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The Extractor
Mapping Namibia's Mineral Resources

- Ongombo could finally start moving with Xinhai
- Kokoseb keeps getting deeper, potentially bigger
- Kaoko Metals closer to drilling Chalkos
- Huajing Investment gets approval to buy Okorusu

VOLUME 04 | Edition 64 WEDNESDAY, 17 JUNE 2026

The champ is back!

Borshoff wants to build Norasa into multi-project uranium portfolio

Over four decades, John Borshoff has helped finance, develop, and operate uranium projects across several jurisdictions, most notably Namibia's Langer Heinrich and Tumas projects. Now leading Forsys Metals and its Norasa project, the question is: Can he do it again?

Andrada came to Namibia to build a tin mine, but found a critical minerals province

Anthony Viljoen says Andrada Mining came to Namibia to build a tin mine but ended up building one of the country's most diverse critical-minerals portfolios, with exposure to tin, lithium, tantalum, tungsten, copper, and rubidium spread across a growing portfolio of assets in the Erongo Region.

A LOOK AHEAD TO 2026 IN NAMIBIA – RECONAFRICA

As our work with the communities and authorities of Namibia continues into 2026, we are pleased to share a number of successes and developments around our exploration activities under PEL 073, as well as a look to the year ahead.

KEY SUCCESSES OF 2025

In 2025, ReconAfrica progressed key priorities by drilling our second exploration well in the Damara Fold Belt. The results showed indications of oil and gas over eight separate intervals in the Kavango West 1X well. A total of 64 metres (210 feet) of the sections contained confirmed hydrocarbons, with additional promising signs deeper in the well within the limestone reservoir. These findings suggest that the Damara Fold Belt has real potential for future energy development.

Following these positive results, PEL 073 partners ReconAfrica (operator), NAMCOR, and BW Energy met with Her Excellency President Nandi-Ndaitwah to discuss the oil and gas findings and explore how the partnership could support onshore development and help strengthen Namibia's long-term energy future.

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES IN KAVANGO EAST AND KAVANGO WEST

ReconAfrica continues to invest in and work with local communities and is proud to have an industry-leading Environmental, Social and Governance programme in Namibia.

To date, ReconAfrica has:

- Locally hired and contracted over 2,700 short and long term positions, and worked with over 550 local, regional and national service and supply companies
- Supported 10 STEAM and 7 SAN Nursing students from the Kavango East and Kavango West regions with scholarships
- Installed 36 solar-powered community water wells in remote areas
- Completed more than 2,600 community engagement sessions
- Provided N$19 million in funding for medical services, equipment, training and wellness programmes
- Provided funding for environmental and social projects in various communities

WHAT IS NEXT FOR RECONAFRICA IN NAMIBIA?

Preparations are underway for a production test of the Kavango West 1X well this year. The team is currently procuring the necessary equipment and has applied for permits required for production testing in order to evaluate the zones of interest. This will be the first production test for hydrocarbons in Namibia and could result in the first flow of hydrocarbons to surface for the Country. We expect to conclude this testing by the third quarter of 2026.

In all aspects of our operations, ReconAfrica is committed to minimal disturbance of habitat in line with international standards and implementing environmental and social best practices in our project areas.

We remain grateful to the people of Namibia for your partnership in exploring the potential for long-term energy development in the area and look forward to providing further updates throughout 2026.

Inside

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COVER STORY

Borshoff wants to build Norasa into multi-project uranium portfolio

Few mining executives have left a bigger mark on Namibia's uranium sector than John Borshoff.

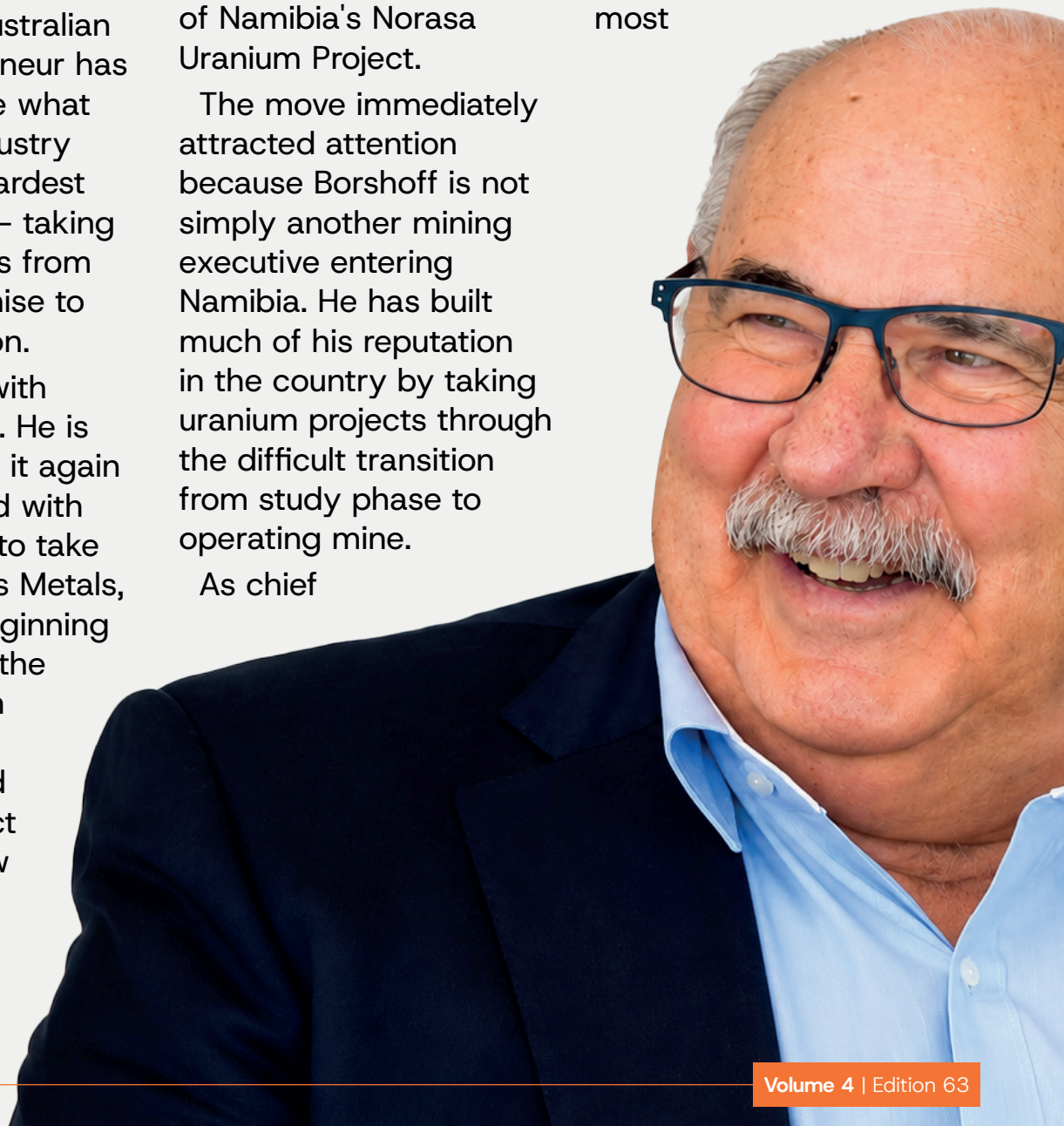
Over the past two decades, the Australian mining entrepreneur has repeatedly done what many in the industry regard as the hardest part of mining — taking uranium projects from geological promise to actual production.

