



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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National Geographic Interview with Hon. Minister C. Schlettwein

My name is Laurel Neme. We're working on an article for National Geographic regarding oil exploration in the Kavango Basin in northeastern Namibia by ReconAfrica and I'm writing to get your thoughts related to this development. We would also be happy to set up an interview by telephone. Specifically, we would like to know:

1. Does ReconAfrica hold a water use permit for drilling and water disposal at their drill site 6-2 as laid out in their EIA?

ReconAfrica has submitted an application for the drilling and legalization of boreholes for water supply to the operations and for the drilling of the stratigraphic exploration wells. This application is being processed and due diligence is being done, before the permits can be issued. We are not aware of any application for the permit to dispose wastewater.

2. Do they hold any water use permits for drilling at all? Have any applications been filed? Have they been approved? Can we get a copy of these?

As mentioned above, the applications have been launched for the water well drilling and legalization of water abstraction. They have not been approved pending scrutiny to meet certain conditions before approval. This is a process and unfortunately is not for public information.