Early Warning System

DFC-KARIBIB

Lepidico Chemicals Namib

Quick Facts

Countries	Namibia, United Arab Emirates
Specific Location	Karibib District, Erongo Region of Central Namibia; Khalifa Industrial Zone in Abu Dhabi
Financial Institutions	US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	A
Voting Date	2022-03-29
Borrower	Lepidico Chemicals Namibia (Pty) Ltd
Sectors	Energy, Mining

Project Description

As stated by the DFC, the Project involves the redevelopment of two brownfield open-pit lithium mines (Rubicon and Helikon 1) and the construction of a new 330,000 tpa ore processing plant to produce 60,000 tonnes of lepidolite concentrate in the Karibib District, Erongo Region of Central Namibia. Mining activities at Rubicon mine date back to the 1950s and at Helikon 1 to 1994. The
Sponsor is also developing an offshore chemical refinery which is not part of the use of proceeds but which as the sole offtake, is an associated facility of the Project. Located in the Khalifa Industrial Zone in Abu Dhabi, the chemical refinery will process the entire 60,000 tonnes of concentrate and produce on average 4,900 tpa of lithium hydroxide, 1,400 tpa of rubidium sulphate and 200 tpa of cesium.

The Project will construct a new mine waste management facility for the co-disposal of mine waste and dry tailings from the ore processing plant. The Project will also construct a 30 km overhead transmission line for connection to the municipal grid, a raw water borefield, access roads, haul roads and support buildings as part of the mine infrastructure. The Project will lease existing facilities at the Port of Walvis Bay, Namibia for ore concentrate storage and marine transport to the Port of Khalifa, Abu Dhabi.

The DFC is providing assistance to prepare the environmental and social impact studies for the project.

Investment Description

- US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)

Investment information not provided at the time of disclosure.

Private Actors Description

As stated on the company's website, Lepidico Chemicals Namibia (Pty) Ltd is a vertically-integrated lithium developer.

Private Actor 1	Private Actor 1 Role	Private Actor 1 Sector	Relation	Private Actor 2	Private Actor 2 Role	Private Actor 2 Sector
-	-	-	-	Lepidico Chemicals Namibia (Pty) Ltd	Client	Mining

Contact Information

Location of Local Access to Project Information:

Karibib Address: Lepidico Chemicals Namibia Pty Ltd, Karibib Project, Rubicon Site Office, Karibib
Point of Contact: Ignatius Shaduka, Country Manager, +264 81 148 0937

Windhoek Address: ENS Africa, 11 Dr Agostinho Neta Road, Windhoek, Namibia
Point of Contact: Mr. Wolf Wohlers, Director (of ENS), wwohlers@ENSafrica.com, +264 61 379 700

UAE Address: Al Tamimi & Company, Al Sila Tower, 26th Floor, Abu Dhabi Global Market Square, Al Maryah Island
Point of Contact: Mr. Euan Lloyd, Senior Counsel, e.lloyd@tamimi.com, +971 2 813 0444

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Unlike many other development finance institutions, DFC does not currently have an access to information policy.

Under the United States Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), DFC is obliged to respond to reasonably formulated requests for Agency records. However, DFC may apply exemptions from release to certain types of information and may charge fees in responding to requests. DFC has a designated FOIA officer who is trained in how to respond to requests and implement the law. You can learn more about filing a FOIA request at: https://www.dfc.gov/foia

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION (DFC)

The Office of Accountability is an independent office that addresses complaints about environmental or social issues related to DFC-supported projects. The office provides communities an opportunity to have concerns independently reviewed and addressed. If you submit a complaint to the Office of Accountability, it may assist you by either seeking to address your problems by facilitating a problem solving dialogue between you and those implementing the project and/or investigating whether the DFC complied with its policies to prevent environmental, social, human rights, and labor harms.

You can find more information about the Office of Accountability at: https://www.dfc.gov/who-we-are/office-accountability

Bank Documents

- Air Quality Monitoring Report [Original Source]
- Associated Facility ESIA for the Lepidico Chemical Plant
- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment for Karibib Mine Site [Original Source]
- Environmental and Social Management Plan [Original Source]
- Environmental Monitoring Report [Original Source]
- Final Archaeological Desk Study [Original Source]
- Final Draft Karibib Mine Site Closure Plan [Original Source]
- Final EIA and EMP for Karibib Mine Site Power Transmission Line [Original Source]
- Final Hydrogeological Report [Original Source]
- Final Socio-Economic Baseline Study Report [Original Source]
- Initial Project Summary [Original Source]
- Updated Fauna and Flora Report [Original Source]