He first did it with Langer Heinrich. He is now attempting it again with Tumas. And with his latest move to take control of Forsys Metals, investors are beginning to ask whether the veteran uranium builder has identified a third Namibian project that could follow the same path.

Forsys Metals announced in June that Borshoff, through his investment vehicle, has become the company's largest shareholder and will assume a leadership role at the developer of Namibia's Norasa Uranium Project.

The move immediately attracted attention because Borshoff is not simply another mining executive entering Namibia. He has built much of his reputation in the country by taking uranium projects through the difficult transition from study phase to operating mine.

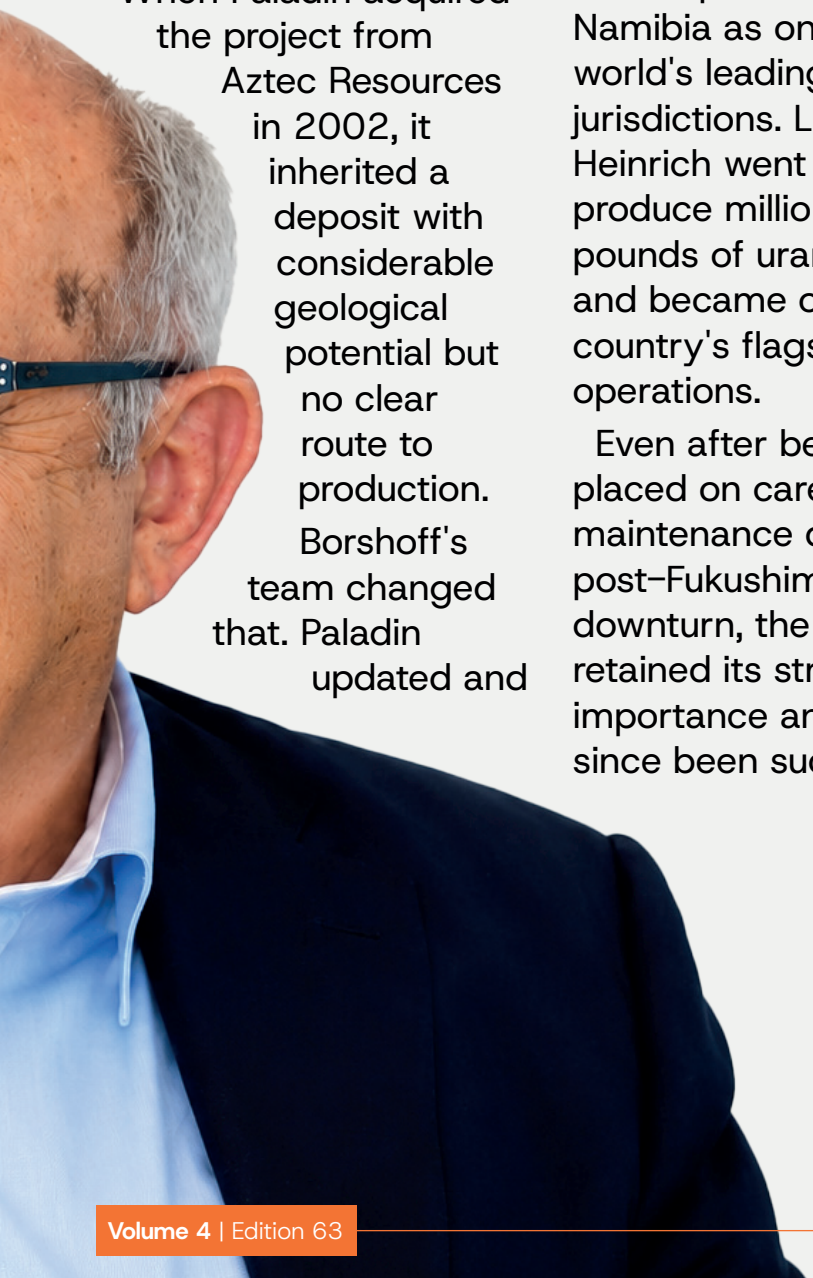
As chief executive of Paladin Energy, Borshoff oversaw the transformation of the Langer Heinrich Uranium Mine into one of Namibia's most



successful mining operations.

