

June 18, 2024

SLR Project No.: 723.000073.00001

**RE: Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Process for Proposed Well Drilling Exploration Activities in Block Northern Cape Ultra Deep (NCUD), West Coast, South Africa
Availability of Draft Scoping Report and Invitation to Public Open Days / Meetings**

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

This letter provides information of the application made by Shell Offshore Upstream South Africa B.V. (Shell) for Environmental Authorisation (EA) to undertake various exploration and appraisal activities (including well drilling and geophysical surveys) in Block Northern Cape Ultra Deep (NCUD), located off the West Coast of South Africa. The area of interest in Block NCUD is located 300 km offshore at its closest point, in water depths ranging from 2 500 m to 3 200 m. Shell (the operator) and its Joint Venture partners currently hold an Exploration Right over Block NCUD.

The EA application has been made in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2014 (as amended), promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (No. 107 of 1998) (as amended), as the proposed project triggers the following listed activities:

- Listing Notice 1 (R.983 of 2014 as amended): 14, 17, 19A.
- Listing Notice 2 (R.984 of 2014 as amended): 4, 6, 7, 14, 18.

As part of the EA application process, an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) (which includes public participation) must be undertaken in terms of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended). SLR Consulting (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd (SLR) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner to undertake the ESIA processes for the proposed project.

WE REQUEST YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS ESIA

- 1. You have been registered in the Project stakeholder database – see Section 1.**
- 2. Draft Scoping Report released for review and comment – see Sections 2 and 5.**
- 3. You are invited to attend the in-person public open days and meetings – see Section 3.**
- 4. You are invited to attend the online public meeting – see Section 4.**



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1. Registration on the Project Stakeholder Database

Your participation in the ESIA process is important. Therefore, we have identified you and/or your organisation as a potential Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) and have included you on the preliminary ESIA stakeholder database for this project. Registered I&APs will receive future information about the proposed project, the ESIA process, opportunities for comment and public meetings, and be invited to contribute comments on the proposed project.

Importantly, having received this letter means that you are registered as an I&AP and will thus be informed on scheduled public meetings and when ESIA documents are available for comment.

SLR will manage your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (No. 4 of 2013) (POPIA). In accordance with this Act, **if you DO NOT want to be registered on the ESIA database and wish to be removed, please confirm via return email and we will remove your personal information from the database.**

2. Availability of Draft Scoping Report for Review and Comment

The ESIA process consists of two main phases, namely the Scoping Phase and Impact Assessment Phase, with opportunities for public comment during each phase. Public consultation is a critical component of the ESIA process. This ESIA process is currently in the Scoping Phase where, through a participative process, information about the receiving environment (biophysical and socio-economic) and potential impacts are identified for further consideration.

SLR has compiled a Draft Scoping Report, which is available for a 30-day review and comment period from **8 July to 8 August 2024**. This provides an opportunity for I&APs to comment on any aspect of the proposed project and the potential impacts identified for further investigation in the Impact Assessment Phase.

Copies of the **full draft Scoping Report** and **Non-technical Summary** will be available at the following locations:

- SLR website: <https://www.slrconsulting.com/public-documents/shell-ncud/>
- Data free website: <https://slrpublicdocs.datafree.co/public-documents/shell-ncud/>, which is accessible from an internet-capable mobile phone **WITHOUT** data charges.
- Various public venues presented in Table 1.

The Non-technical Summary is available in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa as a document or **audio file**.

Table 1: Locations where the Draft Scoping Report and Non-Technical Summary are Available for Review

Location	Name of Facility	Physical Address
Full Report and Non-Technical Summary are available at:		
Port Nolloth	Port Nolloth Public Library	Harbour Street, Port Nolloth
Lamberts Bay	Lamberts Bay Public Library	44 Church Street, Lamberts Bay
Saldanha Bay	Saldanha Public Library	Municipal Building, Berg Street, Saldanha
Hout Bay	Hout Bay Public Library	Melkhout Crescent, Hout Bay, Cape Town
Non-Technical Summary is available at:		
Alexander Bay	Alexander Bay Public Library	Oranjeweg, Alexander Bay
Port Nolloth	Port Nolloth Public Library	Harbour Street, Port Nolloth
Hondeklip Bay	Kamiesberg Municipality	83 Dolphin Street, Hondeklipbaai



Location	Name of Facility	Physical Address
Vredendal	Vredendal Public Library	37 Church Street, Vredendal
Lamberts Bay	Lamberts Bay Public Library	44 Church Street, Lamberts Bay
Elands Bay	Elands Bay Public Library	Main Road, Elands Bay
St Helena Bay	St Helena Public Library	26 Columbine Crescent, Britannica Heights, Saint Helena Bay
Velddrif	Velddrif Public Library	Voortrekker Rd, Velddrif
Doring Bay	Doringbaai Public Library	Harbour Rd, Doringbaai
Langebaan	Langebaan Public Library	Corner Oostewal & Bree Street, Langebaan,
Paternoster	Paternoster Public Library	Corner Street. Augustine's Way (in the Civic Centre building)
Yzerfontein	Yzerfontein Municipal Office	46 Main Rd, Yzerfontein

3. Invitation to Attend Public Open Days and Meetings (In Person)

We cordially invite all stakeholders to attend the public open days and meetings listed in Table 2. The objectives of the Scoping Phase public meetings are as follows:

- To share information about the proposed project, ESIA and public participation process, including the proposed specialist studies to be undertaken during the Impact Assessment Phase;
- For I&APs to ask questions, raise issues of concern, contribute comments about the proposed project, and assist with the identification of issues to be considered during the ESIA; and
- For I&APs to comment on the Draft Scoping Report and the specialist studies to be undertaken during the Impact Assessment Phase.

