



DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
& DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Provincial Government of the Western Cape

BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT
(DECEMBER 2014)

Basic Assessment Report in terms of the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment
Regulations, 2014

DECEMBER 2014

Kindly note that:

1. This **Basic Assessment Report** is the standard report required by DEA&DP in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 and must be completed for all Basic Assessment applications.
2. This report must be used in all instances for Basic Assessment applications for an environmental authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), as amended, and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, and/or a waste management licence in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008) (NEM: WA), and/or an atmospheric emission licence in terms of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004) (NEM: AQA).
3. This report is current as of December 2014. It is the responsibility of the Applicant / EAP to ascertain whether subsequent versions of the report have been published or produced by the competent authority.
4. The required information must be typed within the spaces provided in the report. The sizes of the spaces provided are not necessarily indicative of the amount of information to be provided. It is in the form of a table that will expand as each space is filled with typing.
5. Incomplete reports will be rejected. A rejected report may be amended and resubmitted.
6. The use of "not applicable" in the report must be done with circumspection. Where it is used in respect of material information that is required by the Department for assessing the application, this may result in the rejection of the report as provided for in the regulations.
7. **While the different sections of the report only provide space for provision of information related to one alternative, if more than one feasible and reasonable alternative is considered, the relevant section must be copied and completed for each alternative.**
8. Unless protected by law all information contained in, and attached to this report, will become public information on receipt by the competent authority. If information is not submitted with this report due to such information being protected by law, the applicant and/or EAP must declare such non-disclosure and provide the reasons for the belief that the information is protected.
9. This report must be submitted to the Department at the postal address given below or by delivery thereof to the Registry Office of the Department. No faxed or e-mailed reports will be accepted. **Please note that for waste management licence applications, this report must be submitted for the attention of the Department's Waste Management Directorate (tel: 021-483-2756 and fax: 021-483-4425) at the same postal address as the Cape Town Office Region A.**
10. Unless indicated otherwise, two electronic copies (CD/DVD) and three hard copies of this report must be submitted to the Department.

DEPARTMENTAL DETAILS

CAPE TOWN OFFICE REGION A (Cape Winelands, City of Cape Town: Tygerberg and Oostenberg Administrations)	CAPE TOWN OFFICE REGION B (West Coast, Overberg, City of Cape Town: Helderberg, South Peninsula, Cape Town and Blaauwberg Administrations)	GEORGE OFFICE (Eden and Central Karoo)
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning Attention: Directorate: Integrated Environmental Management (Region A2) Private Bag X 9086 Cape Town, 8000 Registry Office 1 st Floor Utilitas Building 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town Queries should be directed to the Directorate: Integrated Environmental Management (Region A2) at: Tel: (021) 483-4793 Fax: (021) 483-3633	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning Attention: Directorate: Integrated Environmental Management (Region B) Private Bag X 9086 Cape Town, 8000 Registry Office 1 st Floor Utilitas Building 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town Queries should be directed to the Directorate: Integrated Environmental Management (Region B) at: Tel: (021) 483-4094 Fax: (021) 483-4372	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning Attention: Directorate: Integrated Environmental Management (Region A1) Private Bag X 6509 George, 6530 Registry Office 4 th Floor, York Park Building 93 York Street George Queries should be directed to the Directorate: Integrated Environmental Management (Region A1) at: Tel: (044) 805 8600 Fax: (044) 874-2423

View the Department's website at <http://www.capegateway.gov.za/eadp> for the latest version of this document.

DEPARTMENTAL REFERENCE NUMBER(S)

File reference number (EIA):	
File reference number (Waste):	
File reference number (Other):	

PROJECT TITLE
**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A 25M HIGH TELECOMMUNICATIONS MAST AND
BASE STATION ON FARM NO. 387/25, STELLENBOSCH HILLS, VLOTTENBURG,
WESTERN CAPE**
DETAILS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (EAP)

Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP):	EnviroAfrica CC		
Contact person:	Emile Esquire/ Bernard de Witt		
Postal address:	PO Box 5367		
	Helderberg	Postal code:	7135
Telephone:	021 851 1616	Cell:	
E-mail:	emile@enviroafrica.co.za	Fax:	086 512 0154
EAP Qualifications	Emile Esquire: BA (Geography and Environmental Studies); EIA Short Course (UP). Bernard de Witt: B.Sc. Forestry (Stellenbosch); B.A. (Hons) Public Administration (Stellenbosch); National Diploma in Parks and Recreation Management; EIA Short course (UCT); ISO 14001 Auditors course (SABS)		
EAP Registrations/Associations	Bernard de Witt: AIAI-SA		

Details of the EAP's expertise to carry out Basic Assessment procedures

Emile Esquire - BA Degree Majors in Geography and Environmental Studies (UWC) and EIA Short course (UP).

Emile Esquire has more than three and half years' experience in the administration and evaluation of Section 24G Rectification Applications at the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning ("DEA&DP"). Part of his duties included the drafting of fine notifications; drafting Environmental Authorisations ("EAs"); and conducting compliance with the conditions of the EAs issued. Emile Esquire recently started working at EnviroAfrica CC as an Environmental Assessment Practitioner and is working on variety of projects in the Western Cape and Northern Cape.

Bernard de Witt – B.Sc. Forestry (Stellenbosch); B.A. (Hons) Public Administration (Stellenbosch); National Diploma in Parks and Recreation Management; EIA Short course (UCT); ISO 14001 Auditors course (SABS).

Indigenous forest planner for Department of Forestry, later manager of Table Mountain Reserve. Joined Cape Nature Conservation as a regional ecologist, eventually becoming part of a team evaluating development applications for Cape Nature (Now the function of DEA&DP). More than 14yrs experience as an EAP in the private sector.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE CONTENT OF THE BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT:Proposed Activity

The proposed 25m high telecommunications mast and base station will be located on Farm No. 387/25, Stellenbosch Hills, Vloottenburg, Stellenbosch.

The property is being used for agricultural purposes (wine cellar). The proposed site is on a flat surface area with no natural vegetation on site (kikuyu grass), and situated outside the urban area. The proposed telecommunications mast will be a monopole mast.

No new roads will be constructed as an existing access road will be utilised to gain access to the proposed site. The total area of land to be cleared is 56m² to erect a 25m high monopole mast with antennas situated on the top of the proposed structure. The base station will include an equipment room to house the operator equipment and generator. The proposed site is located adjacent to Vloottenburg Road, at the north-western corner of the property. No new roads will be constructed as an existing access road will be utilised to gain access to the proposed site. The mast's base station will be closed with a fence (please see Appendix B).

The site co-ordinates are **33° 57' 35.18"S, 18° 48' 0.12"E**.

Environmental Requirements

The National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act 107 of 1998), as amended, makes provision for the identification and assessment of activities that are potentially detrimental to the environment and which require authorisation from the

competent authority based on the findings of an Environmental Assessment. NEMA is a national act, which is enforced by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA). In the Western Cape, these powers are delegated to the Department of Environmental Affairs & Development Planning (DEA&DP).

According to the regulations of Section 24(5) of NEMA, authorisation is required for the following:

Government Notice R324 (Listing Notice 3):

Activity No. 3: *"The development of masts or towers of any material or type used for telecommunication broadcasting or radio transmission purposes where the mast or tower-*

(a) is to be placed on a site not previously used for this purpose; and

(b) will exceed 15 metres in height-

but excluding attachments to existing buildings and masts on rooftops".

i. Western Cape:

"i. **All areas outside urban areas;**

ii. Areas designated for conservation use in Spatial Development Frameworks adopted by the competent authority, or zoned for a conservation purpose, within urban areas; or

iii. Areas zoned for use as public open space or equivalent zoning within urban areas".

Site Description

The site (property) is being used for agricultural purposes (wine cellar). The proposed site is on a flat surface area with no natural vegetation on site (kikuyu grass), and situated outside the urban area. The proposed telecommunications mast will be a monopole mast. No new roads will be constructed as an existing access road will be utilised to gain access to the proposed site. The total area of land to be cleared is 56m² to erect a 25m high monopole mast with antennas situated on the top of the proposed structure. The base station will include equipment rooms to house the operator equipment and generator. The proposed site is located adjacent to Vlotenburg Road, at the north-western corner of the property. Please refer to **Appendix A** for the locality map as well as **Appendix B** (site plans) and **Appendix C** for photographs of the site.

Civil and Electrical Services

Electricity will be sourced from the land owner. The Proposed development of a telecommunication mast will not produce waste or use water during its operational phase.

Access

Access will be gained from Vlotenburg Road (see **Appendix B**). No new roads will be constructed.

Conclusion

The proposed 25m high telecommunication mast will allow for multiple service providers to attach and house their equipment (antennas) on the mast, decreasing the need for additional communications masts to be erected in the area. The benefits of telecommunications services in modern society are potentially limitless. The proposed activity will increase the coverage of these telecommunications services, including providing a more reliable and wider coverage. The activity would create a more efficient telecommunications service, considered essential to the business and private sector. The data capabilities provided by the proposed mast are also important in business, education and for the public, and has thus become paramount for social and economic development.

The construction of the telecommunications mast is therefore considered as part of the essential services for the greater community. The proposed communications mast is not expected to have any adverse effects on people's health and well-being. It is also not expected to produce any noise or odours during the operational phase. Some noise can be expected during the construction phase, but this will be temporary and the impact is expected to be negligible.

Due to the design and location of the proposed communications mast, the activity is expected to have a low impact on the visual character of the area.

No sensitive biodiversity features, no Critical Biodiversity Areas ("CBAs") or Ecological Support Areas ("ESAs"), and no populations of threatened plant or animal species were observed on site. The proposed site has no natural vegetation. However, according to the SANBI BGIS website (National Vegetation Map 2012 beta2), the site is in an area that would historically have had Swartland Granite Renosterveld (critically endangered). No cultural or historical aspects were identified on the site. Any potential negative impacts during the construction phase are expected to be adequately mitigated through the implementation of the Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr") and the appointment of an

Environmental Control Officer ("ECO") during the construction phase.

Considering all the information, it is not envisaged that this proposed development will have a negative impact on the environment.

It is therefore recommended that this application be authorised with the necessary conditions of approval as described throughout this BAR.

SECTION A: ACTIVITY INFORMATION

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

(a) Is the project a new development?

The activity is for the development of a 25m high telecommunications mast and base station on Farm No. 387/25, Stellenbosch Hills, Vlotenburg, Stellenbosch.

YES

NO

(b) Provide a detailed description of the development project and associated infrastructure.

An Eagles Towers SA Pty (Ltd) telecommunications mast, including associated infrastructure, is proposed on Farm No. 387/25, Stellenbosch Hills, Vlotenburg, Stellenbosch. The proposed mast will be a monopole mast, and will be 25m in height. The site will also consist of four equipment rooms to house the operator equipment and generator.

The proposed 25m high telecommunications mast and base station will be located on on Farm No. 387/25, Stellenbosch Hills, Vlotenburg, Stellenbosch. The site (property) is being used for agricultural purposes (wine cellar). The proposed site is on a flat surface area with no natural vegetation on site (kikuyu grass), and situated outside the urban area. The proposed telecommunications mast will be a monopole mast. No new roads will be constructed as an existing access road will be utilised to gain access to the proposed site. The total area of land to be cleared is 56m² to erect a 25m high monopole mast with antennas situated on the top of the proposed structure. The base station will include equipment rooms to house the operator equipment and generator. No watercourses are present on the site or within 32m of the site. The proposed site is located adjacent to Vlotenburg Road, at the north-western corner of the property. Electricity supply and access to the site exists. The mast's base station will be closed with a fence. The site co-ordinates are **33° 57' 35.18"S, 18° 48' 0.12"E**.

