to registered I&APs through either registered mail, faxes, and/or emails and/or SMS to inform them of the availability of the EIAR. Please refer to Appendix 9 for EIAR notification and proof. Subsequently, the EIAR was made available at the following locations:

The Hout Bay Public Library (Melkhout Crescent, Hout Bay, Cape Town)

The Sea Point Public Library (Civic Centre, Cnr Three Anchor Bay and Main Roads, Sea Point, Cape Town)

Yzerfontein Tourism Office (50 Main Road, Yzerfontein)

The Vredenburg Public Library (2 Academy Street (close to West Coast College), Vredenburg)

St Helena Bay Library (2 Albertros Street, St Helena Bay)

Elandsbaai Public Library (Main Road, Elandsbaai)

The Lamberts Bay Public Library (Church Street, Lamberts Bay)



Kamiesburg Local Municipality in Hondeklip Bay (Wag Way street)

A. J Bekeur Library (Robson Street, Port Nolloth, Richtersveld)

6.3 REVISED AND UPDATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT REVIEW NOTIFICATIONS

The EIA Report (EIAR) as well as associated appendices were subsequently updated and were made available once more for public review and comment from 8 April 2024 until 9 May 2024. Notification letters in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa were distributed to registered I&APs through either registered mail, faxes, and/or emails and/or SMS to inform them of the availability of the EIAR. Please refer to Appendix 10 for EIAR notification. Subsequently, the EIAR were made available at the following locations:

The Hout Bay Public Library (Melkhout Crescent, Hout Bay, Cape Town)

The Sea Point Public Library (Civic Centre, Cnr Three Anchor Bay and Main Roads, Sea Point, Cape Town)

Yzerfontein Tourism Office (50 Main Road, Yzerfontein)

The Vredenburg Public Library (2 Academy Street (close to West Coast College), Vredenburg)

St Helena Bay Library (2 Albertros Street, St Helena Bay)

Elandsbaai Public Library (Main Road, Elandsbaai)

The Lamberts Bay Public Library (Church Street, Lamberts Bay)

Kamiesburg Local Municipality in Hondeklip Bay (Wag Way street)

A. J Bekeur Library (Robson Street, Port Nolloth, Richtersveld)

7 PUBLIC MEETINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

7.1 SCOPING PHASE PUBLIC MEETINGS AND FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS

A series of focus group discussions and public meetings with I&APs were planned and conducted from the 31 July – 5 August 2023 at various locations along the West Coast. Please refer to Table 3 for a detailed schedule of public meetings. Please refer to Table 4 for a detailed breakdown of schedule of focus group discussions. A high-level presentation of the proposed project's scope and the anticipated impacts was provided to attending I&APs. Comments and concerns regarding the project were captured in the meeting minutes. Please refer to Appendix 11 for meeting minutes.

Table 3: List of public meeting locations, venues, dates, and times during the Scoping Phase

City/Town	Venue	Date	Time
Port Nolloth	Drop Inn Centre	Monday, 31 July 2023	09:00-11:00
Hondeklip Bay	Eric Baker Hall	Monday, 31 July 2023	16:30-18:30
Doringbaai	Miriam Owies Community Hall	Tuesday, 1 August 2023	11:00-14:30
Ebenhaeser	Ebenhaeser Community Hall	Tuesday, 1 August 2023	16:00-18:00
Lamberts Bay	Lamberts Bay Hotel	Wednesday, 2 August 2023	09:00-12:30
Elands Bay	Elands Bay Hotel	Wednesday, 2 August 2023	16:00-18:00



City/Town	Venue	Date	Time
Steenberg's Cove	Steenberg's Cove Community Hall	Thursday, 3 August 2023	09:30-12:30
Saldanha Bay	Hoedjiesbaai Hotel	Thursday, 3 August 2023	15:00-18:30
Yzerfontein	Yzerfontein Community Hall	Friday, 4 August 2023	10:30-12:30
Cape Town ²	Hellenic Club	Friday, 4 August 2023	15:00-17:00
Hout Bay ³	Hangberg Sports and Recreation Centre	Saturday, 5 August 2023	10:30-12:30
Virtual	MS Teams Online	Thursday, 10 August 2023	15:00-17:00

Table 4: List of focus group meetings held together with public meetings during the Scoping Phase

City/Town	Venue	Date	Time
Port Nolloth	Drop inn Centre	Monday, 31 July 2023	09:00-10:00
Hondeklip Bay	Eric Baker Hall	Monday, 31 July 2023	16:30-18:30
Doringbaai	Miriam Owies Community Hall	Tuesday, 1 August 2023	11:00-12:00
Lamberts Bay	Lamberts Bay Hotel	Wednesday, 2 August 2023	09:00-10:00
Steenbergs Cove	Steenbergs Cove Community Hall	Thursday, 3 August 2023	09:00-10:00
Saldahna Bay	Hoedjiesbaai Hotel	Thursday, 3 August 2023	15:00-16:00
Yzerfontein	Yzerfontein Community Hall	Friday, 4 August 2023	10:30-12:30
Hout Bay	Hangberg Sports and Recreation Centre	Saturday, 5 August 2023	09:00-10:00

7.1.1 ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

Additional SMS's and emails were sent to key pre-identified I&APs inviting them to participate in public meetings and focus group discussions. As part of this correspondence individual SMS messages were sent to key I&APs in the respective communities inviting them to focus group meetings or discussions. Please refer to Appendix 12 for the proof of SMS messages sent.

