

**Rössing Uranium - Desalination plant
SEIA Authorities Meeting – MAWF (Department Water Environment)**

DATE	Thursday, 7 August 2014
VENUE:	Ministry of Agriculture Water and Forestry (MAWF)
PROJECT:	Desalination Plant for Rössing Uranium
PROJECT NUMBER:	734.18013.00002
PURPOSE:	<p>The purpose of the meeting was to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present the Social and Environmental Impact Assessment (SEIA) process being followed • Explain the motivation and overview of the proposed Desalination Project • Discuss potential social and environmental impacts • Allow MAWF to provide input into the SEIA process • To discuss permitting requirements relating to the seawater intake and the discharge of brine
ATTENDANCE:	See attendance register attached in Appendix 1.

1. OPEN AND INTRODUCTION

Werner Petrick (WP) from SLR welcomed all to the meeting and introduced himself as well as the Rössing Uranium representative, Rainer Schneeweiss.

This was followed by a short introduction to the purpose of the meeting.

2. PRESENTATION

WP presented the project background/motivation as well as the description of the project location and various project components.

He also presented the SEIA process being followed and explained the potential social and environmental issues that were identified as part of the screening phase of the SEIA. He ended the formal presentation by discussing the way forward regarding the SEIA process.

A copy of the presentation is appended to the Scoping Report.

3. DISCUSSION

Any issues and concerns raised during the meeting have been recorded in Table 1. Where a response was provided the response has also been included in Table 1.

TABLE 1: RECORD OF ISSUES RAISED AND RESPONSES GIVEN

Issue raised	By whom	Response
How much will be spent on the plant?	MAWF	Between USD18m and USD22m.
What is payback period?		3 years.
Will NamWater still be paid to use their pipeline?		Yes, only for the transfer of the water.
Permit application discussion:		Noted.

Issue raised	By whom	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The permit application must be submitted in parallel with the submission of the Draft SEIA Report. The permit will be issued based on projections of discharge. If a permit is issued, it will be for 5 years on condition that if any changes to volume of discharge foreseen, this must be notified in writing to the MAWF. Therefore, make sure the demand will not increase. 		<p>Any such increases would require redesign and another SEIA process.</p>
<p>Domestic waste water from site offices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What will the arrangement be? The area where the desalination plant is proposed is a highly sensitive area, therefore it is important that sewage waste is discharged correctly, to be arranged with municipality. 		<p>This still needs to be investigated by the project team and will form part of the SEIA process.</p>
<p>The same application form must be used for the brine discharge and the domestic effluent discharge. The application must be accompanied by the agreement letter from the municipality. The agreement would define the way the municipality will manage the sewage.</p>		<p>Noted. Thanks for the advice.</p>
<p>Discharge of brine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no Namibian Standards yet look at international best practice 		<p>SLR requested that the standards being referred to be made available by the MAWF. (Cynthia Ortmann made these available after the meeting).</p>
<p>The area where the desalination plant is proposed is a sensitive area. Therefore, if something goes wrong in the surrounding area, Rössing will be blamed.</p>		<p>Noted.</p>

Issue raised	By whom	Response
<p>Monitoring of the brine discharge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly monitoring results must be submitted in time • Who will do the monitoring? • Suggestion that a marine ecologist needs to conduct at least bi-annual monitoring. 		<p>The monitoring plan will be developed as part of the SEIA process. The monitoring parameters will be included by the Marine Ecologist. It is important that MAWF review these before the SEIA and SEMP are finalised.</p>

4. CLOSE

WP thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.