

Appendix C5 – Minutes of Focus Group and Public Meetings



DE BEERS CONSOLIDATED MINES (PTY) LTD (DBCM) - BASIC ASSESSMENT (BA) FOR A PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION FOR SOUTH AFRICAN SEA AREAS 4C AND 5C, WEST COAST, SOUTH AFRICA

NOTES OF ONLINE MEETING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT: BRANCH OCEANS AND COASTS HELD ON 16 FEBRUARY 2023, 10H00

NO.	ITEM
1.	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
1.1.	<p>Tabisile Mhlana (TM) opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present. She introduced herself and then asked her colleagues from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE): Branch Oceans and Coasts to introduce themselves.</p> <p>Josephine Pieters (JP), Social Impact Manager South Africa from De Beers Consolidated Mines (Pty) Ltd (DBCM), who are the applicant for the proposed project, Chantelle du Plessis (CdP), Environmental Manager, and Michele Kruse (MK), Geosciences Manager, from De Beers Marine (Pty) Ltd (DBM) who are the appointed operator for DBCM, Nicholas Arnott (NA) from SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SLR) who are the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) undertaking the Basic Assessment (BA) study, as well as Nomi Muthialu and Julian Drew (JD) from (NMA Effective Social Strategists (Pty) Ltd (NMA) who were facilitating the stakeholder engagement meetings for the project then introduced themselves.</p> <p>A list of attendees is provided in Appendix A.</p> <p>TM said DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts provided comments on the first Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) and had now received the updated DBAR for a prospecting right application in Sea Areas 4C and 5C on the West Coast. She said the consultants had requested the meeting to discuss the updated DBAR.</p>
2.	PRESENTATION - presentation is provided in Appendix B.
2.1	CdP presented DBM’s environmental management approach and MK presented the project history and description of the proposed prospecting activities.
2.2	NA presented an overview of the BA process covering the legislative requirements and the various steps in the BA process. NA then presented a list of key issues and potential impacts from the project and indicated the specialist studies that would be undertaken to assess these issues and impacts as well as those identified through the public participation process. He also presented responses to the comments made by DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts on the first DBAR.
3.	DISCUSSION
3.1	<p>Matshidisho Malatji (MM) said that the appointment of an Environmental Control Officer (ECO) was a standing requirement for all environmental activities including those that may not have extensive impacts. She asked whether the project could employ community monitors to monitor the impacts of the various activities along the coast. She said the prospecting activities would take place in areas with water depths from 70 m to 160 m and from 2.5 km from the coast and beyond. She said 2.5 km was close enough to the shore to be able to observe any activities with the naked eye and this additional layer of monitoring would go a long way towards easing any concerns about the project. She said impacts on marine species are not usually observed at the time the activities took place but rather a few weeks or a month afterwards and it would be necessary to monitor these impacts because the coast between Port Nolloth and Kleinzee is particularly sensitive. She said she was sure the consultants were aware of the seal mortalities that have been observed along that section of the coast and she said researchers were still trying to determine the cause of these mortalities. She said the community monitors could assist with data collection and determining the cause of the seal mortalities. She said although the proposed prospecting activities would not necessarily have an impact on the seals this extra layer of monitoring could be seen as a mitigation measure to cover De Beers in terms of any potential impacts.</p>

NO.	ITEM
	<p><i>NA said the presentation did not contain all the proposed mitigation measures and requested MM to go through the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and review the proposed mitigation measures to determine whether any additional measures were required. He said a certain amount of technical expertise would be required of any monitors to be employed along the coast. He said the key mitigation measure proposed by the Marine Faunal Specialist was to have the marine mammal observer on board the vessel during the survey period to ensure no marine mammals were in close proximity to the vessel while survey activities were taking place. He said the reference to water depths from 70 m to 160 m is an indication of where the prospecting activities were likely to be undertaken and there was no guarantee that these activities would take place as close as 2.5 km and 5 km from the shore. He said it could be much further offshore in which case the activities would not be visible from the shore. He said the implications of having coastal monitors needed to be unpacked properly before any recommendation could be made in this regard.</i></p>
<p>3.2</p>	<p>Thandeka Mbambo (TMb) said the Branch commented about the disposal of the unwanted material and the presentation mentioned that less than 1% of the concentrate would be disposed of. She asked what this material was comprised of.</p> <p><i>NA said the 1% concentrate is what would be retained on the vessel and the rest of the material, which would comprise the seabed sediments brought up from the sea floor onto the vessel, would be processed and then discharged overboard. He said the majority of the material would be what was on the seabed in the first place.</i></p> <p><i>MK said that due to the design of the sampling tool only samples of a certain size would be brought up from the seabed. She said that in the case of a core sample this would only be 11 cm in diameter and up to 6 m in depth and with the other sampling tools only a certain size of particle would be brought up to the surface. She said once the material had been processed in the treatment plant on board the vessel only the very small portion of concentrate would be retained and the remainder would be discharged overboard and returned to the seabed as sediment.</i></p>
<p>3.3</p>	<p>TMb said a slide in the presentation showed that there would be very little overlap with fisheries and indicated that there would be a very low to insignificant impact on fish stock recruitment. She asked whether this referred to the situation before or after mitigation. She said any impact on fisheries would be a concern.</p> <p><i>NA said that the significance level shown in the presentation referred to the situation after mitigation. He said the proposed prospecting activities would only be undertaken for a very short duration within the overall five-year validity period of the prospecting right. He said the campaigns that would be undertaken if the prospecting right application was approved may possibly only last a few weeks. He said the fishers would still be able to continue fishing outside the safety exclusion zone around the prospecting vessel which was usually an area of approximately two nautical miles from the vessel. He said the two Sea Areas were located outside the primary spawning areas for commercial fish species and the ichthyoplankton would only be abundant in the Sea Areas at certain times of the year. He said if the prospecting activities took place outside of those key periods there would be an even smaller impact. He said the slides in the presentation were trying to convey the information contained in a 300-page report and he recommended that the officials read the relevant sections in the report before submitting their comments.</i></p>
<p>3.4</p>	<p>Steve Kirkman (SK) said he assumed that the acoustic sampling would take place 24 / 7 and not just during daylight hours.</p> <p><i>MK said that the operational time would depend on the type of sampling that was being undertaken but it would not be a continuous operation as the tools would be idle while the material was on board and being processed. She said coring was very different to the other sampling tool methods, but there would never be continuous engagement with the seabed.</i></p> <p>SK said he was referring to the acoustic surveys and wanted to know whether they would also take place at night.</p>

NO.	ITEM
	<p><i>MK said the geophysical surveys could take place 24 / 7 but if this was the case a passive acoustic monitor would be on board the vessel in addition to a marine mammal observer (MMO). She said other mitigation measures such as soft starts would also be employed to assist in conditions of poor visibility.</i></p> <p>SK said it wasn't that clear from the presentation whether a passive acoustic monitor would always be used during geophysical surveys or whether it was just for the period between June and November.</p> <p><i>NA said that the recommendation was for passive acoustic monitoring to be used in the key periods associated with the migrations of key cetacean species.</i></p> <p>SK said he thought there was a recommendation that surveying should not take place during the migration period but from what was being said this did not appear to be the case and the mitigation measure would rather be that passive acoustic monitoring should be used during the migration period. He said this did not make a lot of sense because the acoustic instruments that would be used for the geophysical surveys would emit sounds at a higher frequency than that which would have an impact on the large migrating whales like the humpback and southern right whales. He said what was of more concern was the local resident species that very little was known about and might be in that area and could be impacted by the higher frequency sounds from the geophysical surveys. He said in his opinion there should always be passive acoustic monitoring on board as a mitigation no matter what the time of year.</p> <p><i>NA said he would take note of the suggestion and discuss it with the client when finalising the document.</i></p>
3.5	<p>SK said he hadn't managed to read the Marine Faunal Specialist Study but from what was presented it seemed to be quite superficial in terms of the seals because it was stated that they are found mainly at the surface. He said seals travel and rest at the surface but they feed mostly in the pelagic zone at depths between 50 m and 350 m and some also feed on the bottom. He said he didn't think the assessment of the impacts on seals was particularly well considered and requested that it be revisited. He said he had provided links to more up-to-date research papers in the chat box.</p> <p><i>NA said that these points were noted (a further response can be provided to any written comments once SK has had a chance to review the specialist report).</i></p>
3.6	<p>MM said that the map in the presentation that indicated there was no overlap with fisheries was a little biased in favour of the proposed operations because, if that was the case, the Department of Fisheries would not have allocated that whole area for fishing activities.</p> <p><i>NA said that the data used to compile the maps were provided by the DFFE Department of Fisheries and he therefore took issue with the comment that the maps were biased towards the project. The maps were created using the best available data although it was recognised that they were not perfect because there could be fishers who do not report the location of their catch. He recommended that the officials read the DBAR for each of the fishing sectors to get an overview of where the historic catch data was located. He said the reason why the data was collated from those areas was because that was where the fish were present and that was where the fishing activity took place. He said that the direct overlap was not the be all and end all in terms of the impact and it was recognised that there could be a potential impact that extends beyond the boundary of the Sea Area depending on the location of the activity and the activity taking place. He said, however, that it was important to contextualise the nature of the activity in relation to the extent of the Sea Area. He said the overall extent of the Sea Areas was 10 000 km² and, as was stated in the presentation, the total combined (maximum potential) sampled footprint would only be 0.225 km² which would be less than 0.002% of the Sea Area. He said the actual disturbed area in terms of the total Sea Areas would therefore be very small.</i></p>
3.7	<p>MM said there were tourism activities based around the seal colony at Kleinsee. She said if the geophysical surveys took place for 24-hours a day over whatever period it would create stress and an unpleasant experience for tourists because it had already been observed that the seals were becoming aggressive. She said that when TM and TMb submit their comments they should recommend a cooling period during each day to allow for feeding activities and recommend that the geophysical surveys should not be allowed to take place 24-hours a day. She said these animals migrate throughout the Sea Areas for feeding and 24-hour geophysical surveys could create hunger problems for these animals. She said the document said that sampling may take place at a line</p>

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	<p>spacing of between 10 m and 500 m apart. She said she assumed this referred to the spacing between the locations where the coring tool would collect the 11 cm by 6 m sample and asked for clarity on this. She said she believed the drilling in the benthic zone would have an impact underneath the seabed, not necessarily where the drilling was taking place but perhaps 20 km away. She said if the drilling locations were going to be 500 m apart that could create challenges for the tourism sector and the drilling locations should therefore be further apart. She said she was going to do some further reading on the matter and would then provide written comments.</p> <p><i>NA said he didn't understand the question relating the line spacing and clarified whether it related to the noise impact from the coring having a much wider area of influence or whether it was related to the physical impacts of the coring.</i></p> <p>MM said that it related to both issues. She said that when a hole was drilled there would be cracks and the noise from the drilling could also have an impact over a certain distance. She said although the disturbed area would only be 0.225 km² the impacts could be created over a much larger area and she was concerned about the impacts on the spawning grounds in the inshore area. She therefore requested the line spacing to be at least 2 km apart.</p> <p><i>NA said that when material was removed from the seabed through sampling there would be slumping and the sidewalls would collapse into the excavated hole, especially if it was a box core or grab sample. The physical disturbance would therefore be slightly bigger than the actual hole itself. However, if one considered this slightly increased area it would still be insignificant compared to the overall extent of the Sea Areas. He said the noise of the sampling tools would be of a much lower intensity than the geophysical surveys so the area of impact would be quite localised and would not extend to 20 km away. He said while the recommendation to increase the line spacing was noted there was also a technical rationale for the spacing between sampling that was dictated by the need to understand the underlying geology and the potential size of the resource. He said the spacing would be determined by the results of the geophysical surveys.</i></p> <p><i>MK said that the proposed activity was for discrete sampling using either an 11 cm diameter vibrocorer or a tool with a 5 m² footprint. She said during the reconnaissance phase the sampling would be conducted at a much wider spacing corresponding to the geological features that had been mapped. She said the prospecting would be conducted through a staged approach and as the prospecting progressed the spacing of the sampling could get closer because the exact spacing was determined by the size of the identified features and the information needed to define a resource. She said the spacing was not prescriptive and that was why a range of spacings was presented in the document. She said the spacing was not predefined and could be closer in one direction and further apart in another direction. She said the proposed sampling methods are completely different to well drilling activities that are undertaken by the oil and gas industry.</i></p>
3.8	<p>SK reiterated the need to adopt a precautionary approach with regards to cetaceans. He said there was a lot of concern around seismic surveys but the only proper evidence for geophysical surveys causing mass strandings of marine mammals was for multibeam sonar surveys off the coast of Madagascar. He stressed the need to have marine mammal observers and passive acoustic monitoring all year round during the surveying activities. He said in the recent environmental applications for seismic surveys, a blanket approach was adopted for Marine Protected Areas and a 5 km buffer zone was applied to all MPAs regardless of what was being protected in them. He said that although he understood that the acoustic signals produced in the geophysical surveys would be of a lower frequency and intensity to those used in seismic surveys he wanted to hear the views of the project team on conducting geophysical surveys in the vicinity of the Namaqua Fossil Forest Marine Protected Area (MPA) and whether they felt that there was a need for a buffer zone to be applied or whether they felt that this was not necessary.</p> <p><i>NA said it was not known at this point where the surveys would take place and it was possible that no geophysical surveys would take place anywhere near the Namaqua Fossil Forest MPA. He said in principle they would only recommend a buffer zone if there was a proper scientific rationale for doing so. He said for a seismic survey (as used for petroleum exploration), modelling is undertaken to determine the acoustic footprint of the activity which then informed the size of the buffer zone required. He said seismic surveys</i></p>

NO.	ITEM
	<p>were of a much higher intensity and longer duration than geophysical surveys and therefore the required mitigation measures were very different to those required for the kind of geophysical surveys that would be conducted for the proposed prospecting activities. He said previous noise modelling undertaken for such activities had shown that the acoustic footprint did not extend beyond a few hundred metres and it therefore wasn't necessary to have an extensive buffer zone around the MPA. He said this could be discussed with De Beers outside of the meeting but in principle De Beers would like to have the opportunity to survey anywhere within the Sea Areas outside of the MPA where there was a possibility of finding a resource.</p> <p>MK said that the observations that were made for the Namaqua Fossil Forest MPA were within a 2 km² area and the declared area for the MPA was 500 km² and there was also an EBSA on top of that so if it was proposed to have an additional buffer zone around the MPA this would be equivalent to having a buffer zone for a buffer zone for a buffer zone. She said the impacts of the activities for the prospecting right application had been determined in the DBAR and the mitigation measures were set out in the EMPr. She said De Beers had environmental policies, practices and a framework which would run concurrently with the EMPr. She said before commencing with sampling, remote sensing data would be used to visualise the seabed to identify potential rocky outcrops without a sediment veneer that may host potentially sensitive organisms. She said a mineral resource is where it is and De Beers would therefore like to undertake prospecting activities anywhere within the Sea Area outside the MPA in order to locate a potential economic deposit. She said the mitigation measures in the EMPr and De Beers' own environmental framework would ensure that a precautionary approach was taken to the exploration activities.</p> <p>SK said the EBSA extended to the north and east of the Namaqua Fossil Forest MPA partly because there was evidence that the features extended beyond the boundaries of the MPA. He said he appreciated the work that would be undertaken to avoid the hard rocky outcrops. He said the DBAR contained a map that showed the MPA but not the EBSA and this should be corrected. He said the main features of the Namaqua Fossil Forest MPA were the fossilised yellowwoods and there was also knowledge of invertebrate communities there but there was not much else known about the ecology of the MPA and the fish communities that were supported there. He said he was not thinking of an extensive buffer zone but rather a precautionary buffer of 1 km to avoid any potential periphery impacts from acoustic surveying. He said there was nothing to prevent De Beers from surveying in the EBSA and he was only looking at a buffer around the boundary of the MPA, especially because it was within an EBSA.</p> <p>Daisy Kotsedi (DK) said the Namaqua Fossil Forest MPA also contained cold water corals and unprotected muds and sponge gardens. She said it was also unique as it protected fishing grounds and hake nursery areas from mining impacts.</p>
3.10	<p>TM asked whether there had been any meaningful consultation with the coastal communities adjacent to the Sea Area. She said the social and cultural aspects did not relate only to shipwrecks, cultural and heritage issues but also the social beliefs of the communities. She said additional mitigation measures could result from such consultations with the communities and therefore this process was very important.</p> <p><i>NA said consultations with the communities along that section of the coast were a critical element of the study and public meetings would be conducted the following week in Port Nolloth, Kleinsee and Hondeklipbaai.</i></p>
4.	CLOSURE
4.1	<p>TM said DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts would provide written comments on the updated DBAR to SLR as well as recommendations for incorporation in the Final BAR.</p> <p>MK thanked the participants for making the time to attend the meeting and said De Beers greatly appreciated the input.</p> <p>NA thanked everybody for their participation in the discussions and requested that the recording of the meeting should not be shared beyond the attendees to the meeting. He requested that the written comments be sent on or before 6 March 2023 as SLR would not be able to include comments received after this date due to the timeframes within which the report had to be submitted to DMRE.</p> <p>TM said this request was noted and formally closed the meeting.</p>

APPENDIX A: LIST OF ATTENDEES

NO	NAME	ORGANISATION	ABBR.
1	Tabisile Mhlana	Coastal Development and Protection DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts	TM
2	Gerhard Cilliers	Biodiversity and Coastal Research DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts	
3	Xolani Zondo	DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts	
4	Nkosazana Vanto	Intern Environmental Officer DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts	
5	Makwarela Mswana	DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts	
6	Matshidisho Malatji	Non-Consumptive Marine Activities DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts	MM
7	Nenekazi Jukuda	DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts	
8	Sibusiso Mbethe	Off Road Vehicle Usage in Coastal Zone DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts	
9	Steve Kirkman	Research DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts	SK
10	Thandeka Mbambo	EIA Section DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts	TMb
11	Tshepiso Monnakgotla	Coastal Spatial Planning DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts	
12	Bukiwe Mndayi	DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts	
13	Daisy Kotsedi	Marine Protected Areas DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts	DK
14	Mthuthuzeli Gulekana		
15	Siphesihle Tasana		
16	Josephine Pieters	Social Impact Manager South Africa: De Beers Consolidated Mines (Pty) Ltd (DBCM)	JP
17	Chantelle du Plessis	Environmental Manager: De Beers Marine (Pty) Ltd (DBM)	CdP
18	Michele Kruse	Geosciences Manager: DBM	MK
19	Nicholas Arnott	SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SLR)	NA
20	Nomi Muthialu	Independent Facilitator – NMA Effective Social Strategists (Pty) Ltd	NM
21	Julian Drew	Independent Facilitator – NMA	JD

APPENDIX B: PRESENTATION

BASIC ASSESSMENT FOR A PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION FOR SOUTH AFRICAN SEA AREAS 4C AND 5C, WEST COAST, SOUTH AFRICA

Sea Areas 4C and 5C

Public Information Meeting

February 2023

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INTRODUCTIONS

- De Beers Consolidated Mines (Pty) Ltd (DBCM) – Applicant
 - Josephine Pieters- Social Impact Manager SA
- De Beers Marine (Pty) Ltd - appointed operator for DBCM
 - Chantelle du Plessis- Environmental Manager
 - Michele Kruse – Geosciences Manager
- SLR Consulting Africa (South Africa) – Environment Assessment Practitioner (EAP)
 - Nicholas Arnott – Project Manager
- NMA Effective Social Strategists – Independent Facilitator
 - Nomi Muthialu – Facilitator
 - Chris Fourie – Afrikaans Translator
 - Julian Drew - Facilitator

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MEETING OBJECTIVES

- Share information on:
 - Proposed project
 - Findings of the Basic Assessment and specialist studies
 - Proposed measures to avoid, reduce or manage potential impacts
 - The next steps in the Basic Assessment process.
- For I&APs to:
 - Comment on the findings of the Basic Assessment / specialist studies
 - Comment on the proposed mitigation measures; and
 - Make suggestions or raise further issues of concern about this proposed project.

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DE BEERS' PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION NC12857PR, SEA AREAS 4C & 5C

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

4

DE BEERS BUILDING FOREVER

DB

VIDEO

DB

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PROJECT HISTORY

- Prospecting Right application** lodged by De Beers Consolidated Mines (Pty) Ltd with the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) in **2021 for Sea Areas 4C and 5C, excluding the Marine Protected Area**.
- A draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) was prepared by SLR and made available for review and comment from **4 June to 5 July 2021**.
- Basic Assessment process was suspended** on 30 July 2021, pending the outcome of internal appeal processes regarding the application for a prospecting right itself under the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA), 2002 (Act 28 of 2002).
- Appeal process has been concluded and the **Prospecting Right application was accepted** by the DMRE on 22 November 2022.
- The **Application for Environmental Authorisation was acknowledged on 29 November 2022** and an updated BAR distributed for review and comment (**4 February to 6 March 2023**).

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LOCALITY OF SEA AREAS 4C AND 5C

- Sea Areas 4C and 5C lie adjacent to each other where 4C is the most northern block, located ~10 km south of Port Nolloth.
- The southern-most boundary of 4C and 5C is located more than 50 km north of Hondeklipbaai.
- The inshore boundary located ~2.5 - 5 km seaward of the coast and ~5km west of Kleinsee.
- Geophysical surveys and sampling operations will be focused in areas with water depths from 70 m - 160 m.
- Total area of the prospecting right application is 9265 km².

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PROPOSED ACTIVITIES OVERVIEW

- Prospecting activities will be conducted in a **phased approach**, with each phase dependent on the results of the previous phase.
- The proposed activities will be undertaken to identify economic diamond deposits.
- The prospecting right application is for a **five-year period**.
- Proposed offshore activities :
 - Exploration sampling**
 - Geophysical survey**
- These prospecting activities would be focused in **water depths ranging from 70 m to 160 m**.

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DETAILS OF PROPOSED GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

- The survey equipment will be deployed from a **fit-for-purpose vessel** that is **sited to the water depth** and selected survey method.
- 2D systems may be deployed as **towed systems vessel/pole mounted**, Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUV) or Autonomous Surface Vehicle (ASV).
- Towed 2D surveys will involve a **single towed streamer**.
- AUVs are programmed with a dive plan, deployed and then retrieved to download data
- Any 3D surveys will be acquired using the AUV, with **all sensors on the platform**.
- Photographic equipment (such as **ROVs, drop cameras**) may also be used for visualising the seabed.
- High frequency, low energy acoustic** methods will typically be used to map the seafloor and upper sediment layers in the project area.

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DETAILS OF PROPOSED SAMPLING (1)

- Sampling would be undertaken using a **fit-for-purpose tool and vessel of opportunity**.
- Possible sampling tool technologies that could be employed include **coring grab sampling** (such as box corers), **subsea sampling tool** and/or a **vertically mounted sampling tool**.
- Seabed video and photographic imaging** may also be acquired.
- Samples would typically each be **~ 5 - 10m² in extent and up to 1.5 m in depth**.
- Sampling operations may have a total **maximum potential** footprint of ~0,225 km², but **would not be contiguous**. This constitutes **0,002%** of the entire extent of Sea Areas 4C & 5C (9 265km²).
- Natural rehabilitation of the disturbed footprints is expected**. Research shows that the ecological functioning of the seabed is re-established over time after such disturbances.

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DETAILS OF PROPOSED SAMPLING (2)

Coring (e.g. vibrocoring)

- A **vibrocorer** consists of a core barrel in a landing frame with a vibrating motor.
- The corer is landed on the seafloor, motor turned on and barrel penetrates the sediment.
- Once the core stops penetrating, the motor is turned off and the corer raised back up to the deck.
- A PVC pipe is placed inside the core barrel prior to coring and the core sample is collected in this pipe.
- Cores can typically penetrate up to 6 m and typically have a diameter of **approximately 11 cm**.

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DETAILS OF PROPOSED SAMPLING (3)

Subsea Sampling Tool

- Operated from a drill frame, launched through the moon pool of the vessel and positioned on the seabed.
- The tool removes a discrete sample with a seabed surface footprint of **~ 5 - 10 m²**.
- The unconsolidated sediments are fluidised with strong water jets and airlifted to the support vessel where they are treated in the onboard mineral recovery plant.
- All material** (except for the final <1% concentrate) is returned to the water and **settles back to the seabed**.

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DETAILS OF PROPOSED SAMPLING (4)

Vertically Mounted Tool

- A vertically mounted tool may possibly be used for some of the sampling.
- The tool is suspended from a derrick mounted on the ship.
- The tool agitates the unconsolidated sediments and airlifts sediment particles to the vessel for processing.
- The tool removes a discrete sample with a seabed surface footprint of ~ 30 m².
- All material (except for the final <1% concentrate) is returned to the water and settles back to the seabed.**

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OUR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT APPROACH

- Our internal environmental systems, policies and procedures require compliance to **Anglo American Safety and Sustainable Development Standards** including those on **Climate Change and Biodiversity**. This requires **assessment of biodiversity risks and implementation of the mitigation hierarchy**.
- Our **Building Forever** approach means we would not conduct prohibited activities in environmentally sensitive areas.
- If our own environmental monitoring studies detected additional sensitive areas, **we would not conduct any further activities in that area that may cause significant harm to marine life.**
- De Beers also operate in terms of an Environmental Management System (EMS), **certified to the International ISO14001 standard** audited annually by the British Standards Institute.

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ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITY FRAMEWORK FOR RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

- Our **Environmental Activity Framework** has been developed to assist with implementation of environmental activities to address each stage of the Marine Diamond Pipeline from Targeting through to Closure
- The framework outlines requirements for each phase in the following categories:
 - Environmental Studies
 - Environmental Sampling / Data Collection Requirements
 - Risk Assessment
 - Environmental Management Requirements
 - Stakeholder Engagement
 - Tenure & Environmental Authorisation

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OVERVIEW OF BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

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REQUIREMENT FOR BASIC ASSESSMENT

- Proposed prospecting activities trigger **listed activities in terms of the law and requires approval** (Environmental Authorisation)
 - Activities triggered in Listing Notice 1
 - > 19A "The ... removal ... of soil, sand, shells ... of more than 5 cubic metres from (iii) the sea. ..."
 - > 20 "Any activity ... which requires a prospecting right..."
 - > 22 "The decommissioning of any activity requiring... a closure certificate ..."
- The Basic Assessment process and timeframes are defined in the EIA Regulations 2014

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BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

- Sea Areas 4C and 5C situated in water depths between 50m and 200 m within the Benguela Upwelling System of the Namaqua Bioregion.
- The Namaqua Fossil Forest Marine Protected Area is excluded from prospecting right application - **no geophysical surveying and sampling activities will occur in MPA.**

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RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENT

5.1 Recommendation to align Sea Area boundaries with the Namaqua Fossil Forest MPA and ensure that no prospecting occurs in nearshore coastal waters.