What made the achievement remarkable was the project's state when Paladin acquired it. Langer Heinrich was discovered in 1973 and underwent years of exploration and technical evaluation. Despite substantial uranium resources and extensive study work, low uranium prices repeatedly prevented development.

When Paladin acquired the project from Aztec Resources in 2002, it inherited a deposit with considerable geological potential but no clear route to production.



Borshoff's team changed that. Paladin updated and completed feasibility studies, secured project financing, built the processing plant and supporting infrastructure and commissioned the mine in 2007. Within five years of acquisition, a long-dormant uranium deposit had become a producing mine.

The success transformed Paladin from a junior explorer into a globally recognised uranium producer and helped establish Namibia as one of the world's leading uranium jurisdictions. Langer Heinrich went on to produce millions of pounds of uranium oxide and became one of the country's flagship mining operations.

Even after being placed on care and maintenance during the post-Fukushima uranium downturn, the mine retained its strategic importance and has since been successfully restarted as uranium markets recovered.

The experience established a template that would later become closely associated with Borshoff's approach to uranium development: acquire quality assets during difficult market conditions, secure the technical and financial foundations required for development and position projects to benefit when the market turns.

After leaving Paladin, Borshoff founded Deep Yellow in 2016 with a strategy that looked remarkably familiar.

The company assembled uranium assets across Namibia, consolidated the Tumas Project and spent years advancing studies, drilling programmes and permitting activities.

At the time Deep Yellow acquired and consolidated the Tumas area, the project was largely regarded as a promising exploration and development asset rather than a future mine.

The company embarked on extensive drilling campaigns, expanded resources, completed metallurgical test work, secured environmental approvals,

advanced water and power planning and progressively de-risked the project through feasibility studies.

Today, Tumas is regarded as one of the world's most advanced undeveloped uranium projects and is widely expected to become Namibia's next uranium mine once a final investment decision is taken.

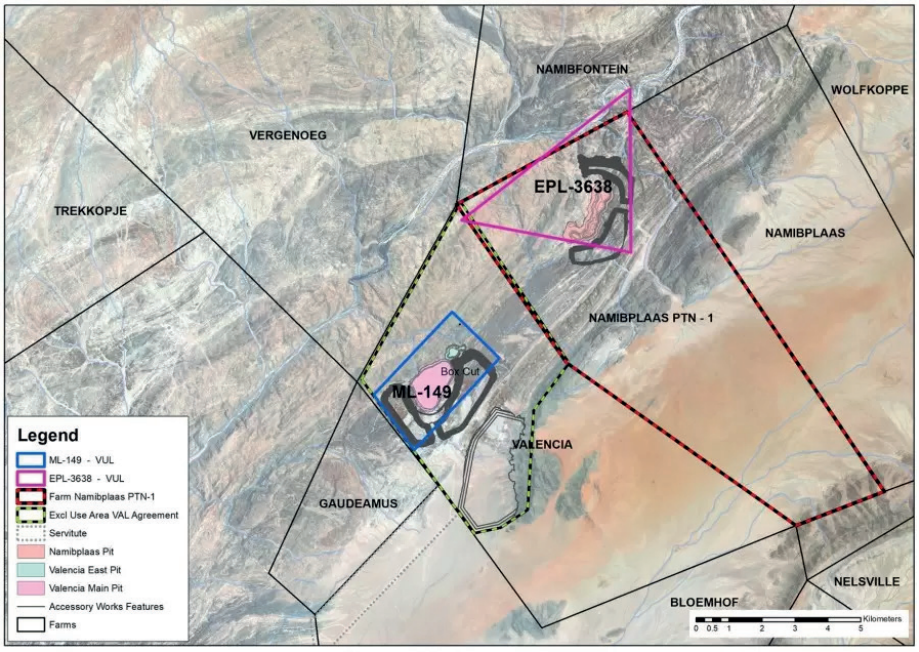
The project hosts one of Africa's largest uranium resources under development and has been designed as a long-life operation positioned to benefit from growing global demand for nuclear fuel.

The pattern has become increasingly clear.

Borshoff has repeatedly entered projects long before development certainty existed, assembled technical teams, secured financing pathways, completed studies and pushed projects towards production.

That track record explains why his arrival at Forsys is attracting considerable attention.

Forsys controls the Norasa Uranium Project, which combines the Valencia and Namibplaas



deposits in Namibia's uranium-rich Erongo Region.

Norasa already possesses one of the largest undeveloped uranium resource bases in the country and has undergone years of technical work, engineering studies and environmental assessments.

The project hosts hundreds of millions of pounds of uranium resources and has been the subject of feasibility studies, permitting work and development planning for many years. Yet despite its scale and technical maturity, it has remained on the sidelines while several competing projects advanced.

Unlike a traditional exploration story, Forsys is not starting from scratch.

The project already benefits from extensive drilling, completed feasibility work, defined resources and a long history of technical evaluation.

What it has arguably lacked is a leader with a proven record of converting Namibian uranium projects into producing assets.

Borshoff's reputation has not been built on the discovery of deposits. Rather, it has been built on identifying which deposits have the potential to become mines and then assembling the technical, financial and operational components required to make that happen.