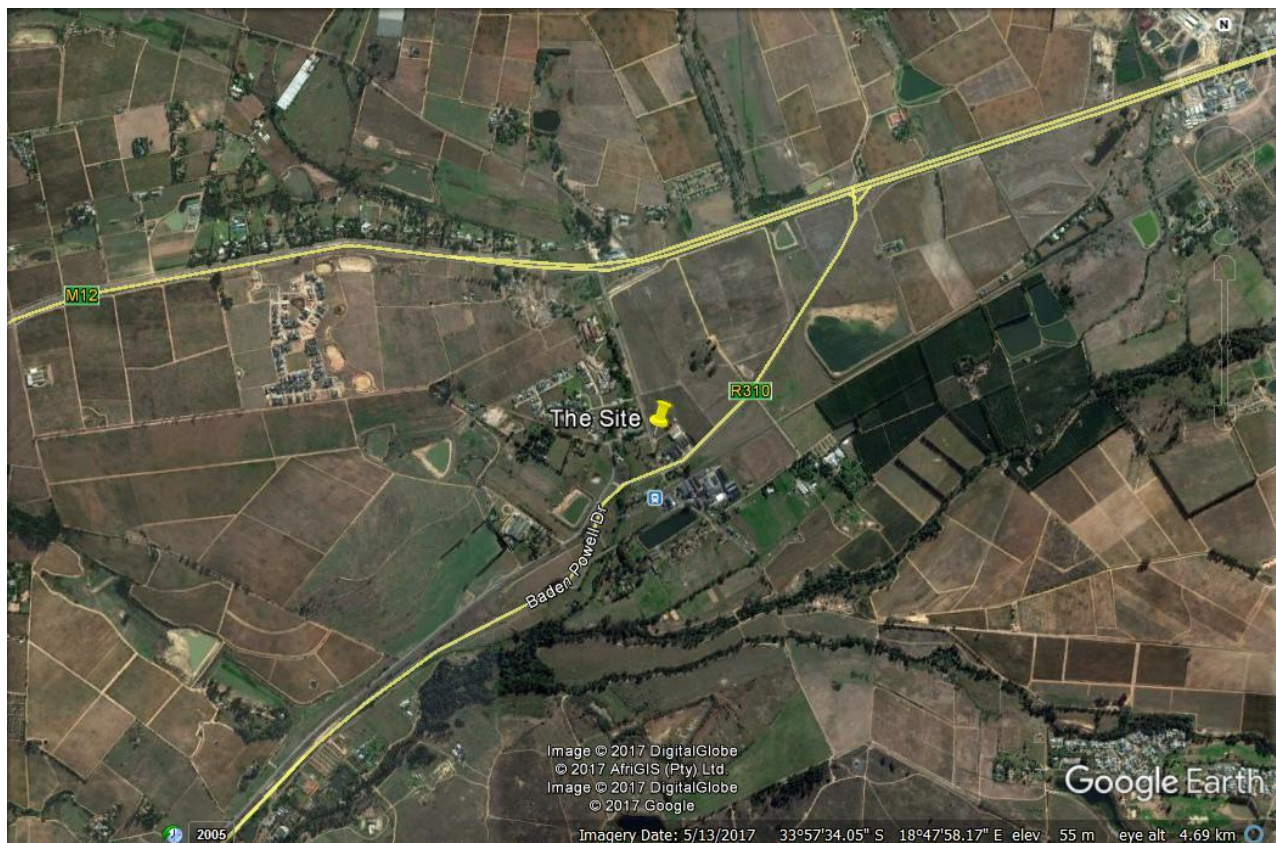


Figure 1: Google Earth view of the site. The approximate location of the proposed site is indicated by the yellow placemark.



Figure 2: Google Earth aerial view of the proposed site and the surrounding land uses (yellow placemarks).



Figure 3: Aerial view of the position of the proposed site.

(c) List all the activities assessed during the Basic Assessment process:

Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 1 (GN No. R. 327)	Describe the portion of the development as per the project description that relates to the applicable listed activity.
N/A		
Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant Scoping and EIR Activity(ies)	Describe the portion of the development as per the

	as set out in Listing Notice 2 (GN No. R. 325)	project description that relates to the applicable listed activity.
N/A		
Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 3 (GN No. R. 324)	Describe the portion of the development as per the project description that relates to the applicable listed activity.
3	<p><i>"The development of masts or towers of any material or type used for telecommunication broadcasting or radio transmission purposes where the mast or tower-</i> <i>(a) is to be placed on a site not previously used for this purpose; and</i> <i>(b) will exceed 15 metres in height-</i></p> <p><i>but excluding attachments to existing buildings and masts on rooftops".</i></p> <p><u>i. Western Cape:</u> <i>"i. All areas outside urban areas;</i> <i>ii. Areas designated for conservation use in Spatial Development Frameworks adopted by the competent authority, or zoned for a conservation purpose, within urban areas; or</i> <i>iii. Areas zoned for use as public open space or equivalent zoning within urban areas".</i></p>	<p>The development of masts or towers of any material or type used for telecommunication broadcasting.</p> <p>The mast will exceed 15m in height; it will be a 25m high monopole mast and is located outside of the urban area.</p>

Waste management activities in terms of the NEM: WA (Government Gazette No. 32368):

GN No. 718 - Category A Activity No(s):	Describe the relevant <u>Category A</u> waste management activity in writing.
N/A	

Please note: If any waste management activities are applicable, the **Listed Waste Management Activities Additional Information Annexure** must be completed and attached to this Basic Assessment Report as **Appendix I**.

If the application is also for waste management activities as per Category B and permission was granted to subject the application to Basic Assessment, also indicate the applicable Category B activities:

GN No. 718 – Category B Activity No(s):	Describe the relevant <u>Category B</u> waste management activity in writing.
N/A	

Atmospheric emission activities in terms of the NEM: AQA (Government Gazette No. 33064):

GN No. 248 Activity No(s):	Describe the relevant atmospheric emission activity in writing.
N/A	

(d) Please provide details of all components of the proposed project and attach diagrams (e.g. architectural drawings or perspectives, engineering drawings, process flow charts etc.).

Buildings	YES	NO
Provide brief description:		
The mast's base station will be closed with a steel palisade fence for safety and security reasons. Please refer to Appendix B for details.		
Infrastructure (e.g. roads, power and water supply/ storage)	YES	NO
Provide brief description:		
The mast's base station will be closed with a steel palisade fence for safety and security reasons. Please refer to Appendix B for details.		
Processing activities (e.g. manufacturing, storage, distribution)	YES	NO

Provide brief description:		
N/A		
Storage facilities for raw materials and products (e.g. volume and substances to be stored)		
Provide brief description	YES	NO
N/A		
Storage and treatment facilities for solid waste and effluent generated by the project	Yes	No
Provide brief description		
N/A - No permanent toilets will be on site. During the construction phase, a chemical toilet will be placed on site and removed once the construction is completed.		

Other activities (e.g. water abstraction activities, crop planting activities)	Yes	No
Provide brief description		
N/A		

2. PHYSICAL SIZE OF THE ACTIVITY

	Size of the property:
(a) Indicate the size of the property (cadastral unit) on which the activity is to be undertaken.	18 900m ²
	Size of the facility:
(b) Indicate the size of the facility (development area) on which the activity is to be undertaken.	Approximately 56m ²
	Size of the activity:
(c) Indicate the physical size (footprint) of the activity together with its associated infrastructure:	Approximately 56m ²
(d) Indicate the physical size (footprint) of the activity:	Approximately 56m ²
(e) Indicate the physical size (footprint) of the associated infrastructure:	Approximately 56m ²

and, for linear activities:

	Length of the activity:
(f) Indicate the length of the activity:	N/A

3. SITE ACCESS

(a) Is there an existing access road?	YES	NO
(b) If no, what is the distance over which a new access road will be built?	m	

(c) Describe the type of access road planned:

The proposed site is located immediately north of Vlottenburg Road. Access will be gained from Vlottenburg Road, thus no need for the construction of a new road.

Please Note: indicate the position of the proposed access road on the site plan.

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY ON WHICH THE ACTIVITY IS TO BE UNDERTAKEN AND THE LOCATION OF THE ACTIVITY ON THE PROPERTY

(a) Provide a description of the property on which the activity is to be undertaken and the location of the activity on the property.

The property is zoned agriculture. However, the proposed site is not within 32m of any watercourse, dam or any surface water resources. The proposed site is located on the north-western side of the property. There is no natural or indigenous vegetation present on the proposed site and it is transformed from its original state. The neighbouring properties directly adjacent to the site are of mixed use. The property is surrounded by wine cellars and Vlottenburg Tennis Club is situated to the west of the proposed site. The proposed site will be situated next to Vlottenburg Road. In addition, a private hotel school is to the north of the site, along Vlottenburg Road. Vlottenburg Railway station is approximately 280m south of the site. The R310 (Baden Powell Drive) is approximately 150m south of the site, and a few guest houses are situated to the north of the site. The Vineyard Christian Community Church is approximately 124m south of the proposed site. Please see figures 1 – 3 above. Please refer to **Appendix A** for the locality map, **Appendix B** for the site plans and **Appendix C** for photographs of the site.

- (b) Please provide a location map (see below) as **Appendix A** to this report which shows the location of the property and the location of the activity on the property; as well as a site map (see below) as **Appendix B** to this report; and if applicable all alternative properties and locations.

Locality map:	<p>The scale of the locality map must be at least 1:50 000. For linear activities of more than 25 kilometres, a smaller scale e.g. 1:250 000 can be used. The scale must be indicated on the map. The map must indicate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an accurate indication of the project site position as well as the positions of the alternative sites, if any; • road names or numbers of all the major roads as well as the roads that provide access to the site(s) • a north arrow; • a legend; • the prevailing wind direction (during November to April and during May to October); and • GPS co-ordinates (Indicate the position of the activity using the latitude and longitude of the centre point of the site for each alternative site. The co-ordinates should be in degrees and decimal minutes. The minutes should have at least three decimals to ensure adequate accuracy. The projection that must be used in all cases is the WGS84 spheroid in a national or local projection).
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Site Plan:	<p>Detailed site plan(s) must be prepared for each alternative site or alternative activity. The site plan must contain or conform to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The detailed site plan must be at a scale preferably at a scale of 1:500 or at an appropriate scale. The scale must be indicated on the plan. • The property boundaries and numbers of all the properties within 50m of the site must be indicated on the site plan. • The current land use (not zoning) as well as the land use zoning of each of the adjoining properties must be indicated on the site plan. • The position of each element of the application as well as any other structures on the site must be indicated on the site plan. • Services, including electricity supply cables (indicate above or underground), water supply pipelines, boreholes, sewage pipelines, storm water infrastructure and access roads that will form part of the development must be indicated on the site plan. • Servitudes indicating the purpose of the servitude must be indicated on the site plan. • Sensitive environmental elements within 100m of the site must be included on the site plan, including (but not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rivers. ○ Flood lines (i.e. 1:10, 1:50, year and 32 meter set back line from the banks of a river/stream). ○ Ridges. ○ Cultural and historical features. ○ Areas with indigenous vegetation (even if it is degraded or infested with alien species). • Whenever the slope of the site exceeds 1:10, then a contour map of the site must be submitted.
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- (c) For a linear activity, please also provide a description of the route.