- The Namaqua Fossil Forest feature is a small unique seabed outcrop of fossilized yellowwood at 136 - 140 m depth, approximately 30 km offshore on the West Coast.
- The outcrop is a small unique feature was observed within a 2 km² area and received full protection through the declaration in May 2019 of the much larger (~500 km²) encompassing Namaqua Fossil Forest MPA. Thus, the MPA boundary itself is considered a sufficient buffer area around the unique seabed outcrop of fossilized yellowwood.
- The proposed prospecting activities will typically be focused in areas where the water depth ranges from 70 m – 160 m and would thus not take place in nearshore coastal waters.

5.3 & 5.4 Recommendation for prospecting activities to be set as far away from the coast as practicable to ensure no conflict with planned future socio-economic activities

- The inshore boundary of Sea Areas 4C and 5C is situated approximately 2.5 - 5 km seaward of the coast and the prospecting operations would only take place over short intervals throughout the duration of the prospecting right itself (valid for 5-years).
- No impacts with respect to public access to the near-shore or land-based coastal activities are expected

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RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENT

Mitigation/Recommendations for land-based activities

5.8.1 A Construction Off-Road Vehicle permit (ORV) will be required to authorize the transportation of materials in and out of the coastal zone during construction.

6.2 Vehicles must not be refueled within the coastal zone.

6.3 Reinstatement of the site location within the coastal area.

5.8.2 **Need for a Coastal Water Discharge permit**

6.4 **Appointment of an ECO**

Section 3.2 of the EMPr sets out the roles and responsibilities involved in the implementation of the EMPr. De Beers Marine (Pty) Ltd (DBM) Environmental Manager is responsible for ensuring adherence to the conditions of the EA and prospecting right and any additional environmental licenses or permits issued for the project, and the requirement of the EMPr.

All prospecting will be undertaken by vessels. No land-based activities proposed, thus these comments/recommendations do not apply.

Vessels comply with International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973/1978 (MARPOL) - Coastal Water Discharger Permit not required.

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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

Ecosystem Threat Status (Sink et al. 2019)

- Sea Areas 4C and 5C are located within ecosystems rated as 'Least Concern'.
- No overlap with any areas demarcated as "Critically Endangered" or "Endangered".

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POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION

Potential impact	Assessed Significance (with Mitigation)	Key mitigation measures
Discharges from sampling/support vessels	VERY LOW to INSIGNIFICANT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance with MARPOL 73/78 standards. Ensure crew are trained in spill management. Correct and safe storage of hydrocarbons. No disposal of solid waste.
Disturbance and loss and crushing of benthic fauna due to sampling	VERY LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use remote sensing data to identify any high-profile, rocky-outcrop areas without a sediment veneer.
Smothering of benthos by redepositing sediments on rocky outcrop communities	VERY LOW	

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RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENT

5.7 Clarity on the Disposal of unwanted material

- Material that is screened out on the vessel is discharged overboard and returned into the sea.
- Heavier sediments settle onto the seafloor in and around the sampled areas while the smaller fraction forms a sediment plume in the water column (which also occurs naturally).
- Suspended sediments dissipate with time as the material settles onto the sea floor further away from the sampling footprint.

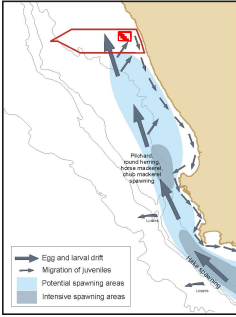
6.1 Avoid sensitive features

- Section 4.2 of the Basic Assessment Report provides an overview of:
 - Identified protected and/or sensitive areas (Section 4.2),
 - Breeding areas and migration routes (where applicable) for species offshore of the West Coast (Section 4.1).
- Various mitigation measures have been proposed to avoid or limit potential impacts associated with the proposed project (see Section 6.2 of DBAR and as presented).

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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT



Major Spawning Areas (Cruikshank 1990)

- Hake, snoek and round herring spawn in the southern west coast in late winter and early spring. Thereafter, the larvae drift northwards and inshore to the west coast nursery grounds.
- Hake spawns throughout the year with highest concentrations of eggs and larvae expected between September - October.
- Snoek spawn along the shelf break (150 - 400 m) between June and October.
- Sea Areas 4C and 5C located outside of these spawning areas
- Limited overlap with the northward egg and larval drift
- Ichthyoplankton abundance expected to be seasonally high (especially in 5C).

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POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION



Potential Impact	Assessed Significance (with Mitigation)	Key mitigation measures
• Generation of sediment plumes	VERY LOW	• No mitigation measures are considered necessary for the discharge of sampled material from the sampling vessel.
• Impact of Sediment Plume on Fish Stock Recruitment	VERY LOW to INSIGNIFICANT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with DFFE to discuss programmes and the possibility of minimizing or avoiding disruptions to both parties. • Notification of key stakeholders prior to commencement of geophysical survey and sampling activities. • Issuing of Notice to Mariners and Daily Navigational Warnings.

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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

- Most seabirds in the region reach highest densities offshore of the shelf break (200 to 500 m depth) well offshore of Sea Area 4C and 5C.
- Some species are likely to be encountered with highest population levels present during non-breeding season (winter).
- Important seabird breeding islands at McDougall's Bay and Boegoeberg (about 15 km south of the Orange River Mouth) as well as onshore breeding sites in the Northern Cape.

Cape gannets (top) and African penguins (bottom) breed primarily on the offshore islands (sources: NACOMA and Klaus Jost).

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POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION



Potential Impact	Assessed Significance (with Mitigation)	Key mitigation measures
• Impact of Vessel Lighting	VERY LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce lighting on the vessels to a minimum. • Keep disorientated, but otherwise unharmed, seabirds in dark containers for subsequent release during the day.
• Noise from helicopters	VERY LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all flight paths avoid coastal colonies. • Avoid low-altitude coastal flights. • Maintain an altitude of at least 762 m or 2 500 ft above the highest point of a National Park or World Heritage Site.

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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

- Marine mammals likely to be present in the area include Heaviside's dolphins, dusky dolphins, southern right and humpback whales.

The Humpback whale Megaptera novaeangliae (left) and the Southern Right whale Eubalaena australis (right) are the most abundant large cetaceans occurring along the West Coast.

The endemic Heaviside's Dolphin Cephalorhynchus heavisidii (left) and Dusky dolphin Lagenorhynchus obscurus (right) (Sources: De Beers Marine Namibia and scottelaw@photography.com).

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POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION

Potential Impact	Assessed Significance (with Mitigation)	Key mitigation measures
• Acoustic impacts from geophysical surveys and sampling operations	VERY LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appoint Marine Mammal Observer (MMO) to conduct on board visual scans. • Implement "Soft starts".
• Electromagnetic Impacts of Geophysical Surveys	VERY LOW to INSIGNIFICANT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electromagnetic source to be ramped up over a minimum period of 20 minutes. • Turn off electromagnetic source when not collecting data.
• Collisions with project vessels	VERY LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep a watch for marine mammals and turtles in the path of the vessel. • Ensure vessel transit speed of 10 knots (18 km/hr) when sensitive marine fauna are present in the vicinity. • Report any collisions with large whales.

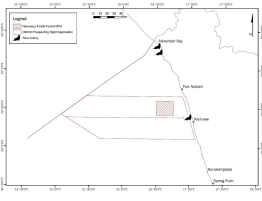
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RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENT

5.2 Impact on seal colony at Kleinsee

- Potential for physiological injury to marine fauna (including seals) is assessed in Section 5.2.1 and the Marine Faunal Specialist Assessment (Appendix C1).
- Geophysical surveys generally use higher frequency sources and thus have much lower noise emissions that dissipate to safe levels over a relatively short distance. The anticipated radius of influence of the proposed geophysical surveys is very small in comparison to low frequency seismic airguns.
- Due to the comparatively lower noise level, animals only located directly below or within the sonar beam could be expected to receive sound levels in the ranges that could result in trauma or physiological injury.
- The potential for physiological injury to seals from geophysical survey noise is expected to be low as seals tend to swim at or near the surface, which would have further reduced sound levels and as they are highly mobile creatures, it is expected they would avoid severe sound sources at levels well below those at which discomfort occurs.
- Given that the proposed prospecting activities would be undertaken in water depth ranges from 70 m – 160 m (and generally located further than 6 – 13 km offshore) no impacts on this seal colony are anticipated.



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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

Direct overlapping Commercial Fisheries with Sea Areas 4C and 5C

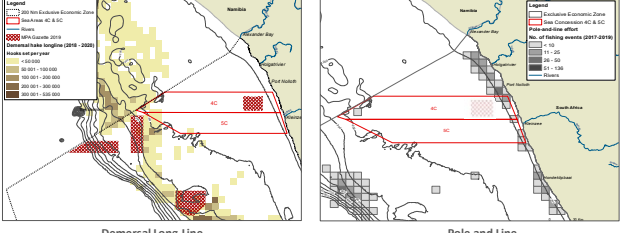
Sector	Overlap	% National Effort / Catch	
Demersal Longline	0.47 %	0.47 %	Minimal activity within the Sea Areas but no activity within the proposed survey and sampling areas.
Pole-and-Line	6.97 %	0.53 %	Snoek catches reported within the Sea Areas, inshore of the 100 m depth contour. No tuna catches reported within the Sea Areas.

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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT



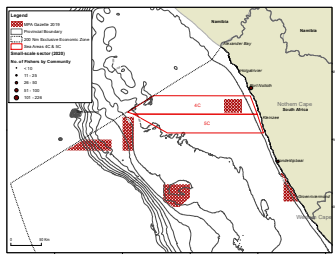
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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

- These fishers traditionally operate in nearshore fishing grounds.
- SSF fish to meet food and basic livelihood needs, but may also directly be involved in fishing for commercial purposes and may overlap with the commercial fishery sectors.
- SSF resources are managed in terms of a community-based co-management approach - implemented through a series of community co-operatives. Closest are:
 - Port Nolloth
 - Hondeklipbaai



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RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENT

5.5 & 5.6 Impacts on fisheries

- The potential impact on fisheries is assessed in Section 5.3.1 of the BAR and Specialist Fisheries Assessment (Appendix C2).
- Fishing sectors that directly overlap with the Sea Areas are the demersal long-line and pole and line, fisheries. Activities undertaken by the small-scale fishers, as well as fishery research could also be affected.
- As these possible impacts would be limited to small areas within Sea Areas 4C and 5C and the fishing vessels would be able to operate anywhere else outside of the exclusion zone, the impact on the fisheries is anticipated to be insignificant.

Potential impact	Assessed Significance (with Mitigation)	Key mitigation measures
Impacts on fishing industry and fisheries research	NO IMPACT (Fisheries research)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with DFFE to discuss programmes and the possibility of minimizing or avoiding disruptions to both parties.
Impact of survey noise on catch rates	INSIGNIFICANT (Pole-and-line, inshore, small-scale fisheries)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notification of key stakeholders prior to commencement of geophysical survey and sampling activities. Issuing of Notice to Mariners and Daily Navigational Warnings.


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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

- The majority of shipping traffic is located on the outer edge of the continental shelf with traffic inshore of the continental shelf along the South-West Coast largely comprising fishing vessels, especially between Kleinsee and Oranjemund. The main shipping lanes overlap with the western portion of Sea Areas 4C and 5C.



Potential impact	Assessed Significance (with Mitigation)	Key mitigation measures
Impact on marine transport routes	INSIGNIFICANT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior to the commencement of activities, the operator must notify relevant bodies

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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

- Exploration for oil and gas is currently undertaken in a number of licence blocks off the West Coast. There is no current development or production from the South African West Coast offshore although further exploratory drilling is proposed for inshore and offshore areas that overlaps with the study area.
- There is no overlap with other prospecting or mining rights although there are neighbouring marine diamond concession areas.

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POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION

Potential impact	Assessed Significance (with Mitigation)	Key mitigation measures
Impact on marine mining and prospecting activities	High/Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact any companies undertaking marine prospecting or mining activities within the study area prior to prospecting in order to notify them of the planned activities
Impact on petroleum exploration	Very Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with all petroleum exploration operators and any overlapping mineral prospecting rights holders to ensure that there is no overlapping of activities in the same area over the same time period.

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POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION

Potential Impact	Assessed Significance (with Mitigation)	Key mitigation measures
Impact on cultural heritage material (Heritage Impact Assessment)	High/Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exclude any identified shipwreck sites prior to undertaking sampling activities • Where wrecks are discovered, cease work and contact the South African Heritage Resources Agency
Job creation and business opportunities	Very Low (positive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use local companies for support services, as far as possible
No-Go Alternative (i.e. not proceeding with proposed bulk sampling)	Low	-

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WAY FORWARD

- Comment period closes **6 March 2023**:
 - Submit comments, questions, issues or suggestions to SLR.
 - Comments to be collated and responded to in Comments and Responses Report.
- Final BAR will be submitted for decision-making:
 - Up to 107 days for Competent Authority to make a decision.
- Final BAR Report will be uploaded for information-purposes.
- Registered I&APs will be notified of the decision and the appeal process once decision is made.

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Open Session: Questions & Discussion

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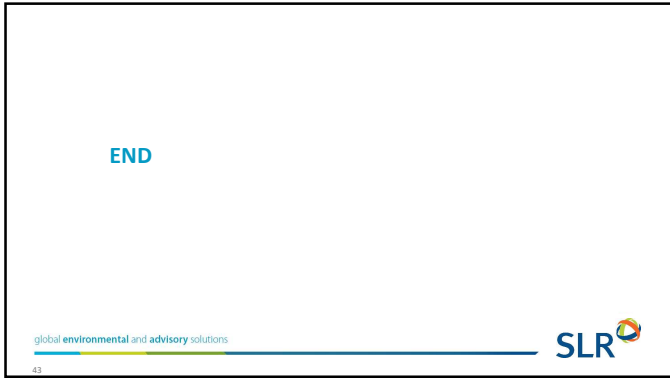
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Data Free Web:	https://slrpublicdocs.datafree.co/en/public-documents/debeers-4c5c

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DE BEERS CONSOLIDATED MINES (PTY) LTD (DBCM) - BASIC ASSESSMENT (BA) FOR A PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION FOR SOUTH AFRICAN SEA AREAS 4C AND 5C, WEST COAST, SOUTH AFRICA

NOTES OF ONLINE MEETING WITH THE NORTHERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT HELD ON 17 FEBRUARY 2023, 11H00

NO.	ITEM
1.	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
1.1.	<p>Nomi Muthialu (NM), the independent facilitator, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present. She introduced herself as the independent facilitator whose role is to facilitate the meeting. She said she is not employed by the applicant or the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) and does not have any vested interest in the project or the outcome of the project.</p> <p>Conrad Geldenhuys (CG) said he was a terrestrial plant ecologist in the Environmental Research and Development Unit (ERDU) of the Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Land Reform and Rural Development (NCDAEADLRRD) He said Louise Geldenhuys (LG) was a coastal ecologist in the ERDU who provided comments on the first Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) and she was on maternity leave. He said her supervisor was also unable to attend so he was asked to represent the Department in the meeting.</p> <p>Josephine Pieters (JP), Social Impact Manager South Africa from De Beers Consolidated Mines (Pty) Ltd (DBCM), who are the applicant for the proposed project, Chantelle du Plessis (CdP), Environmental Manager, and Michele Kruse (MK), Geosciences Manager, from De Beers Marine (Pty) Ltd (DBM) who are the appointed operator for DBCM, Nicholas Arnott (NA) from SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SLR) who are the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) undertaking the Basic Assessment (BA) study, as well as Nomi Muthialu (NM) and Julian Drew (JD) from (NMA Effective Social Strategists (Pty) Ltd (NMA) who are facilitating the stakeholder engagement for the project then introduced themselves.</p> <p>A list of attendees is provided in Appendix A</p>
2.	PRESENTATION – the presentation is provided in Appendix B.
2.1	CdP presented DBM’s environmental management approach and MK presented the project history and description of the proposed prospecting activities.
2.2	NA presented an overview of the BA process covering the legislative requirements and the various steps in the BA process. NA then presented a list of key issues and potential impacts from the project and indicated the specialist studies that would be undertaken to assess these issues and impacts as well as those identified through the public participation process. He also presented responses to the comments made by NCDAEALRRD on the first Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR).
3.	DISCUSSION
3.1	CG said most of his questions and comments had been answered during the presentation and they mostly related to the comments LG had provided on the first DBAR. He said these comments had been adequately addressed and he would relay this to the relevant people within the Department. He said based on the presentation he did not foresee that there would be any significant comments provided by the Department.
3.2	<p>CG said that from what he understood from the presentation, the conclusion from the specialist studies was that the main impacts on the seabird colonies based along the coast would be from air traffic to and from the survey vessel and not from the prospecting activities.</p> <p><i>NA said that CG was correct in his understanding. He said there would be a number of prospecting campaigns during the five-year validity of the prospecting licence and the prospecting activities during each campaign would be of a very short duration / a few weeks. He said the survey vessel would not be operating day and night over the full five-year period. He said the survey vessel would go out for a few weeks to</i></p>

NO.	ITEM
	<p><i>gather data and then that data would be analysed in the office. Further survey work could then be planned for other areas depending on the results of the analysed data. He said the data could also indicate that there was nothing of interest and that there would be no point in conducting further survey work. He said all the prospecting activities would be undertaken by sea bound vessels and there would be no activities on land. He said the closest the survey vessels would come to the shore would be between 5 km and 13 km and in reality it was likely to be further than that. He said the risk would therefore be linked mainly to the potential air flights although it was possible that there would be no fixed wing or helicopter flights at all as these would only be required for crew transfers, resupply or emergency situations. He said given the short duration of the campaigns, it was unlikely that such flights would be needed. He said the key elements to note with the prospecting activities was their limited extent and short duration.</i></p>
3.3	<p>CG noted that the updated critical biodiversity areas (CBAs) were used for the assessment and said that LG had requested that the survey activities avoid the CBAs where possible.</p> <p><i>NA said that it was not certain at this stage how many samples or surveys would be undertaken within the Sea Areas. He said it should also be noted that input into the National Coastal and Marine Spatial Biodiversity Plan (NCMSBP) was still ongoing and the NCMSBP had not been finalised yet. He said the CBA maps had been updated substantially from 2021 to 2022 and there was scope for them to change again because the NCMSBP process made provision for the CBAs to be revisited over a fixed period of time. He said all the other sectors within the marine environment had not had an opportunity to participate in the NCMSBP process and to develop their own marine sector plans and there was a lot of uncertainty around how these would be implemented once the NCMSBP was finalised. He said the NCMSBP working group had stated on their website that they were still busy engaging with the other marine sectors.</i></p> <p>CG said he understood that the NCMSBP had not been adopted yet but he felt that it was always prudent to consider these kinds of planning instruments as part of a best practice approach.</p>
3.4	<p>CG said the presentation mentioned that water quality sampling had been undertaken in order to be able to assess how the redeposition of the sediment into the marine environment would affect the water quality. He asked if this was the reference that was referred to in the DBAR.</p> <p><i>NA said that this was covered in the DBAR but the actual comment related to private communication between the marine ecologist, Dr Andrea Pulfrich, and De Beers staff at the time the water quality sampling was undertaken. He said Dr Pulfrich of Pisces Environmental Services, who undertook the Marine Faunal Specialist Assessment for this project, had been involved in monitoring these types of prospecting activities for a number of years off the coast of Namibia and therefore had a good understanding of the actual impacts of such activities.</i></p>
3.5	<p>CG said the presentation mentioned that the Namaqua Fossil Forest Marine Protected Area had been excluded from the prospecting right area and he asked whether this referred to the actual boundary of the MPA or whether there would be a buffer area around the MPA.</p> <p><i>NA said the exclusion related to the exact boundary of the MPA. He said as he understood it the MPA aimed to prevent physical disturbance within the actual footprint of the MPA and if no sampling was undertaken within the MPA then there would be no impact on the actual features that were being protected within the MPA.</i></p>
3.6	<p>CG said that DFFE had a number of committees like the Marine Top Predator Working Group that discussed marine environmental issues and research and he asked whether the project was communicating directly with these working groups or whether it would have to filter through the normal DFFE channels.</p> <p><i>NA said the project team met with the DFFE: Branch Oceans and Coasts the previous day and there were about 15 officials in attendance with different portfolios within the Branch and he considered it likely that some of those attendees were also members of the various working groups. He said he hoped that those people who attended the meeting would be able to provide a consolidated response from the Branch Oceans and Coasts. He said Steve Kirkman was part of the meeting and he was aware that he was part of several of those working groups.</i></p>

NO.	ITEM
3.7	<p>CG said that he did not have any further comments or questions and he would provide all the information from the meeting to his colleagues in the Department. He said he was not sure who would be providing any comments, if any, on the updated DBAR. He said although he was not a marine ecologist he did not think that the Department would have any major issues with the proposed project.</p> <p><i>NA thanked CG for taking the time to meet the project team and for providing his valuable input.</i></p>
4.	CLOSURE
4.1	<p>NM said that notes of the meeting would be prepared and sent to CG together with the presentation from the meeting. She said any comments on the DBAR should be sent to SLR by 6 March 2023.</p> <p>MK thanked CG for engaging with the project team and said that De Beers appreciated the opportunity to present and discuss the project with the Department.</p> <p>NM then thanked everyone for their participation and formally closed the meeting.</p>

APPENDIX A: LIST OF ATTENDEES

NO	NAME	ORGANISATION	ABBR.
1	Conrad Geldenhuys	Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Land Reform and Rural Development (NCDAEADLRD)	CG
2	Josephine Pieters	Social Impact Manager South Africa: De Beers Consolidated Mines (Pty) Ltd (DBCM)	JP
3	Chantelle du Plessis	Environmental Manager: De Beers Marine (Pty) Ltd (DBM)	CdP
4	Michele Kruse	Geosciences Manager: DBM	MK
5	Nicholas Arnott	SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SLR)	NA
6	Nomi Muthialu	Independent Facilitator – NMA Effective Social Strategists (Pty) Ltd	NM
7	Julian Drew	Independent Facilitator – NMA	JD

APPENDIX B: PRESENTATION

BASIC ASSESSMENT FOR A PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION FOR SOUTH AFRICAN SEA AREAS 4C AND 5C, WEST COAST, SOUTH AFRICA

Sea Areas 4C and 5C

Public Information Meeting

February 2023

DB
DE BEERS GROUP

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1

INTRODUCTIONS

- De Beers Consolidated Mines (Pty) Ltd (DBCM) – Applicant
 - Josephine Pieters- Social Impact Manager SA
- De Beers Marine (Pty) Ltd - appointed operator for DBCM
 - Chantelle du Plessis- Environmental Manager
 - Michele Kruse – Geosciences Manager
- SLR Consulting Africa (South Africa) – Environment Assessment Practitioner (EAP)
 - Nicholas Arnott – Project Manager
- NMA Effective Social Strategists – Independent Facilitator
 - Nomi Muthialu – Facilitator
 - Julian Drew - Facilitator

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MEETING OBJECTIVES

- Share information on:
 - Proposed project
 - Findings of the Basic Assessment and specialist studies
 - Proposed measures to avoid, reduce or manage potential impacts
 - The next steps in the Basic Assessment process.
- For I&APs to:
 - Comment on the findings of the Basic Assessment / specialist studies
 - Comment on the proposed mitigation measures; and
 - Make suggestions or raise further issues of concern about this proposed project.

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DE BEERS GROUP

DE BEERS' PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION NC12857PR, SEA AREAS 4C & 5C

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

OFFICIAL

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OUR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT APPROACH

- Our internal environmental systems, policies and procedures require compliance to **Anglo American Safety and Sustainable Development Standards** including those on **Climate Change and Biodiversity**. This requires **assessment of biodiversity risks and Implementation of the mitigation hierarchy**.
- Our approach means we would not conduct prohibited activities in environmentally sensitive areas.
- If our own environmental monitoring studies detected additional sensitive areas, **we would not conduct any further activities in that area that may cause significant harm to marine life.**
- De Beers also operate in terms of an Environmental Management System (EMS) **certified to the International ISO14001 standard** audited annually by the British Standards Institute.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

De Beers Marine (Pty) Ltd

DB

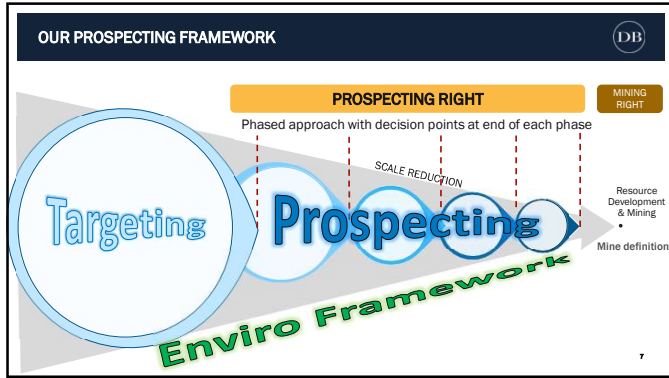
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ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITY FRAMEWORK FOR RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

- Our **Environmental Activity Framework** has been developed to assist with implementation of environmental activities to address each stage of the Marine Diamond Pipeline from Targeting through to Closure
- The framework outlines requirements for each phase in the following categories:
 - Environmental Studies**
 - Environmental Sampling / Data Collection Requirements
 - Risk Assessment
 - Environmental Management Requirements**
 - Stakeholder Engagement**
 - Tenure & Environmental Authorisation**

DB

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PROJECT HISTORY

- Prospecting Right application lodged in 2021 for Sea Areas 4C and 5C, excluding the Marine Protected Area.
- Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) made available for comment from 4 June to 5 July 2021.
- Basic Assessment process suspended 30 July 2021, pending outcome of appeal processes regarding the application for a prospecting right itself.
- Appeal process has been concluded.
- Prospecting Right application accepted 22 Nov 2022.
- Application for Environmental Authorisation acknowledged 29 Nov 2022
- Updated BAR distributed for comment (4 February to 6 March 2023).

