

Rössing Uranium Limited
MEETING WITH THE MEDIA

DATE	Tuesday, 23 October 2012
VENUE:	Swakopmund, Deutsches Haus
PROJECT:	Rössing Uranium: Mining of the Z20 Uranium Deposit – SEIA process
PURPOSE:	<p>The purpose of the meeting was to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide information on the proposed project; • discuss the proposed SEIA process to be followed; • provide information on the public participation process; • obtain initial comments on the project and the proposed SEIA process.
ATTENDANCE:	See attendance register

1. OPEN

Bea Whittaker (BW) welcomed the group and introduced the project team.

2. PRESENTATION

Carlo Van Heerden (CvH) presented the proposed project to the audience by referring to the prepared powerpoint presentation:

- Technical aspects of the project, including details on the infrastructure corridor (access road, water and fuel pipelines, power line), pit and waste rock design, plant changes and tailing facilities

A detailed presentation was delivered by Hermann Frühstück (H??) from Doppelmayr, the company that designs and constructs the conveyor.

- Provided details on the technical aspects of the overland conveyor system, which is to be used in the proposed project. (RopeCon system)

Werner Petrick (WP) from SLR Consulting Namibia (SLR) delivered a presentation on the steps that will be conducted for the proposed project SEIA and the social and environmental aspects.

- The SEIA process for the infrastructure corridor will be completed after the Scoping phase.
- The rest of the project components will be further assessed during the next phase (assessment phase).
- MET should therefore be in a position to make a decision on the infrastructure corridor after the scoping phase.

WP explained that during the screening phase the SEIA Team studied existing information in quite some detail. (i.e. previous SEIAs in the area, Rössing monitoring results, information provided by supplier of the conveyor, etc.). The SEIA Team in liaison with Rössing Uranium agreed that the infrastructure corridor can be subject to a Scoping phase only, taking the following into consideration:

- The potential social and environmental impacts relating to this type of activity (linear infrastructure) is fairly well understood;

- the receiving socio-economic and biophysical environment have been studied and contextualised in detail; and
- Additional input/assessment requirements from environmental specialists have been identified and will be included in the Scoping Report. These will be supplemented (where required) by input from I&APs during the PPP.
- A stand-alone EMP will be developed for the infrastructure corridor.

3. DISCUSSION

The following issues/comments were made during the meeting:

Raised by	Issue Raised	Response
Jade McClune	The proposed pit is shown as bordering the current mining license area. Will Rössing be applying for an expansion of their ML area?	CvH – There will be no extension of the mining license, mining will happen solely within the current area.
Jade McClune	The waste rock dump is shown having a downwards gradient and borders on the Khan River. Will there be run-off or seepage into the river and what will be done to mitigate this?	WP – The image shown does not reflect the final design. AvM – The waste rock dumps consist of very low grade ore and non-radioactive material, resulting in a very low-risk for contamination. The potential surface water impacts from the WRDs will be assessed as part of the SEIA process in the next phase of the study.
Floris Steenkamp	The conveyor system will be a Namibian first, how long will it take to construct and will local contractors be used?	HF – Total construction takes 18 to 24 months. Civil work will be done locally and local businesses will have the opportunity to tender.
Floris Steenkamp	Where will the fill material sourced for the access road?	CvH – Waste stripping of the pit produces large amounts of inert material that can be utilized for filling.
Floris Steenkamp	Will mining commence prior to construction of the infrastructure?	CvH – Given the project requirements, many activities will be conducted in parallel, including initial stripping and infrastructure construction.
Floris Steenkamp	Will local contractors be included in the construction of the access road?	CvH – Yes, local contractors will be able to tender for the project.
Floris Steenkamp	What is the total estimated cost for the project and what are the expected employment figures?	Alwyn Lubbe (AL) – Estimated cost is US\$ 150 million for the RopeCon system. Current employment is 1600 full time employees and 400 to 500 contractors. During the peak of the construction phase there will be approximately 2500 (temporary) employees.
Erwin Leuschner	What is the projected size of the Z20 pit?	Rainer Schneeweiss (RS) – The pit will be 1 km long, 600 m wide and 300 m deep. However, drilling is still on-going and the size may change.
Erwin Leuschner	Is there a Husab-Rössing partnership in the works to share infrastructure etc.? As it now stands, there will be 2 bridges across the Khan River, servicing the same area.	AL – Reducing infrastructure requirements providing access into the same area would be a preferred alternative. Should it be decided to go ahead with the Z20 project, sharing of infrastructure will be considered.
Erwin Leuschner	What is the anticipated grade of the Z20 resource?	RS – Comparable to the currently mined grade of 350ppm.
Adam Hartman	What is the expected capacity of the proposed acid plant?	RS – The approved, but not yet constructed, acid plant is 1200t/day, which is scheduled to

		change to 2000t/day.
Adam Hartman	There will be an increase in water demand, what is the expected increase? And where will the water come from, the Omdel Aquifer or desalinated water?	CvH – Usage will increase from 4 million m ³ per annum to about 8 million m ³ per annum. Rössing has committed to using desalinated water for any expansion projects, and to pay NamWater desalinated water rates. NamWater is still in negotiations relating to desalinated water
Adam Hartman	How will the power demand be met?	CvH – There will be a 50% increase from the current Rössing usage. A second transformer has been included in the project design. This will be supplied by NamPower.
Adam Hartman	Does the uranium price affect the plans for this project?	AL -Yes, the uranium price does affect the project, but Rössing is confident that it will rise again, given the demand of a non-fossil fuel based electricity source.
Jade McClune	75% of water samples taken in the area have been found to exceed WHO standards (15 mg/l) for radiation levels, due to this it is now required that the mines within the area conduct borehole monitoring. Has this started? And what will be the effect of these high numbers on the local communities and what mitigation measures are being taken?	RS – Yes, some monitoring boreholes have already been drilled, but the monitoring is done by DWAF, not Rössing. Also, brackish desert water is naturally occurring within this area and high levels of all constituents including uranium are expected. The natural evapotranspiration from river vegetation results in increasing salt contents as one moves downstream in the river. Water for consumption is not drawn from the Khan or Swakop Rivers and drinking water standards are applicable to drinking water sources. Information can be obtained through the Department of Water Affairs.

4. CLOSE

BW closed the meeting and thanked the media for their interest in the proposed project.