That distinction could prove important for Forsys.

The company's assets have never suffered

from a lack of uranium. The challenge has traditionally been development timing, capital requirements and market conditions.

If Borshoff applies the same strategy that transformed Langer Heinrich and is now advancing Tumas, Forsys could find itself moving from a long-standing uranium developer to a genuine mine-building story.

Forsys chairman Martin Rowley described the appointment as a pivotal moment for the company.

"We are fortunate to have been able to secure the services of John Borshoff who brings significant experience and growth potential to our business," Rowley said.

He said Borshoff's strategic direction provided a clear vision for growth and aligned with the board's objective of repositioning the company to benefit from growing global demand for nuclear energy.

Rowley added that Borshoff's reputation and experience would be instrumental in attracting the talent needed to build Forsys into a significant participant in the global uranium sector.

Borshoff said he saw substantial unrealised value within Forsys and believed the company was undervalued relative to its peers.

"I am delighted to be given the opportunity to lead another uranium company that I believe has significant unrealised potential," he said.

Borshoff said he saw opportunities both to advance Forsys' existing Namibian assets and to pursue disciplined growth through acquisitions and mergers.

He argued that concerns over energy security, reliability, and affordability were driving renewed interest in nuclear energy and strengthening the fundamentals of long-term uranium demand.

"In my view, the supply basis for both uranium and other energy sources will need to be revised if it is to eventually meet accelerating electricity demand," he said.

Borshoff believes uranium is moving into a structural supply deficit and that the sector will need additional projects to meet future demand.

His ambition, he said, is to position Forsys at the forefront of that growth by building a multi-project uranium portfolio capable of supplying the next generation of nuclear energy demand.

GOLD

Kokoseb keeps getting deeper — and potentially much bigger

Just as Wia Gold moves Kokoseb towards a Definitive Feasibility Study and mining licence approval, the company may have uncovered something that could fundamentally change the scale and lifespan of Namibia's next major gold mine.

The company currently has six diamond drill rigs focused on defining these deeper zones ahead of an updated Mineral Resource Estimate and the completion of the Definitive Feasibility Study during the third quarter of 2026, a milestone that will move Kokoseb from the study phase towards development decisions and provide the clearest picture yet of the project's economics, mine design, production profile and long-term growth potential.

The latest drilling results are not simply another resource extension but point to the emergence of a second, previously unknown high-grade gold system sitting hundreds of metres below the planned open pit, potentially opening an entirely new underground mining chapter for the

2.93-million-ounce Kokoseb Gold Project near Okombahe.

This week, Wia reported one of the deepest and highest-grade intersections ever drilled at Kokoseb, returning 9 metres grading 10.64 grams per tonne gold from 811 metres, including 4 metres grading 22.76g/t gold, with the intercept encountered approximately 700 metres below surface and about 350 metres beneath the current scoping-study pit shell.

The significance of the latest drilling results is heightened by the project's advanced stage of development, with Wia targeting completion of the Definitive Feasibility Study in the third quarter of 2026 while simultaneously expanding mineralisation beyond the current mine plan.

The project, which is 80% owned by Wia Gold and 20% by Epangelo Mining, is expected to support a 5.25-million-tonne-per-year processing plant and produce more than 1.65 million ounces of gold over its currently envisaged mine life, with the mining licence application already submitted and environmental approvals continuing to advance.

The significance lies not only in the grade but also in the location because, until now, Kokoseb's development strategy has largely been built around a large open-pit operation, with the September 2025 Scoping Study outlining an 11.3-year mine producing an average 177,000 ounces of gold annually during its first five years from an open-pit resource of 2.93 million ounces.

The new drilling suggests the story may not end at the bottom of the pit. Wia says the discovery represents a new high-grade mineralised horizon beneath the Central Zone and sits well below the limits of the current mine design, with the company now extending high-grade mineralisation

to roughly 580 metres below the pit shell while both major mineralised shoots remain open at depth, meaning geologists have not yet found the bottom of the system.

The discovery is also part of a broader trend emerging at Kokoseb, where the project has consistently grown beyond expectations since its discovery in late 2021.

The maiden resource announced in 2023 contained 1.3 million ounces of gold, increasing to 2.1 million ounces in 2024 and then to 2.93 million ounces in 2025, with each successive drilling campaign pushing mineralisation deeper, along strike, and into new zones.

Previous drilling had already identified high-grade shoots beneath the resource pit shell, including intersections such as 10.5 metres at 16.72g/t gold and 26 metres at 7.9g/t gold. At the same time, the latest results extend that trend significantly deeper, indicating that Kokoseb's underground potential remains largely untested.

Wia managing director Henk Diederichs said the latest results strengthen confidence in the project's underground future.

"The discovery of a new high-grade target beneath the Central Zone, together with the strong continuity demonstrated in the existing high-grade shoots in both the Central and Southern Zones, further strengthens Kokoseb's underground potential," he said.

The company currently has six diamond drill rigs focused on defining these deeper zones ahead of an updated Mineral Resource Estimate and the completion of the Definitive Feasibility Study during the third quarter of 2026.

For Namibia, the implications extend beyond resource growth, as Kokoseb is already emerging as one of the country's most important new gold developments. The project, which is 80% owned by Wia Gold and 20% by Epangelo Mining, is expected to support a 5.25-million-tonne-per-year processing plant and produce more than 1.65 million ounces of gold over its currently envisaged mine life. The mining licence application has already been submitted, and environmental approvals continue to advance.

If the newly discovered deep mineralised horizon evolves into a sizeable underground resource, Kokoseb could ultimately become much more than an 11-year open-pit operation, developing into a multi-decade gold mining complex combining a large open pit with an underground operation capable of extending production well beyond the current mine plan.

