

PUBLIC NOTICE



AUTHORIZATION TO DRILL, REHABILITATE, AND/OR ABSTRACT GROUNDWATER FROM PRIVATE BOREHOLES IN THE WINDHOEK LOCAL AUTHORITY JURISDICTION

13 April 2022

The amended Local Authority Act (Act No. 3 of 2018), the Water Supply Regulations (GN No. 367/1996), as well as the Water Act (Act no. 54 of 1956), obligate the Local Authority to ensure that groundwater resources under its jurisdiction are protected from potentially harmful activities including those with potential for pollution and/or overutilization.

The mentioned legislation allows the local authority to regulate the following activities:

- i. Sinking or drilling of boreholes
- ii. Rehabilitation (cleaning or deepening) of boreholes
- iii. Abstraction of groundwater for various purposes

Any property owner or representative (proxy) intending to undertake the above-listed activities is required to apply for authorization through the following process;

1. Obtain an application form electronically or in hard copy;
2. Complete all the required information on the application form;
3. Prepare and attach all required supporting documentation;
4. Submit the electronic or hardcopy application to the receiving office in Windhoek or Groot Aub.

Caution:

- a) All drilling contractors appointed to carry out any of the above work within the Windhoek townlands and extended city boundaries are compelled to register with the city of Windhoek;
- b) All drilling contractors must ensure that their clients have appropriate authorization for all work envisaged before any work is carried out;
- c) Any new development considering groundwater as a primary or supplementary supply source is required to apply for authorization.

Any property owner or representative (proxy) and drilling contractor shall be guilty of an offence if found carrying out these activities without prior written authorization from the Council.

The offender will be charged as per the regulations listed below:

- Sub-regulation 70(2)rw(8)74 carries a fine of Non-Admission of Guilt: Drill a new borehole without prior written approval by Council or contravene conditions imposed;
- Sub-regulation 70(3)rw(8)74 carries a fine of Non-Admission of Guilt: Replace/deepen an existing borehole without prior written approval by Council.

For more information on the application process and other groundwater-related information, within the Windhoek jurisdiction, kindly contact;

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