N/A

Indicate the position of the activity using the latitude and longitude of the centre point of the site. The co-ordinates must be in degrees, minutes and seconds. The minutes should be given to at least three decimals to ensure adequate accuracy. The projection that must be used in all cases is the WGS84 spheroid in a national or local projection.	Latitude (S):			Longitude (E):		
	33°	57'	35.18"	18°	48'	0.12"

- (d) or:

For linear activities: N/A	Latitude (S):			Longitude (E):		
• Starting point of the activity	°	'	"	°	'	"
• Middle point of the activity	°	'	"	°	'	"
• End point of the activity	°	'	"	°	'	"

Please Note: For linear activities that are longer than 500m, please provide an addendum with co-ordinates taken every 100 meters along the route.

5. SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Colour photographs of the site and its surroundings (taken of the site and from the site) with a description of each photograph. The vantage points from which the photographs were taken must be indicated on the site plan, or locality plan as applicable. If available, please also provide a recent aerial photograph. Photographs must be attached as **Appendix C** to this report. It should be supplemented with additional photographs of relevant features on the site. Date of photographs must be included. Please note that the above requirements must be duplicated for all alternative sites.

SECTION B: DESCRIPTION OF RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

Site/Area Description

For linear activities (pipelines, etc.) as well as activities that cover very large sites, it may be necessary to complete copies of this section for each part of the site that has a significantly different environment. In such cases please complete copies of Section B and indicate the area which is covered by each copy No. on the Site Plan.

1. GRADIENT OF THE SITE

Indicate the general gradient of the sites (highlight the appropriate box).

Flat	Flatter than 1:10	1:10 – 1:4	Steeper than 1:4
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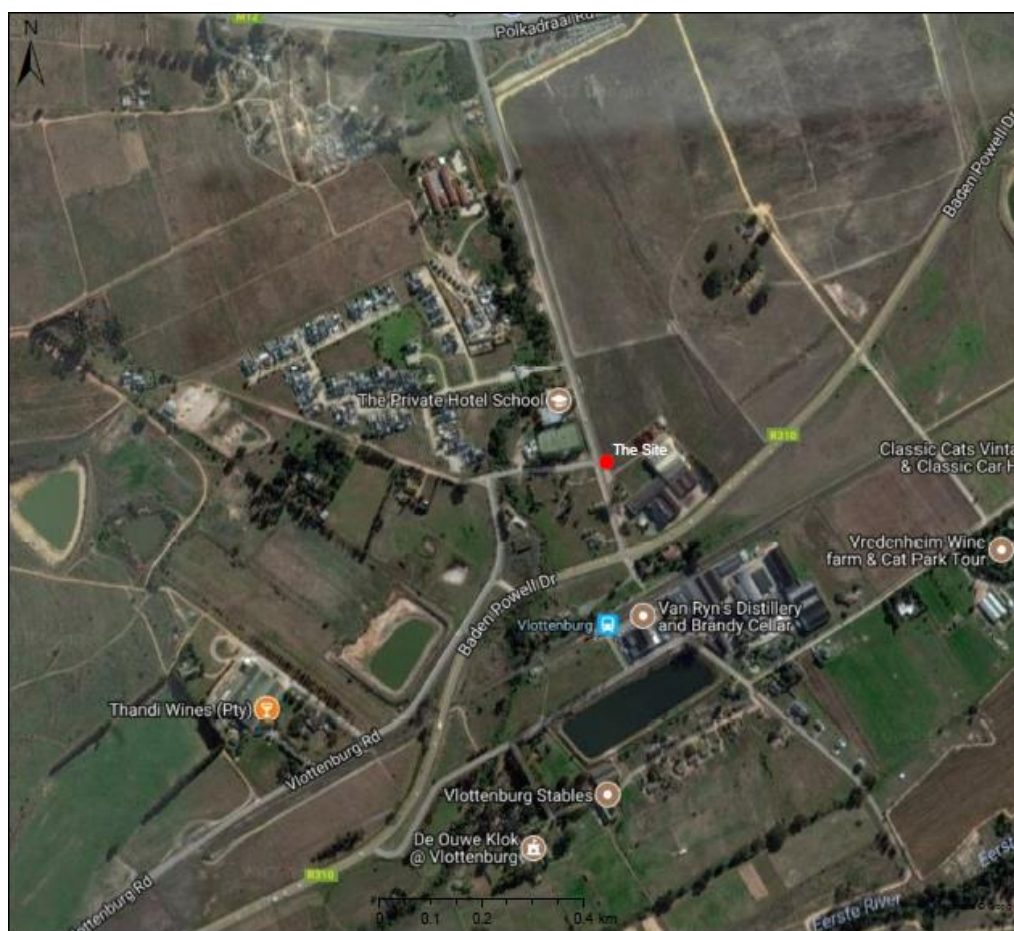
2. LOCATION IN LANDSCAPE

(a) Indicate the landform(s) that best describes the site (highlight the appropriate box(es)).

Ridgeline	Plateau	Side-slope-of hill/mountain	Closed valley	Open valley	Plain	Undulating plain/low hills	Dune	Sea-front
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(b) Please provide a description of the location in the landscape.

The proposed site is located on the north-western side of the property. The neighbouring properties directly adjacent to the site are of mixed use. The property is surrounded by wine cellars and Vlotenburg Tennis Club is situated to the west of the proposed site. The proposed site will be situated immediately north of Vlotenburg Road. In addition, a private hotel school is to the northwest of the site, along Vlotenburg Road. Vlotenburg Railway station is approximately 280m south of the site. The R310 (Baden Powell Drive) is approximately 150m south of the site, and a few guest houses are situated to the north of the site. The Vineyard Christian Community Church is approximately 124m south of the proposed site.



CFM aerial view of the site (red dot) and the

Scale: 1:9 028
Date created: November 8, 2017



Figure 4: CFM aerial view of the site (red dot) and the surrounding landscape.

3. GROUNDWATER, SOIL AND GEOLOGICAL STABILITY OF THE SITE

(a) Is the site(s) located on or near any of the following (highlight the appropriate boxes)?

Shallow water table (less than 1.5m deep)	YES	NO	UNSURE
Seasonally wet soils (often close to water bodies)	YES	NO	UNSURE
Unstable rocky slopes or steep slopes with loose soil	YES	NO	UNSURE
Dispersive soils (soils that dissolve in water)	YES	NO	UNSURE
Soils with high clay content	YES	NO	UNSURE
Any other unstable soil or geological feature	YES	NO	UNSURE
An area sensitive to erosion	YES	NO	UNSURE
An area adjacent to or above an aquifer.	YES	NO	UNSURE
An area within 100m of the source of surface water	YES	NO	UNSURE

(b) If any of the answers to the above are "YES" or "unsure", specialist input may be requested by the Department.
(Information in respect of the above will often be available at the planning sections of local authorities. Where it exists, the 1:50 000 scale Regional Geotechnical Maps prepared by Geological Survey may also be used).

(c) Please indicate the type of geological formation underlying the site.



Granite	Shale	Sandstone	Quartzite	Dolomite	Dolorite	Other (describe)
Please provide a description.						
<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p>Geological formation underlying the site</p> <p>Legend</p> <p>Broad Soils Classification (ENPAT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glenrosa and/or Mispah forms (other soils may occur) Grey regic sands Miscellaneous land classes, rocky Plinthic catena Prismautanic and/or pedocutanic diagnostic horizons dominant Red-yellow apedal, freely drained soils Soils with a diagnostic ferruginous horizon Vertic, melanic, red structured diagnostic horizons, undifferentiated <p>Scale: 1:9 028</p> <p>Date created: November 8, 2017</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p>Western Cape Government</p> <p>Agriculture</p> </div> </div> </div> </div>						

Figure 5: Not identified, however, it is unlikely that the underlying geology will impact on the construction of a telecommunication mast on the site.

4. SURFACE WATER

(a) Indicate the surface water present on and or adjacent to the site and alternative sites (highlight the appropriate boxes)?

Perennial River	YES	NO	UNSURE
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Non-Perennial River	YES	NO	UNSURE
Permanent Wetland	YES	NO	UNSURE
Seasonal Wetland	YES	NO	UNSURE
Artificial Wetland	YES	NO	UNSURE
Estuarine / Lagoonal wetland	YES	NO	UNSURE

(b) Please provide a description.

There is no watercourse on the site or within 32m of the proposed site. Eerste River watercourse is approximately 820m south of the site. Please see figure 6 below.

There is no natural surface water present on the site. According to the NFEPA maps, Eerste River watercourse is approximately 820m south of the site. The proposed activity is not expected to have any impacts on any surface water resources. Please see figure 6 below.

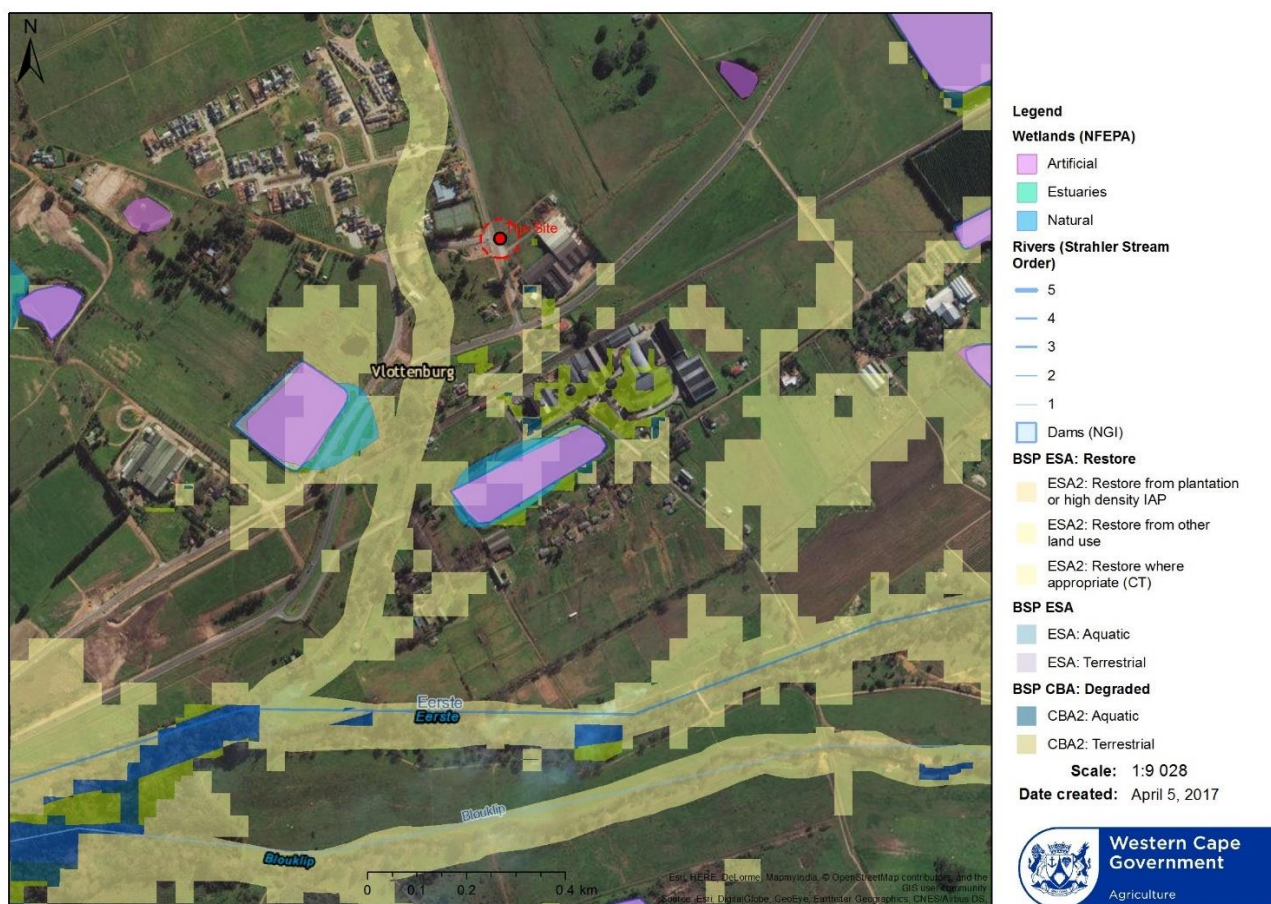


Figure 6: CFM NFEPA Map: The proposed site (red dot) is not located within 32m of any surface water resource.

