THE NAMIBIAN · NAMIBIA · DRILLING

Headspring clarifies Namibia uranium drill permit scope

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Headspring Investments has issued a formal clarification confirming that authorisation granted for its Leonardville uranium project in Namibia's Omaheke region covers only investigative borehole drilling — not uranium extraction, pilot in-situ leaching (ISL) trials, or any commercial mining activity.

The clarification follows the company's announcement the previous week that it had received permission to drill research boreholes at the site. Headspring deputy director Vanessa Bohitile stated in a press release that the authorisation "provides for further investigations but should not be interpreted as confirmation that drilling has commenced or that uranium extraction, pilot in-situ leaching (ISL) trials or commercial mining activities have been authorised."

The research boreholes are intended to gather data on geological formations, groundwater conditions, and aquifer characteristics at the Leonardville site. This type of subsurface investigation is a standard preliminary step in evaluating whether a mineral deposit warrants progression toward a resource estimate, feasibility study, or eventual extraction permitting. The data collected will inform whether Headspring pursues subsequent regulatory applications for more advanced project phases, including any ISL pilot programme.

In-situ leaching is a uranium recovery method in which a leaching solution is injected into the ore body underground to dissolve the mineral, which is then pumped to surface for processing. It is used at uranium deposits where the ore is porous and permeable, and it avoids conventional open-pit or underground excavation. The

technique has regulatory and environmental implications particularly around groundwater management, which likely explains the emphasis Headspring placed on groundwater and aquifer data collection at this stage.

The Leonardville project is at an early reconnaissance and investigation phase. No extraction permit, pilot trial authorisation, or mining licence has been granted. Headspring's public clarification suggests the company is managing stakeholder and community expectations carefully in a region where groundwater resources are sensitive. The Omaheke region is semi-arid, and aquifer integrity is a material concern for both regulators and local communities. The outcome of the borehole investigation programme will determine whether Headspring applies for the next stage of permitting.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This project is at a very early investigative permit stage with no extraction, pilot, or commercial mining authorisation in place. Norwegian service companies should monitor regulatory progress and relationship-build with Headspring for potential future engagement, but no procurement or supplier outreach is warranted at this time.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Drilling:** Monitor Headspring's borehole programme results as a lead indicator for future investigation or ISL pilot drilling contracts in Namibia's uranium sector.
- **Service:** Groundwater and aquifer characterisation requirements may create early openings for specialist hydrogeological testing and monitoring service providers.
- **Pipeline:** Any eventual ISL operation requires surface piping and fluid-handling infrastructure; track project advancement before positioning.

Original source: The Namibian →

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