7.1.2 CAPE TOWN AND HOUT BAY PUBLIC UNREST

All of the meetings listed above have subsequently been successfully implemented, apart from the Cape Town and Hout Bay meetings. These meetings were unfortunately cancelled at short notice due to the unrest and the violence associated with the protracted public transport protests in parts of Cape Town. The decision was made to cancel the meetings that were scheduled to take place in Cape Town and Hout Bay in order to protect all

² The meetings in Cape Town and Hout Bay for 4 and 5 August respectively, had to be postponed due to the taxi protests and violence ongoing at the time. A new meeting has been scheduled for 7 September 2023.

³ The meetings in Cape Town and Hout Bay for 4 and 5 August respectively, had to be postponed due to the taxi protests and violence ongoing at the time. A new meeting has been scheduled for 7 September 2023.



I&APs and to ensure the safety of all who may have wanted to attend public meetings. Please refer to Appendix 13 for the correspondence disseminated, announcing the cancelation of the meetings.

7.2 EIA PHASE OPEN DAY SESSIONS

A series of Open Day Sessions were conducted at various locations along the West Coast. Please refer to Table 5 for a detailed schedule of these Open Day Sessions. The overall proceedings and comments received during engagements are captured in the attached EIAR Review Engagement Record. The format as well as information relating to venues, comments, and subsequent feedback is communicated in the record. See Appendix 14 for the complete EIAR Review Engagement Record.

Table 5: List of public meeting locations, venues, dates, and times during the EIA Phase

City/Town	Venue	Date	Time
Port Nolloth	Drop Inn Centre	Monday, 22 January 2024	08:00-12:00
Hondeklip Bay	Eric Baker Hall	Monday, 22 January 2024	15:00-19:00
Doringbaai	Miriam Owies Community Hall	Tuesday, 23 January 2024	10:00-14:00
Ebenhaeser	Ebenhaeser Community Hall	Tuesday, 23 January 2024	15:00-19:00
Lamberts Bay	Lamberts Bay Hotel	Wednesday, 24 January 2024	09:00-13:00
Elands Bay	Elands Bay Hotel	Wednesday, 24 January 2024	15:00-19:00
St. Helena Bay	Sandy Point Hall	Thursday, 25 January 2024	09:00-13:00
Saldanha Bay	Hoedjiesbaai Hotel	Thursday, 25 January 2024	15:00-19:00
Yzerfontein	Yzerfontein Community Hall	Friday, 26 January 2024	08:00-12:00
Cape Town	Hellenic Club	Friday, 26 January 2024	15:00-19:00
Hout Bay	Hangberg Sports and Recreation Centre	Saturday, 27 January 2024	08:00-12:00
Virtual	MS Teams Online	Thursday, 1 February 2024	15:00-17:00

7.3 UPDATED EIAR PUBLIC MEETINGS

A series of public meetings with I&APs were planned and conducted from the 15 April – 9 May 2024 at various locations along the West Coast. Please refer to Table 6 for a detailed schedule of public meetings. A high-level presentation of the EIA and the impacts was provided to attending I&APs. Comments and concerns regarding the project were captured in the meeting minutes.

Table 6: List of public meeting locations, venues, dates, and times during the Updated EIAR Engagements.

City/Town	Venue	Date	Time
Port Nolloth	Drop Inn Centre	Monday, 15 April 2024	10:00-12:00
Hondeklip Bay	Eric Baker Hall	Monday, 15 April 2024	15:00-17:00
Doringbaai	Miriam Owies Community Hall	Tuesday, 16 April 2024	10:00-12:00



City/Town	Venue	Date	Time
Ebenhaeser	Ebenhaeser Community Hall	Tuesday, 16 April 2024	14:00-16:00
Lamberts Bay	Lamberts Bay Hotel	Wednesday, 17 April 2024	10:00-12:00
Elands Bay	Elands Bay Hotel	Wednesday, 17 April 2024	14:00-16:00
Steenberg's Cove	Steenberg's Cove Community Hall	Thursday, 18 April 2024	10:00-12:00
Saldanha Bay	Hoedjiesbaai Hotel	Thursday, 18 April 2024	14:00-16:00
Yzerfontein	Yzerfontein Community Hall	Friday, 20 April 2024	10:00-12:00
Cape Town	Hellenic Club	Friday, 20 April 2024	14:00-16:00
Hout Bay	Ambleside Primary School, Hout Bay	Saturday, 21 April 2024	10:00-12:00
Virtual	MS Teams Online	Thursday, 25 April 2024	15:00-17:00

8 SUMMARY OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

Table 7 provides a summary of the opportunities provided to I&APs for participation in the public participation process to date.