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LOCALITY

- Sea Areas 4C & 5C located ~10 km south of Port Nolloth.
- 4C and 5C are more than 50 km north of Hondeklipbaai.
- The inshore boundary is ~2.5- 5 km from the coast and ~5km west of Kleinsee.
- Geophysical surveys and sampling will be focused in areas with water depths from 70 m – 180 m.

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PROPOSED ACTIVITIES OVERVIEW

- Prospecting activities will be conducted in a **phased approach**, with each phase dependent on the results of the previous phase.
- Proposed activities will be undertaken to identify economic diamond deposits.
- Prospecting right application is for a **five-year period**.
- Proposed offshore activities :
 - Exploration sampling
 - Geophysical survey

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DETAILS OF PROPOSED GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

- The survey equipment will be deployed from a **fit-for-purpose vessel** that is **sited to the water depth** and survey method.
- 2D systems may be deployed as **towed systems, vessel/pole mounted**, Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUV) or Autonomous Surface Vehicle.
- Towed 2D surveys will involve a **single towed streamer**.
- AUVs are programmed with a dive plan, deployed and then retrieved to download data
- Any 3D surveys will be acquired using the AUV, with **all sensors on the platform**.
- Photographic equipment (such as ROVs, drop cameras) may also be used for visualising the seabed.
- High frequency, low energy acoustic** methods will typically be used to map the seafloor and upper sediment layers.

Schematic showing examples of potential tools that may be used.

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DETAILS OF PROPOSED SAMPLING (1)

- Sampling would be undertaken using a **fit-for-purpose tool and vessel of opportunity**.
- Possible sampling tool technologies that could be employed include **coring**, grab sampling (such as box corers), **subsea sampling tool** and/or a **vertically mounted sampling tool**.
- Seabed video and photographic imaging** may also be acquired.
- Samples would typically each be ~ **5 - 10m² in extent**.
- Sampling may have a total **maximum potential** footprint of ~0,225 km², but **would not be contiguous**. This constitutes **0,002%** of the entire extent of Sea Areas 4C & 5C (9 265km²).
- Natural rehabilitation of the disturbed footprints is expected.** Research shows that the ecological functioning of the seabed is re-established over time after such disturbances.


Illustrative representation of maximum potential total area that might be sampled over 5 years.

12

DETAILS OF PROPOSED SAMPLING (2) (DB)

Coring (e.g. vibrocoring)

- A **vibrocorer** consists of a core barrel in a landing frame with a vibrating motor.
- The corer is landed on the seafloor, motor turned on and barrel penetrates the sediment.
- Once the core stops penetrating, the motor is turned off and the corer raised back up to the deck.
- A PVC pipe is placed inside the core barrel prior to coring and the core sample is collected in this pipe.
- Cores can typically penetrate up to 6 m and typically have a diameter of **approximately 11 cm**.





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DETAILS OF PROPOSED SAMPLING (3) (DB)

Subsea Sampling Tool

- Operated from a drill frame, launched through the moon pool of the vessel and positioned on the seabed.
- The tool removes a discrete sample with a seabed surface footprint of **~ 5 - 10 m²**.
- The unconsolidated sediments are fluidised with strong water jets and airlifted to the support vessel where they are treated in the onboard mineral recovery plant.
- **All material** (except for the final <1% concentrate) is returned to the water and **settles back to the seabed**.

Example of a subsea sampling tool


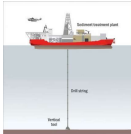
Example of potential vessel of opportunity - The Explorer

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DETAILS OF PROPOSED SAMPLING (4) (DB)


Vertically Mounted Tool

- A vertically mounted tool may possibly be used for some of the sampling.
- The tool is suspended from a derrick mounted on the ship.
- The tool agitates the unconsolidated sediments and airlifts sediment particles to the vessel for processing.
- The tool removes a discrete sample with a seabed surface footprint of **~ 30 m²**.
- **All material** (except for the final <1% concentrate) is returned to the water and **settles back to the seabed**.

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OVERVIEW OF BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS



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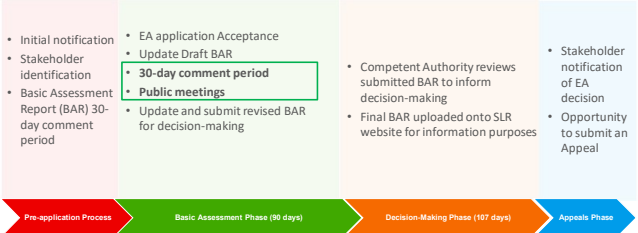
REQUIREMENT FOR BASIC ASSESSMENT

- Proposed prospecting activities trigger **listed activities in terms of the law** and requires **approval** (Environmental Authorisation)
 - Activities triggered in Listing Notice 1
 - > 19A "The ... removal ... of soil, sand, shells ... of more than 5 cubic metres from (iii) the sea. ..."
 - > 20 "Any activity ... which requires a prospecting right..."
 - > 22 "The decommissioning of any activity requiring... a closure certificate ..."
- The Basic Assessment process and timeframes are defined in the EIA Regulations 2014.

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BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS



- Pre-application Process**
 - Initial notification
 - Stakeholder identification
 - Basic Assessment Report (BAR) 30-day comment period
- Basic Assessment Phase (90 days)**
 - EA application Acceptance
 - Update Draft BAR
 - **30-day comment period**
 - **Public meetings**
 - Update and submit revised BAR for decision-making
- Decision-Making Phase (107 days)**
 - Competent Authority reviews submitted BAR to inform decision-making
 - Final BAR uploaded onto SLR website for information purposes
- Appeals Phase**
 - Stakeholder notification of EA decision
 - Opportunity to submit an Appeal

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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

- Sea Areas 4C and 5C situated in water depths between 50m and 200 m within the Benguela Upwelling System of the Namaqua Bioregion.
- The Namaqua Fossil Forest Marine Protected Area is excluded from prospecting right application - **no geophysical surveying and sampling activities will occur in MPA.**

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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

Ecosystem Threat Status (Sink et al. 2019)

- Sea Areas 4C and 5C are located within ecosystems rated as "Least Concern".
- No overlap with any areas demarcated as "Critically Endangered" or "Endangered".

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POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION

Potential impact	Assessed Significance (with Mitigation)	Key mitigation measures
Discharges from sampling/support vessels	VERY LOW to INSIGNIFICANT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance with MARPOL 73/78 standards. Ensure crew are trained in spill management. Correct and safe storage of hydrocarbons. No disposal of solid waste.
Disturbance and less and crushing of benthic fauna due to sampling	VERY LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use remote sensing data to identify any high-profile, rocky-outcrop areas without a sediment veneer.
Smothering of benthos by redepositing sediments on rocky outcrop communities	VERY LOW	

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RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENT

5 & 6. maximum number of samples in EBSA and CBAs

- Consult with the DFFE to agree on a maximum number of physical samples that may be taken in the area of the Namaqua Fossil Forest EBSA.
- Commit to a maximum number of samples in each of the Critical Biodiversity Areas that occurs within the sampling area.

- Proposed prospecting activities will follow a phased approach, each campaign is dependent on the results of the previous campaign. At this time is not known where the sampling sites would be located and how many would be taken.
- Total samples and total area will not exceed the maximum potential totals provided in the BAR of 22 500 samples and 0.225 km² (see Section 3.2.1 of the draft BAR).
- DFFE and SANBI have been included as stakeholders on the project database and have been provided an opportunity to comment.
- The mapped CBAs are taken from the National Coastal and Marine Spatial Biodiversity Plan (v1.2) released in April 2022 which is the basis for the biodiversity sector plan as an input into the overall Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) process. It is understood that the National Working Group for the MSP process is currently busy identifying the spatial priorities and claims of each sector and marine activity on this basis. Integrated marine area plans will be drafted in the future. Timeframes for approval of marine area plans are unknown.

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RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENT

7 & 8. Impacts on rocky outcrop communities

- Assessment of impacts of smothering in rocky outcrop communities does not correspond to the further information given, that the deep water corals in these areas will be particularly sensitive to sediment deposition.
- It is requested that buffer areas "upstream" of rocky outcrops be determined, considering the prevailing currents, to ensure that sediments are not deposited in areas where it may drift over and smother close-by rocky outcrop areas.

- The deep-water corals in the BAR and specialist report refer to corals that occur below the thermocline, generally observed below 150 m and as deep as 3000 m. These are not the same as the corals which may be present in the application area.
- Exploration sampling targets gravel bodies in unconsolidated sediments and does not target high-profile rocky-outcrops without a sediment veneer. Remote sensing data will be used for pre-sampling analysis of the seabed to identify high-profile, rocky-outcrop areas without a sediment veneer so that these areas can be avoided.
- Section 4.1.3 of the Basic Assessment Report notes that suspended particulate matter concentrations is naturally variable due to currents, winds and natural inputs from river systems. From available baseline information it is understood that most of the sediment shallower than 50 m can be subject to re-suspension and transport by heavy swells.
- From previous operations undertaken by DBM, suspended sediments in plumes settle fairly rapidly (within hours) and water sampling has confirmed that contaminant levels in the plumes are well below water quality guideline levels. Thus, it is not deemed necessary to determine upstream buffer areas around rocky outcrops as any perceived smothering impacts are not likely to differ substantially from the natural variability of water turbidity in the short-term.

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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

Major Spawning Areas (Cruikshank 1990)


- Hake, snoek and round herring spawn in the southern west coast in late winter and early spring. Thereafter, the larvae drift northwards and inshore to the west coast nursery grounds.
- Hake spawns throughout the year with highest concentrations of eggs and larvae expected between September - October.
- Snoek spawn along the shelf break (150 - 400 m) between June and October.
- Sea Areas 4C and 5C located outside of these spawning areas.
- Limited overlap with the northward egg and larval drift.
- Ichthyoplankton abundance expected to be seasonally high (especially in 5C).

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POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION



Potential impact	Assessed Significance (with Mitigation)	Key mitigation measures
• Generation of sediment plumes	VERY LOW	• No mitigation measures are considered necessary for the discharge of sampled material from the sampling vessel.
• Impact of Sediment Plume on Fish Stock Recruitment	VERY LOW to INSIGNIFICANT	

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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

- Most seabirds in the region reach highest densities offshore of the shelf break (200 to 500 m depth) well offshore of Sea Area 4C and 5C.
- Some species are likely to be encountered with highest population levels present during non-breeding season (winter).
- Important seabird breeding islands at McDougall's Bay and Boegoeberg (~15 km south of the Orange River Mouth) as well as onshore breeding sites in the Northern Cape.

Cape gannets (top) and African penguins (bottom) breed primarily on the offshore islands (sources: NACOMA and Klaus Jost).

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RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENT

1. Additional seabird breeding sites

There are important seabird breeding islands at McDougall's Bay and Boegoeberg (about 15km south of the Orange River Mouth), as well as onshore breeding sites in the Northern Cape.


- Potential impact of noise from helicopters on seabirds is considered in the updated BAR.
- Roosting seabirds that are listed as "Endangered" (e.g. African Penguin, Bank Cormorant, Cape Cormorant and Cape Gannet), "Near threatened" (e.g. African Black Oystercatcher and Crowned Cormorant) or "Vulnerable" (e.g. Damaru Tern) are noted to be highly sensitive and relevant mitigation is proposed to avoid impacts on seabirds.

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POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION



Potential impact	Assessed Significance (with Mitigation)	Key mitigation measures
• Impact of Vessel Lighting	VERY LOW	• Reduce lighting on the vessels to a minimum. • Keep disorientated, but otherwise unharmed, seabirds in dark containers for subsequent release during the day.
• Noise from helicopters	VERY LOW	• Ensure all flight paths avoid coastal colonies. • Avoid low-altitude coastal flights. • Maintain an altitude of at least 762 m or 2 500 ft above the highest point of a National Park or World Heritage Site.

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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT


- Marine mammals likely to be present in the area include Heaviside's dolphins, dusky dolphins, southern right and humpback whales.

The Humpback whale: *Megaptera novaeangliae* (left) and the Southern Right whale *Eubalaena australis* (right) are the most abundant large cetaceans occurring along the West Coast.


The endemic Heaviside's Dolphin *Cephalorhynchus heavisidii* (left) and Dusky dolphin *Lagenorhynchus obscurus* (right) (Sources: De Beers Marine Namibia and scottelwitzphotography.com).

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POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION

Potential impact	Assessed Significance (with Mitigation)	Key mitigation measures
• Acoustic impacts from geophysical surveys and sampling operations	VERY LOW	• Appoint Marine Mammal Observer (MMO) to conduct on board visual scans. • Implement "Soft starts".
• Electromagnetic Impacts of Geophysical Surveys	MODERATE to LOW	• Electromagnetic source to be ramped up over a minimum period of 20 minutes. • Turn off electromagnetic source when not collecting data.
• Collisions with project vessels	VERY LOW	• Keep a watch for marine mammals and turtles in the path of the vessel. • Ensure vessel transit speed of 10 knots (18 km/hr) when sensitive marine fauna are present in the vicinity. • Report any collisions with large whales.

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RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENT

3. Application of mitigation adapted from the Joint Nature Conservation Committee

It is highly recommended that the applicants apply the mitigating measures adapted from the Joint Nature Conservation Committee, and that is listed on page 126, in order to minimise the impact of noise generated by geophysical survey methods on fish and marine mammals.

- The relevant mitigation measures proposed by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) for marine sonar operations were adapted by the marine ecologist to be more applicable to the southern African situation and are presented in the Draft BAR and EMPr.

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RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENT

4. Recommendation of buffer area around seal colony

Recommended that a 20 km buffer area around the Kleinzee seal colony be implemented, with no acoustic or sonar sampling taking place inside the buffer area

- The potential for physiological injury to marine fauna (including seals) from geophysical survey noise is assessed in Section 5.2.1.
- the petroleum industry) modelled the zone of perm
- The proposed geophysical surveys generally use higher frequency sources compared to seismic airgun sources (such as those used for the Petroleum industry) and thus have much lower noise emissions that dissipate to safe levels over a relatively short distance. Acoustic modelling undertaken for 2D and 3D seismic surveys in South Africa (proposed by anent impact for the group of marine mammals which included fur seal) was <10 m from a full seismic sound source and 15 m away for a temporary shift in hearing thresholds. Thus, impacts on seals from the proposed geophysical equipment are only expected if the animal was directly below or within the sonar beam.
- As seals are highly mobile, they would be expected to flee and move away from the sound source before trauma could occur. Furthermore, the statistical probability of crossing a seal with the narrow multi-beam fan several times, or even once, is very small.
- As prospecting activities are expected to be further than 6 – 13 km offshore, no potential impacts on the seal colony are expected and the proposed 20 km buffer is not deemed necessary.


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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

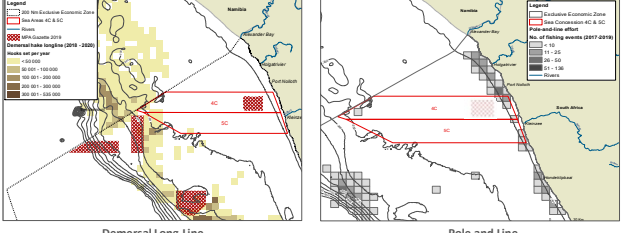
Direct overlapping Commercial Fisheries with Sea Areas 4C and 5C


Sector	Overlap	% National Effort / Catch	
Demersal Longline	0.47 %	0.47 %	Minimal activity within the Sea Areas but no activity within the proposed survey and sampling areas.
Pole-and-Line	6.97 %	0.53 %	Snoek catches reported within the Sea Areas, inshore of the 100 m depth contour. No tuna catches reported within the Sea Areas.

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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

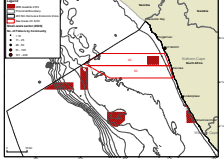


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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

- These fishers traditionally operate in nearshore fishing grounds.
- SSF fish to meet food and basic livelihood needs, but may also directly be involved in fishing for commercial purposes and may overlap with the commercial fishery sectors.
- SSF resources are managed in terms of a community-based co-management approach - implemented through a series of community co-operatives. Closest are:
 - Port Nolloth
 - Hondeklipbaai



Potential Impact	Assessed Significance (with Mitigation)	Key mitigation measures
Impacts on fishing industry and fisheries research	NO IMPACT (Fisheries research)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with DFFE to discuss programmes and the possibility of minimizing or avoiding disruptions to both parties.
Impact of survey noise on catch rates	INSIGNIFICANT (Pole-and-line, linefish, small-scale fisheries)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notification of key stakeholders prior to commencement of geophysical survey and sampling activities. Issuing of Notice to Mariners and Daily Navigational Warnings.

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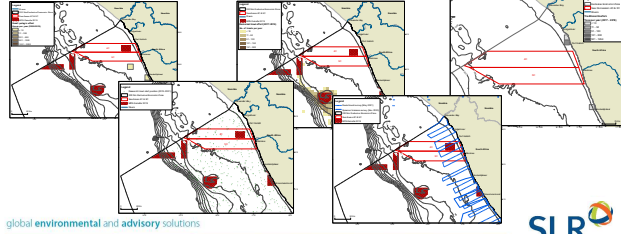
35


RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS COMMENT

2. Fisheries Mapping

The maps indicating spatial distribution of the separate fisheries are obscured by the Sea Areas polygon.

- The mapping provided in Baseline Section of the report has been updated in the updated Draft BAR.




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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

- The majority of shipping traffic is located on the outer edge of the continental shelf with traffic inshore of the continental shelf along the South-West Coast largely comprising fishing vessels, especially between Kleinsee and Oranjemund. The main shipping lanes overlap with the western portion of Sea Areas 4C and 5C.



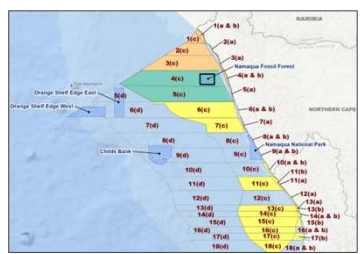
Potential impact	Assessed Significance (with Mitigation)	Key mitigation measures
Impact on marine transport routes	Very Low (negative)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior to the commencement of activities, the operator must notify relevant bodies

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DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

- Exploration for oil and gas is currently undertaken in a number of licence blocks off the West Coast. There is no current development or production from the South African West Coast offshore although further exploratory drilling is proposed for inshore and offshore areas that overlaps with the study area.
- There is no overlap with other prospecting or mining rights although there are neighbouring marine diamond concession areas.



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POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION

Potential impact	Assessed Significance (with Mitigation)	Key mitigation measures
Impact on marine mining and prospecting activities	Very Low (negative)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact any companies undertaking marine prospecting or mining activities adjacent to the study area prior to prospecting in order to notify them of the planned activities
Impact on petroleum exploration	Very Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaise with all petroleum exploration operators and any overlapping mineral prospecting rights holders to ensure that there is no overlapping of activities in the same area over the same time period.

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POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION

Potential impact	Assessed Significance (with Mitigation)	Key mitigation measures
Impact on cultural heritage material (Heritage Impact Assessment)	Very Low (negative)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exclude any identified shipwreck sites prior to undertaking sampling activities Where wrecks are discovered, cease work and contact the South African Heritage Resources Agency
Job creation and business opportunities	Very Low (positive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use local companies for support services, as far as possible
No-Go Alternative (i.e. not proceeding with proposed prospecting activities)	Low	-

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WAY FORWARD

- Comment period closes **6 March 2023**:
 - Submit comments, questions, issues or suggestions to SLR.
 - Comments to be collated and responded to in Comments and Responses Report.
- Final BAR will be submitted for decision-making:
 - Up to 107 days for Competent Authority to make a decision.
- Final BAR Report will be uploaded for information-purposes.
- Registered I&APs will be notified of the decision and the appeal process once decision is made.

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Open Session: Questions & Discussion

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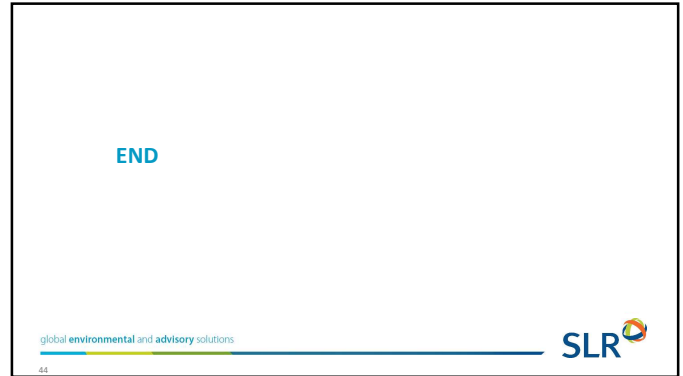
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SLR Contact Details	
Method	Contact Details
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Web:	https://www.slrconsulting.com/en/public-documents/debeers-4c5c
Data Free Web:	https://slrpublicdocs.datafree.co/en/public-documents/debeers-4c5c

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DE BEERS CONSOLIDATED MINES (PTY) LTD (DBCM) - BASIC ASSESSMENT (BA) FOR A PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION FOR SOUTH AFRICAN SEA AREAS 4C AND 5C, WEST COAST, SOUTH AFRICA

**NOTES OF PUBLIC MEETING AT THE LUVUYO DROP-IN CENTRE, PORT NOLLOTH
HELD ON 20 FEBRUARY 2023, 17H30**

NO.	ITEM
1.	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
1.1.	<p>Nomi Muthialu (NM), the independent facilitator, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present. She introduced herself as the independent facilitator whose role was to facilitate the meeting. She said she was not employed by the applicant or the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) and did not have any vested interest in the project or the outcome of the project.</p> <p>Josephine Pieters (JP), Social Impact Manager South Africa from De Beers Consolidated Mines (Pty) Ltd (DBCM), who is the applicant for the proposed project, Chantelle du Plessis (CdP), Environmental Manager, and Michele Kruse (MK), Geosciences Manager, from De Beers Marine (Pty) Ltd (DBM) who is the appointed operator for DBCM, Nicholas Arnott (NA) from SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SLR) who is the EAP undertaking the Basic Assessment (BA) study, Chris Fourie who was the Afrikaans interpreter, and Julian Drew (JD) from (NMA Effective Social Strategists (Pty) Ltd (NMA) who were conducting the stakeholder engagement for the project then introduced themselves.</p> <p>A list of attendees is provided in Appendix A.</p> <p>NM said the purpose of the meeting was for the project team to share information on the proposed project, the findings of the Basic Assessment and specialist studies, the proposed measures to avoid, reduce or manage potential impacts and outline the next steps in the Basic Assessment process. She said the meeting would also provide the opportunity for interested and affected parties (I&APs) to comment on the findings of the Basic Assessment / specialist studies and the proposed mitigation measures and make suggestions or raise further issues of concern about the proposed project. She then went through the agenda and meeting protocols.</p> <p>NM asked whether everyone was comfortable with the meeting being recorded for minute-taking purposes and for photos to be taken of the meeting for the record and the attendees agreed.</p> <p>NM then thanked everyone for their patience and requested the presenters to give their presentation.</p>
2.	PRESENTATION - presentation is provided in Appendix B.
2.1	CdP presented DBM’s environmental management approach and MK presented the project history and description of the proposed prospecting activities.
2.2	NA presented an overview of the BA process covering the legislative requirements and the various steps in the BA process. NA then presented a list of key issues and potential impacts from the project and indicated the specialist studies that have been undertaken to assess these issues and impacts as well as those identified through the 2021 public participation process.
3.	BREAKAWAY SESSIONS
	In order to facilitate the discussion, attendees were split into separate groups and asked to raise any issues, questions or comments they had which was then recorded. Once all groups had finished, everyone reconvened to listen to the responses provided to the various issues raised. The issues recorded by each group is provided below. The responses provided by the project team are included in Section 4.
3.1	GROUP 1 ISSUES RAISED
3.1.1	Rudi Young (RY) of Aukotowa Primary Fishing Cooperative said that the sediment samples, except for the concentrate, are returned to the seabed but are not put back in the same place so the area is disturbed and would be impacted.