5. BIODIVERSITY

Please note: The Department may request specialist input/studies depending on the nature of the biodiversity occurring on the site and potential impact(s) of the proposed activity/ies. To assist with the identification of the biodiversity occurring on site and the ecosystem status consult <http://bgis.sanbi.org> or BGIShelp@sanbi.org. Information is also available on compact disc (cd) from the Biodiversity-GIS Unit, Ph (021) 799 8698. This information may be updated from time to time and it is the applicant/ EAP's responsibility to ensure that the latest version is used. A map of the relevant biodiversity information (including an indication of the habitat conditions as per (b) below) and must be provided as an overlay map to the property/site plan as **Appendix D** to this report.

(a) Highlight the applicable biodiversity planning categories of all areas on site and indicate the reason(s) provided in the biodiversity plan for the selection of the specific area as part of the specific category).

Systematic Biodiversity Planning Category	If CBA or ESA, indicate the reason(s) for its selection in biodiversity plan
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Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA)	Ecological Support Area (ESA)	Other Natural Area (ONA)	No Natural Area Remaining (NNR)	No CBAs or ESAs have been identified on the site (see figures 6).
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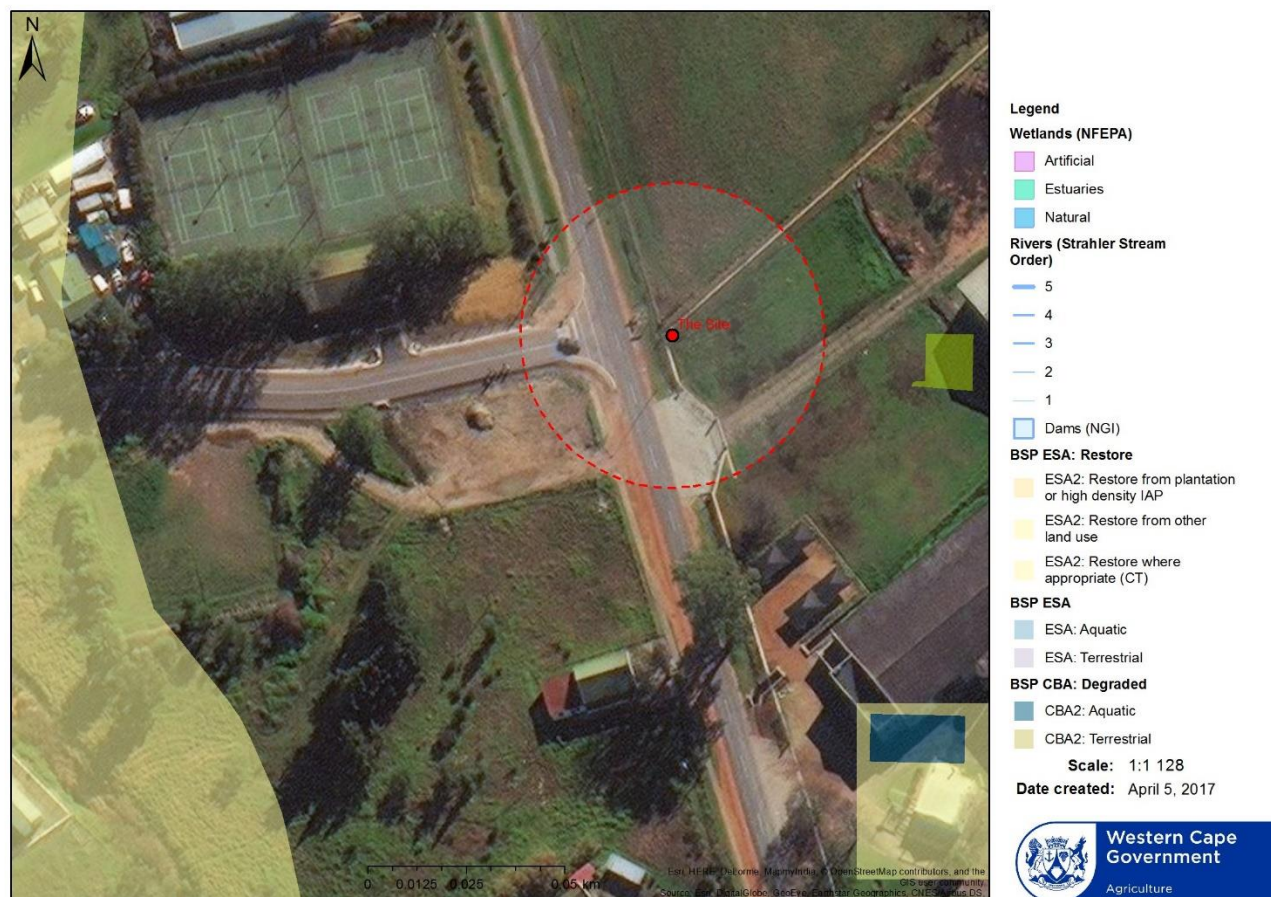


Figure 7: Biodiversity Overlay Map of the property showing that the site does not fall within a CBA or ESA area.

(b) Highlight and describe the habitat condition on site.

Habitat Condition	Percentage of habitat condition class (adding up to 100%)	Description and additional Comments and Observations (including additional insight into condition, e.g. poor land management practises, presence of quarries, grazing/harvesting regimes etc).
Natural	%	
Near Natural (includes areas with low to moderate level of alien invasive plants)	%	
Degraded (includes areas heavily invaded by alien plants)	%	
Transformed (includes cultivation, dams, urban, plantation, roads, etc)	100%	The site is currently completely transformed and disturbed due to past agricultural development activities and has no natural vegetation present. The proposed development will not be located within a CBA or ESA. Please refer to Appendix C for site photographs.

(c) Complete the table to indicate:

- (i) the type of vegetation, including its ecosystem status, present on the site; and
(ii) whether an aquatic ecosystem is present on site.

Terrestrial Ecosystems		Aquatic Ecosystems		
Ecosystem threat status as per the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act	Critical	Wetland (including rivers, depressions, channelled and unchannelled	Estuary	Coastline
	Endangered			

No. 10 of 2004) Swartland Granite Renosterveld (Critically endangered).	Vulnerable	wetlands, flats, seeps pans, and artificial wetlands)						
	Least Threatened	YES	NO	UNSURE	YES	NO	YES	NO

- (d) Please provide a description of the vegetation type and/or aquatic ecosystem present on site, including any important biodiversity features/information identified on site (e.g. threatened species and special habitats)

The site would historically have contained Swartland Granite Renosterveld. This vegetation type is classified as *Critically Endangered* in terms of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act ("NEMBA"). However, the site has been completely transformed due to past agricultural development activities. There is no natural vegetation present on site. There are also no aquatic ecosystems on site.

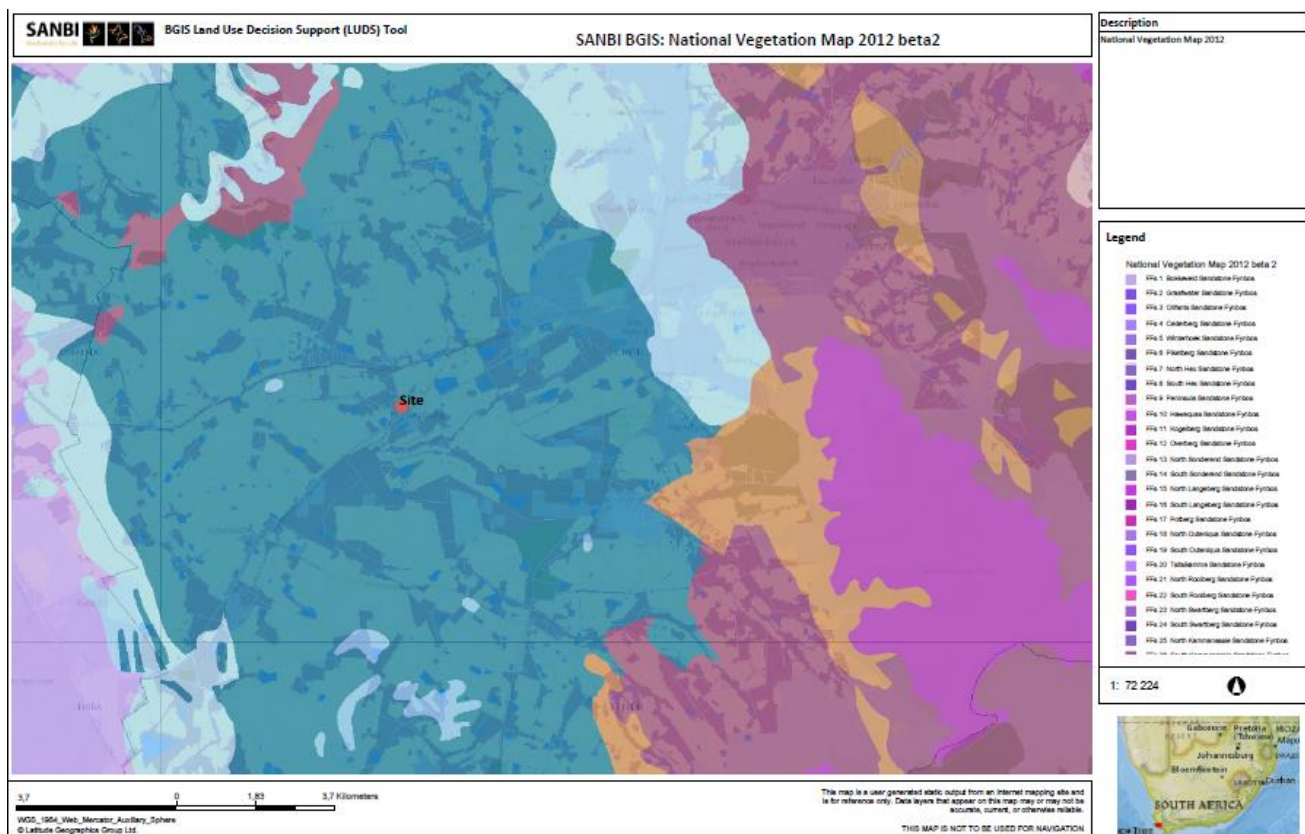


Figure 8: SANBI BGIS National Vegetation Map - The site (red dot) would historically have contained Swartland Granite Renosterveld (critically endangered).

