



United People's Movement

``A Political Party duly registered in terms of the electoral laws of the Republic of Namibia``

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FULL SUPPORT FOR STAMPRIET AQUIFER URANIUM MINING ASSOCIATION (SAUMA)

The United People's Movement hereby informs the public of its intention to fully support and rally behind the Stampriet Aquifer Uranium Association (SAUMA).

In response to the Article in The Namibian Newspaper "One on One with Uranium One"

On the 26th January 2024 the President of the Movement Hon. Jan J. van Wyk and members of the UPM, met with members of SAUMA to discuss the current mining activities by Russian foreigners happening in Leonardville.

After fruitful discussions it has been made very clear that the danger posed by continued exploratory mining in the Stampriet Artesian Basin would be catastrophic to the underground Aquifer and the Namibian residents who live and survive from the same Aquifer. The effects that any form of Uranium exposure to the Aquifer that could be caused by mining would mean that close to **80 000 Namibian citizens**, who today live in the Kalahari area including towns such as Leonardville, Aminius, Hoachanas, Gochas, Koes, Stampriet and others could potentially be affected and the fallout of farms being unable to produce food, homes not being supplied with drinkable water etc, would be devastating for residents of those areas. Generations to come will severely be affected by irresponsible decisions and greediness of the current generation.

On a balance of scales, the mining of Uranium and the few jobs it would create cannot be compared to the numerous livelihoods that would be affected if the aquifer was to be polluted by any mining activities. This country needs job creation, but loosing water which in an arid county like Namibia cannot and should not be allowed under any circumstances. We as a Nation cannot allow the continued abuse and exploitation by foreigners and their subsidiaries of our natural resources, and one resource specifically used to sustain life WATER.

We have as usual come to understand that Namibia in most of its current foreign agreements signed, is continually placed second when it comes to benefitting the Namibian people. With all its diverse natural resources the Namibian people continue to suffer, continue to live in poverty, continue to struggle to make ends meet and now once again a foreign owned company wants to further exploit our resources for their benefit. The Government makes meagre contributions to state coffers compared to the huge profits made by these companies, and ultimately it is the Namibian people and our future generations that will pay the price for this reckless permission and granting of licenses to these foreign owned companies.

There is also proof that these companies have been granted EPL's and have already drilled about 603 Boreholes for testing which they were never allowed to do and this currently taking place in Leonardville directly above the Stampriet Artesian Basin, threatening the underground water in that area.

These mining companies should also explain why no access is granted to anyone, even a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Natural Resources to inspect the farm where there is

currently we understand a Laboratory for testing the uranium that it is heavily guarded. Is there a conspiracy that we are not aware of that the Government is trying to keep secret?

SAUMA management members have highlighted that they have requested meetings with the Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Health & Social Services, the Minister of Mines & Energy and the Minister of Environment & Tourism, but to no avail.

The Ruling party has once again proven that it is no longer able to govern this country. It has proven that the rights of others, foreign individual's et al, are above the masses that put them into power. The SWAPO party has proven once again that Namibia and her people will not be placed first on a list of priorities, but rather on the backside of poverty, of empty promises and quick campaign gimmicks such a raising the old age pension, increasing the current Public service wage bill to levels of unsustainability.

We therefore urge all Namibians to come together to support the initiative of the STAMPRIET AQUIFER URANIUM MINING ASSOCIATION (SAUMA), to become members at no cost and to complete and forward the online petition currently circulating on Social media as well as on their website.

Only the Namibian people can take action and make a difference, we demand answers from the applicable Ministries.

We choose our future, we choose our children's future and we choose NAMIBIA FIRST!!

God bless us all and God bless Namibia.

-END -

JAN J VAN WYK
PRESIDENT: UNITED PEOPLES MOVEMENT

Issued By:
Information & Publicity Secretary
United Peoples Movement