



Orion Minerals

Community

MYNuusblad



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Orion Minerals is pleased to announce the completion of positive Definitive Feasibility Studies (DFSs) for both its Prieska Copper Zinc Mine and the Flat Mines Project (Okiep Copper Project). The development of safe, modern, mechanised underground mines at both sites will play an important role in unlocking economic development and community development opportunities, which are both essential for the long-term prosperity of the Northern Cape.

The completion of these studies marks a key milestone, allowing Orion to advance its project financing strategy, which will likely be a combination of debt, equity and off-take related funding. While employment opportunities and skills development remain key priorities, these will only be realised once project funding is secured.

Prieska Copper Zinc Mine

Prieska Copper Zinc Mine (PCZM) is positioned to drive long-term socio-economic growth in the Northern Cape through carefully planned, development that is inclusive of its host

communities. By prioritising local job creation and procurement where possible, infrastructure investment, and sustainable community development, Orion is ensuring that the benefits of the mine extend far beyond the life of the project.

Strategic, fast-tracked development

The project's two-phase development plan is designed to generate immediate benefits while securing long-term sustainability.

The Upper-Level Phase will focus on near-surface ore, accessible through an existing decline, enabling first production within 13 months from the start of construction. This fast-tracked approach will provide a rapid economic boost, particularly through early job creation and business opportunities.

Following the completion of mine de-watering and infrastructure upgrades, the Deeps Phase will extend mining operations for an additional 11 years. This combination ensures sustained employment opportunities and economic activity over the life of the project, benefiting the local community throughout the mine's operation.

The project will provide significant employment opportunities for local residents at different stages of development. The anticipated maximum employment figures are:

- PCZM Upper-Level Phase: 237 employees
- PCZM Deeps Phase: 975 employees (peak employment)

The overlap period between the two phases will enable the mechanised skills developed in the Upper-Levels to be transferred to the Deeps.

Commitment to local employment and economic growth

Orion Minerals is fully committed to ensuring that local communities directly benefit from the Prieska Copper Zinc Mine. The project prioritises local skills development and recruitment , ensuring that people in the surrounding areas are given first access to job opportunities. Additionally, the project will foster local economic growth by sourcing goods and services from local suppliers wherever possible.

In line with Orion's broader commitment to economic empowerment, the company will strive to achieve aspirational targets, once fully operational, of at least 50% employment, 40% contracting, and 30% procurement opportunities for the host communities of Siyathemba and Vanwyksvlei.

Once in full production, the PCZM is expected to produce:

- 22,000 tons of copper per year
- 65,000 tons of zinc per year

This significant production capacity will position PCZM as one of South Africa's key base metal producers, further strengthening the regional economy and providing long-term development opportunities.

Ensuring environmental and financial sustainability

Orion Minerals is committed to responsible environmental stewardship.

The project includes a comprehensive plan for mine de-watering, safe tailings management, efficient water use , and the sustainable rehabilitation of disturbed areas. These efforts are part of Orion's broader commitment to minimise the environmental impact of the mine and ensure the long-term health of the surrounding ecosystem.

The project shows robust financial indicators and this solid financial outlook, together with the mine's longevity, will ensure continued and sustainable investment in the local community.

Community engagement and future development

Orion is dedicated to fostering ongoing communication and collaboration with the local communities.



A new Social and Labour Plan (SLP) has been developed to progress human resource development programs and local economic development projects based on the community's needs and aspirations.

Regular community engagement sessions will continue to be held to keep residents informed and involved.

The development of PCZM will be a catalyst for long term social and economic development in the host communities through:

- Local training and employment opportunities

- Local supplier development and procurement, and the creation of a local mining supply chain
- Infrastructure improvements for the mutual benefit of the community and the mine in collaboration with the Siyathemba Local Municipality

By working with local government, communities and businesses Orion believes it will be possible to create a highly attractive family living environment in Prieska and the other towns in the vicinity of PCZM.

Looking ahead

Through ongoing community engagement, investment in local infrastructure, and a strong commitment to responsible mining, the FM Project is set to deliver long-term benefits for Nababeep and its people. Orion remains dedicated to working alongside community members, ensuring that the opportunities created by this project extend far beyond the mine itself.

Flat Mines

The Flat Mines Project (FM Project), which is part of Orion Minerals' Okiep Copper Project, is set to bring significant economic and social benefits to Nababeep and surrounding communities. This project will not only revive mining in the region but also create employment opportunities, infrastructure improvements, and long-term community investment.

With a planned 12-year life-of-mine, the FM Project is expected to produce over 78,000 tons of copper over this time, contributing to both local and national economic growth. However, Orion's vision extends beyond mining—the company is committed to responsible development that supports local communities, respects the environment, and fosters long-term sustainability.

Commitment to local employment & skills development

Orion will prioritise local employment, with an aspirational target of at least 50% of job opportunities going to people from the Nama Khoi Local Municipality (NKLM). By offering training programs and skills development, the project aims to create lasting employment that extends beyond the life of the mine. Instead of building new accommodation, the FM Project will rely on existing housing in Nababeep, Okiep, Carolusberg, and Springbok, ensuring that workers remain part of their communities.

The project will provide significant employment opportunities for local residents at different stages of development, with the anticipated maximum employment figure for Flat Mines expected to reach 300 employees. Orion is committed to working towards aspirational targets, once fully operational, of at least 50% employment, 40% contracting, and 30% procurement opportunities for the Nama Khoi host communities.

Infrastructure & community investment

The project will contribute to improving local infrastructure, including assisting the Nama Khoi Local Municipality with the refurbishment of the Nababeep Wastewater Treatment Works (WWTW). This initiative will not only ensure a reliable water supply for the mine but will also address long-standing environmental concerns, benefitting the entire community.

Additionally, Orion has chosen to source electricity through NKLM, which will benefit the project in terms of the early availability of construction power from the grid with savings in capital requirements. The NKLM will see increased revenue and profits from electricity

sales contributing to the financial health of the NKLM, while in the longer term options for renewable energy supply will be explored.

Safety & environmental responsibility

The health and safety of employees and the broader community is a core priority. The Mine Safety Management System (MSMS) will ensure a safe working environment, with trained safety officers and emergency services in place before mining activities begin. Orion is also committed to minimising the environmental impact of the project by repurposing previously disturbed areas for infrastructure development and improving local water management.

Looking ahead

The Flat Mines Project will be a modest scale starter project that will operate while additional exploration drilling on surrounding deposits will be undertaken. The Flat Mines concentrator plant, and mine infrastructure will become the core of growth and expansion plans in the district, with the aspiration of eventually treating ore trucked from multiple satellite deposits and restoring production to historic levels.

Through ongoing community engagement, investment in local infrastructure, and a strong commitment to responsible mining, the FM Project is set to become the first step in delivering long-term benefits for the Nama Khoi area and its people. Orion remains dedicated to working alongside community members, ensuring that the opportunities created by this project extend far beyond the mine itself.