6. LAND USE OF THE SITE

Please note: The Department may request specialist input/studies depending on the nature of the land use character of the area and potential impact(s) of the proposed activity/ies.

Untransformed area	Low density residential	Medium density residential	High density residential	Informal residential
Retail	Commercial & warehousing	Light industrial	Medium industrial	Heavy industrial
Power station	Office/consulting room	Military or police base/station/compound	Casino/entertainment complex	Tourism & Hospitality facility
Open cast mine	Underground mine	Spoil heap or slimes dam	Quarry, sand or borrow pit	Dam or reservoir
Hospital/medical center	School	Tertiary education facility	Church	Old age home
Sewage treatment plant	Train station or shunting yard	Railway line	Major road (4 lanes or more)	Airport
Harbour	Sport facilities	Golf course	Polo fields	Filling station
Landfill or waste treatment site	Plantation	Agriculture	River, stream or wetland	Nature conservation area
Mountain, koppie or ridge	Museum	Historical building	Graveyard	Archeological site
Other land uses (describe):	Agriculture Zoned			

(a) Please provide a description.

The property is zoned agriculture and situated outside of the urban area. The adjacent properties north, south, west and east of the site has vineyards.

7. LAND USE CHARACTER OF SURROUNDING AREA

(a) Highlight the current land uses and/or prominent features that occur within +/- 500m radius of the site and neighbouring properties if these are located beyond 500m of the site.

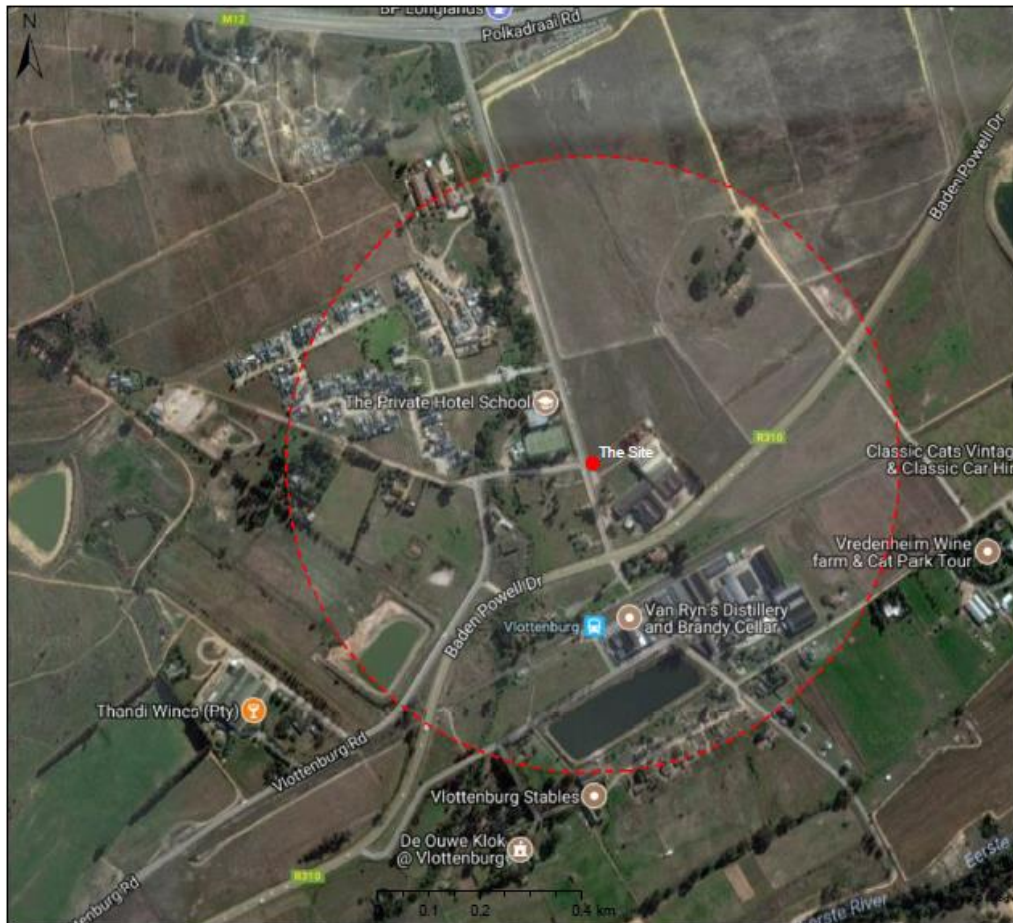
Please note: The Department may request specialist input/studies depending on the nature of the land use character of the area and potential impact(s) of the proposed activity/ies.

Untransformed area	Low density residential	Medium density residential	High density residential	Informal residential
Retail	Commercial & warehousing	Light industrial	Medium industrial	Heavy industrial
Power station	Office/consulting room	Military or police base/station/compound	Casino/entertainment complex	Tourism & Hospitality facility
Open cast mine	Underground mine	Spoil heap or slimes dam	Quarry, sand or borrow pit	Dam or reservoir
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Sewage treatment plant	Train station or shunting yard	Railway line	Major road (4 lanes or more)	Airport
Harbour	Sport facilities	Golf course	Polo fields	Filling station
Landfill or waste treatment site	Plantation	Agriculture	River, stream or wetland	Nature conservation area
Mountain, koppie or ridge	Museum	Historical building	Graveyard	Archeological site
Other land uses (describe):				

(b) Please provide a description, including the distance and direction to the nearest residential area and industrial area.

The nearest Industrial area is located approximately 240m southeast of the proposed site and Digteby Estate is the nearest residential area. Digteby Estate is located approximately 180m northwest of the proposed site.

The proposed site is located on the north-western side of the property. The neighbouring properties directly adjacent to the site are of mixed use. The property is surrounded by wine cellars and Vlotenburg Tennis Club is situated to the west of the proposed site. The proposed site will be situated immediately north of Vlotenburg Road. In addition, a private hotel school is to the northwest of the site, along Vlotenburg Road. Vlotenburg Railway station is approximately 280m south of the site. The R310 (Baden Powell Drive) is approximately 150m south of the site, and a few guest houses are situated to the north of the site. The Vineyard Christian Community Church is approximately 124m south of the proposed site. Van Ryn's Distillery is approximately 230m south of the proposed site. Please see figures 2 & 9.



Land uses within a 500m radius from the

Scale: 1:9 028
Date created: November 8, 2017



Figure 9: Cape Farmer Mapper map showing the land uses within a 500m radius of the proposed site.

8. SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASPECTS

Describe the existing social and economic characteristics of the community in order to provide baseline information.

Vlotenburg is a small agricultural town in the Western Cape. The hamlet of Vlotenburg developed as a small processing node around the Vlotenburg railway station, Van Ryn's Distillery and Vlotenburg Winery. This was followed by the establishment of a school on Vlotenburg Road and an increasing number of farm workers and homeless people reside in the immediate vicinity/area. Vlotenburg functions as a small agricultural settlement and is in an area hard hit by poverty and a lack of housing and basic services. Industrial and potential commercial activities are located near major intersections with the R310 and Vlotenburg train station. A higher income area, Digteby Estate, is also located within Vlotenburg.

9. HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL ASPECTS

- (a) Please be advised that if section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999), is applicable to your proposed development, then you are requested to furnish this Department with written comment from Heritage Western Cape as part of your public participation process. Section 38 of the Act states as follows: "38. (1) Subject to the provisions of subsections (7), (8) and (9), any person who intends to undertake a development categorised as-
- (a) the construction of a road, wall, power line, pipeline, canal or other similar form of linear development or barrier exceeding 300m in length;
 - (b) the construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length;
 - (i) any development or other activity which will change the character of a site-
 - (ii) exceeding 5 000 m² in extent; or

- (iii) involving three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof; or
 - (iii) involving three or more erven or divisions thereof which have been consolidated within the past five years; or
 - (iv) the costs of which will exceed a sum set in terms of regulations by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority;
 - (d) the re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m² in extent; or
 - (e) any other category of development provided for in regulations by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority,
- must at the very earliest stages of initiating such a development, notify the responsible heritage resources authority and furnish it with details regarding the location, nature and extent of the proposed development."
- (b) The impact on any national estate referred to in section 3(2), excluding the national estate contemplated in section 3(2)(i)(vi) and (vii), of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999), must also be investigated, assessed and evaluated. Section 3(2) states as follows: "3(2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), the national estate may include—
- (a) places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance;
 - (b) places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage;
 - (c) historical settlements and townscapes;
 - (d) landscapes and natural features of cultural significance;
 - (e) geological sites of scientific or cultural importance;
 - (f) archaeological and palaeontological sites;
 - (g) graves and burial grounds, including—
 - (i) ancestral graves;
 - (ii) royal graves and graves of traditional leaders;
 - (iii) graves of victims of conflict;
 - (iv) graves of individuals designated by the Minister by notice in the Gazette;
 - (v) historical graves and cemeteries; and
 - (vi) other human remains which are not covered in terms of the Human Tissue Act, 1983 (Act No. 65 of 1983);
 - (h) sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa;
 - (i) movable objects, including—
 - (i) objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa, including archaeological and palaeontological objects and material, meteorites and rare geological specimens;
 - (ii) objects to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage;
 - (iii) ethnographic art and objects;
 - (iv) military objects;
 - (v) objects of decorative or fine art;
 - (vi) objects of scientific or technological interest; and
 - (vii) books, records, documents, photographic positives and negatives, graphic, film or video material or sound recordings, excluding those that are public records as defined in section 1(xiv) of the National Archives of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act No. 43 of 1996)."

Is section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999, applicable to the development?		YES	NO
		UNCERTAIN	
If YES, explain:	N/A		
Will the development impact on any national estate referred to in section 3(2) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999?		YES	NO
		UNCERTAIN	
If YES, explain:	N/A		
Will any building or structure older than 60 years be affected in any way?	YES	NO	UNCERTAIN
If YES, explain:	N/A		

Please Note: If uncertain, the Department may request that specialist input be provided.

10. APPLICABLE LEGISLATION, POLICIES AND/OR GUIDELINES

- (a) Please list all legislation, policies and/or guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of this Basic Assessment Report.

LEGISLATION	ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY	TYPE Permit/ license/ authorisation/comment / relevant consideration (e.g. rezoning or consent use, building plan approval)	DATE (if already obtained):
National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No.	Department of Environmental Affairs and	Environmental Authorisation	The Basic Assessment process (this report) is

107 of 1998) – NEMA EIA Regulations 2014	Development Planning (“DEA&DP”)		currently underway.
Stellenbosch Municipal Land Use Planning By-law, 2015	Stellenbosch Municipality	Permit - Consent use application	Consent use application will be submitted once an Environmental Authorization has been issued.
Telecommunication Mast Infrastructure Policy Draft 2016/17	Stellenbosch Municipality	Comment/ relevant consideration.	