NO.	ITEM
3.1.2	RY said that the figure given of 1.2 to 1.5 nautical miles for the distance the SSFs fish from the shore is not accurate and they actually fish for fish, tuna and kingklip up to 5 nautical miles from the coast and more.
3.1.3	Edward Ambrosini (EA) of Richtersveld Nama Xam Exploration Holdings asked if there would be any job opportunities for the local community and the youth.
3.1.4	Deon (D) said that he was concerned about the rehabilitation of the mined areas and asked if it is not done by the mining companies, who should they approach to address the matter.
3.1.5	William Klaasen (WK) of Coastal Links / Aukotowa Primary Fishing Cooperative asked if the prospecting phase is a success and DBCM proceed to mining, would there be job opportunities, contracts or any benefits for the local community.
3.1.6	Isak van Wyk (IvW) of Richtersveld Nama Xam Exploration Holdings referred to the slide presentation and said that the potential impact on fish spawning was shown as very low. He asked what would happen if the actual impact was far greater and the SSFs were affected. Would there be any contingency plans put in place for remediation / restorative justice?
3.1.7	Adrian Markus (AM), the Paramount Chief of the Sonqua Tribe, said that he was concerned about the ecological damage to the ecosystem and asks what is the impact for future generations and what is the sustainability of such an environment.
3.1.8	AM referred to the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) for the aboriginal peoples and asked why they were not involved at the start of these projects. He wanted to know why the local community are always excluded and not involved as the owners of such initiatives and opportunities.
3.1.9	Jeff van Neel (JvN) of FPIC – Namaqua VVVT said that there is definitely an overlap of the 4C and 5C proposed sea areas with the oil and gas industry activity areas.
3.1.10	JvN asked how sure they can be that DBCM’s prospecting activities will not go into the MPA.
3.1.11	JvN asked for clarity on the distance of sea areas 4C and 5C from Port Nolloth as the site notice says that it is 10km but the slide presentation shows it as 12km south of Port Nolloth.
3.1.12	Gert Jantjies (GJ) thanked the project team for meeting with the community and asked if DBCM can assist the community with infrastructure development, for instance a jetty and a processing facility for fish.
3.1.13	Caroline Engelbrecht (CE) of Youth Construction (Pty) Ltd said that the broader community should be involved in these meetings and asked if meeting notices could be sent to them for future meetings for distribution in the community. She also requested assistance with transport to meetings if the meetings are being held far from their homes.
3.2	GROUP 2 ISSUES RAISED
3.2.1	Jacky Smith (JS) said that the local people are mostly small-scale fishers (SSFs) and asked what impact the project will have on SSFs.
3.2.2	Pieter Johannes Olivier (PJO) of the Aukotowa Primary Fishing Cooperative said he thought that this meeting was about the oil and gas project and asked if that project had been approved as the sector was already busy in the area.
3.2.3	PJO reported that last year they tried to fish for snoek, tuna and crayfish and found that there was very little snoek and crayfish but lots of tuna. He noted that when the tuna come in, the snoek numbers go down.
3.2.4	Walter Steenkamp (WS) of Coastal Links / Aukotowa Primary Fishing Cooperative stated that as the SSF Cooperative they have both inshore and offshore fishing activities.
3.2.5	WS referred to the presentation on the history of the project and said that the application was made by DBCM in 2021 but it is only now in 2023 that the community are being consulted on the project. He referenced the Shell court case where the applicant was instructed to consult the SSFs and said that DBCM must come to talk to them first so that they can make a decision on the project rather than the government. He added that a top-down approach was being taken by the project in that all the decisions had already been made.

NO.	ITEM
3.2.6	WS asked how loud the noise would be that the corer makes underwater.
3.2.7	WS asked what was the smallest size of fish that the camera could pick up.
3.2.8	WS asked how many kilometres from the Marine Protected Area (MPA) would the prospecting activities take place. He noted that the oil rig is 23.5 nautical miles from the MPA.
3.2.9	WS said that he had worked on the Penta Marine vessel, the Sea Express, in 2017 for eight months which supplied a DBCM ship near Alexander Bay (in South African waters) where he saw dead fish and he said that nobody was consulted on that project.
3.2.10	WS said that mining for diamonds has no benefits for the community and noted that DBCM has been mining in Port Nolloth for about 100 years but the community has not benefitted. He said there were four key questions that should be asked about the project: Who got what? Who wants what? Who does what? Who gets what?
3.2.11	WS said that when government demarcated these sea blocks for prospecting, they did not consult with or recognise the coastal communities and the SSF sector.
3.2.12	Piet Maasdorp (PM) made the point that billions of rands worth of riches have been extracted from the sea and land of Namaqualand but the local people are all still poor. He said that if the project is approved the mining company will bring their own skilled people and the community will not benefit.
3.2.13	PM said that there is a need to train local people, for instance as artisans so that they can take up work opportunities on the project. It is also necessary to implement a social investment programme to provide facilities for the community such as schools with properly trained teachers. He said that a social assessment survey must be conducted before the project starts to ensure that the project positively impacts the community and changes their situation.
3.2.14	Sarah Maasdorp (SM) said that DBCM have been mining in the Port Nolloth area for many years but have done nothing for the local community, the SSFs and their children and asked why this is the case. There are no skilled people in Port Nolloth so people from outside benefit by getting jobs. There are illegal miners in the area whom the community allow because they give something back to the local people.
3.2.15	SM asked why local people cannot get mining rights as it is their land and sea and they have been there for hundreds of years. She asked if local people could get shares in the project if it goes ahead.
3.2.16	SM said that people have hopes and dreams but do not get a good education and cannot get jobs so they turn to crime. The mining companies must help educate the local children so that they can become engineers.
3.2.17	Benjamin de Klerk (BdK) of Aukotowa Primary Fishing Cooperative asked who would ultimately benefit from this project. He made the point that there are no benefits for the local people including the SSFs and asked how the SSFs would be impacted. The people are poor and resort to illegal mining.
3.2.18	BdK said that DBCM had sent him for firefighting and other training for three months in Port Nolloth and three months in Cape Town but he did not receive a skipper's ticket after completing the training so he cannot make use of the training. Mark Botha of De Beers was the person who arranged the training but he did not organise the skipper's ticket afterwards.
3.2.19	BdK said that DBCM had mentioned SSFs at Port Nolloth and Hondeklipbaai but the SSFs also work at the old Alexander Bay as their fishing activities stretch from Hondeklipbaai to Alexander Bay.
3.2.20	BdK said that they do not have access to a GPS and know their fishing locations by relying on landmarks but the mining activities destroy their fishing areas and the landmarks they use for navigation so they cannot recognise and locate these any longer.
3.2.21	Andre Cloete (AC) asked how the communities of Port Nolloth and Hondeklipbaai would benefit from the project. He said that Port Nolloth has no water, poor roads, no jobs and illegal mining and these issues need to be sorted out first before DBCM start mining.
4.	DISCUSSION TO PROVIDE RESPONSES TO ISSUES RAISED IN THE BREAKAWAY SESSIONS
4.1	RY said that the sediment samples, except for the concentrate, are returned to the seabed but are not put back

NO.	ITEM
	<p>in the same place so the area is disturbed and would be impacted.</p> <p><i>NA said it was correct to say that the sediment would not get returned to exactly where it was taken out when discharged overboard. Some of the heavier particles would return to a similar area to where they were removed from but the lighter particles would get dispersed further away. He said it was important to remember that the ocean was a very dynamic environment with currents, swells and winds that also affected sediment deposition. He said the depressions created by the sampling would therefore get filled up through the natural processes occurring in the marine environment over time. He said that monitoring of other mining operations that had taken place on the West Coast showed that the animals that were in the sediment returned after about six years and the excavated areas were rehabilitated naturally.</i></p>
4.2	<p>RY said that the figure given of 1.2 to 1.5 nautical miles for the distance the SSFs fish from the shore is not accurate and they actually fish for fish, tuna and kingklip up to 5 nautical miles from the coast and more.</p> <p><i>NA said that the reference to 1.2 to 1.5 nautical miles did not relate to the distance the SSFs operated from the coast. He said it related to the exclusion zone around the survey vessel while prospecting activities were underway. He said that other vessels would be prevented from coming within a radius of 1.2 to 1.5 nautical miles from the survey vessel during survey operations for safety reasons. (Note: there is a requested minimum exclusion safety zone around the prospecting vessels of ~500m, which will vary depending on the particular activities of the vessels¹).</i></p> <p>¹ This additional information has been provided here for additional clarification to the response and was not stated in the meeting itself.</p>
4.3	<p>EA asked if there would be any job opportunities for the local community and the youth.</p> <p>WK asked if the prospecting phase is a success and DBCM proceed to mining, would there be job opportunities, contracts or any benefits for the local community.</p> <p>PM made the point that billions of rands worth of riches have been extracted from the sea and land of Namaqualand but the local people are all still poor. He said that if the project is approved the mining company will bring their own skilled people and the community will not benefit.</p> <p>SM said that DBCM have been mining in the Port Nolloth area for many years but have done nothing for the local community, the SSFs and their children and asked why this is the case. There are no skilled people in Port Nolloth so people from outside benefit by getting jobs. There are illegal miners in the area whom the community allow because they give something back to the local people.</p> <p><i>NA said that job creation was an issue that was raised frequently. He said as was shown in the presentation, the nature of the prospecting activities was very technical and the job opportunities were therefore very limited. (Note: The use of skilled people can only be determined if De Beers moves into diamond recovery mining²). He said that during the prospecting phase De Beers would be looking for diamonds and no actual mining would be taking place so De Beers would not be making any money. He said if the prospecting right application was approved and De Beers discovered a resource and applied for a mining right and then commenced with mining and the generation of revenue, this may lead to job opportunities and other socio-economic benefits, but De Beers cannot commit at this stage. He said if the prospecting was successful then De Beers would have to apply for a mining right and another Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process with public participation would have to be undertaken. He said in those meetings the potential benefits of the mining operation would be discussed but at this stage, during prospecting, it was not possible to give any commitments because it was not known whether a resource even existed in the Sea Areas being investigated.</i></p> <p>(Note: Benefit to local community will be reviewed following a regulated process that promotes a review of needs and impacts and collaboration with the relevant stakeholders ²).</p> <p>² This additional information has been provided here for additional clarification to the response and was not stated in the meeting itself.</p>
4.4	<p>Erick said that unfortunately he came late because he had to attend another meeting. He said in the response to the first question it was said that the excavated area would return to its original state after six years. He said that during these six years the SSFs would not be able to catch fish in those areas and this was a long time for them to be unable to fish in an area. He asked whether De Beers would immediately rehabilitate the areas</p>

NO.	ITEM
	<p>where it had undertaken prospecting activities or whether it would be done in phases. He said everybody who had come to do prospecting or mining for diamonds in the area had just left without doing any rehabilitation. He said this was a concern because the SSFs only have a small area to fish between Alexander Bay and Groenriviermond. He said De Beers was now telling them that there would be no job creation during the prospecting so if De Beers was unsuccessful and did not find any diamonds there would be no benefit for the community. He said that De Beers should set aside a percentage of the prospecting budget for the local community and involve them in the project so that at least 1% of the community could take home a salary during the prospecting phase. He said it would not help the community of Port Nolloth if De Beers spent a lot of money on prospecting and then found nothing. He said 10 years ago a company came to Port Nolloth to do exploration for oil and gas and then a few years later Shell also came and did oil and gas exploration. He said he wasn't sure whether the first exploration was done properly or not and whether oil and gas were ever found. He said during the consultation for both of those projects it was indicated that any oil or gas that was found in the Port Nolloth area would be taken to Saldanha Bay. He said De Beers would do exactly the same and take away any diamonds they found and tell the community that they had found nothing. He said the community of Port Nolloth was very poor and De Beers should involve some of the local community in the prospecting activities so that they would know that at least some people from the previously disadvantaged community had benefited from the project.</p> <p><i>NA said that only the sampling activities would require rehabilitation as the acoustics used for the geophysical surveys would not have any physical impacts. The sampling was where a sample of the seabed sediments would be brought up on to the vessel to be processed and the unwanted sediment would be discharged overboard. He said the disturbed footprint would result from what was lifted from the seabed and there would be no fish species below the seabed. He said the sediment would contain benthic invertebrates and arthropods which were like insects and worms. He said therefore there shouldn't be any impact on fishing activities from the footprint of the sampling activities. He said the six-year period referred to the time it took for all those invertebrates and arthropods to return to the sediment in the footprint that was disturbed. He said the disturbed areas would be very small and if it was a core sample then the hole would be 11 cm in diameter and up to 6 m deep. He said it was similar to digging a hole in your garden with a spade and letting the wind and rain level the ground over time. In the ocean the natural processes of the swells, currents and wind would eventually fill the holes over time. He said there wouldn't be active rehabilitation as this would occur through natural processes.</i></p> <p>(Note: As mentioned before, during the prospecting phase De Beers would be looking for diamonds and no actual mining would be taking place so De Beers would not be making any money. If the prospecting right application was approved and De Beers discovered a resource and applied for a mining right and then commenced with mining and the generation of revenue, this may create socio-economic opportunities. De Beers concluded all concurrent rehabilitation before selling mineral rights to West Coast Resources (WCR). The sale to WCR incorporated the remaining rehabilitation requirements that would be completed as part of the remaining mining sequence. WCR has made provision for the rehabilitation requirement as approved by the DMRE³).</p> <p>³ This additional information has been provided here for additional clarification to the response and was not stated in the meeting itself.</p>
4.5	<p>SM said she did not agree with what was said about the disturbance of the area. She provided an example that was on the news recently, when a gas tanker exploded in Boksburg. She said it did not just affect the people in the immediate vicinity but also people much further away in the surrounding area. She asked what the impact would be in the area around the hole and how the seabed and sea life in that area would be affected.</p> <p><i>NA said that when the sample was taken and the sediment was removed, there would be a hole and typically slumping would take place where the sides of the hole would cave in and the actual footprint of the hole would extend slightly to where the sides had fallen in. He said that any animals that were present around the side of the hole would fall into the hole with the slumping and would then be present in the sediment at the bottom of the hole. He said when those animals started to re-colonise the hole where sediment was removed that was part of the rehabilitation process. He said the area of impact from sampling would not be a big area compared to a gas explosion.</i></p>

NO.	ITEM
	<p><i>MK clarified that no blasting would be used during sampling. She said if it was a core sample there would be a vibrating coring machine that would vibrate a pipe into the seabed and when the pipe was removed a core sample of 11 cm in diameter would be taken from the pipe. She said the bigger samples would create a hole of 5 to 10 m² and this would be done by drilling. She said the sediment sample would be lifted to the vessel using air suction through a pipe. She said the holes were therefore very discreet and they would also not be located next to each other but would be far apart.</i></p>
4.6	<p>IvW referred to the slide presentation and said that the potential impact on fish spawning was shown as very low. He asked what would happen if the actual impact was far greater and the SSFs were affected. Would there be any contingency plans put in place for remediation / restorative justice?</p> <p><i>NA said that prospecting offshore in the ocean was not a new activity and the presentation showed the different sea areas where prospecting had taken place over previous years. He said there had not been a collapse in the fisheries as a result of the impacts of those prospecting activities. He said SLR had confidence in their assessment of the potential impact on fisheries and at this point in time there were no contingency measures in place as it was not anticipated that there would be any significant impacts.</i></p>
4.7	<p>JvN said that there is definitely an overlap of the 4C and 5C proposed sea areas with the oil and gas industry activity areas.</p> <p>JvN asked how sure they can be that DBCM's prospecting activities will not go into the MPA.</p> <p><i>NA said a slide in the presentation showed that there was an overlap between License Block 1 for oil and gas exploration and Sea Areas 4C and 5C but there would not be an overlap in activities due to De Beers prospecting in the same area at the same time as oil and gas exploration activities were taking place because both companies would want to avoid such a situation and would communicate with each other to avoid this happening. He said there was no prospecting or mining allowed inside an MPA in terms of the law and it was therefore a legal requirement that De Beers did not conduct prospecting activities in those areas. He said in terms of De Beers reporting requirements to DMRE, they would also be required to provide mapping indicating where they had undertaken prospecting activities and sampling.</i></p>
4.8	<p>AM said that he was concerned about the ecological damage to the ecosystem and damage to the environment for future generations.</p> <p>AM referred to the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) for the aboriginal peoples and asked why they were not involved at the start of these projects. He wanted to know why the local community are always excluded and not involved as the owners of such initiatives and opportunities.</p> <p><i>NA said South Africa's environmental laws recognised that these kinds of prospecting activities could have a potential impact on the environment and that was why De Beers had to get an environmental authorisation and go through an EIA process before their prospecting right application could be approved. He said this was to ensure that any potential environmental impacts could be sufficiently managed and mitigated and that there would be sufficient benefits in order for the project to go ahead.</i></p> <p><i>NA said in terms of the aboriginal peoples, the project had not yet started and a Basic Assessment process was being undertaken to apply for environmental authorisation for the project. He said this public meeting was part of the public participation process to engage not only with the aboriginal peoples but with all sectors of society in order to provide the opportunity for everybody to raise their specific issues or concerns. He said Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) was an issue that was coming up frequently in many current and recent applications. He said SLR was conducting a Basic Assessment process in terms of the EIA regulations and in terms of that process there were specific public participation requirements that needed to be undertaken, which included consultation with any interested and affected parties (I&APs). He said this included the first nations people as well as all other sectors of society. He said unfortunately, the issue of FPIC was outside the ambit of the BA process and the current legal framework did not take that into consideration at this point in time. He said this issue would have to be discussed in a separate engagement between the representatives of any affected first nations people and representatives of De Beers.</i></p> <p><i>JP said De Beers was part of the Anglo American group of companies and as such subscribed to a framework</i></p>

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	<p><i>called the Social Way. She said the Social Way was very clear on stakeholder engagement and who needed to be consulted to ensure that the relevant people’s voices were heard. She said FPIC was something that would be taken into consideration as part of that framework and it would be noted as part of the records of this meeting. She said De Beers couldn’t address this issue during the prospecting phase but should they discover a resource and make a mining right application, FPIC was something that would be discussed in the stakeholder engagement process at that time.</i></p>
4.9	<p>GJ thanked the project team for meeting with the community today and asked if DBCM can assist the community with infrastructure development, for instance a jetty and a processing facility for fish.</p> <p><i>JP said that because the project was still in the prospecting phase it was difficult to discuss what could or could not be done. She said if the project moved into the next phase, there would be a different process in which De Beers would look at the impacts of the project and ask the community what its needs were to determine what kind of projects could be undertaken to uplift the community. She said she did not want to make false promises and would rather state things as they were but if the project did move to the next stage then they would come back again to consult with the community. She said De Beers considered it very important to engage with communities and to listen and respond responsibly rather than make promises that couldn’t be kept. (Note: De Beers can look at Corporate Social Investment related requests if this project moves to diamond recovery mining phase⁴).</i></p> <p>⁴ <i>This additional point of clarification was not stated in the meeting itself.</i></p>
4.10	<p>CE said that the broader community should be involved in these meetings and asked if meeting notices could be sent to them for future meetings for distribution in the community. She also requested assistance with transport to meetings if the meetings are being held far from their homes.</p> <p><i>JP said De Beers had appointed SLR as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to conduct the BA process. She said there would be meetings the following day in Kleinsee and the day after in Hondeklipbaai. She said if transport was raised as an issue at all the meetings then they would have to go back and determine whether it was feasible but she couldn’t give an answer there and then. She said De Beers didn’t want to set a precedent for other meetings and other processes that would follow. She said the meeting had been properly advertised and they were thankful for the people who had come to the meeting to hear about the project. (Note: De Beers can look at Corporate Social Investment related requests if this project moves to diamond recovery mining phase⁵).</i></p> <p>⁵ <i>This additional point of clarification was not stated in the meeting itself.</i></p>
4.11	<p>RY said he just wanted to clarify what CE had said. He said although the people being consulted lived along the coast from Port Nolloth to Hondeklipbaai, Port Nolloth formed part of the Richtersveld and while it was the main town in the Richtersveld, the whole of the Richtersveld was affected including places like Lekkersing, Kuboes, Sanddrift and Eksteenfontein. He said whatever benefits came out of the sea, these communities were also beneficiaries as part of the Port Nolloth community. He said that next time a meeting was scheduled it should be advertised on the radio so that the broader community could be informed about it. He said the consultant should have involved all those communities and ensured that they attended the meeting by providing transport for them. He said the current meeting was not a proper meeting because there were so few people present and it was disappointing to him that the broader Richtersveld community was not aware of the meeting, Hondeklipbaai included. He proposed that another meeting be arranged with attendance from the whole of the Richtersveld. He said there was very little time to arrange such a meeting before 6 March 2023 and if the community had to go to court again they would do so.</p> <p><i>NA said the comment was noted and it was something that could be considered for future meetings. He said announcements about the project and the meeting were made on Radio NFM the previous week. (Note: In addition to the radio announcements, a notification letter was sent to all registered I&APs on the project database, newspapers advertisements were placed in Die Namakwalander (in English and Afrikaans) and Die Burger (in Afrikaans) and site notices were placed at various public locations within Port Nolloth, Kleinsee and Hondeklipbaai⁶).</i></p> <p>⁶ <i>This additional information has been provided here for additional clarification to the response and was not stated in the meeting itself.</i></p>

NO.	ITEM
4.12	<p>JS said that the local people are mostly small-scale fishers (SSFs) and asked what impact the project will have on SSFs.</p> <p><i>NA said the DBAR contained an assessment of the potential impacts of the project on SSFs which looked at the prevention of fishing in the exclusion zone around the survey vessel, what the potential impact on catches could be from the noise during the geophysical surveys, and how the sediment plumes could affect fish stock rates.</i></p>
4.13	<p>PJO said he thought that this meeting was about the oil and gas project and asked if that project had been approved as the sector was already busy in the area.</p> <p>PJO reported that last year they tried to fish for snoek, tuna and crayfish and found that there was very little snoek and crayfish but lots of tuna. He noted that when the tuna come in, the snoek numbers go down. He said these changes were as a result of all the oil and gas exploration and mining prospecting their waters.</p> <p><i>NA said this was a prospecting right application and was not linked to oil and gas exploration. The prospecting activities would be looking to determine if there were any marine diamonds present in the Sea Area. He said he was not sure which oil and gas project was being referred to so he couldn't say whether it had been approved or not. He said there was a well drilled just off Hondeklipbaai the previous year and it had recently been announced that there was no viable oil or gas resource present.</i></p> <p><i>NA said fish catch was always variable and this was determined by a very complex relationship between weather conditions, environmental conditions and biological conditions. He said that inevitably there would be good fish catch years and bad years. He said it was very difficult to say whether the changes in fish catch could be attributable to any specific activities in the area.</i></p>
4.14	<p>WS referred to the presentation on the history of the project and said that the application was made by DBCM in 2021 but it is only now in 2023 that the community are being consulted on the project. He referenced the Shell court case where the applicant was instructed to consult the SSFs and said that DBCM must come to talk to them first so that they can make a decision on the project rather than the government. He added that a top-down approach was being taken by the project in that all the decisions had already been made.</p> <p><i>NA said the application was initially made in 2021 but it was only accepted in November 2022. He said the application was a legal process requesting to commence with the environmental assessment which included the current public participation. He said De Beers therefore had to go through the application process before being able to commence with the stakeholder engagement that formed part of the environmental assessment process. He said the aim of the current meeting was to engage with as many of the SSFs as they could. He said at this stage no decision had been made on the prospecting right application and SLR was still compiling the results of its engagement with the different communities and other parties. He said once the final BAR was completed it would be submitted to DMRE for decision-making purposes.</i></p>
4.15	<p>WS asked how loud the noise would be that the corer makes underwater.</p> <p>WS asked what was the smallest size of fish that the camera could pick up.</p> <p>WS asked how many kilometres from the Marine Protected Area (MPA) would the prospecting activities take place. He noted that the oil rig is 23.5 nautical miles from the MPA.</p> <p><i>NA said that the noise made by the sampling equipment was much lower than the noise emitted by the geophysical survey equipment. He said scientific studies had been undertaken on the effect of sampling equipment on underwater marine fauna and it was shown that there was no real impact and the zone of impact was confined to a very small area around where the sampling was taking place.</i></p> <p><i>NA said the camera would be looking at the seabed but it could potentially pick up fish that swam through its area of vision. He said he didn't have any clear idea of the smallest size of fish that could be picked up by the camera.</i></p> <p><i>NA said the MPA itself was excluded from the prospecting area but there was no current buffer zone around the MPA so the prospecting could take place up to the boundary of the MPA.</i></p> <p>WS said he wanted to know how loud was the sound made by the coring machine.</p>

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	<p><i>NA said he didn't know the exact figure offhand but if WS spoke to him after the meeting he could consult the report and provide him with the information. He said there had been a lot of concern raised around the noise created by seismic surveys in the oil and gas industry but the noise emitted from the geophysical surveys and sampling equipment for diamond prospecting was of a much lower intensity and higher frequency than that emitted during seismic surveys. He said the zone of influence was up to a couple of hundred metres for the geophysical equipment and for the sampling equipment it was much less than that.</i></p> <p>WS said that he was raising this concern because he knew that fish were very sensitive to noise.</p>
4.16	<p>WS said that he had worked on the Penta Marine vessel, the Sea Express, in 2017 for eight months which supplied a DBCM ship near Alexander Bay (in South African waters) where he saw dead fish. He said that nobody was consulted on that project. He said this mining had been taking place for more than 10 years now and the community was never consulted about the project. He asked whether it was as a result of the outcome of the Shell and Searcher court cases that De Beers was now consulting with the SSF communities because they now had to. He said the community was never consulted on the marine diamond mining that De Beers had been doing for the past 10 years.</p> <p><i>MK said she was confused by what WS was reporting because De Beers had not done any marine diamond mining in South African waters since 2010 and there had been no marine diamond mining since then.</i></p>
4.17	<p>WS said that mining for diamonds has no benefits for the community and noted that DBCM has been mining in Port Nolloth for about 100 years but the community has not benefitted. He said there were four key questions that should be asked about the project: Who got what? Who wants what? Who does what? Who gets what? WS said that when government demarcated these sea blocks for prospecting, they did not consult with or recognise the coastal communities and the SSF sector.</p> <p>PM said that there is a need to train local people, for instance as artisans so that they can take up work opportunities on the project. It is also necessary to implement a social investment programme to provide facilities for the community such as schools with properly trained teachers. He said that a social assessment survey must be conducted before the project starts to ensure that the project positively impacts the community and changes their situation.</p> <p>SM said that people have hopes and dreams but do not get a good education and cannot get jobs so they turn to crime. The mining companies must help educate the local children so that they can become engineers.</p> <p>BdK asked who would ultimately benefit from this project. He made the point that there are no benefits for the local people including the SSFs and asked how the SSFs would be impacted. The people are poor and resort to illegal mining.</p> <p>BdK said that DBCM had sent him for firefighting and other training for three months in Port Nolloth and three months in Cape Town but he did not receive a skipper's ticket after completing the training so he cannot make use of the training. Mark Botha of De Beers was the person who arranged the training but he did not organise the skipper's ticket afterwards.</p> <p>BdK said that DBCM had mentioned SSFs at Port Nolloth and Hondeklipbaai but the SSFs also work at the old Alexander Bay as their fishing activities stretch from Hondeklipbaai to Alexander Bay.</p> <p>AC asked how the communities of Port Nolloth and Hondeklipbaai would benefit from the project. He said that Port Nolloth has no water, poor roads, no jobs and illegal mining and these issues need to be sorted out first before DBCM start mining.</p> <p><i>NM said the issues around job creation and socio-economic benefits had been addressed previously. (Note: De Beers note that benefits for the community can only be determined by De Beers if they move into the diamond recovery mining phase and after undertaking a needs & impacts analysis. A social assessment, if determined by De Beers as required, can be considered. Social investment programmes will only take effect if De Beers move into diamond recovery mining where, for example, education and skills development can be prioritised as one of the focus areas⁷).</i></p> <p>⁷ This additional information has been provided here for additional clarification to the response and was not stated in the meeting itself.</p>