That possibility remains several drilling campaigns away from confirmation. Still, the latest results suggest that while the industry has been focusing on the pit being designed at Kokoseb, the real long-term value may be emerging far below it.

CRITICAL MINERALS

Andrada came to Namibia to build a tin mine, but found a critical minerals province

Anthony Viljoen says Andrada Mining came to Namibia to build a tin mine but ended up building one of the country's most diverse critical-minerals portfolios, with exposure to tin, lithium, tantalum, tungsten, copper, and rubidium spread across a growing portfolio of assets in the Erongo Region.

Viljoen, the chief executive officer of Andrada Mining, told delegates at the Junior Indaba conference that the company's original strategy was built around a belief that Namibia remained one of the world's most underexplored mining jurisdictions despite its long mining history. Having previously helped build Bushveld Minerals into a major vanadium producer, the team identified an opportunity to consolidate several historical tin assets around Uis and create the scale needed to support a long-term mining business centred on critical minerals.

The company subsequently acquired and consolidated several historical mining assets, including the former Uis tin mine and

surrounding deposits, with the intention of creating a district-scale mining platform rather than developing a single standalone operation.

According to Viljoen, the strategy was based on a simple premise that scale would ultimately determine whether the business succeeded or failed, particularly in a sector where smaller deposits often struggle to attract capital and justify infrastructure investment.

What followed, however, exceeded the company's expectations.

After restarting mining operations and undertaking extensive drilling programmes, Andrada discovered that the pegmatites hosting the tin mineralisation also contained significant lithium, tantalum and rubidium resources.

The discovery transformed what had originally been a tin story into a broader critical minerals opportunity. It revealed what Viljoen described as an entire mineral province rather than a single commodity deposit.

Today, the Uis operation forms the foundation of that platform. The mine is producing approximately 1,100 tonnes of tin metal annually.

It has become a profitable operation, benefiting from all-in sustaining costs of around US$30,000 per tonne against tin prices of approximately US$55,000 per tonne.

The operation has already added tantalum as a by-product revenue stream and is working towards incorporating lithium production into the broader business model.

Viljoen said the company continues to expand its operations and is currently installing ore-sorting technology that could significantly improve feed grades and production rates.

According to management, the introduction of sorting technology has the potential to increase feed grades by up to 3 times, creating a corresponding uplift in production while reducing processing costs.

The company views these improvements as part of a much longer growth journey, with Viljoen describing Uis as being only in the early years of what he believes could ultimately become a century-long mining operation.

One of the most significant discoveries in the portfolio is Lithium Ridge, a six-kilometre-long lithium-bearing system that has attracted the attention of global lithium producer SQM.

Under the partnership, SQM can invest up to US$40 million to earn a 50% interest in the project and has already spent approximately US$7 million. Recent drilling has returned lithium grades of up to 3.2% Li⊠O, with Viljoen saying the geological model continues to expand both along strike and at depth.

He believes Lithium Ridge has the potential to become one of Africa's most significant lithium discoveries in recent years and highlighted that the project is already fully permitted.

The company's diversification strategy extends beyond lithium.

At Brandberg West, Andrada has identified tin, tungsten and copper mineralisation and secured backing from a United States-based family office willing to invest up to US$50 million to earn a 49% interest in the project.

The company believes growing demand for tungsten, particularly from defence and industrial markets, has substantially increased the strategic value of the asset.

What makes the portfolio particularly attractive is the polymetallic nature of the pegmatites.

Rather than operating separate mines for each commodity, Andrada is developing a system that generates multiple revenue streams from the same mining and processing infrastructure.

Viljoen described the deposits as a "lucky packet", where a single mining cost base can potentially

support the production of tin, tantalum and lithium, thereby improving project economics and reducing exposure to fluctuations in any one commodity market.

Beyond the geology, Viljoen highlighted the economic impact of the company's activities in the Uis area.

When Andrada entered the district, much of the historical mining infrastructure had fallen into disuse, and employment opportunities were limited.

The company has since created around 500 jobs, supporting thousands of dependents in a sparsely populated region where mining remains one of the most important economic activities.

Viljoen argued that Namibia's combination of geological prospectivity, regulatory certainty and mining expertise continues to make it one of the most attractive destinations for critical minerals investment.

He described the Erongo Province as a "jewel of geological discovery" and suggested that the region remains far from fully explored despite the discoveries already made.

Nearly a decade after Andrada listed on the London market, the company is no longer simply a tin producer. What began as an effort to revive a historic tin mine has evolved into a district-scale critical-minerals platform with exposure to commodities increasingly viewed as essential to electrification, renewable energy, advanced manufacturing, and the global energy transition, positioning Namibia at the centre of one of the fastest-growing sectors in mining.

Chinese-backed investor wins approval for historic Okorusu Fluorspar project

A Chinese-backed investor has secured regulatory approval to acquire Namibia's historic Okorusu Fluorspar project, potentially opening a new chapter for a mine that once ranked among the country's most important industrial mineral operations and is now being vacated by graphite producer Northern Graphite.

The Namibian Competition Commission (NaCC) approved the transaction on 28 April 2026 under case number 2026FEB0005MER, subject to conditions relating to employment creation and protection, skills development and training, local value addition and land ownership requirements.

The deal involves the acquisition of Okorusu Holdings and its subsidiary, Okorusu Fluorspar, which owns the land and mineral rights associated with the historic Okorusu mine near Otjiwarongo.

The assets include prospecting rights for base, rare, and precious metals, as well as the fluorspar project.

