



ReconAfrica – Polarization & Disengagement



“We are not accountable to you, your clique or any NGO or entity whatsoever” –
Dr Sindila Mwiya, RECO EIA contractor.

Please read important disclaimer on page 6.

JULY 14, 2021 – Viceroy calls for the immediate revocation of ReconAfrica’s seismic approval. We raise further issues with ReconAfrica’s communications. RECO show clear contempt for stakeholders and a willingness to distort the truth to further their aims.

6-1 well non-announcement

RECO also announced the completion of drilling of their 6-1 well in a press release almost entirely devoid of all other information including the depth achieved, and the age or depth of any shows.

VANCOUVER, BC, July 14, 2021 /CNW/ - Reconnaissance Energy Africa Ltd. (the "Company" or "ReconAfrica") (TSXV: RECO) (OTCQX: RECAF) (Frankfurt: OXD) and its joint venture partner NAMCOR (the state oil company of Namibia) are pleased to announce they have successfully completed drilling operations of the second stratigraphic test well (6-1) in the Kavango basin of NE Namibia.

The 6-1 well is now being prepared for wireline logging. Multiple logging runs will be made and up to 50 sidewall cores taken, all designed to maximize hydrocarbon recovery.

After the logging and coring operations are completed, a vertical seismic profile tool ("VSP") will be run to total depth to tie into the 2D seismic program that will begin this month across the Kavango basin. The first stratigraphic test well, the 6-2, will also have a VSP run and the two wells will be tied together along the same seismic line. Later in the month casing will be run and cemented to isolate the prospective hydrocarbon bearing zones.

Figure XX ReconAfrica & NAMCOR Complete Drilling Operations on the 6-1 in the Kavango Basin, Namibia

A previous release by the company reported 343m (1,125 ft) of “light oil and gas shows in the 6-1 well”¹ with a target depth of 3,800m (12,500 ft)². This total lack of any information is like their announcement of the 6-2 well achieving its total depth³ which was also lacking in key information.

ESG Pamphlet

Earlier this morning ReconAfrica released an ESG statement through their Twitter account⁴. This is perhaps one of the most insulting pamphlets RECO have ever released, and a slap-in-the-face for Namibian stakeholders. Viceroy anticipated this ESG campaign would eventuate to try to rebuke our claim, so we saved the best for last.

Back-pedaling on Fracking, Again!

Buried in the statement is the clear admission that the company has not completely ruled out fracking. Instead, the company says that “the Namibian people and authorities will determine if and how they will extract that reserve.”.

¹ <https://reconafrika.com/wp-content/uploads/ReconAfrica-Press-Release-062421.pdf>

² <https://reconafrika.com/wp-content/uploads/ReconAfrica-Press-Release-050521.pdf>

³ <https://reconafrika.com/wp-content/uploads/RECON-Update-Apr-7.pdf>

⁴ <https://reconafrika.com/wp-content/uploads/ReconAfrica-Fact-Sheet-ESG.pdf>



Many reports say
ReconAfrica is fracking.
Is this true?

ReconAfrica is conducting a conventional oil exploration program. To date, ReconAfrica has been granted licence by Namibia to explore and confirm the resource. And if this exploratory phase confirms an environmentally and economically viable reserve, the Namibian people and authorities will determine if and how they will extract that reserve.

Figure XX Best Practices: Environment, Social & Corporate Governance (ESG)

Viceroy have previously interviewed Namibia’s Petroleum Commissioner Maggy Shino who stated unequivocally that no fracking would take place on Namibian soil. Once again RECO is changing the narrative around the true footprint of their activities.