NO.	ITEM
4.18	<p>BdK said that they do not have access to a GPS and know their fishing locations by relying on landmarks but the mining activities destroy their fishing areas and the landmarks they use for navigation so they cannot recognise and locate these any longer.</p> <p><i>NA said it was not possible to comment on other mining activities that SLR were not involved in. He said the prospecting activities would be undertaken offshore under the ocean and not along the coastline, so the disturbances would be on the seabed and no landmarks would be impacted by the project.</i></p>
4.19	<p>SM asked why local people cannot get mining rights as it is their land and sea and they have been there for hundreds of years. She asked if local people could get shares in the project if it goes ahead.</p> <p><i>NA said there was a certain level of expertise and a number of legal requirements that needed to be fulfilled when applying for a mining or prospecting right. He said if the local community made an application and met all the requirements there was no reason why they could not be given a mining right. He said it was DMRE who was responsible for approving mining rights and SLR had no influence on the process.</i></p> <p>SM said she wanted to know whether local people could get shares in the project if it went ahead. She said the local community had been left with nothing for many, many years and that was why there was so much illegal mining in the area.</p> <p><i>NA said that during the prospecting there would be no revenues generated and De Beers would be spending money to determine whether there was a resource that could be mined in the Sea Area. He said that if De Beers discovered a resource then they would apply for a mining right and they would then have to do another environmental assessment process with public participation which would include discussions on the socio-economic benefits of the project. He said as part of the mining right application there would also be a requirement for a Social and Labour Plan (SLP) which would include all the community projects to uplift the community.</i></p>
4.20	<p>WS said that the community of Port Nolloth were slaves in their own community and were never shareholders or owners of anything. He said all the minerals that were removed from their land and from the ocean off their coast were taken out of the country. He said De Beers and all the other big companies that came to Namaqualand must ask themselves the four questions that he had asked earlier and which were so quickly dealt with. He said these questions were, Who got what? Who wants what? Who does what? Who gets what? He said this community had nothing so they must get something from the project. He said the people of Namaqualand were the owners of what De Beers was searching for and they were tired of being slaves and wanted to become shareholders or owners of their resources.</p> <p><i>NA said these points were well noted and would be recorded in the record of the meeting and would be considered in the decision-making process. (Note: De Beers continue to contribute to the socio-economic development in the area through a number of initiatives implemented for the benefit of the local community⁸).</i></p> <p>⁸ <i>This additional point of clarification was not stated in the meeting itself.</i></p>
4.21	<p>A participant said that the community really appreciated the presentation on the project and the discussion afterwards and requested that when the project team left they would not forget about them. He said there were many companies that came and gave presentations to them and listened to their issues but when they left they threw away the papers containing their issues and forgot about them. He said the meeting had given them a lot of insight and they appreciated that the project team was concerned about their issues. He said if the project was implemented as described in the presentation with small holes that produced a small footprint then that would be acceptable to the community. He said the oil and gas companies came and made big holes and caused a lot of damage to the ocean. He said that they, as SSFs, depended on the ocean and he requested that wherever the prospecting activities took place, De Beers should ensure that the SSFs could still go and fish there afterwards.</p> <p><i>NA said these comments were noted.</i></p>

NO.	ITEM
5.	CLOSURE
5.1	<p>MK thanked everybody for the time they had given up for the meeting and said the engagement had been very useful for De Beers to help them understand the concerns of the community.</p> <p>NM thanked all the attendees for their patience and participation in the discussions and formally closed the meeting.</p>

APPENDIX A: LIST OF ATTENDEES

NO	NAME	ORGANISATION	ABBR.
1	Edward Ambrosini	Richtersveld Nama Xam Exploration Holdings	EA
2	Nicolaas Joseph		
3	Jacky Smith		JS
4	Charlie Stuurman		
5	Andre Cloete		AC
6	William Klaasen	Coastal Links / Aukotowa Primary Fishing Cooperative	WK
7	Walter Steenkamp	Coastal Links / Aukotowa Primary Fishing Cooperative	WS
8	Piet Maasdorp		PM
9	Rudi Young	Aukotowa Primary Fishing Cooperative	RW
10	Isak van Wyk	Richtersveld Nama Xam Exploration Holdings	IvW
11	Gert Jantjies		GY
12	Selwyn Cloete		
13	George J de Wet		
14	Andrew Arnolds		
15	Romario Brand		
16	Joan Adonis	Luvuyo CDC	
17	Sarah Maasdorp		SM
18	Pieter Johannes Olivier	Aukotowa Primary Fishing Cooperative	PJO
19	Adrian Markus	Paramount Chief – Sonqua Tribe	AM
20	Andre Jochens	Sonqua Tribe	
21	Simon Petrus Afrikaner		
22	Raurey Farmer	DSD	
23	Jeff van Neel	FPIC – Namaqua VVVT	JvN
24	Benjamin de Klerk	Aukotowa Primary Fishing Cooperative	BdK
25	Caroline Engelbrecht	Youth Construction (Pty) Ltd	CE
26	Deon		D
27	Erick		E
28	Josephine Pieters	Social Impact Manager South Africa: De Beers Consolidated Mines (Pty) Ltd (DBCM)	JP
29	Chantelle du Plessis	Environmental Manager: De Beers Marine (Pty) Ltd (DBM)	CdP
30	Michele Kruse	Geosciences Manager: DBM	MK
31	Nicholas Arnott	SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SLR)	NA
32	Nomi Muthialu	Independent Facilitator – NMA Effective Social Strategists (Pty) Ltd	NM
33	Julian Drew	Independent Facilitator – NMA	JD
34	Chris Fourie	Independent Translator – NMA	CF

APPENDIX B: PRESENTATION

BASIESE EVALUERINGS VIR 'N AANSOEK OM 'N PROSPEKTEERREG VIR SUID-AFRIKAANSE SEEGBIED 4C EN 5C, WESKUS, SUID-AFRIKA

Seegebied 4C en 5C

Openbare Inligtingsvergadering

Februarie 2023

DE BEERS GROUP

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1

Inleiding

- De Beers Consolidated Mines (Pty) Ltd (DBCM) – Aansoeker
 - Josephine Pieters- Sosiale Impak Bestuurder Suid Afrika
- De Beers Marine (Pty) Ltd – aangestelde operateur vir DBCM
 - Chantelle du Plessis- Omgewingsbestuurder
 - Michele Kruse – Geowetenskappe Bestuurder
- SLR Consulting Africa (South Africa) – Omgewings Impakbepaling praktisyn (EAP)
 - Nicholas Arnott – Projek Bestuurder
- NMA Effective Social Strategists – Onafhanklike Fasiliteerders
 - Nomi Muthialu – Fasilitator
 - Chris Fourie – Afrikaans Translator
 - Julian Drew - Fasilitator

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2

Vergadering Doelwitte

- Deel Inligting oor:**
 - Voorgestelde Projek
 - Bevindinge van die Basiese Assessering en spesialisstudies
 - Voorgestelde maatreëls om potensiële impakte te vermy, te verminder of te bestuur
 - Die volgende stappe in die Basiese Assesseringsproses.
- Vir Belangstellende en Geïnteresseerde partye om:**
 - Lewer kommentaar op die bevindinge van die Basiese Assessering / spesialisstudies
 - Lewer kommentaar op die voorgestelde versagtingsmaatreëls; en
 - Maak voorstelle of opper verdere kommer oor hierdie voorgestelde projek.

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3

AGENDA

- Welkom, Inleiding en Ontmoetingsdoelwitte
- Projek Geskiedenis en Beskrywing - de Beers
- Oorsig oor omgewingsevalueringsproses en pad vorentoe - SLR
- Vraag-en-antwoordsessie
- Sluiting

Toestemming om die vergadering digitaal op te neem en foto's te neem. Bywoningsregister (POPI-wet)

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4

VERGADERING PROTOKOLLE

- Ons het ongeveer 50 minute opsy gesit vir aanbiedings en 'n uur vir bespreking.
- Maak asseblief aantekeninge tydens die aanbiedings en bespreek jou vrae tot die besprekingsperiode
- Tale:**
 - Aanbiedings en antwoorde in Engels met vertalings in Afrikaans
 - Stel gerus jou vrae / kommentaar in Afrikaans of Engels.
- Ons sal die blaaikaart gebruik waar nodig om vrae, opmerkings, bekommernisse en voorstelle vas te lê.
- Respekteer mekaar – let op jou taalgebruik, wees bedagsaam teenoor mededeelnemers en weerhou afsonderlike gesprekke tydens die vergadering.
- Fokus op kwessie, nie persone nie / stem saam om nie saam te stem nie – oorweeg die veiligheid van mede-vergaderingdeelnemers.
- Een vraag op 'n slag, vra vrae bondig – kom ons gee almal 'n regverdig geleentheid om vrae te vra/opmerkings by te dra.

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5

Konstruktiewe besprekingsriglyne

Openbare deelname NIE 'n stem- of konsensusgedrewe proses nie.

'n Proses om insette in te samel met die doel om besluitnemer in staat te stel om alle kwessies en impakte te oorweeg.

- Stem saam om nie saam te stem nie
- Gee almal 'n regverdige kans om vrae te vra / kommentaar te lewer. Vra vrae bondig.
- Steek jou hand op om kommentaar te lewer of 'n vraag te vra en werk deur die fasiliteerder(s)
- Meld jou naam, van en organisasie/gemeenskap
- Skakel asseblief jou selfone op stil

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DE BEERS' PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION NC12857PR, SEA AREAS 4C & 5C

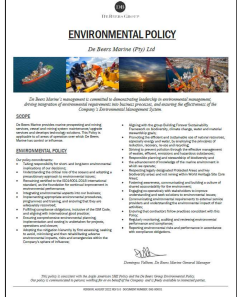
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

OFFICIAL

7

ONS BENADERING MET BETREKKING TOT OMGEWINGSBESTUUR

- Ons interne omgewingsstelsels, beleide en prosedures vereis voldoening aan **Anglo American se Veiligheids- en Volhoubare Ontwikkelingstandaarde**, met insluiting van dié oor **Klimaatverandering en Biodiversiteit**. Dit vereis **evaluering van biodiversiteitsrisiko's en implementering van die versagtingêrategie**.
- Ons benadering beteken dat ons nie verbode aktiwiteite in omgewingsensitiewe gebiede sal onderneem nie.
- As ons eie omgewingsmoniteringstudies bykomende sensitiewe gebiede opgemerk het, **ons sal nie enige verdere aktiwiteite in daardie gebied onderneem wat beduidende skade aan seelewe kan veroorsaak nie**.
- De Beers funksioneer ook ingevolge 'n Omgewingsbestuur-stelsel (OBS) wat **volgens die Internasionale ISO14001-standaard geertifiseer** en jaarliks deur die British Standards Institute geoud word.



8

OMGEWINGSAKTIWITEITSRAAMWERK VIR HULPBRONONTWIKKELING

- Ons **Omgewingsaktiwiteitsraamwerk** is ontwikkel om te help met implementering van omgewingsaktiwiteite om elke stadium van die Mariene Diamantpyplyn, vanaf Teikening tot en met Sluiting, aan te spreek.
- Die raamwerk sit die vereistes vir elke fase in die volgende kategorieë uitteen:
 - Omgewingsstudies**
 - Omgewingsmonsteremings-/Dataversamelingsvereistes
 - Risiko-evaluering
 - Omgewingsbestuurvereistes**
 - Skakeling met belanghebbers**
 - Dienstyd & Omgewingsmagtiging**

9

ONS PROSPEKTERINGSRAAMWERK



10

PROJEGESKIEDENIS

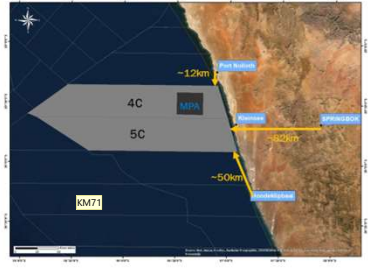
- Aansoek om Prospekteerreg** ingedien deur De Beers Consolidated Mines (Edms.) Bpk. by die Departement van Minerale Hulpbronne en Energie (DMHE) in **2021 vir Seegebied 4C en 5C, met uitsluiting van die Mariene Beskermede Gebied**.
- 'n Konsep Basiese Ewalueringsverslag (BEV) is deur SLR voorberei en beskikbaar gestel vir insae en kommentaar vanaf **4 Junie tot 5 Julie 2021**.
- Basiese Ewalueringsproses is opgeskort** op 30 Julie 2021, hangende die uitkoms van interne appellprosesse met betrekking tot die Aansoek om 'n Prospekteerreg self.
- Aansoek om Prospekteerreg** is op 22 November 2022 deur die DMHE aanvaar.
- Die **Aansoek om Omgewingsmagtiging** is op **29 November 2022 erken**.
- 'n bygewerkte BEV is vir insae en kommentaar versprei (**4 Februarie tot 6 Maart 2023**).



11

LIGGING VAN SEEGBIED 4C EN 5C

- Seegebied 4C en 5C grens is ~12 km suid van Port Nolloth geleë.
- 4C en 5C is meer as 50 km noord van Hondeklipbaai geleë.
- Die teenkugrens is ~2,5 – 5 km seewaarts van die kus en ~5 km wes van Kleinsee geleë.
- Geofisiese opnames en monsteremings-bedrywighede sal konsentreer op gebiede met waterdieptes van 70 m – 160 m.



12

OORSIG VAN BEOOGDE AKTIWITEITE

- Prospekteeraktiwiteite sal met 'n **gefasseerde benadering** onderneem word, met elke fase wat afhanklik sal wees van die uitslae van die vorige fase.
- Die beoogde aktiwiteite sal onderneem word om ekonomiese diamantafsettings te identifiseer.
- Die Aansoek om Prospekteerreg is vir 'n **tydperk van vyf jaar**.
- Beoogde afluende aktiwiteite:
 - **Eksplorasiemonstering**
 - **Geofisiese opname**



13

BESONDERHEDE VAN BEOOGDE GEOFISIESE OPNAME

- Die opnametoerusting sal van 'n **geskikte doel-vaartuig** af ter water gelaat word wat **geskik is vir die watterdiepte** en geselekteerde opnamemetode.
- 2D-stelsels kan as **gesleepte, vaartuig/pealgemonteerde stelsels**, outonome onderwatervoertuie (**AUV's**) of outonome oppervlaktvoertuie (**ASV's**) ter water gelaat word.
- Gesleepte 2D-opnames sal 'n **enkele gesleepte hidrofoonopstelling** behels.
- AUV's word met 'n duikplan geprogrammeer, ter water gelaat en dan herwin om data af te laai.
- Enige 3D-opnames sal aan die hand van die AUV, met **alle sensore op die platform**, bekom word.
- Fotografeerse toerusting (soos **afstandbeheerde vaartuie, kameras wat afsak**) kan ook gebruik word om die seabodem te visualiseer.
- **Hoë frekwensie, lae energie akoustiese** metodes sal tipies gebruik word om die seabodem en boonste sedimentlae in die projekgebied te karteer.





14

BESONDERHEDE VAN BEOOGDE MONSTERING (1)

- Monstering sal onderneem word deur van 'n **geskikte doel werkinstrument en vaartuig wat die geleentheid bied**, gebruik te maak.
- Moontlike werkinstrumenttegnologieë vir monstering wat aangewend kan word, sluit kern-, gryp- (soos blokkerner), **ondersese** en/of 'n **vertikaal-gemonteerde monsteringsinstrument** in.
- **Seebodemvideo en fotografeese beeldneming** kan ook verkry word.
- Monsters sal tipies elkeen **~ 5 – 10 m² in omvang**.
- Monsteringsbedrywighede kan 'n totale **maksimum potensiële voetspoor** van ~0,225 km² hê, maar dit sal **nle aaneenlopend** wees nie. Dit dek **0,002 %** van die hele omvang van Seegebied 4C & 5C (9 265 km²).
- **Natuurlike rehabilitasie van die versteurde voetspore word verwag**. Navorsing toon dat die ekologiese funksionering van die seabodem mettertyd ná sulke versteurings weer herstel.



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BESONDERHEDE VAN BEOOGDE MONSTERING (2)

Kernboorwerk (bv. vibrokernboorwerk)

- 'n **Vibrokernboor** bestaan uit 'n kernbuis in 'n landingsraam met 'n vibrerende motor.
- Die kernboor kom op die seabodem te lande, die motor word gedraai en die buis penetreer die sediment.
- Sodra die kernboor nie meer penetreer nie, word die motor afgeskakel en die kernboor weer tot op die dek gelig.
- 'n PVC-pyp word vir kernboorwerk binne-in die kernboor se buis geplaas en die kernmonster word uit hierdie pyp versamel.
- Kernboorders kan tipies tot 6 m penetreer en het tipies 'n deursnee van **om en by 11 cm**.



16

BESONDERHEDE VAN BEOOGDE MONSTERING (3)

Undersese werkinstrument vir monstering

- Bedryf vana 'n boorraam, deur die vaartuig se nat opening (*moon pool*) ter water gelaat en op die seabodem geposisioneer.
- Die werkinstrument verwyder 'n diskrete monster met 'n seabodemoppervlaktvoetspoor van **~ 5 – 10 m²**.
- Die ongekonsolideerde sedimente word met sterk waterstrale gefluidiseer en met lug ná die ondersteunings-vaartuig toe opgelig waar dit in die mineraalherwinningsaanleg aan boord behandel word.
- **Alle materiaal** (behalwe vir die laaste <1 % konsentraat) gaan terug water toe en **sak af weer tot op die seabodem**.




17

BESONDERHEDE VAN BEOOGDE MONSTERING (4)

Vertikaal-gemonteerde werkinstrument

- 'n **Vertikaal-gemonteerde werkinstrument** kan dalk vir party van die monsterings gebruik word.
- Die werkinstrument hang van 'n kraan af wat op die skip gemonteer is.
- Die werkinstrument roer die ongekonsolideerde sedimente en lig sedimentdeeltjies met lug na die vaartuig toe vir verwerking.
- Die werkinstrument verwyder 'n diskrete monster met 'n seabodemoppervlaktvoetspoor van **~ 30 m²**.
- **Alle materiaal** (behalwe vir die laaste <1 % konsentraat) gaan terug water toe en **sak weer af tot op die seabodem**.




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OORSIG VAN BASIESE EVALUERINGSPROSES

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VEREISTE VIR BASIESE EVALUERING

- Beoogde prospekteraktiwiteite aktiveer **gelyste aktiwiteite** Ingevolge die wet en vereis **goedkeuring** (Omgewingsmagtiging)
 - Aktiwiteite wat in Lyskennisgewing 1 geaktiveer word
 - > 19A "Die ... verwydering ... van grond, sand, skulpe ... van meer as 5 kubieke meter uit (iii) die see ..."
 - > 20 "Enige aktiwiteit ... wat 'n prospekterreg vereis ..."
 - > 22 "Die uitbedryfstelling van enige aktiwiteit wat ... 'n sluitingsertifikaat vereis ..."
- Die Basiese Evalueringsproses en tydraamwerke word in die OIE-regulasies van 2014 omskryf.

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BASIESE EVALUERINGSPROSES

- Aanvanklike kennisgewing
- Identifisering van belanghebbers
- Basiese Evalueringsverslag (BEV) 30-dae kommentaar tydperk
 - Aanvaarding van Aansoek om OM
 - Bywerking van Konsep BEV
 - 30-dae kommentaar tydperk**
 - Openbare vergaderings**
 - Bywerking en indiening van bygewerkte BEV vir besluitneming
- Bevoegde Owerheid gaan deur ingediende BEV om besluitneming toe te lig
- Finale BEV vir inligtingsdoeleindes op SLR se webwerf gelaai
- Belanghebbers in kennis gestel van OM-besluit
- Geleentheid om 'n Appel in te dien

Voor-aansoekproses Basiese Evalueringfase (90 dae) Besluitnemingfase (107 dae) Appelfase

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

- Seegebied 4C en 5C is geleë in waterdieptes tussen 50 m en 200 m in die Benguela-opwellingstelsel van die Namakwa-biostreek.
- Die Namakwa Fossielwoud Mariene Beskermdes Gebied (MBG) is uitgesluit uit die Aansoek om Prospekterreg - **geen geofisiese opmetings- en monsternemings-aktiwiteite sal in die MBG plaasvind nie.**

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

Ecosystem Threat Status (Ekosisteen-bedreigingsstatus) (Sink et al. 2019)

- Seegebied 4C en 5C is geleë in ekosisteme wat as 'Minste Kommer' gelys is.
- Daar is geen oorvleueling met enige gebiede wat as "Krities Bedreig" of "Bedreig" afgebaken is nie.

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POTENSIEËLE IMPAKTE EN MOONTLIKE VERSAGTING

Potensieële impak	Geëvalueerde beduidendheid (met versagting)	Primêre versagtingsmaatreëls
Afvoer uit monsterneming/ ondersteuningsvaartuie	BAIE LAAG tot ONBEDUIDEND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voldoening aan MARPOL 73/78-standaarde. Sorg dat die bemanning opgelei is in stortingsbestuur. Korrekte en veilige berging van koolwaterstowwe. Geen wegdoening van vaste afval nie.
Versteuring en verlies en vernietiging van bentiese fauna weens monsterneming	BAIE LAAG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gebruik afstandwaarnemingsdata om enige hoë profiel, rotsagtige uitstulpinge sonder 'n sedimentlaag te identifiseer.
Versmoring van bentos deur sedimente wat weer op gemeenskappe in rotsagtige uitstulpinge te lande kom	BAIE LAAG	

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

Major Spawning Areas (Groot Kuitplekke) (Cruickshank 1990)

- Stokvis, snoek en ronde haring kuit in die laat winter en vroeë lente aan die suidelike weskus. Daarna dryf die larwes noordwaarts en kus toe na die weskus toe waar hulle volwassenheid bereik.
- Stokvis kuit regdeur die jaar met die hoogste konsentrasies eiers en larwes wat tussen September – Oktober verweg word.
- Snoek kuit tussen Junie en Oktober met die vastelandsplstrand (150 – 400 m) langs.
- Seegebied 4C en 5C is buite hierdie kuitgebiede geteë
- Beperkte oorleueling met die noordwaartse eier- en larwegedrywing.
- 'n Oorvloed igtioplankton sal na verwagting seisoenaal hoog wees (veral in 5C).

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POTENSIEËLE IMPAKTE EN MOONTLIKE VERSAGTING

Potensieële impak	Geëvalueerde beduidendheid (met versagting)	Primêre versagtingsmaatreëls
• Generasie van sedimentpluime	BAIE LAAG	• Geen versagtingsmaatreëls word as nodig geag vir die afvoer van monsternormale uit die monsternemingsvaartuig nie.
• Impak van sedimentpluim op die verkryging van visvoorraad	BAIE LAAG tot ONBEDUIDEND	• Raadpleeg die DBVO om programme en die moontlikheid om ontwrigtings vir beide partye te minimaliseer of te vermy, te bespreek. • Sleutelbelanghebbers word vóór die aanvang van geofisiese opname- en monsternemingsaktiwiteite in kennis gestel. • Uitreiking van kennisgewing aan seevaarders en daaglikse navigasiewaarskuwings.

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

- Die meeste seevoëls in die streek bereik die grootste digthede afluandig van die vastelandsplstrand (diepte van 200 tot 500 m), ver afluandig van Seegebied 4C en 5C.
- Die hoogste bevolkingsvlakke van party spesies sal waarskynlik tydens die nie-broeiseisoen (winter) aangetref word.
- Belangrike broei-eilande vir seevoëls by McDougallsbaai en Boegoeberg (sowat 15 km suid van die Oranjeriviermond), sowel as broeiplekke op land in die Noord-Kaap.

Motganse (bo) en brilpikkewyne (onder) broei hoofsaaklik op die afluandige eilande (Bronne: NACOMA en Klaus Jost).

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POTENSIEËLE IMPAKTE EN MOONTLIKE VERSAGTING

Potensieële impak	Geëvalueerde beduidendheid (met versagting)	Primêre versagtingsmaatreëls
• Impak van vaartuig se verligting	BAIE LAAG	• Beperk verligting op die vaartuig tot 'n minimum. • Hou gedisorienteerde, maar andersins ongedeerde seevoëls, in donker houers vir gevolglike vrylating gedurende die dag.
• Geraas weens helikopters	BAIE LAAG	• sien toe dat alle vlugroetes kuskolonies vermy. • Vermy vlugte teen die kus op 'n lae hoogte. • Handhaaf 'n hoogte van minstens 762 m of 2 500 voet bo die hoogste punt van 'n Nasionale Park of Wêrelderfenisgebied.

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

- Seesoogdiere wat waarskynlik in die gebied sal voorkom, sluit Heaviside-dolfyne, vaaldolfyne, suidelike noorkapper en boggelrugwalvisse in.

Die boggelrugwalvis, Megaptera novaeangliae (links), en die suidelike noorkapperwalvis, Eubalaena australis (regs), is die volopste groot walvisse wat langs die Weskus aangetref word.

Die endemiese Heaviside-dolfyn, Cephalorhynchus heavisidii (links), en vaaldolfyn, Lagenorhynchus obscurus (regs) (Bronne: De Beers Mariene Namibië en scottelowitzphotography.com).

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POTENSIEËLE IMPAKTE EN MOONTLIKE VERSAGTING

Potensieële impak	Geëvalueerde beduidendheid (met versagting)	Primêre versagtingsmaatreëls
• Akoestiese impakte van geofisiese opnames en monsternemings-bedrywigheide	BAIE LAAG	• Stel Mariene Soogdierwaarnemer (Marine Mammal Observer – MMO) aan om visuele skanderings aan boord te doen. • Implementeer "sagte wegtrekke".
• Elektromagnetiese impakte van Geofisiese Opnames	ONBEDUIDEND	• Elektromagnetiese bron moet oor 'n minimum tydperk van 20 minute verhoog word. • Skakel elektromagnetiese bron af wanneer data nie ingewin word nie.
• Swem vas in projekvaartuie	BAIE LAAG	• Wees op die uitkyk vir seesoogdiere en -skilpaaie in die vaartuig se pad. • Verseker vaartuie se deurvaartpoed van 10 knope (18 km/h) wanneer daar sensitiewe mariene fauna in die omgewing is. • Meld enige botsings met groot walvisse aan.