Located on Marburg Farm about 62 kilometres

north of Otjiwarongo, Okorusu is one of Namibia's oldest mining operations.

Mining activity at the site dates back to around 1920, before operations were suspended in 1963. The mine was later revived by Okorusu Fluorspar (Pty) Ltd in 1988 and was subsequently acquired by French chemicals group Solvay in 1997.

The mine is hosted within an unusual alkaline igneous–carbonatite ring-dike complex in which fluorite replaced pegmatitic carbonatite.

The geological setting has long attracted interest not only for fluorspar but also for rare-earth-element mineralisation.

Studies have identified rare-earth-bearing minerals in carbonatite dykes and fluorite-bearing metasomatic zones, with some occurrences exhibiting elevated concentrations of heavy rare-earth elements.

Beyond its industrial significance, Okorusu became internationally renowned among mineral collectors for producing some of the world's finest blue and green fluorite crystals, many of which display distinctive phantom structures.

For years, specimen mining formed a niche component of operations, with proceeds from specimen sales supporting community development initiatives around the mine.

The operation was Namibia's only fluorspar producer and supplied acid-grade fluorspar used in steelmaking, aluminium production and the manufacture of hydrofluoric acid, a key feedstock for chemicals, refrigerants, pharmaceuticals, electronics and battery materials.

However, mining ceased in 2014 as rising stripping ratios and beneficiation challenges undermined the project's economics.

The acquisition comes at a significant moment for the Okorusu mining complex. Canadian-listed Northern Graphite is currently relocating the processing plant located at the former Okorusu site to its Okanjande graphite mine near Otjiwarongo as part of plans to restart graphite production in 2027.

Following the closure of the fluorspar operation, the mine assets were acquired by Gecko Namibia, which utilised parts of the processing infrastructure to beneficiate graphite ore from the nearby Okanjande deposit. Graphite ore was trucked from Okanjande to Okorusu for processing when the operation entered production in 2017.

Northern Graphite announced earlier this year that a 2023 Preliminary Economic Assessment concluded that relocating the plant directly to Okanjande would be more economical than continuing with the

existing arrangement.

The company said the move would reduce operating costs, eliminate ore haulage requirements, lower greenhouse gas emissions and create greater scope for future expansion.

The relocation leaves the Okorusu site available for future redevelopment by the incoming owners should they decide to advance the fluorspar project.

While the original acquiring entity was Huajing Investment Limited, a British Virgin Islands company owned by five individual shareholders, the company subsequently nominated Walvis Bay Minerals (Hong Kong) Limited to replace it as the primary acquiring undertaking in the merger application.

The commission noted that neither company currently has other business interests in Namibia.

NaCC classified the transaction as a conglomerate merger and defined the relevant market as the global extraction, processing and export of fluorspar. Following its investigation, the commission concluded that the

acquisition was unlikely to prevent or substantially lessen competition, or to create or strengthen a dominant market position.

However, the commission determined that the transaction raised public-interest considerations and therefore imposed conditions requiring commitments to employment, training, and local value addition.

The approval is also subject to the acquiring parties obtaining authorisation from the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform to acquire agricultural land before the transaction can be implemented.

The decision marks another step towards the possible revival of one of Namibia's most distinctive mining assets.

With global demand for fluorspar increasing alongside growth in battery manufacturing, advanced chemicals, semiconductors, and other high-technology industries, industry observers will be watching closely to see whether the new owners move ahead with plans to resume production at Okorusu.

COPPER-SILVER

Kaoko Metals closer to drilling Chalkos

Kaoko Metals has moved a step closer to launching its maiden drilling campaign at the Chalkos Copper-Silver Project after senior executives completed a strategic site visit to Namibia to finalise preparations for exploration at one of the country's most promising emerging copper prospects.

Managing director Gerard O'Donovan said the visit focused on community engagement, target refinement and discussions with contractors ahead of drilling at the Otniel and Donkey Hill prospects within the Chalkos project area.

The company met traditional authorities, including the local chief and conservancy leadership, before inspecting site preparation works being undertaken by Namibian contractors and the company's exploration partner, Lexrox Exploration.

"We had the opportunity to meet with the local chief and the chairman of the conservancy and discuss the upcoming maiden drill programme at the Chalkos project," O'Donovan said in an update from the project site.

He said Kaoko's

geological team remained active in the field, assessing multiple target areas while refining the initial drilling programme.

The visit also included meetings planned in Windhoek with mining authorities and drilling contractors bidding for the drilling contract.

The field programme forms part of a broader effort by the recently listed Australian company to rapidly advance Chalkos from a high-grade surface copper discovery into a drill-tested exploration project.

The project has become the centrepiece of the company's Namibian strategy. It is widely regarded as one of the most advanced copper exploration assets in the emerging Kaoko Copper Belt of north-western Namibia.

Located in the Kunene Region, the project hosts the Otniel and Donkey Hill prospects. It covers a large section of a sediment-hosted copper system that shares geological similarities with the Central African Copperbelt and the Kalahari Copper Belt, two of the world's most important copper-producing regions.

Kaoko Metals acquired the project through its takeover of privately held Namibian company Chalkos Exploration and Mining (Pty) Ltd as part of its formation and subsequent Australian Securities Exchange listing earlier this year.

Through the transaction, the company secured 100% ownership of the Chalkos project and its associated exploration licences, transforming what had been a privately held Namibian exploration asset into the flagship project of the newly listed explorer.

Exploration within the broader Kaoko Copper Belt stretches back more than a decade, with previous work conducted by international companies including Teck Resources and INV Metals.

However, only a limited portion of the mineralised corridor has been systematically explored, leaving significant upside for modern exploration.