We put it to ReconAfrica in very simple terms:

*Can you unequivocally state that, once the seismic and well results show you have no conventional oil:
Will the project will be abandoned?*

Polarization and Disengagement

Rainbows and puppies are all ReconAfrica want you to see, and portray their ESG evangelists as disinterested benefactors to the Namibian people. This could not be further from the truth. Let’s take a look at one of many snippets relating to RECO’s consultation with affected stakeholders:

Consultation and Engagement

Numerous consultation sessions regarding our seismic and stratigraphic programs were completed directly with communities. ReconAfrica continues to engage interested and affected stakeholders on an ongoing basis. ReconAfrica reaches out to traditional authorities, community leaders and community members both in formal consultation community meetings and also in what are locally known as “cluster village interaction” sessions, which are all translated into the local stakeholders’ languages. We also work alongside regional, elected and national authorities to keep them updated. (cont.)

While the purpose of the consultation was ostensibly to provide information on the 2-D seismic survey, the company used it as an impromptu Q&A session. Fortunately, such meetings were filmed by NMH. You can find the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FaHMVRmjPnQ&t=2900s>

Here is what passes for RECO “Consultation and Engagement”:

- Mr. Mwiya, RECO’s retained EIA consultant and apparent representative, justifies the torrent of online harassment by RECO shareholders directed at Ms. Ina-Maria Shikongo on Frack-Free Namibia, and notes that he also takes part in this harassment. This is **absolutely appalling**. [55:40]



- Mr. Mwiya sarcastically mocks representatives from indigenous communities who raise questions about displacement of communities in the event of oil discovery. [1:10:40]
- Mr. Mwiya and Claire Preece, ReconAfrica's local ESG representative, constantly interrupt local stakeholders asking pertinent questions.
- Mr. Mwiya frequently becomes frustrated at any non-technical ESG questions, and resorts to yelling at local stakeholders and turning his back while they ask him questions.

But could RECO provide factual, straightforward answers to basic technical questions? Also no. RECO spokesperson Claire Preece and Risk-Based Solutions' Dr Mwiya:

- Confirmed that the company is only drilling wells in order to retain its license. [48:00]
- Stated several times that there is no data available for the lease area which is patently untrue. In addition to the Namibian governments aeromagnetic surveys there is also gravity data, multiple Etosha wells and decades of failures to extract oil and gas.
- Categorized the estimates of the basin's size and contents as "promotional" when challenged on how the company could make such bold claims on almost no data. [1:03:04]
- Defended their approach of drilling wells before seismic despite several geologists in the audience pointing out that this is an incorrect, completely not-normal approach.
- Despite being asked on multiple occasions if ReconAfrica would categorically state no fracking would be conducted, Ms. Preece avoided the question and cut off members of the gallery, one time even stating that she "won't be around" at that point. [1.30.20]

It is worth noting that these questions were being asked by experienced geologists, of which we could identify **a former onshore and offshore geologist for BP and Dr Roy Miller, former director of Namcor between 1992 and 1998 and former director of the Geological Survey of Namibia from 1979 to 1992.**

Keeping it sleazy

Despite his promotional tone, Mr Mwiya is also responsible for the registration of interested and affected parties for the public consultation regarding the 2D seismic program, in which he should be impartial.

The Globe and Mail published an extensive account of Mr Mwiya's communications, including accusing parties who reached out to him of being agents of foreign environmentalist movements or soliciting donations and suggesting they should invest in resource companies for "30 years of guaranteed returns".

The Globe and Mail also obtained an email from Mr Mwiya to Namibian regional governors pushing for oil and gas exploration. We question why ReconAfrica appointed Mr Mwiya as a representative.

Here are the emails

*"We are not accountable to you, your clique or any NGO or entity whatsoever" –
Dr Mwiya*

2. Re: Draft Scoping Report, Jan-2021: Pxi, paragraph 4: This paragraph is confusing. It states that "following on the drilling of the stratigraphic wells, the company intends to conduct 450km long 2D seismic survey operations Depending on the outcomes of the proposed 2D seismic survey, exploration drilling ... may be undertaken...". Please clarify in the Scoping Report whether the drilling of the 2 wells, for which RBS conducted at Environmental Assessment in June 2019, have been drilled already and if so, what were the results?