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

Direkte oorvleueling van Kommerisiële Visserye met Seegebied 4C en 5C

Sektor	Oorvleueling	% nasionale poging / vangs	
Seebodemlanglyn	0,47 %	0,47 %	Minimale aktiwiteit in die seegebiede maar geen aktiwiteit in die beoogde opname- en monsternemingsgebiede nie.
Paal-en-lyn	6,97 %	0,53 %	Snoekvangste is aangemeld in die seegebiede, kus se kant toe van die 100 m dieptekontour af. Geen tunavangste is in die seegebiede aangemeld nie.

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

Kleinskaalvisvang

- Hierdie vissers werk tradisioneel in visvanggebiede naby die kus.
- Kleinskaalvisvang (KSV) om in voedsel- en basiese lewensbehoefes te voorsien, maar kan ook direk by visvang vir kommersiële doeleindes betrokke wees en kan met die kommersiële visserysektore oorvleuel.
- KSV-hulpbronne word op grond van 'n gemeenskapsgebaseerde koöperasie-benadering bestuur, wat deur 'n reeks gemeenskapskoöperatiewe geïmplementeer word. Die naastes is:
 - Port Nolloth
 - Hondeklipbaai

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POTENSIELE IMPAKTE EN MOONTLIKE VERSAGTING

Potensieel Impak	Geëvalueerde beduidendheid (met versagting)	Primêre versagtingsmaatreëls
Impakte op visbedryf en visserye se navorsing	GEEN IMPAK (Visserye se navorsing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raadpleeg die DBVO om programme en die moontlikheid om ontgrigings vir beide partye te minimaliseer of te vermy, te bespreek. Sleutelbelanghebbers word vóór die aanvang van geofisiese opname- en monsternemingsaktiwiteite in kennis gestel. Uitreiking van kennisgewing aan seevaarders en daaglikse navigasiewaarskuwings.
Impak van opnamegeraas op vangstysers	ONBEDUIDEND (Paal-en-lyn, lyrys, Kleinskaalvissers)	

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

- Die meeste skeepsvaartverkeer is op die buiterand van die vastelandsplatrond geleë, met verkeer in die kus se rigting van die vastelandsplatrond af, met die suidweskus langs, wat grootliks uit vissersbote bestaan, veral tussen Kleinsee en Oranjemund. Die vernaamste skeepsvaartroutes oorvleuel met die westelike gedeelte van Seegebied 4C en 5C.

Potensieel Impak	Geëvalueerde beduidendheid (met versagting)	Primêre versagtingsmaatreëls
Impak op mariene vervoeroetes	ONBEDUIDEND	Die operateur moet tersaaklike instellings vóór die aanvang van aktiwiteite in kennis stel

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

- Eksplorasië vir olie en gas word tans in 'n aantal lisensieblokke langs die weskus onderneem. Daar is geen huidige ontwikkeling of produksie in die see langs die Suid-Afrikaanse weskus nie, alhoewel verdere eksplorasië-boorwerk vir die gebiede nader en verder van die kus af, wat met die studiegebied oorvleuel, in die vooruitsig gestel word.
- Daar is geen oorvleueling met ander prospektee- of mynregte nie, alhoewel daar naburige mariene diamantkonsessiegebiede is.

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POTENSIEËLE IMPAKTE EN MOONTLIKE VERSAGTING

Potensieële impak	Geëvalueerde beduidendheid (met versagting)	Primêre versagtingsmaatreëls
Impak op mariene mynbou- en prospekteringsaktiwiteite	Hoogsensitief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kontak enige maatskappye wat mariene prospekter- of mynbouaktiwiteite vóór prospektering in die studiegebied onderneem om hulle in kennis te stel van die beplande aktiwiteite.
Impak op petroleumeksplorasië	BAIE LAAG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skakel met alle petroleumeksplorasië-operateurs om te verseker dat daar geen oorvleueling van aktiwiteite in dieselfde gebied oor dieselfde tydperk is nie.

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POTENSIEËLE IMPAKTE EN MOONTLIKE VERSAGTING

Potensieële impak	Geëvalueerde beduidendheid (met versagting)	Primêre versagtingsmaatreëls
Impak op kultuurerfenismateriaal (Erfenisimpakevaluering)	Hoogsensitief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sluit enige geïdentifiseerde skeepswrakterreine uit voordat monsterningsaktiwiteite onderneem word Waar wrakke ontdek word, moet die werk gestaak en die Suid-Afrikaanse Erfenisulphronagentskap gekontak word
Werkskopping en sakegeleenthede	BAIE LAAG (positief)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gebruik plaaslike maatskappye vir steundienste, so ver moontlik
Verbode alternatief (d.w.s. gaan nie voort met beoogde grootmaat monsterneming nie)	LAAG	-

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PAD VORENTOE

- Kommentaar tydperk sluit op **6 Maart 2023**:
 - Dien kommentaar, vrae, knelpunte of voorstelle in by SLR.
 - Kommentaar moet in die Kommentaar en Antwoordverslag saamgestel en op gereageer word.
- Finale BEV sal ingedien word vir besluitneming:
 - Hoogstens 107 dae vir die Bevoegde Owerheid om 'n besluit te neem.
- Finale BEV-verslag sal vir inligtingsdoeleindes opgelaa word.
- Geregistreeerde B&GP's sal in kennis gestel word van die besluit en die appèlproses sodra 'n besluit geneem is.

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Riglyne vir opbouwende bespreking

Opbare deelname is **NIE** 'n stem- of konsensusgedrewe proses nie. 'n Proses van inwinning van insette met die doel om besluitnemer in staat te stel om oorweging aan alle kwessies en impakte te skenk.

- Steek u hand op om kommentaar te lewer of om 'n vraag te vra en werk deur die fasiliteerder(s).
- Respekteer mekaar en die "ry hande".
- Identifiseer uself, u naam en van en u instelling.
- Laat sak u hand ná kommentaar/vraag.
- Konsentreer op die onderwerp, nie op die persoon nie. Kom ooreen om nie saam te stem nie.
- Een vraag op 'n slag. Hou vrae bondig.

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Oop sessie: vrae & bespreking

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SLR se kontakbesonderhede

Metode	Kontakbesonderhede
Posadres:	5 ^{de} Vloer, Letterstedt-huis, Newlands on Main, Newlands, 7700
Tel:	021 461 1118/9
WhatsApp / SMS:	063 900 5536
E-pos:	DBM-4C5C@slrconsulting.com
Webwerf:	https://www.slrconsulting.com/en/public-documents/debeers-4c5c
Datavrye webwerf:	https://slrpublicdocs.datafree.co/en/public-documents/debeers-4c5c

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APPENDIX C: PHOTOS OF PUBLIC MEETING





DE BEERS CONSOLIDATED MINES (PTY) LTD (DBCM) - BASIC ASSESSMENT (BA) FOR A PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION FOR SOUTH AFRICAN SEA AREAS 4C AND 5C, WEST COAST, SOUTH AFRICA

**NOTES OF PUBLIC MEETING AT THE RECREATION CENTRE, KLEINSEE
HELD ON 21 FEBRUARY 2023, 17H30**

NO.	ITEM
1.	OVERVIEW
1.1.	<p>The Kleinsee public meeting was arranged through advertisements placed in local and regional newspapers, announcements on the local radio station Radio NFM and site notices placed at strategic locations throughout the town including inside the local library. The local librarian also placed a notice about the project and the meeting on one of the local WhatsApp chat groups in Kleinsee. The project team waited at the Kleinsee Recreation Centre until approximately 19h00 and no members of the public had arrived by that time to attend the meeting. Thus, the meeting was called off.</p> <p>Discussions were held with the Station Commander of Kleinsee Police Station who suggested that people were not aware of the planned meeting and he provided advice on how the community could be notified about future public meetings in Kleinsee. The Station Commander also indicated that he had posted the project notification on the local WhatsApp chat group. Having spoken with the Station Commander a week later, he noted that there had been no further enquiries from community members about the project or notification that was posted on the WhatsApp group.</p> <p>A list of attendees is provided in Appendix A.</p>

APPENDIX A: LIST OF ATTENDEES

NO	NAME	ORGANISATION	ABBR.
1	Station Commander	Kleinzee Police Station	
2	Josephine Pieters	Social Impact Manager South Africa: De Beers Consolidated Mines (Pty) Ltd (DBCM)	JP
3	Chantelle du Plessis	Environmental Manager: De Beers Marine (Pty) Ltd (DBM)	CdP
4	Michele Kruse	Geosciences Manager: DBM	MK
5	Deon Venter	Head of Security: DBCM	
6	Nicholas Arnott	SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SLR)	NA
7	Nomi Muthialu	Independent Facilitator – NMA Effective Social Strategists (Pty) Ltd	NM
8	Julian Drew	Independent Facilitator – NMA	JD
9	Chris Fourie	Independent Translator – NMA	CF

APPENDIX B: PHOTOS OF PUBLIC MEETING VENUE AND DISCUSSION WITH STATION COMMANDER OF KLEINSEE POLICE STATION





DE BEERS CONSOLIDATED MINES (PTY) LTD (DBCM) - BASIC ASSESSMENT (BA) FOR A PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION FOR SOUTH AFRICAN SEA AREAS 4C AND 5C, WEST COAST, SOUTH AFRICA

**NOTES OF PUBLIC MEETING AT THE ERIC BAKER COMMUNITY HALL, HONDEKLIPBAAI
HELD ON 22 FEBRUARY 2023, 17H30**

NO.	ITEM
1.	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
1.1.	<p>Nomi Muthialu (NM), the independent facilitator, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present. She introduced herself as the independent facilitator whose role was to facilitate the meeting. She said she was not employed by the applicant or the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) and did not have any vested interest in the project or the outcome of the project.</p> <p>Josephine Pieters (JP), Social Impact Manager South Africa from De Beers Consolidated Mines (Pty) Ltd (DBCM), who is the applicant for the proposed project, Chantelle du Plessis (CdP), Environmental Manager, and Michele Kruse (MK), Geosciences Manager, from De Beers Marine (Pty) Ltd (DBM) who is the appointed operator for DBCM, Nicholas Arnott (NA) from SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SLR) who is the EAP undertaking the Basic Assessment (BA) study, Chris Fourie who was the Afrikaans interpreter, and Julian Drew (JD) from (NMA Effective Social Strategists (Pty) Ltd (NMA) who were facilitating the stakeholder engagement meetings for the project then introduced themselves.</p> <p>A list of attendees is provided in Appendix A.</p> <p>NM said the purpose of the meeting was for the project team to share information on the proposed project, the findings of the Basic Assessment and specialist studies, the proposed measures to avoid, reduce or manage potential impacts and outline the next steps in the Basic Assessment process. She said the meeting would also provide the opportunity for Interested and/or Affected Parties (I&APs) to comment on the findings of the Basic Assessment / specialist studies and the proposed mitigation measures and make suggestions or raise further issues of concern about the proposed project. She then went through the agenda and meeting protocols.</p> <p>NM asked whether everyone was comfortable with the meeting being recorded for minute-taking purposes and for photos to be taken of the meeting for the record and the attendees agreed.</p> <p>NM then thanked everyone for their patience and requested the presenters to give their presentation.</p>
2.	PRESENTATION - presentation is provided in Appendix B.
2.1	CdP presented DBM's environmental management approach and MK presented the project history and description of the proposed prospecting activities.
2.2	NA presented an overview of the BA process covering the legislative requirements and the various steps in the BA process. NA then presented a list of key issues and potential impacts from the project and indicated the specialist studies that will be undertaken to assess these issues and impacts as well as those identified through the public participation process.
3.	BREAKAWAY SESSIONS
	In order to facilitate the discussion, attendees were split into separate groups and asked to raise any issues, questions or comments they had which was then recorded. Once all groups had finished, everyone reconvened to listen to the responses provided to the various issues raised. The issues recorded by each group is provided below. The responses provided by the project team are included in Section 4.
3.1	GROUP 1 ISSUES RAISED
3.1.1	Vian Sochap (VS) said that the lack of job creation was a concern and asked how many local people would be involved in the prospecting activities.

NO.	ITEM
3.1.2	VS asked for clarity on the lifespan of the project.
3.1.3	Edward Arendse (EA) referred to the Searcher application and asked if this project is a repeat of that application or in any way affiliated to it.
3.1.4	<p>EA said that the 5-year lifespan of the project could be used to empower the youth and asked what allocation had been made for this and what pilot projects had been identified to benefit the community.</p> <p>EA said it was clear that the local people would not be employed on the vessel and asked if there would be opportunity for the local community to provide services such as catering.</p>
3.1.5	EA said that the community of Hondeklipbaai, especially the youth, are sceptical because different people (companies) come into the area and make promises. He asked whether DBCM were transparent and how this project was any different.
3.1.6	EA said that the small-scale fishers (SSFs) needed to be consulted.
3.1.7	Ian Saal (IS) asked if there was any opportunity for the community to be given contracts on the vessel and locally during prospecting.
3.1.8	Andries Soggop (AS) asked what goal had been set to improve the lives of the local community in the future.
3.1.9	Johannes Thomas (JT) asked if a percentage of the opportunities from the project would be allocated to the local community.
3.1.10	Arnold Filton (AF) asked if DBCM could provide the local community with work opportunities and sponsorships for sport and sports facilities. He was also concerned about their lack of qualifications and asked how DBCM could accommodate matriculants to gain experience.
3.1.11	John Menthoor (JM) made the point that DBCM have been working near Hondeklipbaai for many years and yet nothing has been done to improve the schools or to benefit the communities. DBCM are now moving into the sea and will damage the sea without any repercussions. His question therefore was what can De Beers provide to educate the children?
3.1.12	John Adams (JA) said that there is a new plan in place for working at sea and asked what DBCM's plan for the communities closest to their activities was. He said that Social and Labour Plans have been used in other communities but not for Hondeklipbaai. He asked if, in terms of the plan, there were any opportunities for the Hondeklipbaai community, such as a community trust.
3.1.13	JA made reference to the slide on the history of the project and said that the application was approved on 23 November 2022 and asked who approved the application without consulting the community. He wanted to know who gets to say yes or no to the project.
3.1.14	JA asked why DBCM did not return to the area to close the dams and said that lives are being lost because of this.
3.1.15	Sheriff Maerman (SMn) made the point that Hondeklipbaai is located 50 km away from the prospecting activities and asked if there would, therefore, be any benefits for the local youth.
3.2	GROUP 2 ISSUES RAISED
3.2.1	Diana Mentoor (DM) asked what impact the project would have on the fish and SSFs.
3.2.2	Corete Petersen (CP) was also concerned about the impact of the project on fish and SSFs. She noted that there would be an exclusion zone for a limited period and asked how the SSFs would be impacted if this occurs during the snoek fishing season.
3.2.3	Delana Titus (DT) said that the application was accepted on 22 November 2022 but they were only being consulted now as an afterthought.
3.2.4	Rodrick Soudens (RS) asked who owns blocks 4C and 5C.

NO.	ITEM
3.2.5	RS wanted to know what DBCM would do differently if the prospecting is successful and they proceed with mining. He said that this application is 50 km from Hondeklipbaai and yet DBCM did nothing for the community when their mining activities were located on land 10 km from Hondeklipbaai.
3.2.6	Sheldon Matthys (SM) said that schools in South Africa are graded in terms of the economic activities in the area where the school is located and currently Hondeklipbaai Primary School is considered to be a rich school by the government because it is surrounded by mining companies. The government therefore gives minimal resources to the school but historically the communities have not really benefitted from the mining. He said that the Hondeklipbaai community has a bad history with DBCM.
3.2.7	Donnie Saal (DS) said that he had worked for DBCM and asked why DBCM had left their mine on land and now wanted to mine the sea. He said that DBCM mined in Hondeklipbaai as Namaqualand Mines but never left anything for the community who were still the poorest of the poor. Against this backdrop, he was concerned that DBCM had now come back and were asking them for permission to prospect in their coastal waters.
3.2.8	Pierre-Jean Diegaardt (PJD) asked what the community will gain from this project as they did not benefit from DBCM in the past so what will be different now.
3.3	GROUP 3 ISSUES RAISED
3.3.1	Carisa Soudens (CS) of Wyks Kommitteelid Hondeklipbaai Kamiesberg indicated that she had submitted a letter about a year ago as part of the public participation process but had not received any feedback or a response to date.
3.3.2	CS referred to the slide presentation on the history of the project which showed that the application had already been approved and asked how it was approved without the involvement of the community.
3.3.3	CS said that DBCM failed to look after the community when they mined the land so why would they do so now when they mined the sea.
3.3.4	CS asked if DBCM will use large vessels, such as the Ivan Princep, or smaller vessels during the prospecting activities.
3.3.5	Billy (B) asked if DBCM could clarify the position on job creation.
3.3.6	Rosina Klaase (RK) asked if a Social and Labour Plan would be prepared for the community of Hondeklipbaai. She said that previously when DBCM mined in the area there was a SLP in place but it was not adhered to, therefore, DBCM has set a bad precedent in the area.
3.3.7	Earnshaw Robertson (ER) said that he was concerned about the impact on marine fauna when taking samples as the area will be disturbed. He asked how the disturbed area would be rehabilitated to ensure that it is returned to its original state.
3.3.8	Abraham Cloete (AC) said that DBCM failed to do rehabilitation on land and now want to mine the ocean as well so how would they rehabilitate the ocean.
3.3.9	AC made the point that there used to be earthquakes in the area up to 2002 and then it stopped but last year in 2022 they experienced the first one after all these years. He asked why this was happening and if it was related to the mining activities.
3.3.10	Clr Dawid Markus (CDM) asked when DBCM would stop with their greed and said that they are only focused on making profits.
3.3.11	CDM asked about the status of the land claim against DBCM.
3.3.12	CDM said that Section 24 of the Constitution states that everyone has the right to an environment which is not harmful to their health or wellbeing.
3.3.13	CDM for clarity on how it would be substantiated that the proposed activities will have no negative impacts on marine mammals as there is no such proof.

NO.	ITEM
4.	DISCUSSION TO PROVIDE RESPONSES TO ISSUES RAISED IN THE BREAKAWAY SESSIONS
4.1	<p>VS said that the lack of job creation was a concern and asked how many local people would be involved in the prospecting activities.</p> <p>EA said that the 5-year lifespan of the project could be used to empower the youth and asked what allocation had been made for this and what pilot projects had been identified to benefit the community.</p> <p>EA said it was clear that the local people would not be employed on the vessel and asked if there would be opportunity for the local community to provide services such as catering.</p> <p>AS asked what goal had been set to improve the lives of the local community in the future.</p> <p>JT asked if a percentage of the opportunities from the project would be allocated to the local community.</p> <p>IS asked if there was any opportunity for the community to be given contracts on the vessel and locally during prospecting.</p> <p>B asked if DBCM could clarify the position on job creation.</p> <p><i>JP said that firstly, it was important to understand why DBCM were at the meeting. She said the engagement was important because this was phase 1 of the project when De Beers were trying to find out if there were diamonds that could be mined in the Sea Areas. She said that because, at this stage, it was not known if there would be any mining, it was difficult to say how many jobs or opportunities would be created. She said that if the project moved to the mining stage then De Beers would have to complete a Social and Labour Plan (SLP), which would talk about projects in the community, an Environmental Management Programme (EMP) and a Mine Works Plan. She said these three documents were linked to the mining right application but currently the project was for a prospecting right which had to be undertaken before mining could take place. She said De Beers would be back in the community again if the project moved to the mining phase in order to assess the impacts of mining and the needs of the community and to look at all the issues that were raised in this meeting. She said this would determine what projects would be undertaken in the community and how many jobs this would create and how many opportunities there would be on the mining project. She said, however, that it needed to be understood that the first phase, which was the prospecting phase, would have to be completed before De Beers could move on to the next phase. (Note: Corporate Social Investment and local employment will be considered if De Beers move into diamond recovery mining¹).</i></p> <p>¹ This additional information has been provided here for additional clarification to the response and was not stated in the meeting itself.</p>
4.2	<p>CDM said he wanted to comment on what had just been said. He said De Beers had been in the Hondeklipbaai area since the 1920s and these were the same stories they had heard before but with different faces. He said that year in, year out they had to listen to these presentations and people telling them lies and nonsense. He said the community wanted to know what was in it for them and the answer was nothing. He said De Beers were here for prospecting to see if they could find more diamonds and they should be ashamed of being so greedy and selfish. He said people always came and told them that there would be opportunities but that was just lies because, as could clearly be seen, there was nothing in the community. He said the project team were lucky that he was wheelchair bound otherwise he would physically throw them out of Hondeklipbaai. He said he felt this way because every meeting was the same with the same old lies and nonsense and it was not right to make such promises because they were also people who deserved to be treated with dignity. He said De Beers had been removing diamonds from the area for years but if you looked at the community there was nothing to show for it and there had been no progress. He said that the community came to the meeting to listen to what De Beers had to say and De Beers should be ashamed of peddling the same old lies once again. He said De Beers came to the meeting and felt nothing for the community because they got paid to come here. He said the community should not ask De Beers for anything because the diamonds that De Beers were looking for belonged to the community so they couldn't provide benefits from something that already belonged to the community. He said the community should rather ask De Beers about the jobs they should have had when De Beers was mining the land in the area. He said De Beers just left without giving anything to the community and now they had come back because they wanted to mine the ocean. He said De Beers should be ashamed to come</p>

NO.	ITEM
	<p>back and ask the community about mining the ocean when they had done nothing for the community when they mined the land.</p> <p><i>JP said that De Beers was not there to lie to the community but they were also not there to be defensive about things from the past. She said she wanted to repeat that this was phase 1 of the project and if De Beers did not complete the prospecting phase then they could not move onto the next phase which would be the mining phase if they found diamonds in the Sea Areas. She said when she and her colleagues from De Beers arrived in Hondeklipbaai they drove around to see what the place was like and they also did the same thing in Port Nolloth and Kleinsee. She said she couldn't deny that there were problems but she didn't believe that this was a reason to say that this current opportunity should not be taken up and that the prospecting should not take place. She asked who in the meeting could say they'd never made any mistakes and asked them to raise their hands if they could. She said that if the prospecting was successful and they moved on to mining De Beers would not just go and do what they wanted to do. She said De Beers would come back to the Hondeklipbaai community and they had also told the community in Port Nolloth exactly the same. She said she couldn't defend what had happened in the past and could only say what she knew which was that they were in the prospecting phase of the project and if they were successful they would come back to engage with the community to discuss how De Beers could uplift the community.</i></p>
4.3	<p>ER said that he was concerned about the impact on marine fauna when taking samples as the area will be disturbed. He asked how it would be rehabilitated to ensure that it is returned to its original state.</p> <p><i>NA said that as part of the Basic Assessment process SLR will produce an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) which will contain recommendations to ensure that any potential environmental impacts from the project activities were properly managed or avoided where possible so that the project could be implemented in an environmentally acceptable way. He said if the project was approved, the EMPr would be a legally binding document and De Beers would be required to adhere to all the mitigation measures contained in the EMPr. He said De Beers would be audited on the implementation of the EMPr and the audit findings would be sent to DMRE and there would be repercussions if the EMPr was not being properly implemented.</i></p>
4.4	<p>SM requested that De Beers be honest with the community because they couldn't just keep turning the other cheek. He said every year De Beers provides opportunities for youth in the rural areas to obtain licences and receive bursaries but those opportunities were only given to the youth in the Nama Khoi Municipality and the youth of Hondeklipbaai did not benefit. He said De Beers had mined in Hondeklipbaai but somebody who was more than a hundred kilometres away from the mine received the benefits while somebody who was only 10 km away did not benefit at all. He said this happened every year and the De Beers adverts always stated that the opportunities were only for people from the Nama Khoi Municipality so those opportunities were never available for the youth of Hondeklipbaai. He said De Beers couldn't claim that they would rehabilitate after their mining operations in the ocean if they couldn't even rehabilitate their mines on land near Hondeklipbaai. He said the people from De Beers must go and walk around their old mine and see what they had left behind but the simple truth was that they just didn't care. He said it was also no use talking about DMRE and repercussions because DMRE were useless. He said if DMRE's law enforcement officials had come to the old mine at Hondeklipbaai and done their work properly they would have known that there had not been any rehabilitation. He said that was why the mining houses could do as they pleased because DMRE were completely ineffective. He said the community had complained the previous year and said that they didn't want any more mining in the area but still De Beers came to them for this meeting and once again the people of Hondeklipbaai would be left behind.</p> <p><i>JP said that she did not have a response to the claim that opportunities were only made available to the youth of the Nama Khoi Municipality but this would be noted so that De Beers would take job opportunities for youth into consideration if De Beers moved into the diamond recovery mining phase.</i></p> <p><i>NA noted that environmental issues were also dealt with by the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and the Environment (DFFE) who also have a team of enforcement officers called the Green Scorpions who investigate contraventions of environmental law. He said if the community was not having any success</i></p>