What attracted Kaoko Metals to the project was the combination of exceptional surface grades and district-scale geological potential.

Rock-chip sampling has returned copper grades of up to 69.6% and 2,030 grams per tonne silver at Donkey Hill, while samples from Otniel have returned copper grades of up to 52.7% and 448 grams per tonne silver.

Such grades are among the highest reported from surface sampling in Namibia's copper sector in recent years.

The company has already identified approximately 20 kilometres of confirmed mineralised strike, with a broader prospective corridor extending for about 40 kilometres across the project area.

Despite this scale, detailed mapping and systematic exploration have covered only a fraction of the known mineralised trend.

The upcoming drilling programme, therefore, represents a major milestone for the project. While the high-grade copper and silver mineralisation is clearly visible at surface, drilling will determine whether these zones extend at depth and whether they have the scale required to support future resource development.

Importantly, the project is already drill permitted, allowing Kaoko Metals to move directly into testing priority targets once contractors are appointed.

Early metallurgical work has also delivered encouraging results. Bulk samples from Otniel achieved copper recoveries of up to 89%, while Donkey Hill returned recoveries exceeding 71%.

Ore-sorting studies further demonstrated the potential to upgrade copper grades before processing, a factor that could materially improve future project economics.

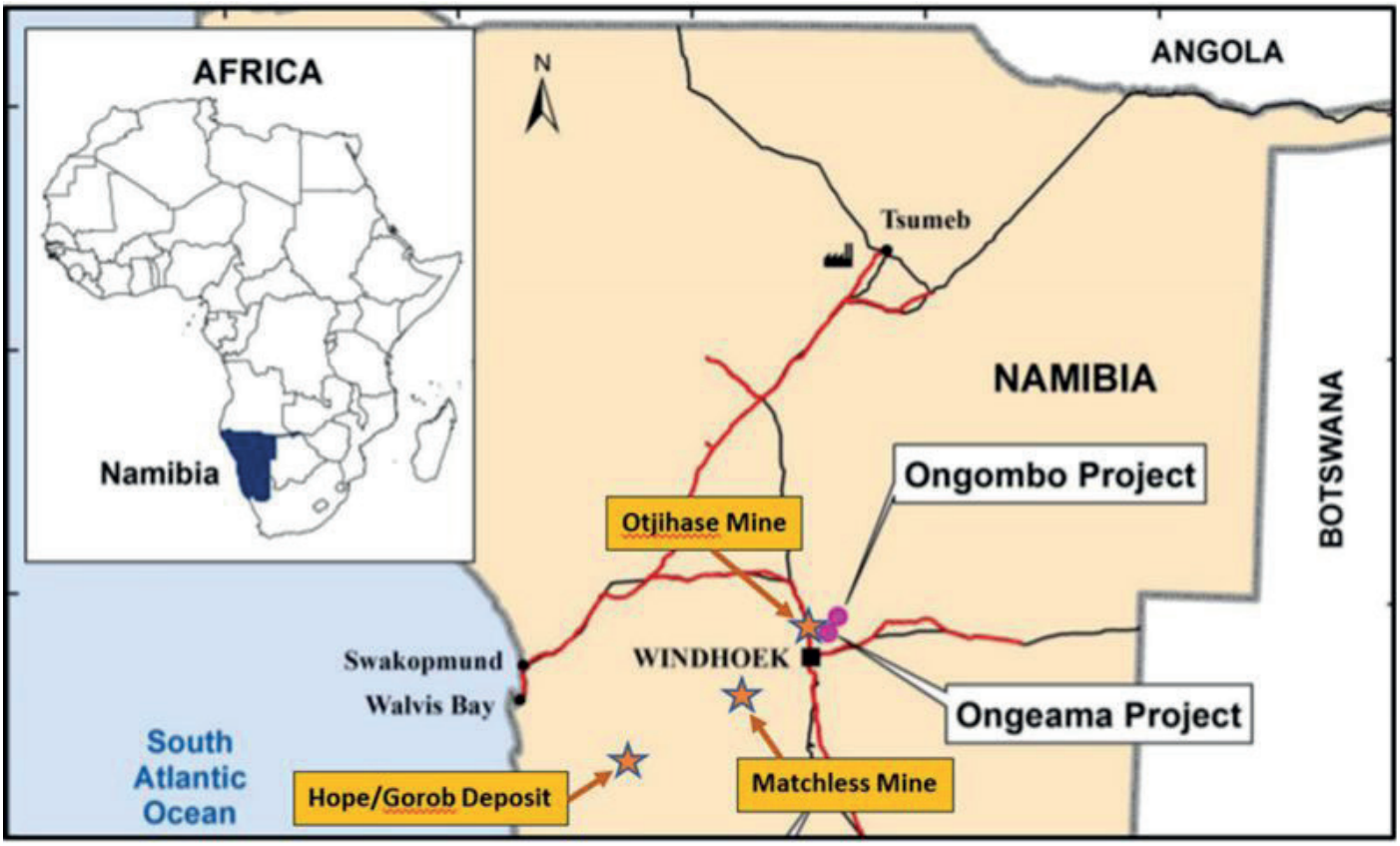
The visit to Namibia also extended beyond Chalkos. O'Donovan confirmed the company would continue advancing its Karibib Copper-Gold-Tungsten Project in central Namibia, where recent work has included aerial surveys, geological mapping and regional sampling programmes.

However, it is Chalkos that is expected to deliver the company's first major exploration catalyst.

With geological teams active in the field, community consultations completed, site preparations underway and drilling contractors being evaluated, Kaoko Metals is now entering the final stages before the first drill rigs arrive on the property.

