

Rössing Uranium Limited  
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Swakopmund, Namibia  
*Registered in Namibia No. 70/1591*



**Rössing Uranium**

*A member of the Rio Tinto Group*

WORKING FOR NAMIBIA

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**16 January 2008**

### **ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR RÖSSING URANIUM'S EXPANSION PROJECT RELEASED**

The social and environmental impact assessment for part of Rössing Uranium's expansion projects has been completed.

A draft impact assessment report describing the impacts of the mine's proposed new acid plant and an ore sorter plant as well as a small new satellite open pit will be presented to the public next week in Swakopmund, Walvis Bay and Arandis.

This announcement was made by Marie Hoadley, who coordinates the public engagement between the assessment consultants and Rössing's stakeholders.

#### **Public meeting dates**

The public meetings are scheduled for Swakopmund (Tuesday, 22 January at the Alte Brücke Conference Centre), Walvis Bay (Wednesday, 23 January at the Pelican Bay Hotel Conference Centre) and Arandis (Thursday, 24 January at the Arandis Town Hall). All meetings will take place from 17:30 to about 19:30.

At the same time, the scoping report for the remaining expansion projects of the mine will be introduced to the public.

The public will be invited to critically review the draft impact assessment and scoping reports to ensure that concerns raised in the past few months have been adequately dealt with by the consultants and that the proposed management plans are addressing the identified impacts.

#### **Current plans**

Rössing Uranium intends to build a sulphuric acid plant at its mine site near Arandis with associated sulphur storage and transportation infrastructure in the Walvis Bay harbour and at the mine.

Also in the pipeline are plans to build a radiometric ore sorting plant at the mine site to improve the efficiency of uranium extraction from the mined ore.

The mine is also intending to mine a small satellite open pit close to the main open pit within Rössing's existing mining license area.

Directors: M D Leech\* (Managing), E H T Angula\*, S N Ashrafizadeh\*\*\*\*, B H Beath\*\*,  
P D Carlson\*, P S Chiaro\*\*\*, E Dorward-King\*\*\*, F Fredericks\*, R R Hoveka\*, A V Kalantar\*\*\*\*, C Kinnell\*\*\*\*\*  
J S Louw\*\* (alt. G.P. Louw), V B Moll\*\*, M K K Mhopjeni\*, W van Rooyen\*  
Company Secretary: G D Labuschagne

\* Namibian

\*\* South African

\*\*\* American

\*\*\*\* Iranian

\*\*\*\*\* British

## **Feasibility studies for remaining projects**

Remaining projects for the mine currently undergoing feasibility studies that will be assessed during 2008, include the life-of-mine plans to 2026 a proposed heap leach facility, the mining of a second large open pit in the existing mining license area and its associated tailings and rock waste disposal facilities.

## **Public's comments**

The main issues which were raised during the consultation process conducted last year included workplace health and safety concerns; air and water pollution; blasting noise and vibration; housing implications; services such as schools, medical care and water availability; social impacts from newcomers seeking work; possible human and environmental threats from transporting, storing and processing sulphur and sulphuric acid in and between Walvis Bay and the mine site; biodiversity implications, particularly in the new mining area as well as regional implications of bulk water and energy supply.

## **Next step**

Following the public review, the received comments will be addressed and the final documents will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Tourism with an application for environmental clearance for the acid plant and ore sorter plant as well as for the small satellite open pit.

Should the clearance be issued and approval given by the Rössing Board, it is expected that projects will be implemented from the second quarter of 2008.

The draft impact report and the scoping report for the remaining projects will be made available for public comment from 22 January 2008 to 15 February 2008 and can be found on Rössing's website <http://www.rossing.com/> and are available in printed form at the following venues: Windhoek Community Library; Rössing Foundation Library, Arandis; Swakopmund Public Library and the Walvis Bay Public Library.

Stakeholders are invited to inspect the reports and submit their comments by 15 February 2008. Contact details for comments on the report:

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## **Issued by:**

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