NO.	ITEM
	<p><i>addressing their issues with DMRE he recommended that they contact DFFE to see if they could resolve any of the environmental issues the community may have. See 4.13 regarding rehabilitation.</i></p>
4.5	<p>EA referred to the Searcher application and asked if this project is a repeat of that application or in any way affiliated to it.</p> <p><i>NA said that the De Beers prospecting right application had nothing to do with Searcher. He said Searcher were involved in oil and gas exploration. He said De Beers were looking for minerals and there were therefore two completely different application processes being undertaken by the two companies with no connection between the two.</i></p>
4.6	<p>JA made reference to the slide on the history of the project and said that the application was approved on 23 November 2022 and asked who approved the application without consulting the community. He wanted to know who gets to say yes or no to the project.</p> <p>DT said that the application was accepted on 22 November 2022 but they were only being consulted now as an afterthought.</p> <p>CS referred to the slide presentation on the history of the project which showed that the application had already been approved and asked how it was approved without the involvement of the community.</p> <p><i>NA said that the reference in the presentation was to the acceptance of the application for a prospecting right by DMRE but it had not yet been approved. He said the process that had to be followed was that the applicant first had to submit an application stating that they wanted to undertake prospecting and outlining their expertise to carry out that work. He said DMRE would then look at the application and if the applicant met all the requirements DMRE would accept the application and then request the applicant to get an environmental authorisation to carry out the prospecting activities and provide a number of other documents before they could approve and issue the prospecting right. He said that on 22 November 2022 DMRE simply accepted the application and requested De Beers to apply for environmental authorisation for the prospecting activities and that was why SLR was appointed to conduct the Basic Assessment process and apply for environmental authorisation. He said today's meeting was part of the public participation process for the Basic Assessment and the application for the prospecting right could not be approved before the environmental authorisation had been issued.</i></p>
4.7	<p>JA asked why DBCM did not return to the area to close the dams and said that lives are being lost because of this. The open cast mining area was not rehabilitated and there are dams there that local children have drowned in.</p> <p><i>CdP said we are not aware of the incident being referred to, so cannot comment further at this meeting.</i></p> <p><i>(Note: De Beers note this is a serious matter and are not aware of the dams that are being referred to nor of any incidents of children drowning in such dams. The mining rights and associated disturbances in the immediate vicinity of Hondeklipbaai have never been owned by De Beers, so De Beers cannot comment on these. The DMRE should be approached to look into this matter.²).</i></p> <p><i>² This additional information has been provided here for additional clarification to the response and was not stated in the meeting itself.</i></p>
4.8	<p>AF asked if DBCM could provide the local community with work opportunities and sponsorships for sport and sports facilities. He was also concerned about their lack of qualifications and asked how DBCM could accommodate matriculants to gain experience.</p> <p>JM made the point that DBCM have been working near Hondeklipbaai for many years and yet nothing has been done to improve the schools or to benefit the communities. DBCM are now moving into the sea and will damage the sea without any repercussions. His question therefore was what can De Beers provide to educate the children?</p> <p>JA said that there is a new plan in place for working at sea and asked what DBCM's plan for the communities closest to their activities was. He said that Social and Labour Plans have been used in other communities but not for Hondeklipbaai. He asked if, in terms of the plan, there were any opportunities for the Hondeklipbaai community, such as a community trust.</p>

NO.	ITEM
	<p><i>JP said De Beers could not commit to any benefits during the prospecting phase but if they were successful with prospecting and applied for a mining right then De Beers would come back and engage with the community to determine what kind of projects the community wanted. She said De Beers are involved in sports development projects and the sponsorship of teams. She said an SLP would have to be developed for five years and it would outline the projects that would be undertaken in the community. She said some of those projects would create jobs, some would be for education and skills development, some would provide business opportunities. She said for example, there could be existing businesses or a need for businesses to develop tourism in the area. She said if a need was identified for upskilling matriculants then a project could be developed to prepare matriculants for job opportunities and she said De Beers did have similar projects in other areas of the country. She said DMRE wanted the SLP to cover a number of different areas and not just focus on education for example, so it would include education, skills development, enterprise development and business opportunities in order to cover a wide range of issues in the community. She said public participation was required by law in the compilation of an SLP so De Beers would come back and consult the community in the second phase of the project for a mining right application if they were successful during the prospecting phase. (Note: If De Beers move into diamond recovery mining, then education can be prioritised³).</i></p> <p>³ This additional information has been provided here for additional clarification to the response and was not stated in the meeting itself.</p>
4.9	<p>EA said that the small-scale fishers (SSFs) needed to be consulted.</p> <p>DM asked what impact the project would have on the fish and SSFs.</p> <p>CP was also concerned about the impact of the project on fish and SSFs. She noted that there would be an exclusion zone for a limited period and asked how the SSFs would be impacted if this occurs during the snoek fishing season.</p> <p><i>NA said the DBAR contained a full assessment by the fisheries specialist on the potential impact on the fish and SSFs which took into consideration where the fishing activities generally took place from the data supplied by DFFE, the proposed timing of the activities, the impact of the exclusion zone around the vessel and how it could impact fishing activities in the Sea Areas, and the impact of the noise from the geophysical surveys on the different fish species. He said a number of mitigation measures were recommended to ensure that the impact on the SSFs would be as small as possible so that they could continue with their fishing activities while prospecting activities were taking place.</i></p> <p><i>MK said the prospecting activities would take place more than 50 km north of Hondeklipbaai and between 6 km to 13 km from the coast.</i></p>
4.10	<p>RS asked who owns blocks 4C and 5C.</p> <p><i>NA said that in terms of the law, DMRE was the custodian of all mineral resources on behalf of everyone in South Africa and DMRE had set out the extent of the Sea Areas. He said that De Beers had made an application to carry out prospecting activities in Sea Areas 4C and 5C. He said that after the five-year period for the prospecting right had lapsed, De Beers would have the opportunity to apply for a mining right application to carry out mining in those Sea Areas or it could decide not to pursue mining in which case other companies could submit applications for a prospecting right in those areas.</i></p> <p>CDM said he just wanted to make it clear to the community that the minerals did not belong to the state but to the local people living in the area. He said the state was not the custodian of those minerals and that was the reason De Beers had to come here and listen to what the community, as the owners of the minerals, had to say because they as the community were responsible for the area. He said the community needed to understand this point very clearly because if the government was voted out the people would still be living in Hondeklipbaai and this would still be their land.</p>
4.11	<p>RS wanted to know what DBCM would do differently if the prospecting is successful and they proceed with mining. He said that this application is 50 km from Hondeklipbaai and yet DBCM did nothing for the community when their mining activities were located on land 10 km from Hondeklipbaai.</p>

NO.	ITEM
	<p>SM said that schools in South Africa are graded in terms of the economic activities in the area where the school is located and currently Hondeklipbaai Primary School is considered to be a rich school by the government because it is surrounded by mining companies. The government therefore gives minimal resources to the school but historically the communities have not really benefitted from the mining. He said that the Hondeklipbaai community has a bad history with DBCM.</p> <p><i>JP said that De Beers would take note of this issue and will be important to involve the Provincial Department of Basic Education to finding a lasting solution.</i></p>
4.12	<p>DS said that he had worked for DBCM and asked why DBCM had left their mine on land and now wanted to mine the sea. He said that DBCM mined in Hondeklipbaai as Namaqualand Mines but never left anything for the community who were still the poorest of the poor. Against this backdrop, he was concerned that DBCM had now come back and were asking them for permission to prospect in their coastal waters.</p> <p>PJD asked what the community will gain from this project as they did not benefit from DBCM in the past so what will be different now.</p> <p><i>NM noted that these issues had been addressed in previous responses. (Note: De Beers complied with all its obligations in terms of the SLP⁴).</i></p> <p><i>⁴ This additional information has been provided here for additional clarification to the response and was not stated in the meeting itself.</i></p>
4.13	<p>ER said that he was concerned about the impact on marine fauna when taking samples as the area will be disturbed. He asked how the disturbed area would be rehabilitated to ensure that it is returned to its original state.</p> <p>AC said that DBCM failed to do rehabilitation on land and now want to mine the ocean as well so how would they rehabilitate the ocean.</p> <p><i>NA said that De Beers was not proposing to do mining but rather prospecting activities. He said prospecting had a much smaller footprint and was of a much lower intensity compared to mining. He said the ocean was a very dynamic environment and the seabed was disturbed by a number of natural phenomena such as tides, swells, weather conditions and wind speeds that stirred up the sediment on the seafloor. He said the sides of the small holes created by sampling would initially cave in through slumping, which would fill part of the hole, and then some of the unwanted sediment that was discharged overboard would settle in and around the hole and thereafter, the natural phenomena mentioned previously would fill up the hole over time so that rehabilitation would take place through natural processes. (Note: De Beers continues to comply with the applicable laws of the country, including those related to environmental management and rehabilitation requirements De Beers concluded all concurrent rehabilitation before selling mineral rights to West Coast Resources (WCR). The sale to WCR incorporated the remaining rehabilitation requirements that would be completed as part of the remaining mining sequence. WCR has made provision for the rehabilitation requirement as approved by the DMRE. The mining rights and associated disturbances in the immediate vicinity of Hondeklipbaai have never been owned by De Beers, so De Beers cannot comment on these⁵).</i></p> <p><i>⁵ This additional information has been provided here for additional clarification to the response and was not stated in the meeting itself.</i></p>
4.14	<p>AC made the point that there used to be earthquakes in the area up to 2002 and then it stopped but last year in 2022 they experienced the first one after all these years. He asked why this was happening and if it was related to the mining activities.</p> <p><i>NA said that this was a tricky question to answer as he was not a seismologist. He said the earth's crust was made up of a number of tectonic plates which moved around on the earth's core and rubbed against each other causing earthquakes. He said earthquakes were naturally occurring phenomena that occurred irregularly over time. He said these earthquakes or tremors were not linked to the mining activity in the area.</i></p>
4.15	<p>RS said De Beers had come to the meeting to tell them that the drilling and prospecting activities they wanted to carry out would not affect the community of Hondeklipbaai because they would take place far away. He asked what the project team wanted from the community because as soon as they spoke about De Beers and the things that De Beers had done historically in the area, they were told that De Beers could not respond to</p>

NO.	ITEM
	<p>these questions or issues. He said if he was from De Beers he would come to Hondeklipbaai with R100 million and own up to the mess that De Beers had made here and say, “Here is R100 million for a community trust to benefit the community.” He said, however, that he didn’t know if R100 million was enough to compensate for all the damage that De Beers had caused in the area. He said the community recently had a meeting with SANParks who said they were aware of the history of the area and what De Beers had done and had confirmed that De Beers was still the owner of the unrehabilitated mining land. He said De Beers was a very rich company and Hondeklipbaai was a very poor community and De Beers shouldn’t come to engage with them and waste their time. He said that there was an opportunity to do something in Hondeklipbaai and asked whose opportunity it was. Was it the community’s opportunity?</p> <p><i>NM said that this comment would be noted. (Note: De Beers has a long history with SANParks in the area and are more than happy to engage with SANParks. Note SANParks are a registered I&AP for this EA application. The mining rights and associated disturbances in the immediate vicinity of Hondeklipbaai have never been owned by De Beers, so De Beers cannot comment on these⁶).</i></p> <p>⁶ <i>This additional information has been provided here for additional clarification to the response and was not stated in the meeting itself.</i></p>
4.16	<p>CS indicated that she had submitted a letter about a year ago as part of the public participation process but had not received any feedback or a response to date.</p> <p><i>NA said all the comments made in this meeting would be recorded in the meeting notes which would document everything that was said in the meeting. He said those notes would be included in the final BAR that would be submitted to DMRE so that DMRE could read what the community had said about the proposed project when making their decision. He said any written comments received on the DBAR would be collated into a Comments and Responses Report which would indicate who the comment was from and when it was written. He said a response would also be provided to each of the points made in the written submissions. He said SLR did not respond in writing to each person who made a written submission as the responses would be included in the final BAR which would be made available electronically to everybody who participated in the public participation process so that they could check how their comments were responded to. He said if CS had specific issues that she wanted a response to she could chat to him after the meeting.</i></p>
4.17	<p>CS asked if DBCM will use large vessels, such as the Ivan Princep, or smaller vessels during the prospecting activities.</p> <p>CDM asked about the status of the land claim against DBCM.</p> <p><i>MK said she didn’t know the size of the Ivan Princep but the vessel that would be chosen would be one that would be suitable to undertake the prospecting activities. She said a fit for purpose vessel will be used.</i></p> <p><i>JP said that the De Beers representatives would have to go back to the office and investigate the land claim because they did not have any knowledge of a land claim and she didn’t want to provide false information to the community. (Note: Land claims are submitted against the state and not the current occupiers or owners of the land in question. This is a matter that is being handled by the Northern Cape Land Commission, and not by De Beers⁷).</i></p> <p>⁷ <i>This additional information has been provided here for additional clarification to the response and was not stated in the meeting itself.</i></p>
4.18	<p>Nicolaas Cloete (NC) said he lived in Hondeklipbaai and was a member of a small-scale fishing cooperative. He said he had worked for almost 20 years for De Beers and knew De Beers business very well. He said he had also worked on many prospecting projects. He said from his experience of working on prospecting projects from Koingnaas to Richards Bay, he had seen that De Beers had drilled holes and those holes were then closed up with the sediment left over from drilling the hole. He said over time the sediment in the holes settled and sagged and then animals sometimes fell into the holes which were also a danger to people as well. He said this was an example of the rehabilitation that De Beers left behind once they had finished their work. He said De Beers were now telling them in the meeting that the holes they would create during prospecting would be rehabilitated naturally. He said people had died in the unrehabilitated mining area to the north of Hondeklipbaai and De Beers was still talking about rehabilitation. He said Hondeklipbaai was surrounded by the big mining houses of De Beers and Trans Hex on either side. He said Hondeklipbaai should be a pristine area but it had been messed</p>

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	<p>up by mining and now De Beers wanted to come back here again and mine the sea. He said he knew of four main veins of diamonds that ran into the ocean. He said De Beers was telling them that where they would be prospecting would be a long way from Hondeklipbaai but this was not true otherwise they would not be here to meet the community of Hondeklipbaai. He said President Cyril Ramaphosa and Gwede Mantashe used to fight for their rights but not any longer because they were now the ones handing out mining rights to the big mining houses. He said it did not matter what the community said about this project because it would just fall on deaf ears and they would be ignored.</p> <p><i>NM said that most of these issues had been raised and responded to already and these comments would be noted. She said the pain and despair was clear for all to hear and it was important for the community to be able to present their concerns in this meeting. (Note: De Beers concluded all concurrent rehabilitation before selling mineral rights to West Coast Resources (WCR). The sale to WCR incorporated the remaining rehabilitation requirements that would be completed as part of the remaining mining sequence. WCR has made provision for the rehabilitation requirement as approved by the DMRE. The mining rights and associated disturbances in the immediate vicinity of Hondeklipbaai have never been owned by De Beers, so De Beers cannot comment on these⁸).</i></p> <p>⁸ This additional information has been provided here for additional clarification to the response and was not stated in the meeting itself.</p>
<p>4.19</p>	<p>Metro Filton (MS) said that De Beers should not send somebody to speak to them in the meeting who said she didn't know the answer to the question and would come back again with a response. She said the community wanted people who could provide the answers to their questions. She said she signed the attendance register when she arrived at the meeting and she wanted to know whether this meant that she had given permission for the project or whether it was just a record of how many people attended the meeting. She said that the community had not given their permission to De Beers for the project and she wanted to confirm that De Beers would come back and consult with them again and ask for their permission to proceed with the project.</p> <p><i>NA said that the attendance register was just a record of who attended the meeting and by providing details such as email addresses and cell phone numbers, it enabled SLR to send the attendees further information about the project to keep them updated. He said that signing the attendance register did not mean that people gave their consent for the project. (Note: De Beers prefer to return to the community with the correct responses rather than try to make up the answers during the meetings. The commitment from De Beers is to ensure that the community is informed as part of tis consultation process⁹).</i></p> <p>⁹ This is an additional point of clarification to the response and was not stated in the meeting itself.</p>
<p>4.20</p>	<p>CDM said that what was happening in the meeting was a perfect example of a biased message being presented to the community. He said it was equivalent to the Hondeklipbaai community being asked to form a rugby team to play against the Springboks. He said the project team were the Springboks because they were learned people and the community of Hondeklipbaai had to engage with them at their level. He said it was important for the people of Hondeklipbaai to be able to box in the same weight division as the project team. He said De Beers came to the meeting and spoon fed them information which the community had to listen to whether it was right or wrong. He said this was not a fair way to engage with the community. He said there were members of the community who had worked on the vessels that were prospecting or mining for diamonds and they had seen for themselves the seals, dolphins and sea life that was killed or destroyed. He said it was not rocket science and he couldn't understand how the people in the meeting, as old as they were, still wanted to cook their food on dead embers. He said the community had asked De Beers what was in it for them and their children but De Beers did not want to be honest and tell them that there would be absolutely no benefits for the community. He said there was an old saying which said read between the lines. He said what De Beers was actually saying was that they were only here to tick the necessary boxes because the prospecting would take place more than 50 km away and would not affect them, and whatever the community's concerns the project had nothing to do with the community. He said De Beers and the community should be honest with each other and not smear honey around each other's mouths. He said De Beers had nothing to offer the community and the people of Hondeklipbaai meant nothing to them because if they did, they would have helped the community all those years ago when they were operating the mine to the north of Hondeklipbaai. He said the community must not be treated like fools because De Beers had nothing to offer the community. He said he did not want to waste</p>

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	<p>his time any longer because this was a prospecting right for five years and what that meant was that for five years he would just have to sit in Hondeklipbaai and wait to die. He said after five years there would then be another application for a mining right. He said De Beers was working among them for so many years but the community was still sitting with nothing. He said the community must let history guide them and not be treated like fools by these people who came here to eat themselves fat from their land. He said they should be honest with one another because the project team got paid lots of money to come here but the people were still suffering and they should simply refuse to entertain De Beers.</p> <p><i>NM said that this was a community statement and would be noted for the record.</i> (Note: De Beers have indicated that the input that has been provided by the community would be valuable from a socio-economic development perspective should De Beers proceed to apply for a mining right¹⁰).</p> <p>¹⁰ This is an additional point of clarification to the response and was not stated in the meeting itself.</p>
4.21	<p>CS said she had another document on her lap because she was also in a meeting since 9h30 in the morning with another team of consultants presenting a prospecting right application for DMRE for another Sea Area and now she was taking part in the public participation for the De Beers prospecting right application. She said that most of the questions that had been asked in the meeting related to social development and what benefits the project would provide for the community. She said De Beers had an SLP when they were mining to the north of Hondeklipbaai for so many years but it was just filed away and was never implemented. She said the only social benefit that De Beers provided was to send their workers' children to school and the last thing they got from De Beers, which was a very long time ago, was some school overalls for the school children. She said that was the sum total of the De Beers SLP. She said at today's meeting she did not want to meet with consultants but rather the directors of De Beers who put all the profits from the mine in their safe and then left. She said De Beers were not here any longer because they sold their mining right to Trans Hex who were just another mining house with a different name while the mine remained the same and there were still no benefits for the people of Hondeklipbaai. She said Trans Hex were now operating the mine but there were no Hondeklipbaai people working there any longer. She said De Beers had now come back to Hondeklipbaai to tell the community that they wanted to mine in their ocean. She said De Beers ruined their land and now they wanted to ruin their ocean. She said the De Beers representatives said they couldn't provide any answers in the meeting and she asked whether the people of Hondeklipbaai would ever get a better living from the mining in their area. She said there would never be anything for this community because they arrived poor to meetings like this and they left poor after all these meetings came and went. She said she was sorry to say this but the people of Hondeklipbaai were just the "whore children" of DMRE and the big mining houses.</p> <p><i>NM said that this comment would be noted for the record.</i></p>
4.22	<p>JA said he was born in Hondeklipbaai and his mother and father used to work in the crayfish factory for many years but achieved nothing by doing so. He said the crayfish factory no longer existed and when he grew up he went to work for De Beers which was the first big company that he worked for. He said De Beers then left the area and what DeBeers actually left behind in Hondeklipbaai was sorrow. He said he would have been ashamed of such a legacy but De Beers had come here tonight with their own people to tell the community what would happen in the future. He said that in terms of the mines on the land and in the ocean, DMRE were part of the sorrow of Hondeklipbaai. He said the biggest challenge that the community faced was trying to survive and live off their own land but they were not succeeding. He said De Beers had now come to paint a new picture for them and say here was an opportunity. However, they could see that there would be no future for the Hondeklipbaai community on that ship because they had already seen what De Beers had done with the existing mine to the north of Hondeklipbaai and nobody could change what had happened. He said De Beers had simply passed their responsibility onto another company. He said there was no rugby facility in Hondeklipbaai and when their children had an athletics event recently they didn't even have a running track. He said nobody could help the children because their parents were jobless. He said last year the school in Garies burnt down and they also had a problem at the school in Hondeklipbaai a few weeks ago and when they asked for a contribution from the oil and gas company who came for a meeting in the community, there was the same precondition that they couldn't do anything while they were still in the exploration phase. He said the community did not agree with this approach and requested that while these companies were doing prospecting or exploration they should put something on the table to build a relationship with the community. He said De Beers should read</p>

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	<p>the questions written on the flip chart paper and listen to all the questions that were asked in the meeting and then come back to the community of Hondeklipbaai and take responsibility for what they have done to the community and the surrounding area.</p> <p><i>NA said that all the discussions from the meeting and all the comments on the legacy issues from the De Beers mine near Hondeklipbaai will be recorded in the notes of the meeting which will be included in the final BAR which will be submitted to DMRE for decision-making purposes. He said any additional written comments that were sent to SLR on or before 6 March 2023 will be captured and responded to in the Comments and Responses Report which will also be included in the final BAR that will be sent to DMRE.</i></p>
5.	CLOSURE
5.1	<p>MK thanked the community for their time and attending the meeting and engaging with the team. She said De Beers really appreciated the opportunity to learn about the community’s concerns, that these engagements are important to understand the issues of the community and their comments and questions are noted and they would take them back with them.</p> <p>NM thanked the community for being so frank and honest about their concerns. She said she could hear that the community was really speaking from their hearts and these issues would be recorded in the notes of the meeting as an official record of what was said. She then formally closed the meeting and invited the community to join the project team for some refreshments.</p>

APPENDIX A: LIST OF ATTENDEES

NO	NAME	ORGANISATION	ABBR.
1	Edward Arendse	Independent	EA
2	John Menthoor		JM
3	Lee Roy Cloete		
4	Louisa Cloete		
5	John Alexander Cloete	Hondeklipbaai Community	
6	Donnie Saal	Hondeklipbaai Community	DS
7	Carisa Soudens	Wyks Kommitteelid Hondeklipbaai Kamiesberg	CS
8	Ricardo Sibiya		
9	Metro Filton	Hondeklipbaai Community	MS
10	Susanna Nyangama		
11	Sheriff Maerman	Hondeklipbaai Community	SMn
12	Melvin Warne	Hondeklipbaai Community	
13	Rodney Adams		
14	Johannes Thomas	Hondeklipbaai Community	JT
15	Corrie Adams	Hondeklipbaai Community	
16	Ian Saal	Hondeklipbaai Community	IS
17	Abraham Cloete	Groen	AC
18	Mariana Joseph	Hondeklipbaai Community	
19	Evan Boyes		
20	Clr Dawid Markys	PR Councillor Hondeklipbaai	CDM
21	Rosina Klaase		RK
22	Delana Titus	Community Development Worker: Northern Cape Department of Cooperative Government, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (COGHSTA)	DT
23	Corete Petersen		CP
24	Vian Sochap		VS
25	Florida Joseph		
26	Earnshaw Robertson	Resident Hondeklipbaai	ER
27	Nicolaas Cloete	Resident Hondeklipbaai	
28	Mary-Ann Cloete	Resident Hondeklipbaai	
29	Josephine Sogop	Resident Hondeklipbaai	
30	Sheldon Matthys	Hondeklipbaai Community	SM
31	Diana Mentoor	Hondeklipbaai Community	DM
32	Sarah Koodom	Hondeklipbaai Community	
33	Rodrick Gierald Soudens	Hondeklipbaai Community	RS
34	Andries Soggop	Hondeklipbaai Community	AS
35	Malcolm Aldridge	Hondeklipbaai Community	
36	Jarry Cloete	Hondeklipbaai Community	
37	Pierre-Jean Diegaardt	Hondeklipbaai Community	PJD
38	Phil-Jacques Soudens	Hondeklipbaai Community	

NO	NAME	ORGANISATION	ABBR.
39	Rosco Sochap		
40	Daecald Stanley Hearne	Hondeklipbaai Community	
41	Amelia Adams	Hondeklipbaai Community	
42	Abrolene Klaase	Hondeklipbaai Community	
43	Arnold Filton	Hondeklipbaai Community	AF
44	John Adams		JA
45	Billy		B
46	Josephine Pieters	Social Impact Manager South Africa: De Beers Consolidated Mines (Pty) Ltd (DBCM)	JP
47	Chantelle du Plessis	Environmental Manager: De Beers Marine (Pty) Ltd (DBM)	CdP
48	Michele Kruse	Geosciences Manager: DBM	MK
49	Nicholas Arnott	SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SLR)	NA
50	Nomi Muthialu	Independent Facilitator – NMA Effective Social Strategists (Pty) Ltd	NM
51	Julian Drew	Independent Facilitator – NMA	JD
52	Chris Fourie	Independent Translator – NMA	CF

APPENDIX B: PRESENTATION

BASIESE EVALUERING VIR 'N AANSOEK OM 'N PROSPEKTEERREG VIR SUID-AFRIKAANSE SEEGBIED 4C EN 5C, WESKUS, SUID-AFRIKA

Seegebied 4C en 5C

Openbare Inligtingsvergadering

Februarie 2023

DE BEERS GROUP

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1

Inleiding

- De Beers Consolidated Mines (Pty) Ltd (DBCM) – Aansoeker
 - Josephine Pieters- Sosiale Impak Bestuurder Suid Afrika
- De Beers Marine (Pty) Ltd – aangestelde operateur vir DBCM
 - Chantelle du Plessis- Omgewingsbestuurder
 - Michele Kruse – Geowetenskappe Bestuurder
- SLR Consulting Africa (South Africa) – Omgewings Impakbepaling praktisyn (EAP)
 - Nicholas Arnott – Projek Bestuurder
- NMA Effective Social Strategists – Onafhanklike Fasiliteerders
 - Nomi Muthialu – Facilitator
 - Chris Fourie – Afrikaans Translator
 - Julian Drew - Facilitator

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2

Vergadering Doelwitte

- Deel Inligting oor:**
 - Voorgestelde Projek
 - Bevindinge van die Basiese Assessering en spesialisstudies
 - Voorgestelde maatreëls om potensiële impakte te vermy, te verminder of te bestuur
 - Die volgende stappe in die Basiese Assesseringsproses.
- Vir Belangstellende en geïnteresseerde partye om:**
 - Lewer kommentaar op die bevindinge van die Basiese Assessering / spesialisstudies
 - Lewer kommentaar op die voorgestelde versagtingsmaatreëls; en
 - Maak voorstelle of opper verdere kommer oor hierdie voorgestelde projek.