2.1 It not confusing. The only problem is that so many people want to be experts of highly technical field of oil and gas exploration that they do not understand, have no experience and no technical training whatsoever. Despite the fact that it fully explained in the Draft Scoping Report, some stakeholders have already made-up their mind based on social media uninformed and opportunistic donation-based business postings that is claiming that oil has been discovered and production will taking place in the Okavango Delta. The current project activities are greenfield exploration. In brief oil exploration involves, application for license, geophysical desktop study to look for areas of interest within the license area, if the

[note – Mr Mwiya suggests in this aggressive response that no conventional system has been found, despite assertions to the contrary by RECO]

5. RBS can be congratulated for arranging field-based meetings /sessions in local villages along the survey lines. The full content of the presentations given at all public and focus group meetings should be included in the Scoping Report. For RBS to present a balanced and objective summary of the project, you should include the short, medium and long-term potential positive and negative impacts of not only the 2D surveys, but also of exploration drilling and full petroleum extraction. These descriptions should be presented in layman's language, as far as is possible. There is no objectivity that can be achieved by writing on resource that do not exist with zero guarantee that there will be a commercial discovery. That is called speculation and is very dangerous and irresponsible misleading of the Capital Markets especially if it is coming from some of us who are supporting multiple international listed companies. The Scope of Work is clear **2D seismic survey, okay**. Please do not ever try to teach me how to do EIA.s of what not to include and include I really hate this level of disrespect. I am highly technically qualified and experienced and know exactly what I am doing.



As a so called expert / specialist in oil and gas exploration and on the receiving environment of Kavango West and East Regions that you wholly claim to be and elevated by your uninformed clique, you should know better that the reason I send the Draft Scoping Report to you is for you to provide me with your so called expertise in oil and gas exploration and specifically the proposed 2D seismic survey operations and the receiving environment of the Area of Interest (AOI) in Kavango West and East Regions and by the way please note that the AOI is not in the Okavango Delta or the Banks of the Okavango River or San Community land.

The Draft Scoping Report has been provided to you and it is not for you come back to me and demand reports and documents that have been cited. Many other documents have been reviewed as part of EIA process for the proposed 2D seismic survey and I am under no obligations whatsoever to now send you all the documents that have been reviewed and yet you claim to be an expert / specialist in oil and gas exploration and on the receiving environment of Kavango West and East Regions and specifically the Area of Interest which you believed was on the banks on the Okavango River.

We are all accountable to the State, **not to you, your clique or any NGO or entity whatsoever.**

Please provide your technical / expertise inputs to the EIA Process not demands for reports that have only been cited.

Dear Max,

Please see my responses to your question in red below. Please note that I hold a PhD and you can call me Sindila but cannot refer to me as Mr Mwiya in case you did not know the difference. I know how much you respect foreigners and nonindigenous people in your circles, but do not forget that even the rural people of Kavango West and East that you think need support from your foreign experts have far much great knowledge and insight about their area than a foreigner and nonindigenous person will ever learn or claim to know about the local areas. Learner to respect your own people first and their great wisdom in local knowledge, in the same way they are respecting you. It is so disheartening for you to think that local people of Kavango West and East cannot decide on what is best for their areas or regions.

Yes, I know that on Social Media you have been behaving as if you are the spokesperson for the Office of the Environmental Commissioner or MEFT to which you are not, while at the same time you are offering foreign international media companies and Interested parties (foreigners) for translations and guiding them around the project area with your fees quoted in USD as per your recent previous quotation.

Just like the other many so called non-profits that have emerged and are now using the project, the Okavango River, the Okavango Delta, San People and the non-existence so called sensitive environment as backdrop for soliciting donations to the NGOs and for friends and family not necessary for the rural people of Kavango West and East who are swimming in inherited generation poverty, you also seems to have taken the project as new business opportunity. However, in most instance, you are just being used by those non-profits bodies that are making more money through EUR and USD donation receipts based on your uninformed noise rattle.