POLICY/ GUIDELINES	ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY
Guidelines on EIA Regulations 2014	DEA&DP
Guidelines on Public Participation 2013	DEA&DP
Guidelines on Need and Desirability 2013	DEA&DP
Guidelines on Alternatives 2013	DEA&DP

(b) Please describe how the legislation, policies and/or guidelines were taken into account in the preparation of this Basic Assessment Report.

LEGISLATION / POLICY / GUIDELINE	DESCRIBE HOW THE LEGISLATION / POLICY / GUIDELINE WERE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT (e.g. describe the extent to which it was adhered to, or deviated from, etc).
DEADP Guidelines	All guidelines were consulted and adhered to when undertaking this Basic Assessment Report.
National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107, 1998).	This application is being undertaken according to the National Environmental Management Act, 1998.

Please note: Copies of any permit(s) or licences received from any other organ of state must be attached this report as **Appendix E**.

SECTION C: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

7.1 Public participation process to be followed

The person conducting the public participation process must fulfil the requirements outlined in Chapter 6 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations and must take into account any applicable guidelines published in terms of Section 24J of NEMA, the Department's Circular EADP 0028/2014 on the “One Environmental Management System” and the EIA Regulations (dated 9 December 2014) as well as any other guidance provided by the Department. Note that the public participation requirements are applicable to all proposed sites.

Please highlight the appropriate box below to indicate the public participation process that has been or will be undertaken to give notice of the application to all potential interested and affected parties, including exemptions that have been/will be applied for:

1. In terms of regulation 41 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 -		
(a) fixing a notice board at a place conspicuous to and accessible by the public at the boundary, on the fence or along the corridor of -		
(i) the site where the activity to which the application relates is or is to be undertaken; and	YES	EXEMPTION
(ii) any alternative site	YES	EXEMPTION
(b) giving written notice, in any manner provided for in section 47D of the NEMA, to –		

(i) the occupiers of the site and, if the applicant is not the owner or person in control of the site on which the activity is to be undertaken, the owner or person in control of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;	YES	EXEMPTION	N/A
(ii) owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;	YES	EXEMPTION	
(iii) the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site or alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area;	YES	EXEMPTION	
(iv) the municipality (Local and District Municipality) which has jurisdiction in the area;	YES	EXEMPTION	
(v) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity; and	YES	EXEMPTION	
(vi) any other party as required by the Department;	YES	EXEMPTION	N/A
(c) placing an advertisement in -			
(i) one local newspaper; or	YES	EXEMPTION	
(ii) any official Gazette that is published specifically for the purpose of providing public notice of applications or other submissions made in terms of these Regulations;	YES	EXEMPTION	N/A
(d) placing an advertisement in at least one provincial newspaper or national newspaper, if the activity has or may have an impact that extends beyond the boundaries of the metropolitan or district municipality in which it is or will be undertaken	YES	EXEMPTION	N/A
(e) using reasonable alternative methods, as agreed to by the Department, in those instances where a person is desirous of but unable to participate in the process due to— (i) illiteracy; (ii) disability; or (iii) any other disadvantage.	YES	EXEMPTION	N/A
If you have indicated that "EXEMPTION" applies to any of the above, then a separate Application for Exemption must be submitted.			
2. The NEM: AQA and NEM:WA requires that a notice must be placed in at least two newspapers.			
If applicable, have/will an advertisement be placed in at least two newspapers?	YES	NO	
If "NO", then an application for exemption from the requirement must be applied for.			

Note: It is no longer possible to obtain permission to deviate from the requirements to give notice to potential interested and affected parties. Unless exemption has been granted from a particular requirement, the requirement must be met. If an application for exemption is refused, the requirement in question must be met.

Provide details of the public participation process proposed for the application as required by Regulation 41) of GN R.982, dated 04 December 2014.

Fixing a notice board at a place conspicuous to the public at the boundary or on the fence of the site where the activity to which the application relates is or is to be undertaken (at the entrance of the proposed site).

Giving written notice to –

- **the occupiers of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;**
- **owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;**

Please note: It is often difficult to locate occupiers of surrounding properties. Notifying occupiers of the land adjacent to the site in writing becomes very difficult since it is seldom that most occupiers are home during the day. Within agricultural areas, an occupier could easily be overlooked if he/she is residing in a dwelling structure at the back of a farm, for example.

The activities to be undertaken to inform as many owners and occupiers as possible of the adjacent properties will include:

- *Notification letters are to be sent (via post) to the landowners' addresses as supplied by the relevant municipality's database (where these addresses can be obtained).*
- *Distribution of notification letters via a letter drop will also be undertaken to notify as many occupiers as possible of the adjacent properties. Signatures are to be obtained where possible in the form of a signed register.*
- *These notification letters will request occupiers who are not owners and owners who are not occupiers to inform either party of the proposal and/or provide the EAP with the necessary contact details.*
- *A site notice (s) will be placed along the boundary of the proposed site in areas that will be most visible to passers-by (photographically documented);*
- *Advertisements will also be placed in the local newspapers circulating within the surrounding communities notifying Interested and Affected Parties that an application has been lodged, as well as the availability of the*

<p><i>Basic Assessment report.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>where possible, A3 notices/ posters will be placed in retail/community areas in close proximity to the adjacent owners and occupiers of the site e.g. schools, libraries, shops etc (photographically documented).</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site or alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area; - the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area; - any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity; and - any other party as required by the competent authority;
Please see Appendix F of the draft Post-Application BAR.

2. Provide a list of all the state departments that were consulted:
Department of Health
Department of Agriculture
Heritage Western Cape
Department of Water and Sanitation
CapeNature

Please note:

Should any of the responses be "No" and no deviation or exemption from that requirement was requested and agreed to /granted by the Department, the Basic Assessment Report will be rejected.

A list of all the potential interested and affected parties, including the organs of State, notified and a list of all the register of interested and affected parties, must be submitted with the final Basic Assessment Report. The list of registered interested and affected parties must be opened, maintained and made available to any person requesting access to the register in writing.

The draft Basic Assessment Report must be submitted to the Department before it is made available to interested and affected parties, including the relevant organs of State and State departments which have jurisdiction with regard to any aspect of the activity, for a 40-day commenting period. With regard to State departments, the 40-day period commences the day after the date on which the Department as the competent/licensing authority requests such State department in writing to submit comment. The applicant/EAP is therefore required to inform this Department in writing when the draft Basic Assessment Report will be made available to the relevant State departments for comment. Upon receipt of the Draft Basic Assessment Report and this confirmation, this Department will in accordance with Section 24O(2) and (3) of the NEMA request the relevant State departments to comment on the draft report within 40 days.

All comments of interested and affected parties on the draft Basic Assessment Report must be recorded, responded to and included in the Comments and Responses Report included as **Appendix F** to the final Basic Assessment Report. If necessary, any amendments in response to comments received must be effected in the Basic Assessment Report itself. The Comments and Responses Report must also include a description of the public participation process followed.

The final Basic Assessment Report must be made available to registered interested and affected parties for comment before submitting it to the Department for consideration. Unless otherwise indicated by the Department, a final Basic Assessment Report must be made available to the registered interested and affected parties for comment for a

minimum of 21-days. Comments on the final Basic Assessment Report does not have to be responded to, but the comments must be attached to the final Basic Assessment Report.

The minutes of any meetings held by the EAP with interested and affected parties and other role players which record the views of the participants must also be submitted as part of the public participation information to be attached to the final Basic Assessment Report as **Appendix F**.

Proof of all the notices given as indicated, as well as of notice to the interested and affected parties of the availability of the draft Basic Assessment Report and final Basic Assessment Report must be submitted as part of the public participation information to be attached to the final Basic Assessment Report as **Appendix F**.

SECTION D: NEED AND DESIRABILITY

Please Note: Before completing this section, first consult this Department's *Guideline on Need and Desirability* (December 2014) available on the Department's website (<http://www.capegateway.gov.za/eadp>).

1. Is the activity permitted in terms of the property's existing land use rights?	YES	NO	Please explain
A Consent-use application in terms of the Stellenbosch Municipal Planning By-Law, 2015, is required. The consent-use application will be submitted once an Environmental Authorization has been issued.			
2. Will the activity be in line with the following?			
(a) Provincial Spatial Development Framework (PSDF)	YES	NO	Please explain
This application is for the construction of a telecommunications mast, which is considered as part of the essential services for the greater community.			
(b) Urban edge / Edge of Built environment for the area	YES	NO	Please explain
The site is located outside the urban edge.			
(c) Integrated Development Plan and Spatial Development Framework of the Local Municipality (e.g. would the approval of this application compromise the integrity of the existing approved and credible municipal IDP and SDF?).	YES	NO	Please explain
This application is for the construction of a telecommunications mast, which is considered as part of the essential services for the greater community. The proposed development will compromise the integrity of the municipality's Integrated Development Plan ("IDP") or Spatial Development Framework ("SDF").			
(d) Approved Structure Plan of the Municipality	YES	NO	Please explain
This application is for the construction of a telecommunications mast, which is considered as part of the essential services for the greater community as it will provide adequate telecommunications reception for the area and allow for multiple service providers, thus reducing the need for the erection of additional telecommunication masts within the area.			
(e) An Environmental Management Framework (EMF) adopted by the Department (e.g. Would the approval of this application compromise the integrity of the existing environmental management priorities for the area and if so, can it be justified in terms of sustainability considerations?)	YES	NO	Please explain
The proposed development will not have an impact on the area's EMF. The construction of the telecommunication mast is an essential service for the greater community.			
(f) Any other Plans (e.g. Guide Plan)	YES	NO	Please explain
N/A.			
3. Is the land use (associated with the activity being applied for) considered within the timeframe intended by the existing approved Spatial Development Framework (SDF) agreed to by the relevant environmental authority (i.e. is the proposed development in line with the projects and programmes identified as priorities within the credible IDP)?	YES	NO	Please explain
Due to the availability of cellular communication, and the data capabilities provided by the proposed telecommunication mast, it is considered to form part of the necessary communication service infrastructure of the greater community.			
4. Should development, or if applicable, expansion of the town/area concerned in terms of this land use (associated with the activity being applied for) occur here at this point in time?	YES	NO	Please explain
This application is for the construction of a telecommunications mast, which is considered as part of the essential services for the greater community and should occur at this point in time due to the increased demand for these services. The proposed activity will not lead to the expansion of the town. The proposed development will enhance the communication capabilities in the area.			
5. Does the community/area need the activity and the associated land use concerned (is it a societal priority)? (This refers to the strategic as well as local level (e.g. development is a national priority, but within a specific local context it could be inappropriate.)	YES	NO	Please explain
The benefits of telecommunications services in modern society are potentially limitless. The proposed activity will increase the coverage (which is very limited within the Vlothenburg area) of these telecommunications services, including providing a more reliable and wider coverage. The social benefits are considered to greatly outweigh any potential negative environmental impacts from the activity. The activity would create a more efficient telecommunications service, considered as essential to the community, business and private sector.			