The maiden drilling campaign at Otniel and Donkey Hill will provide the first real test of whether the high-grade mineralisation exposed at surface can evolve into a new copper discovery in one of Namibia's newest exploration frontiers.

COPPER



Ongombo could finally start moving with Xinhai funding

For decades, the Ongombo and Ongeama copper deposits east of Windhoek have been among Namibia's most advanced undeveloped base-metal opportunities. Situated within Namibia's historic Matchless Copper Belt, the projects have long been recognised as containing significant copper, gold and silver mineralisation while benefiting from a location close to the capital city, established transport infrastructure and a mining tradition that stretches back more than a century. Yet despite repeated exploration campaigns, resource upgrades and changing ownership structures over the years, the deposits have remained stranded at the development stage, unable to make the transition from mineral resource to operating mine.

That long wait may now be approaching a turning point following the signing of a non-binding financing and development agreement between African Pioneer Plc and Hong Kong-based Xinhai Mining Services Limited. The Chinese

group, which specialises in mine engineering, mineral processing and engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) services, says it has completed more than 500 mine development and processing plant projects globally. Its proposed involvement extends beyond providing capital and introduces the technical, engineering and construction expertise often required to bridge the gap between resource definition and commercial production. If converted into definitive agreements, the partnership could provide Ongombo and Ongeama with the integrated funding and mine development framework that previous owners were unable to secure.

The significance of the proposed partnership becomes apparent when viewed against the extensive work already completed on the project. African Pioneer currently holds an 85% interest in Ongombo through its Namibian subsidiary and has spent the past several years advancing the asset through resource definition, metallurgical studies, mine planning, environmental approvals and permitting.
The company has transformed what was historically regarded as an exploration property into a fully permitted development project with a valid Mining Licence, an Environmental Clearance Certificate and a growing mineral inventory that has continued to expand through successive drilling programmes.

According to African Pioneer, Ongombo hosts a JORC-compliant mineral resource of approximately 29 million tonnes grading 1.1% copper equivalent, containing an estimated 273,000 tonnes of copper, more than 220,000 ounces of gold, and over 5 million ounces of silver. The resource comprises both indicated and inferred categories and reflects several years of drilling and geological interpretation aimed at defining a commercially viable mining operation.
The project's location within the Matchless Belt is particularly significant because the same geological corridor previously supported copper production from the historic Matchless and Otjihase mines, reinforcing confidence in the district's long-established mineral endowment.

While Ongombo forms the centrepiece of the development strategy, the neighbouring Ongeama project has become increasingly important in shaping the district's long-term vision. Rather than being treated as a stand-alone exploration target, Ongeama is now viewed as a potential satellite ore source that can supplement future mine production, extend operational life, and enhance overall project

economics. Together, the two projects offer African Pioneer the opportunity to develop a broader copper mining complex supported by multiple mineralised zones rather than relying on a single orebody.

Importantly, Ongombo has already moved beyond the exploration stage and into the development phase. The project holds Mining Licence ML240, which is valid until March 2045, and has secured the necessary Environmental Clearance Certificate, providing the regulatory foundation required for mine construction. In recent years, the company has invested considerable effort in metallurgical test work, resource modelling, pit optimisation studies, engineering evaluations, and mine planning exercises to determine the most effective pathway to production. These studies have confirmed the potential for an initial open-pit operation to generate early cash flow before transitioning to the larger underground resource that underpins the project's longer-term value.

Despite the progress made on the technical front, the transition from resource development to mine construction has remained elusive. Like many junior mining companies, African Pioneer faced the challenge of funding a project whose capital requirements extend far beyond the exploration budgets typically available to listed resource developers. Although Ongombo and Ongeama continued to advance through drilling, resource modelling, metallurgical test work and permitting, the substantial investment required to construct a mine, processing plant and associated infrastructure meant the projects remained trapped between feasibility and development.

The proposed Xinhai transaction seeks to break that impasse through a structure that combines financing, engineering and mine construction under a single framework. Under the non-binding term sheet signed this week, Xinhai would provide 100% of the capital required to meet the agreed development milestones, including further exploration, resource expansion, engineering design, mine construction, and commissioning. The arrangement is designed

to allow the projects to advance without African Pioneer having to rely on repeated equity raisings to fund development.

As part of the transaction, Xinhai would subscribe for a 10% stake in African Pioneer at 1.15 pence per share, giving the Chinese group an immediate equity position in the London-listed company. More significantly, the financing would be provided through a secured project facility that could ultimately result in Xinhai acquiring up to approximately 74% of the Ongombo-Ongeama project holding company. Such an outcome would represent the most significant ownership change in the project's history, reducing African Pioneer from controlling shareholder to a minority partner while placing the mine's future development under the leadership of a company whose core business is engineering, mine construction, and mineral processing.

For African Pioneer chairman Colin Bird, the objective is to establish a single integrated framework covering project evaluation, financing, engineering, construction and commissioning. The company believes such a structure offers the fastest route to commercial production while providing a practical solution to one of the biggest challenges facing junior mining companies globally: securing sufficient capital to transform a defined mineral resource into an operating mine.

The ownership implications are particularly significant because the agreement effectively introduces a development partner whose expertise lies not in discovering mineral deposits but in building mines. Xinhai's role in the proposed transaction, therefore, extends beyond that of a financier, bringing technical expertise, engineering capability, and project execution experience that could substantially accelerate the transition of Ongombo and Ongeama from development assets to a producing copper operation.

Although neither company has yet announced a construction timetable or target date for first copper production, the agreement nevertheless represents the most significant development in the project's recent history.

The Extractor
Mapping Namibia's Mineral Resources

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