4) On page 80 Table 3.2 of the scoping report Mr. Mwiya states that "No removal of protected species or mature trees are anticipated because the activity will require the widening the existing tracks as may be applicable." This is unacceptable, considering there are a number of protected species in the license area and they plan to run huge trucks 450km through deep bush, widening roads as they go. This is obvious from the photo of Line EW5 on Plate 1.24 on page 37 of the Scoping Report, where hundreds if not thousands of trees will have to be cleared over many kilometers to widen the road for the huge trucks. There are no studies to say whether nesting birds will be killed, what kind of plants will have to be destroyed and where, what indigenous trees might be killed and most especially some of the tracks they want to use are in the bed of the Omatako river, meaning this activity would definitely fall within 100meters of a watercourse, see Plate 1.21 page 34, where the line is right next to the riverbed. It is clear that this rushed scoping report is designed to eliminate the need for environmental oversight like the Forestry Act, 12 of 2001 and The Nature Conservation Ordinance 4, 1975. What are the long-term implications of these new wide roads on poaching? On illegal plant harvesting? Mr. Mwiya doesn't include any data about this at all and due to this we ask you to set aside this ECC request.

Max, you wrote and quote: "This is unacceptable, considering there are a number of protected species in the license area and they plan to run huge trucks 450km through deep bush, widening roads as they go". Are you okay and do you really understand and see images provided and what is proposed or you are just trying to seek some limelight out of nothing and out of a project that you absolutely do not understand at all. Existing roads and tracks do not have trees because the trees were cleared when the roads and tracks were constructed, in case you do not know and there no need to widen any road

unless requested as part of the CSR. It is really sad to see this so low level of ignorant environmental advocacy that you are displaying. How do you expect to have hundreds if not thousands of trees to be cleared over many kilometres to widen the roads that are already existing as shown in Plates 1.1-1.24. This is utter blindly stupidity and nonsense of the highest level I have never ever seen that you even decide not see the clear images provided Plates 1.1-1.24 and still write trash to me about clearing exiting roads and tracks, what is wrong with you?



Suspension of Seismic License

Viceroy calls for the Ministry of Mines and Energy to immediately suspend RECO's seismic approval given the clearly conflicted nature of Dr Mwiya's conduct as registrar, and a full investigation as to how this approval was issued in light of blatant disregard of duty by Dr Mwiya.

We call for the immediate termination of Dr Mwiya from this project, as he is clearly unable to act in an unbiased manner.

It is unfathomable that the MME constantly jeopardize any good standing with the Namibian people in exchange for delusions woven by RECO staff. It is embarrassing.

*The way RECO have conducted itself through this application, and in its obligation to ESG, is **disgraceful**.*



Attention: Whistleblowers

Viceroy encourage any parties with information pertaining to misconduct within Reconnaissance Energy Africa Ltd, its affiliates, or any other entity to file a report with the appropriate regulatory body.

We also understand first-hand the retaliation whistleblowers sometimes face for championing these issues. Where possible, Viceroy is happy act as intermediaries in providing information to regulators and reporting information in the public interest in order to protect the identities of whistleblowers.

You can contact the Viceroy team via email on viceroy@viceroyresearch.com.

About Viceroy

Viceroy Research are an investigative financial research group. As global markets become increasingly opaque and complex – and traditional gatekeepers and safeguards often compromised – investors and shareholders are at greater risk than ever of being misled or uninformed by public companies and their promoters and sponsors. Our mission is to sift fact from fiction and encourage greater management accountability through transparency in reporting and disclosure by public companies and overall improve the quality of global capital markets.

Viceroy Research LLC is not associated with any environmental activists.

Viceroy Research LLC has made this report available to the SEC, CSA, The UK SFO, The Namibian Government, BaFin and IIROC.

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