The construction of the telecommunications mast is therefore considered as part of the essential services for the greater community.			
6. Are the necessary services with adequate capacity currently available (at the time of application), or must additional capacity be created to cater for the development? (Confirmation by the relevant Municipality in this regard must be attached to the final Basic Assessment Report as Appendix E .)	YES	NO	Please explain
The proposed activity will only require minimal amounts of power, which will be sourced from the land owner.			
The proposed activity will not require water, solid waste removal, storm water or sewerage services from the local council.			
7. Is this development provided for in the infrastructure planning of the municipality, and if not what will the implication be on the infrastructure planning of the municipality (priority and placement of services and opportunity costs)? (Comment by the relevant Municipality in this regard must be attached to the final Basic Assessment Report as Appendix E .)	YES	NO	Please explain
Yes. However, the development needs to comply with Stellenbosch Municipality's Telecommunication Mast Infrastructure Policy Draft 2016/2017. Telecommunication networks not only facilitate economic trade in goods, by bringing together buyers and sellers, but more importantly, also promote trade in services upon which modern economies are built. It can thus be seen how important communication can be for economic growth. Communication is the root of all events, daily interaction, social affairs and anything that requires the purpose of human dealings.			
8. Is this project part of a national programme to address an issue of national concern or importance?	YES	NO	Please explain
N/A			
9. Do location factors favour this land use (associated with the activity applied for) at this place? (This relates to the contextualisation of the proposed land use on this site within its broader context.)	YES	NO	Please explain
The site has been identified as an ideal location for the proposed project as it will provide the necessary coverage required. In addition, the proposed site is located on an area that causes the least harm to the environment due to the transformed nature of the site.			
10. How will the activity or the land use associated with the activity applied for, impact on sensitive natural and cultural areas (built and rural/natural environment)?	YES	NO	Please explain
No sensitive natural or cultural areas were identified on site. Please refer to Appendix D .			
11. How will the development impact on people's health and wellbeing (e.g. in terms of noise, odours, visual character and sense of place, etc)?	YES	NO	Please explain
The activity is expected to have a low-medium impact on the visual character of the area, due to its proximity the residential area 180m northwest of the site, and Vlotenburg Road and Baden Powell Drive. It must also be noted that the design and the intention of the proposed communication mast is to allow for multiple service providers to attach and house their equipment on the mast; thereby reducing the need for the construction of more telecommunication masts in the area. The proposed communications mast is not expected to produce any noise or odours during the operational phase. Some noise can be expected during the construction phase, but this will be temporary, limited to the site, and is expected to be negligible.			
12. Will the proposed activity or the land use associated with the activity applied for, result in unacceptable opportunity costs?	YES	NO	Please explain
The nature, size and location of the site would mean that there are no unacceptable opportunity costs due to the proposed activity. The proposed activity has a small development footprint (56m²).			
13. What will the cumulative impacts (positive and negative) of the proposed land use associated with the activity applied for, be?	YES	NO	Please explain
The activity is not expected to have any negative cumulative impacts. Due to the design of the proposed communication mast, the mast will allow for multiple service providers to attach and house their equipment on the mast, decreasing the need for additional communications masts to be erected in the area. This will therefore have a positive cumulative impact on the area.			
14. Is the development the best practicable environmental option for this land/site?	YES	NO	Please explain
The best practicable environmental option for the site would be the no-go option. However, any potential benefits would be			

considered minimal. Due to the nature of the activity, and the size and location of the site, any potential negative environmental impacts are expected to be insignificant. The socio-economic benefits of the activity to the community are considered to greatly outweigh any environmental benefits of not implementing the activity.	
15. What will the benefits be to society in general and to the local communities?	Please explain
<p>The benefits of telecommunications services in modern society are potentially limitless. The proposed activity will increase the coverage of these telecommunications services, including providing a more reliable and wider coverage.</p> <p>Cellular communication is used more and more for data transfer and not only voice calls. Such data capabilities are important in business, education and for the public/private user, and have thus become paramount for social and economic development. The proposed telecommunication mast will have a positive impact on the socio-economics of the surrounding area as it will also provide cellular users with the option of faster internet coverage and cheaper cellular rates.</p>	
16. Any other need and desirability considerations related to the proposed activity?	Please explain
N/A	

(17) Please describe how the general objectives of Integrated Environmental Management as set out in section 23 of NEMA have been taken into account:

The general objectives of Integrated Environmental Management have been taken into account through the following:

- The actual and potential impacts of the activity on the environment, socio-economic conditions and cultural heritage have been identified, predicted and evaluated, as well as the risks and consequences and alternatives and options for mitigation of activities, with a view to minimizing negative impact, maximizing benefits and promoting compliance with the principles of environmental management – *please refer to Section F below.*
- The effects of the activity on the environment have been considered before actions taken in connection with them – *alternatives have been considered and investigated (please refer to Section E below).*
- Adequate and appropriate opportunity for public participation is ensured through the public participation process
- The environmental attributes have been considered in the management and decision-making of the activity – *an EMPr has been included (**Appendix H**) with the proposed activity and must adhere to the requirements of all applicable state Authorities.*

(18) Please describe how the principles of environmental management as set out in section 2 of NEMA have been taken into account:

The principles of environmental management as set out in section 2 of NEMA have been taken into account. The principles pertinent to this activity include:

- People and their needs have been placed at the forefront while serving their physical, psychological, developmental, cultural and social interests – *the proposed activity will have a **beneficial impact on people**, especially developmental, cultural and social benefits due to **increased coverage and reliability of communications**.*
- Development must be socially, environmentally and economically sustainable. Where disturbance of ecosystems, loss of biodiversity, pollution and degradation, and landscapes and sites that constitute the nation's cultural heritage cannot be avoided, are minimised and remedied. - *Although the activity is expected to have little to no environmental impact, these impacts have been considered, and mitigation measures have been put in place.*
- Where waste cannot be avoided, it is minimised and remedied through the implementation and adherence of EMPr.
- The use of non-renewable natural resources is responsible and equitable – *no exploitation of non-renewable natural resources occurs with the proposed activity.*
- The negative impacts on the environment and on people's environmental rights have been anticipated and prevented, and where they cannot be prevented, are minimised and remedied - *refer to Section F below.*
- The interests, needs and values of all interested and affected parties will be taken into account in any decisions through the Public Participation Process - *refer to Section F below.*
- The social, economic and environmental impacts of the activity have been considered, assessed and evaluated, including the disadvantages and benefits – *refer to Section F below.*
- The effects of decisions on all aspects of the environment and all people in the environment have been taken into account, by pursuing what is considered the best practicable environmental option – *the proposed activity is expected to have minimal/negligible environmental impacts, especially after mitigation measures as described under Section F and in the EMPr are implemented. The social benefits are considered to outweigh any potential negative environmental impacts from the activity.*

SECTION E: ALTERNATIVES

Please Note: Before completing this section, first consult this Department's *Guideline on Alternatives* (December 2014) available on the Department's website (<http://www.capegateway.gov.za/eadp>).

"Alternatives", in relation to a proposed activity, means different means of meeting the general purposes and requirements of the activity, which may include alternatives to –

- (a) the property on which, or location where, it is proposed to undertake the activity;
- (b) the type of activity to be undertaken;
- (c) the design or layout of the activity;
- (d) the technology to be used in the activity;
- (e) the operational aspects of the activity; and
- (f) the option of not implementing the activity.

The NEMA prescribes that the procedures for the investigation, assessment and communication of the potential consequences or impacts of activities on the environment must, *inter alia*, with respect to every application for environmental authorisation –

- ensure that the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in NEMA and the National Environmental Management Principles set out in NEMA are taken into account; and
- include an investigation of the potential consequences or impacts of the alternatives to the activity on the environment and assessment of the significance of those potential consequences or impacts, including the option of not implementing the activity.

The general objective of integrated environmental management is, *inter alia*, to "identify, predict and evaluate the actual and potential impact on the environment, socio-economic conditions and cultural heritage, the risks and consequences and alternatives and options for mitigation of activities, with a view to minimising negative impacts, maximising benefits, and promoting compliance with the principles of environmental management" set out in NEMA.

1. In the sections below, please provide a description of any identified and considered alternatives and alternatives that were found to be feasible and reasonable.

Please note: Detailed written proof the investigation of alternatives must be provided and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist.

- (a) Property and location/site alternatives to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts, or detailed motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist:

N/A. The current site is the only location considered. It is strategically placed due to its proximity to existing masts, coverage needed and thus the coverage it can provide.

- (b) Activity alternatives to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts, or detailed motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist:

N/A. This is the only activity that can increase the telecommunication coverage for the area.

- (c) Design or layout alternatives to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts, or detailed motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist:

Alternative mast designs have been considered:

Monopole Mast – (Preferred design)

A 25m high monopole mast is a viable option for the applicant, as it can hold the necessary amount of equipment, allowing for equipment from various service providers, is cheaper to construct than a lattice or pine tree design, and is less visually intrusive.

In summary:

A monopole mast was considered the preferred alternative for the following reasons:

- Able to hold the necessary equipment if required for multiple service providers and due to future demand; and
- The monopole mast is cheaper to construct than a lattice or pine tree mast. It will be less visually intrusive and more aesthetically pleasing.

Lattice Mast – (Alternative design)

A 25m high lattice mast is also considered as a viable option for the applicant. However, the mast will not be able to hold as much equipment when compared to the monopole mast (Preferred alternative), is more costly to construct and might have a higher visual impact due to its proximity to the nearby residences.

In summary:

A lattice mast was considered a design alternative for the following reasons:

- The design will be able to hold the necessary required equipment for now.

A lattice mast was not considered because:

- The design would not be able to hold as much equipment as a monopole mast if future demand requires additional equipment.
- The design is more costly to construct than a monopole type mast.
- The design will have a higher visual impact due to its proximity to the nearby residences.

Tree Mast – (Alternative design)

A 25m high tree mast is also considered as an alternative. However, the mast generally cannot hold as much equipment as a monopole mast (Preferred alternative) and there is a lack of tall trees in the approximate vicinity.

In summary:

A Tree mast was considered a design alternative for the following reasons:

- The design will be able to hold the necessary required equipment for now.
- The proposed mast will be less visually intrusive than a lattice mast.

Tree mast design was rejected as the preferred alternative for the following reasons:

- It is not able to hold as much equipment (for other service providers) as the monopole mast can, if required in future;
- A tree mast will not blend in as well with the surrounding area as there are no other tall trees on the site; and
- A tree mast will be more costly to construct than a monopole or lattice type mast.

- (d) Technology alternatives (e.g. to reduce resource demand and resource use efficiency) to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts, or detailed motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist:

N/A

(e) Operational alternatives to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts, or detailed motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist:

N/A

(f) the option of not implementing the activity (the No-Go Option):

This is the option of not installing the proposed mast, and its associated infrastructure.

Although this option would result in no potential negative environmental impacts, the social benefits from implementing the activity would not be achieved. A more efficient telecommunications service, considered as essential for the business sector and private/social communication, would therefore not be achieved.

The proposed activity is not expected to have any negative environmental impacts; therefore there are no environmental benefits from not implementing the activity.

(g) Other alternatives to avoid negative impacts, mitigate unavoidable negative impacts and maximise positive impacts, or detailed motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist:

N/A

(h) Please provide a summary of the alternatives investigated and the outcomes of such investigation:

Please note: If no feasible and reasonable alternatives exist, the description and proof of the investigation of alternatives, together with motivation of why no feasible or reasonable alternatives exist, must be provided.