Table 7: Opportunities Provided for Public Participation

Action	Description	Publication/Place	Date
Initial Call to Register	Notification of landowners, occupiers, and other key I&APs.	Affected landowners and key I&APs were notified via email, fax, and/or post.	12 June 2023
	Placement of site notices.	One hundred and fifty (150) A1 Correx site notices (in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa) placed at 150 locations along the West Coast.	12-17 June 2023
	Newspaper advertisement	Notices were placed in five (5) newspapers.	14-16 June 2023
	Radio Adverts	Four (4) radio adverts were aired.	12-16 June 2023
SR Availability	Placement of SR for Public Review	SR placed at various libraries and locations along the west coast.	19 July – 21 August 2023



Action	Description	Publication/Place	Date
	Public Meetings and Focus Group Discussions	Public meetings and focus group discussions held in key communities along the west coast.	31 July – 10 August 2023
EIAR Availability	Placement of EIAR for Public Review	EIAR placed at various libraries and locations along the west coast.	8 January 2024
	Open Day Sessions	Open Day Sessions held in key communities along the west coast.	22 January – 1 February 2024
Updated EIAR Availability	Placement of EIAR for Public Review	EIAR placed at various libraries and locations along the west coast.	8 April 2024
	Public Meetings	Public Meetings held in key communities along the west coast.	15 – 20 April 2024

9 RECORD OF ISSUES RAISED

The comments presented below are those that have been received and addressed from 15 June 2023 to date and will be updated during and following the public participation period. A high-level summary of the comments raised to date are presented below.

- I&AP registrations and de-registrations;
- Request for clarity regarding terminology such as the reprocessing of data;
- Request for clarity on the nature of the project;
- Request to be informed about updates of the project;
- Request for files related to the location and situation of the project site;
- Provision of information related to SAHRIS application procedure for the project;
- Acknowledgement of receipt of notifications from local municipality;
- Request for clarity on the geographical extent of initial notification;
- Enquiry on the status of the application;
- Current employment opportunities enquiry;
- Questions around the risks of a blow-out;
- Comment on opinion on Afrikaans translations of documentation;
- Mitigation measures currently in place to deal with spillage risks;
- Questions about the duration of the drilling activity;
- Comments on relating to Scoping Report;



- Drilling operations (including fluids and cuttings discharge) damage the seafloor;
 - Pollution from drilling operations affecting health of marine life;
 - Potential disturbance to ecosystems;
 - Impacts on spawning of fish species as well as other marine species;
 - Potential of significant adverse residual environmental effect on marine biota populations;
 - Potential impacts on species should a species be displaced;
- Concerns around Increase in underwater noise levels;
- Concern around marine fauna behavioural changes;
- Concern around impact on fishing sector;
- Concern around cultural heritage;
- Number of concerns related to the construction and operation phases of the project:
 - Increased levels of E.coli in the water due to the presence of drilling rig and crew;
 - Fish aggregation and increased predator - prey interactions;
 - Light emissions in marine environment;
 - Potential effects of project contributing to the disorientation and mortality of seabirds;
 - Attraction of plankton through project activities and increased risk to fish, turtles and cetaceans;
- Comments related to Climate Change and Just Energy transition:
 - Reasons requested for the need for oil and gas exploration despite the Just transition and move away from carbon emissions;
 - Commitment of applicant to Just transition questioned;
 - Potential bearing of the project on Climate Change;
 - Future commitment and reassurance of applicant to the Just energy transition;
 - Questions around the potential impacts of oil and gas production should a discovery be made;
- Question on contributions of applicant to skills development;
- Future employment opportunities related to activities of the project;
- Enquiry on future contributions to be made by applicant;
- Effects of project activities of fisheries and fishermen;
- Effect of project activities on economic wellbeing of coastal communities;
- The accuracy of the data and findings of scoping report questioned;
- The reliability and relevance of any older data used as part of the scoping report;
- The impact of the project on snoek (*Thyrsites atun*) and snoek fishing as a seasonal and sensitive activity;
- Comment on the potential of the project to affect beaches and tourism;
- Effect of activities on livelihood of communities;
- New or novel approaches to the EIA process this project engages with;
- Questions on the extent of public participation to be employed throughout the process;



- Question on the extent of community engagement during the public participation process;
- Enquiry on previous information used to select potential drilling spots;
- Block 3B/4B's in relation to protected biodiversity areas;
- Potential of not proceeding with the project to avoid risks involved altogether; and
- Comment from SAHRIS relating to further heritage studies of the affected area.

All comments and/or queries received to date are included in this report and presented in Appendix 15. Please refer to Appendix 16 for proof of correspondence.

10 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This report was updated for submission to the competent authority, following the 30-day public review period of the Revised and Updated Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated appendices.