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3

AGENDA

- Welkom, Inleiding en Ontmoetingsdoelwitte
- Projek Geskiedenis en Beskrywing - de Beers
- Oorsig oor omgewingsevalueringsproses en pad vorentoe - SLR
- Vraag-en-antwoordsessie
- Sluiting

Toestemming om die vergadering digitaal op te neem en foto's te neem. Bywoningsregister (POPI-wet)

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4

VERGADERING PROTOKOLLE

- Ons het ongeveer 50 minute opsy gesit vir aanbiedings en 'n uur vir bespreking.
- Maak asseblief aantekeninge tydens die aanbiedings en bespreek jou vrae tot die besprekingsperiode
- Tale:**
 - Aanbiedings en antwoorde in Engels met vertalings in Afrikaans
 - Stel gerus jou vrae / kommentaar in Afrikaans of Engels.
- Ons sal die blaikaart gebruik waar nodig om vrae, opmerkings, bekommernisse en voorstelle vas te lê.
- Respekteer mekaar – let op jou taalgebruik, wees bedagsaam teenoor mededeelnemers en weerhou afsonderlike gesprekke tydens die vergadering.
- Fokus op kwessie, nie persone nie / stem saam om nie saam te stem nie – oorweeg die veiligheid van mede-vergaderingdeelnemers.
- Een vraag op 'n slag, vra vrae bondig – kom ons gee almal 'n regverdigde geleentheid om vrae te vra/opmerkings by te dra.

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5

Konstruktiewe besprekingsriglyne

Openbare deelname NIE 'n stem- of konsensusgedrewe proses nie.

'n Proses om insette in te samel met die doel om besluitnemer in staat te stel om alle kwessies en impakte te oorweeg.

- Stem saam om nie saam te stem nie
- Gee almal 'n regverdigde kans om vrae te vra / kommentaar te lewer. Vra vrae bondig.
- Steek jou hand op om kommentaar te lewer of 'n vraag te vra en werk deur die fasiliteerder(s)
- Meld jou naam, van en organisasie/gemeenskap
- Skakel asseblief jou selfone op stil

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DE BEERS GROUP

DE BEERS' PROSPECTING RIGHT APPLICATION NC12857PR, SEA AREAS 4C & 5C

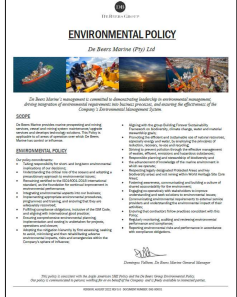
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

OFFICIAL

7

ONS BENADERING MET BETREKKING TOT OMGEWINGSBESTUUR

- Ons interne omgewingsstelsels, beleide en prosedures vereis voldoening aan **Anglo American se Veiligheids- en Volhoubare Ontwikkelingstandaarde**, met insluiting van dié oor **Klimaatverandering en Biodiversiteit**. Dit vereis **evaluering van biodiversiteitsrisiko's en implementering van die versagtingêrategie**.
- Ons benadering beteken dat ons nie verbode aktiwiteite in omgewingsensitiewe gebiede sal onderneem nie.
- As ons eie omgewingsmoniteringstudies bykomende sensitiewe gebiede opgemerk het, **ons sal nie enige verdere aktiwiteite in daardie gebied onderneem wat beduidende skade aan seelewe kan veroorsaak nie**.
- De Beers funksioneer ook ingevolge 'n Omgewingsbestuur-stelsel (OBS) wat **volgens die Internasionale ISO14001-standaard gesertifiseer** en jaarliks deur die British Standards Institute geoud word.



8

OMGEWINGSAKTIWITEITSRAAMWERK VIR HULPBRONONTWIKKELING

- Ons **Omgewingsaktiwiteitsraamwerk** is ontwikkel om te help met implementering van omgewingsaktiwiteite om elke stadium van die Mariene Diamantpyplyn, vanaf Teikening tot en met Sluiting, aan te spreek.
- Die raamwerk sit die vereistes vir elke fase in die volgende kategorieë uitteen:
 - Omgewingsstudies**
 - Omgewingsmonsteremings-/Dataversamelingsvereistes
 - Risiko-evaluering
 - Omgewingsbestuurvereistes**
 - Skakeling met belanghebbers**
 - Dienstyd & Omgewingsmagtiging**

9

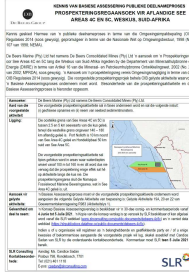
ONS PROSPEKTERINGSRAAMWERK



10

PROJEGESKIEDENIS

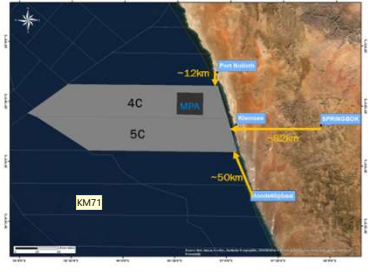
- Aansoek om Prospekterreg** ingedien deur De Beers Consolidated Mines (Edms.) Bpk. by die Departement van Minerale Hulpbronne en Energie (DMHE) in **2021 vir Seegebied 4C en 5C, met uitsluiting van die Mariene Beskerme Gebied**.
- 'n Konsep Basiese Evalueringsverslag (BEV) is deur SLR voorberei en beskikbaar gestel vir insae en kommentaar vanaf **4 Junie tot 5 Julie 2021**.
- Basiese Evalueringsproses is opgeskort** op 30 Julie 2021, hangende die uitkoms van interne appellprosesse met betrekking tot die Aansoek om 'n Prospekterreg self.
- Aansoek om Prospekterreg** is op 22 November 2022 deur die DMHE aanvaar.
- Die **Aansoek om Omgewingsmagtiging** is op **29 November 2022 erken**.
- 'n bygewerkte BEV is vir insae en kommentaar versprei (**4 Februarie tot 6 Maart 2023**).



11

LIGGING VAN SEEGBIED 4C EN 5C

- Seegebied 4C en 5C grens is ~12 km suid van Port Nolloth geleë.
- 4C en 5C is meer as 50 km noord van Hondeklipbaai geleë.
- Die teenkugrens is ~2,5 – 5 km seewaarts van die kus en ~5 km wes van Kleinsee geleë.
- Geofisiese opnames en monsternemings-bedrywighede sal konsentreer op gebiede met waterdieptes van 70 m – 160 m.



12

OORSIG VAN BEOOGDE AKTIWITEITE

- Prospekteeraktiwiteite sal met 'n **gefasseerde benadering** onderneem word, met elke fase wat afhanklik sal wees van die uitslae van die vorige fase.
- Die beoogde aktiwiteite sal onderneem word om ekonomiese diamantafsettings te identifiseer.
- Die Aansoek om Prospekteerreg is vir 'n **tydperk van vyf jaar**.
- Beoogde afluende aktiwiteite:
 - **Eksplorasie monsterneming**
 - **Geofisiese opname**



13

BESONDERHEDE VAN BEOOGDE GEOFISIESE OPNAME

- Die opnametoerusting sal van 'n **geskikte doel-vaartuig** af ter water gelaat word wat **geskik is vir die watterdiepte** en geselekteerde opnamemetode.
- 2D-stelsels kan as **geslepte, vaartuig/pealgemonteerde stelsels**, outonome onderwatervoertuie (**AUV's**) of outonome oppervlaktuie (**ASV's**) ter water gelaat word.
- Geslepte 2D-opnames sal 'n **enkele geslepte hidrofoonopstelling** behels.
- AUV's word met 'n duikplan geprogrammeer, ter water gelaat en dan herwin om data af te laai.
- Enige 3D-opnames sal aan die hand van die AUV, met **alle sensors op die platform**, bekom word.
- Fotografeerse toerusting (soos **afstandbeheerde vaartuie, kameras wat afsak**) kan ook gebruik word om die seabodem te visualiseer.
- **Hoë frekwensie, lae energie akoustiese** metodes sal tipies gebruik word om die seabodem en boonste sedimente in die projekgebied te karteer.



Skematiese voorstelling van voorbeelde van moontlike werkinstrumente wat dalk gebruik kan word.



14

BESONDERHEDE VAN BEOOGDE MONSTERNEMING (1)

- Monsterneming sal onderneem word deur van 'n **geskikte doel werkinstrument en vaartuig wat die geleentheid bied**, gebruik te maak.
- Moontlike werkinstrumenttegnologieë vir monsterneming wat aangewend kan word, sluit kern-, gryp- (soos blokkerners), **ondersese** en/of 'n **vertikaal-gemonteerde monsternemingsinstrument** in.
- **Seebodemvideo en fotografeerse beeldneming** kan ook verkry word.
- Monsters sal tipies elkeen **~ 5 – 10 m² in omvang**.
- Monsternemingsbedrywighede kan 'n totale **maksimum potensiële voetspoor** van ~0,225 km² hê, maar dit sal **nle aaneenlopend** wees nie. Dit dek **0,002 %** van die hele omvang van Seegebied 4C & 5C (9 265 km²).
- **Natuurlike rehabilitasie van die verstoorte voetspore word verwag**. Navorsing toon dat die ekologiese funksionering van die seabodem mettertyd ná sulke verstourings weer herstel.



Skematiese voorstelling van maksimum potensiële totale oppervlakte waar monsterneming moontlik oor 5 jaar kan plaasvind.

15

BESONDERHEDE VAN BEOOGDE MONSTERNEMING (2)

Kernboorwerk (bv. vibrokernboorwerk)

- 'n **Vibrokernboor** bestaan uit 'n kernbuis in 'n landingsraam met 'n vibrerende motor.
- Die kernboor kom op die seabodem te lande, die motor word gedraai en die buis penetreer die sediment.
- Sodra die kernboor nie meer penetreer nie, word die motor afgeskakel en die kernboor weer tot op die dek gelig.
- 'n PVC-pyp word vir kernboorwerk binne-in die kernboor se buis geplaas en die kernmonster word uit hierdie pyp versamel.
- Kernboorders kan tipies tot 6 m penetreer en het tipies 'n deursnee van **om en by 11 cm**.



16

BESONDERHEDE VAN BEOOGDE MONSTERNEMING (3)

Undersese werkinstrument vir monsterneming

- Bedryf vana 'n boorraam, deur die vaartuig se nat opening (*moon pool*) ter water gelaat en op die seabodem geposisioneer.
- Die werkinstrument verwyder 'n diskrete monster met 'n seabodemoppervlaktvoetspoor van **~ 5 – 10 m²**.
- Die ongekonsolideerde sedimente word met sterk waterstrale gefluidiseer en met lug na die ondersteuningsvaartuig toe opgelig waar dit in die mineraalherwinningsaanleg aan boord behandel word.
- **Alle materiaal** (behalwe vir die laaste <1% konsentraat) gaan terug water toe en **sak af weer tot op die seabodem**.



Voorbeeld van potensiële vaartuig wat 'n geleentheid kan bied – die Explorer



Voorbeeld van 'n ondersese werkinstrument vir monsterneming

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BESONDERHEDE VAN BEOOGDE MONSTERNEMING (4)

Vertikaal-gemonteerde werkinstrument

- 'n Vertikaal-gemonteerde werkinstrument kan dalk vir party van die monsternemings gebruik word.
- Die werkinstrument hang van 'n kraan af wat op die skip gemonteer is.
- Die werkinstrument roer die ongekonsolideerde sedimente en lig sedimentdeeltjies met lug na die vaartuig toe vir verwerking.
- Die werkinstrument verwyder 'n diskrete monster met 'n seabodemoppervlaktvoetspoor van **~ 30 m²**.
- **Alle materiaal** (behalwe vir die laaste <1% konsentraat) gaan terug water toe en **sak weer af tot op die seabodem**.




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OORSIG VAN BASIESE EVALUERINGSPROSES

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VEREISTE VIR BASIESE EVALUERING

- Beoogde prospekteraktiwiteite aktiveer **gelyste aktiwiteite** Ingevolge die wet en vereis **goedkeuring** (Omgewingsmagtiging)
 - Aktiwiteite wat in Lyskennisgewing 1 geaktiveer word
 - > 19A "Die ... verwydering ... van grond, sand, skulpe ... van meer as 5 kubieke meter uit (iii) die see ..."
 - > 20 "Enige aktiwiteit ... wat 'n prospekterreg vereis ..."
 - > 22 "Die uitbedryfstelling van enige aktiwiteit wat ... 'n sluitingsertifikaat vereis ..."
- Die Basiese Evalueringsproses en tydraamwerke word in die OIE-regulasies van 2014 omskryf.

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BASIESE EVALUERINGSPROSES

- Aanvanklike kennisgewing
- Identifisering van belanghebbers
- Basiese Evalueringsverslag (BEV) 30-dae kommentaar tydperk
 - Aanvaarding van Aansoek om OM
 - Bywerking van Konsep BEV
 - 30-dae kommentaar tydperk**
 - Openbare vergaderings**
 - Bywerking en indiening van bygewerkte BEV vir besluitneming
- Bevoegde Owerheid gaan deur ingediende BEV om besluitneming toe te lig
- Finale BEV vir inligtingsdoeleindes op SLR se webwerf gelaai
- Belanghebbers in kennis gestel van OM-besluit
- Geleentheid om 'n Appel in te dien

Voor-aansoekproses | Basiese Evalueringsfase (90 dae) | Besluitnemingfase (107 dae) | Appelfase

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

- Seegebied 4C en 5C is geleë in waterdieptes tussen 50 m en 200 m in die Benguela-opwellingstelsel van die Namakwa-biostreek.
- Die Namakwa Fossielwoud Mariene Beskermdes Gebied (MBG) is uitgesluit uit die Aansoek om Prospekterreg - **geen geofisiese opmetings- en monsternemings-aktiwiteite sal in die MBG plaasvind nie.**

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

Ecosystem Threat Status (Ekosisteem-bedreigingstatus) (Sink et al. 2019)

- Seegebied 4C en 5C is geleë in ekosisteme wat as "Minste Kommer" gelys is.
- Daar is geen oorvleueling met enige gebiede wat as "Krities Bedreig" of "Bedreig" afgebaken is nie.

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POTENSIEËLE IMPAKTE EN MOONTLIKE VERSAGTING

Potensieële impak	Geëvalueerde beduidendheid (met versagting)	Primêre versagtingsmaatreëls
Afvoer uit monsterneming/ ondersteuningsvaartuie	BAIE LAAG tot ONBEDUIDEND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voldoening aan MARPOL 73/78-standaarde. Sorg dat die bemanning opgelei is in stortingsbestuur. Korrekte en veilige berging van koolwaterstowwe. Geen wegdoening van vaste afval nie.
Versteuring en verlies en vernietiging van bentiese fauna weens monsterneming	BAIE LAAG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gebruik afstandwaarnemingsdata om enige hoë profiel, rotsagtige uitstulpingsgebiede sonder 'n sedimentlaag te identifiseer.
Versmoring van bentos deur sedimente wat weer op gemeenskappe in rotsagtige uitstulpings te lande kom	BAIE LAAG	

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

Major Spawning Areas (Groot Kuitplekke) (Cruschank 1990)

- Stokvis, snoek en ronde haring kuit in die laat winter en vroeë lente aan die suidelike weskus. Daarna dryf die larwes noordwaarts en kus toe na die weskus toe waar hulle volwassenheid bereik.
- Stokvis kuit regdeur die jaar met die hoogste konsentrasies eiers en larwes wat tussen September – Oktober verwag word.
- Snoek kuit tussen Junie en Oktober met die vastelandsplstrand (150 – 400 m) langs.
- Seegebied 4C en 5C is buite hierdie kuitgebiede geteë
- Beperkte oorleueling met die noordwaartse eier- en larwegedrywing.
- 'n Oorvloed igtioplankton sal na verwagting seisoenaal hoog wees (veral in 5C).

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POTENSIEËLE IMPAKTE EN MOONTLIKE VERSAGTING

Potensieële impak	Geëvalueerde beduidendheid (met versagting)	Primêre versagtingsmaatreëls
• Generasie van sedimentpluime	BAIE LAAG	• Geen versagtingsmaatreëls word as nodig geag vir die afvoer van monsternormale uit die monsternemingsvaartuig nie.
• Impak van sedimentpluim op die verkryging van visvoorraad	BAIE LAAG tot ONBEDUIDEND	• Raadpleeg die DBVO om programme en die moontlikheid om ontwigtings vir beide partye te minimaliseer of te vermy, te bespreek. • Sleutelbelanghebers word vóór die aanvang van geofisiese opname- en monsternemingsaktiwiteite in kennis gestel. • Uitreiking van kennisgewing aan seevaarders en daaglikse navigasiewaarskuwings.

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

- Die meeste seevoëls in die streek bereik die grootste digthede afluandig van die vastelandsplstrand (diepte van 200 tot 500 m), ver afluandig van Seegebied 4C en 5C.
- Die hoogste bevolkingsvlakke van party spesies sal waarskynlik tydens die nie-broeiseisoen (winter) aangetref word.
- Belangrike broei-eilande vir seevoëls by McDougallsbaai en Boegoeberg (sowat 15 km suid van die Oranjeriviermond), sowel as broeiplekke op land in die Noord-Kaap.

Motganse (bo) en brilplekkewyne (onder) broei hoofsaaklik op die afluandige eilande (Bronne: NACOMA en Klaus Jost).

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POTENSIEËLE IMPAKTE EN MOONTLIKE VERSAGTING

Potensieële impak	Geëvalueerde beduidendheid (met versagting)	Primêre versagtingsmaatreëls
• Impak van vaartuig se verligting	BAIE LAAG	• Beperk verligting op die vaartuig tot 'n minimum. • Hou gedisorienteerde, maar andersins ongedeerde seevoëls, in donker houers vir gevolglike vrylating gedurende die dag.
• Geraas weens helikopters	BAIE LAAG	• sien toe dat alle vlugroetes kuskolonies vermy. • Vermoedig teen die kus op 'n lae hoogte. • Handhaaf 'n hoogte van minstens 762 m of 2 500 voet bo die hoogste punt van 'n Nasionale Park of Wêrelderfenisgebied.

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

- Seesoogdiere wat waarskynlik in die gebied sal voorkom, sluit Heaviside-dolfyne, vaaldolfyne, suidelike noorkapper en boggelrugwalvisse in.

Die boggelrugwalvis, Megaptera novaeangliae (links), en die suidelike noorkapperwalvis, Eubalaena australis (regs), is die volopste groot walvisse wat langs die Weskus aangetref word.

Die endemiese Heaviside-dolfyn, Cephalorhynchus heavisidii (links), en vaaldolfyn, Lagenorhynchus obscurus (regs) (Bronne: De Beers Mariene Namibië en scottelowitzphotography.com).

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POTENSIEËLE IMPAKTE EN MOONTLIKE VERSAGTING

Potensieële impak	Geëvalueerde beduidendheid (met versagting)	Primêre versagtingsmaatreëls
• Akoestiese impakte van geofisiese opnames en monsternemings-bedrywighede	BAIE LAAG	• Stel Mariene Soogdierwaarnemer (Marine Mammal Observer – MMO) aan om visuele skanderings aan boord te doen. • Implementeer "sagte wegtrekke".
• Elektromagnetiese impakte van Geofisiese Opnames	ONBEDUIDEND	• Elektromagnetiese bron moet oor 'n minimum tydperk van 20 minute verhoog word. • Skakel elektromagnetiese bron af wanneer data nie ingewin word nie.
• Swem vas in projekvaartuie	BAIE LAAG	• Wees op die uitkyk vir seesoogdiere en -skilpaape in die vaartuig se pad. • Verseker vaartuie se deurvaartpoed van 10 knope (18 km/h) wanneer daar sensitiewe mariene fauna in die omgewing is. • Meld enige botsings met groot walvisse aan.

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

Direkte oorvleueling van Kommerisiële Visserye met Seegebied 4C en 5C

Sektor	Oorvleueling	% nasionale poging / vangs	
Seebodemlanglyn	0,47 %	0,47 %	Minimale aktiwiteit in die seegebiede maar geen aktiwiteit in die beoogde opname- en monsternemingsgebiede nie.
Paal-en-lyn	6,97 %	0,53 %	Snoekvangste is aangemeld in die seegebiede, kus se kant toe van die 100 m dieptekontour af. Geen tunavangste is in die seegebiede aangemeld nie.

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

Kleinskaalvisvang

- Hierdie vissers werk tradisioneel in visvanggebiede naby die kus.
- Kleinskaalvisvang (KSV) om in voedsel- en basiese lewensbehoefes te voorsien, maar kan ook direk by visvang vir kommersiële doeleindes betrokke wees en kan met die kommersiële visserysektore oorvleuel.
- KSV-hulpbronne word op grond van 'n gemeenskapsgebaseerde koöperasie-benadering bestuur, wat deur 'n reeks gemeenskapskoöperatiewe geïmplementeer word. Die naastes is:
 - Port Nolloth
 - Hondeklipbaai

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POTENSIELE IMPAKTE EN MOONTLIKE VERSAGTING

Potensieël Impak	Geëvalueerde beduidendheid (met versagting)	Primêre versagtingsmaatreëls
Impakte op visbedryf en visserye se navorsing	GEEN IMPAK (Visserye se navorsing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raadpleeg die DBVO om programme en die moontlikheid om ontgrigings vir beide partye te minimaliseer of te vermy, te bespreek. Sluitbelanghebbers word vóór die aanvang van geofisiese opname- en monsternemingsaktiwiteite in kennis gestel. Uitreiking van kennisgewing aan seevaarders en daaglikse navigasiewaarskuwings.
Impak van opnamegeraas op vangstysers	ONBEDUIDEND (Paal-en-lyn, lyrviss, Kleinskaalvissers)	

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

- Die meeste skeepsvaartverkeer is op die buiterand van die vastelandsplatrond geleë, met verkeer in die kus se rigting van die vastelandsplatrond af, met die suidweskus langs, wat grootliks uit vissersbote bestaan, veral tussen Kleinsee en Oranjemund. Die vernaamste skeepsvaartroetes oorvleuel met die westelike gedeelte van Seegebied 4C en 5C.

Potensieël Impak	Geëvalueerde beduidendheid (met versagting)	Primêre versagtingsmaatreëls
Impak op mariene vervoeroetes	ONBEDUIDEND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Die operateur moet tersaaklike instellings vóór die aanvang van aktiwiteite in kennis stel

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BESKRYWING VAN GRONDLYNOMGEWING

- Eksplorasië vir olie en gas word tans in 'n aantal lisensieblokke langs die weskus onderneem. Daar is geen huidige ontwikkeling of produksie in die see langs die Suid-Afrikaanse weskus nie, alhoewel verdere eksplorasië-boorwerk vir die gebiede nader en verder van die kus af, wat met die studiegebied oorvleuel, in die vooruitsig gestel word.
- Daar is geen oorvleueling met ander prospektee- of mynregte nie, alhoewel daar naburige mariene diamantkonsessiegebiede is.

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POTENSIEËLE IMPAKTE EN MOONTLIKE VERSAGTING

Potensieële impak	Geëvalueerde beduidendheid (met versagting)	Primêre versagtingsmaatreëls
Impak op mariene mynbou- en prospekteringsaktiwiteite	Hoogsensitief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kontak enige maatskappye wat mariene prospekter- of mynbouaktiwiteite vóór prospektering in die studiegebied onderneem om hulle in kennis te stel van die beplande aktiwiteite.
Impak op petroleumeksplorasië	BAIE LAAG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skakel met alle petroleumeksplorasië-operateurs om te verseker dat daar geen oorvleueling van aktiwiteite in dieselfde gebied oor dieselfde tydperk is nie.

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POTENSIEËLE IMPAKTE EN MOONTLIKE VERSAGTING

Potensieële impak	Geëvalueerde beduidendheid (met versagting)	Primêre versagtingsmaatreëls
Impak op kultuurerfenismateriaal (Erfenisimpakevaluering)	Hoogsensitief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sluit enige geïdentifiseerde skepswakterreine uit voordat monsterningsaktiwiteite onderneem word Waar wrakke ontdek word, moet die werk gestaak en die Suid-Afrikaanse Erfenisulphronagentskap gekontak word
Werkskopping en sakegeleenthede	BAIE LAAG (positief)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gebruik plaaslike maatskappye vir steundienste, so ver moontlik
Verbode alternatief (d.w.s. gaan nie voort met beoogde grootmaat monsterneming nie)	LAAG	-

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PAD VORENTOE

- Kommentaar tydperk sluit op **6 Maart 2023**:
 - Dien kommentaar, vrae, knelpunte of voorstelle in by SLR.
 - Kommentaar moet in die Kommentaar en Antwoordverslag saamgestel en op gereageer word.
- Finale BEV sal ingedien word vir besluitneming:
 - Hoogstens 107 dae vir die Bevoegde Owerheid om 'n besluit te neem.
- Finale BEV-verslag sal vir inligtingsdoeleindes opgelaa word.
- Geregistreeerde B&GP's sal in kennis gestel word van die besluit en die appèlproses sodra 'n besluit geneem is.

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Riglyne vir opbouwende bespreking

Opnabare deelname is **NIE** 'n stem- of konsensusgedrewe proses nie. 'n Proses van inwinning van insette met die doel om besluitnemer in staat te stel om oorweging aan alle kwessies en impakte te skenk.

- Steek u hand op om kommentaar te lewer of om 'n vraag te vra en werk deur die fasiliteerder(s).
- Respekteer mekaar en die "ry hande".
- Identifiseer uself, u naam en van en u instelling.
- Laat sak u hand ná kommentaar/vraag.
- Konsentreer op die onderwerp, nie op die persoon nie. Kom ooreen om nie saam te stem nie.
- Een vraag op 'n slag. Hou vrae bondig.

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Oop sessie: vrae & bespreking

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SLR se kontakbesonderhede

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Datavrye webwerf:	https://slrpublicdocs.datafree.co/en/public-documents/debeers-4c5c

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APPENDIX C: PHOTOS OF PUBLIC MEETING