Public open days and meetings (in person) will be held during the Scoping Phase of the project as follows:


- **Public Open Session** (first 3 hours) – An informal poster session where I&APs can attend at any time during the hours indicated and engage with the ESIA team in an informal basis.
- **Public Meeting** (last 3 hours) – A formal presentation session followed by a question and answers.

You are welcome to attend any of the sessions or combinations thereof. It would be appreciated if you could indicate your intention to attend by registering using the link or QR code below.

Table 2: Public Meeting Venues, Dates and Times

Town	Venue	Date	Public Open Session Time	Public Meeting Time
Port Nolloth	Luvuyo Drop-In Centre	8 July 2024	14:00-17:00	17:00-20:00
Hondeklip Bay	Eric Baker Community Hall	9 July 2024	14:00-17:00	17:00-20:00
Doring Bay	Miriam Owies Community Hall	10 July 2024	14:00-17:00	17:00-20:00
Lamberts Bay	Lamberts Bay Community Hall	11 July 2024	14:00-17:00	17:00-20:00
Elands Bay	Elands Bay Community Hall	12 July 2024	14:00-17:00	17:00-20:00
Paternoster	Paternoster e-Centre Hall	13 July 2024	09:00-12:00	12:00-15:00
St Helena Bay	Steenberg's Cove Hall	15 July 2024	14:00-17:00	17:00-20:00
Saldanha Bay	White City MPC	16 July 2024	14:00-17:00	17:00-20:00




Town	Venue	Date	Public Open Session Time	Public Meeting Time
Langebaan	Seabreeze Hall	17 July 2024	14:00-17:00	17:00-20:00
Yzerfontein	Yzerfontein Community Hall	18 July 2024	14:00-17:00	17:00-20:00
Hout Bay	Hangberg Sports and Recreation Centre	19 July 2024	14:00-17:00	17:00-20:00
<p>Registration to Attend Public Open Days and Meetings Please click here (https://forms.office.com/e/K8sG6SPyC5) or scan QR Code to complete the required form to register to attend any of the public meetings.</p>				

4. Invitation to Attend Online Meeting (Virtual)

You are also invited to attend an **online (virtual) meeting** to be held on **23 July 2024**.
Please note: only people who register for the online meeting will receive a link to the meeting (on the day of the meeting) (see Table 3 for registration details).

Table 3: Details of Online (Virtual) Meeting

Platform	Microsoft Teams	Date/Time	23 July 2024 14:00-17:00
<p>Registration to Attend Online (Virtual) Meeting Please click here (https://forms.office.com/e/K8sG6SPyC5) or scan QR Code to complete the required form to register to attend the online public meeting. Please register for the online meeting by no later than 22 July 2024 in order to receive the meeting link.</p>			
<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To join the online meeting, you do not need to have a Microsoft TEAMS account. You will, however, need an active internet connection or mobile data to participate. If you want to join the meeting from a mobile device, you will need to download the Microsoft TEAMS mobile app. For more information on how to join a TEAMS meeting from your desktop (using either the Microsoft Edge or Google Chrome browser) or mobile device please click here. The meeting will be recorded and minutes of the meeting will be made available in the Final Scoping Report, which will be uploaded to the SLR's website and a data free website. 			

5. Deadline for Comment on the Draft Scoping Report

The Draft Scoping Report is the first document for comment during the ESIA process. Comments on the Draft Scoping Report should reach SLR by no later than **8 August 2024** using the contact details below.

SLR Contact Details		
Telephone (021) 461 1118/9	SMS/WhatsApp 076 402 1409	Email shell-NCUD@slrconsulting.com
Website: https://www.slrconsulting.com/public-documents/shell-ncud/		
Website Data Free: https://slrpublicdocs.datafree.co/public-documents/shell-ncud/		
Post: 5th Floor, Letterstedt House, Newlands on Main, Newlands, 7700		

All comments received will be incorporated and responded to in a Comments and Responses Report, which will be appended to the final Scoping Report. The final Scoping Report will be made available on the SLR website for information purposes.



Should you have any queries in this regard please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned Stakeholder Engagement Team using the details provided above.

Your sincerely,

Shell NCUD Stakeholder Engagement Team

SLR's commitment regarding the protection of personal information:

By being registered on the Project database, you authorise SLR to (1) retain and use your Personal Information as part of a contact database for this and/or other ESIA's, (2) contact you regarding this and/or other ESIA processes, (3) disclose the database to other authorised parties for lawful purposes, (4) process it for lawful purposes, and (5) include correspondence received in ESIA Reports. SLR will not process your Personal Information, other than as permitted or required by ESIA processes or as required by Law or public policy. SLR will use reasonable, appropriate security safeguards in order to protect Personal Information, and to reasonably prevent any damage to, loss of, or unauthorised access or disclosure of Personal Information, other than as required for ESIA processes or as required by any Law or public policy. You may request for your Personal Information to be deleted from the Project database or comments to be excluded from ESIA Reports at any time by contacting SLR. However, you understand that SLR (and any authorised parties) may not be able to delete or destroy it for legal or public policy reasons. SLR will provide you with the reasons.