N/A

SECTION F: IMPACT ASSESSMENT, MANAGEMENT, MITIGATION AND MONITORING MEASURES

Please note: The information in this section must be duplicated for all the feasible and reasonable alternatives (where relevant).

1. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE MANNER IN WHICH THE DEVELOPMENT WILL IMPACT ON THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS:

(a) Geographical and physical aspects:

The activity is not expected to have any impacts on any geographical and/or physical aspects.

(b) Biological aspects:

Will the development have an impact on critical biodiversity areas (CBAs) or ecological support areas (CSAs)?	YES	NO
If yes, please describe:		
No CBA's or ESA's have been identified on the site (see figure 7 and Appendix D).		
Will the development have an impact on terrestrial vegetation, or aquatic ecosystems (wetlands, estuaries or the coastline)?	YES	NO
If yes, please describe:		
The activity is not expected to have any impacts on any terrestrial vegetation or aquatic ecosystems (see figures 6 & 7). There are no wetlands on site.		
Will the development have an impact on any populations of threatened plant or animal species, and/or on any habitat that may contain a unique signature of plant or animal species?	YES	NO
If yes, please describe:		
The site would historically have contained Swartland Granite Renosterveld (see figure 8). This vegetation type is classified as <i>critically endangered</i> in terms of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act No. 10 of 2004) ("NEMBA"). However, the site has been completely transformed due to past agricultural development activities. There is no indigenous vegetation on the area proposed for development.		
Please describe the manner in which any other biological aspects will be impacted:		
No sensitive biodiversity features were observed on site.		

(c) Socio-Economic aspects:

What is the expected capital value of the activity on completion?	R 500 000.00
What is the expected yearly income or contribution to the economy that will be generated by or as a result of the activity?	TBC
Will the activity contribute to service infrastructure?	YES NO
How many new employment opportunities will be created in the construction phase of the activity?	10
What is the expected value of the employment opportunities during the construction phase?	R 120 000.00
What percentage of this will accrue to previously disadvantaged individuals?	65%
How will this be ensured and monitored (please explain):	
N/A	
How many permanent new employment opportunities will be created during the operational phase of the activity?	N/A
What is the expected current value of the employment opportunities during the first 10 years?	N/A
What percentage of this will accrue to previously disadvantaged individuals?	N/A
How will this be ensured and monitored (please explain):	
N/A	
Any other information related to the manner in which the socio-economic aspects will be impacted:	
N/A	

(d) Cultural and historic aspects:

No cultural or historic aspects were identified on site.

2. WASTE AND EMISSIONS

(a) Waste (including effluent) management

Will the activity produce waste (including rubble) during the construction phase?	YES	NO
If yes, indicate the types of waste (actual type of waste, e.g. oil, and whether hazardous or not) and estimated quantity per type?		
Minimal amounts of building rubble will be generated due to construction activities.		

Will the activity produce waste during its operational phase?	YES	NO
If yes, indicate the types of waste (actual type of waste, e.g. oil, and whether hazardous or not) and estimated quantity per type?	M ³	

Where and how will the waste be treated / disposed of (describe)?		
If yes, indicate the types of waste (actual type of waste, e.g. oil, and whether hazardous or not) and estimated quantity per type per phase of the development?		
N/A, The activity will not produce waste.		
Has the municipality or relevant authority confirmed that sufficient capacity exist for treating / disposing of the waste to be generated by this activity(ies)? If yes, provide written confirmation from Municipality or relevant authority N/A	YES	NO
Will the activity produce waste that will be treated and/or disposed of at another facility other than into a municipal waste stream?	YES	NO
If yes, has this facility confirmed that sufficient capacity exist for treating / disposing of the waste to be generated by this activity(ies)? Provide written confirmation from the facility and provide the following particulars of the facility: N/A	YES	NO
Does the facility have an operating license? (If yes, please attach a copy of the license.) N/A	YES	NO
Facility name:		
Contact person:		
Postal address:		
	Postal code:	
Telephone:	Cell:	
E-mail:	Fax:	

Describe the measures that will be taken to reduce, reuse or recycle waste:
N/A

(b) Emissions into the atmosphere

Will the activity produce emissions that will be disposed of into the atmosphere?	YES	NO
If yes, does it require approval in terms of relevant legislation? N/A	YES	NO
Describe the emissions in terms of type and concentration and how it will be treated/mitigated:		
N/A. The activity will not generate emissions into the atmosphere.		

3. WATER USE

Please indicate the source(s) of water for the activity by ticking the appropriate box(es)

Municipal	Water board	Groundwater	River, Stream, Dam or Lake	Other	The activity will not use water
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If water is to be extracted from a groundwater source, river, stream, dam, lake or any other natural feature, please indicate the volume that will be extracted per month:	N/A
Please provide proof of assurance of water supply (eg. Letter of confirmation from municipality / water user associations, yield of borehole)	
Does the activity require a water use permit / license from DWAF? N/A	YES NO
If yes, please submit the necessary application to Department of Water Affairs and attach proof thereof to this application.	

4. POWER SUPPLY

Please indicate the source of power supply eg. Municipality / Eskom / Renewable energy source

Electricity will be sourced from the land owner. The power requirements are relatively low for such a development.

If power supply is not available, where will power be sourced from?

N/A

5. ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Describe the design measures, if any, that have been taken to ensure that the activity is energy efficient:

All equipment is ISO 13001 compliant.

Describe how alternative energy sources have been taken into account or been built into the design of the activity, if any:

N/A (Power will be sourced from the land owner).

6. DESCRIPTION AND ASSESSMENT OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACTS PRIOR TO AND AFTER MITIGATION

Please note: While sections are provided for impacts on certain aspects of the environment and certain impacts, the sections should also be copied and completed for all other impacts.

- (a) **Impacts that may result from the planning, design and construction phase (briefly describe and compare the potential impacts (as appropriate), significance rating of impacts, proposed mitigation and significance rating of impacts after mitigation that are likely to occur as a result of the planning, design and construction phase.**

Potential impacts on geographical and physical aspects:	
Nature of impact:	Due to the site location and nature of the activity, the activity is not expected to have any impacts on geographical or physical aspects. The site is totally transformed from its natural state.
Extent and duration of impact:	
Probability of occurrence:	
Degree to which the impact can be reversed:	
Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources:	
Cumulative impact prior to mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	
Degree to which the impact can be mitigated:	
Proposed mitigation:	
Cumulative impact post mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact after mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	

Potential impact on biological aspects:	Due to the site location and nature of the activity, the activity is not expected to have any impacts on any biological aspects. There is no indigenous vegetation on the proposed site.
Nature of impact:	
Extent and duration of impact:	
Probability of occurrence:	

Degree to which the impact can be reversed:	
Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources:	
Cumulative impact prior to mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	
Degree to which the impact can be mitigated:	
Proposed mitigation:	
Cumulative impact post mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact after mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	

Potential impacts on socio-economic aspects:	
Nature of impact:	Temporary jobs will be created in the construction industry during the construction phase.
Extent and duration of impact:	Local. During the construction phase of the activity.
Probability of occurrence:	Definite
Degree to which the impact can be reversed:	N/A. This is a positive impact
Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources:	N/A
Cumulative impact prior to mitigation:	Low – positive
Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	Low – positive
Degree to which the impact can be mitigated:	N/A.
Proposed mitigation:	No mitigation measures are required. Temporary jobs will be created during the construction phase
Cumulative impact post mitigation:	Low – positive
Significance rating of impact after mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	Low – positive

Potential impacts on cultural-historical aspects:	Due to the site location and nature of the activity, the activity is not expected to have any impacts on cultural-historical aspects.
Nature of impact:	The loss of cultural or historic aspects during construction
Extent and duration of impact:	Local, during construction phase
Probability of occurrence:	Highly unlikely, no cultural or historic aspects of significance were identified on site.
Degree to which the impact can be reversed:	N/A
Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources:	Highly Unlikely
Cumulative impact prior to mitigation:	Very Low – Negative
Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	Very low – Negative

Degree to which the impact can be mitigated:	Limited
Proposed mitigation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If any archaeological remains (including but not limited to fossil bones and fossil shells, coins, indigenous and/or colonial ceramics, any articles of value or antiquity, stone artefacts and bone remains, structures and other built features, rock art and rock engravings) are discovered during construction they must immediately be reported to Heritage Western Cape (HWC) and must not be disturbed further until the necessary approval has been obtained from HWC. Should any human remains/burial or archaeological material be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during construction, these should immediately be reported to the South African Heritage Resources Agency and HWC. The ECO and Engineer are also to be informed.
Cumulative impact post mitigation:	Negligible
Significance rating of impact after mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	Negligible

Potential noise impacts:	
Nature of impact:	Noise impact from machinery on the property and neighbouring residential properties during construction
Extent and duration of impact:	Local, Duration of construction phase
Probability of occurrence:	Probable
Degree to which the impact can be reversed:	Definite
Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources:	Negligible
Cumulative impact prior to mitigation:	Low – negative
Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	Medium-low negative
Degree to which the impact can be mitigated:	Medium
Proposed mitigation:	<p>The following measures should be implemented amongst others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Contractor shall endeavour to keep noise generating activities to a minimum. Construction only to take place during normal working hours. Compliance with the appropriate legislation with respect to noise shall be mandatory.
Cumulative impact post mitigation:	Low – negative
Significance rating of impact after mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	Low – negative

Potential visual impacts:	
Nature of impact:	Unightly views due to construction site.
Extent and duration of impact:	Local, during duration of construction
Probability of occurrence:	Definite
Degree to which the impact can be reversed:	Low

Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources:	N/A
Cumulative impact prior to mitigation:	Medium - negative
Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	Medium - negative
Degree to which the impact can be mitigated:	Probable
Proposed mitigation:	<p>Visual impact mitigation measures will be dealt with in the Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr"). The EMPr must be enforced and monitored by the Environmental Control Officer ("ECO").</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Contractor shall restrict all his activities, materials, equipment and personnel to within the area specified. • Construction material must be stored in areas designated by the site agent and in a neat and orderly manner and must not damage natural vegetation. • The Contractor must ensure that all structures, equipment, materials and facilities used or created on site for or during construction activities are removed once the project has been completed. The construction site must be cleared, and cleaned to the satisfaction of the ECO. • Immediately after the demolition of the camp site, the contractor shall restore the site to its original state, paying particular attention to its appearance relative to the general landscape.
Cumulative impact post mitigation:	Low - negative
Significance rating of impact after mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	Low - negative

- (b) **Impacts that may result from the operational phase (briefly describe and compare the potential impacts (as appropriate), significance rating of impacts, proposed mitigation and significance rating of impacts after mitigation that are likely to occur as a result of the operational phase.**

Potential impacts on the geographical and physical aspects:	No geographical and/or physical aspects are expected to be impacted during the operational phase
Nature of impact:	
Extent and duration of impact:	
Probability of occurrence:	
Degree to which the impact can be reversed:	
Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources:	
Cumulative impact prior to mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	
Degree to which the impact can be mitigated:	
Proposed mitigation:	
Cumulative impact post mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact after mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	

Potential impact biological aspects:	No biological aspects are expected to be impacted during the operational phase
Nature of impact:	
Extent and duration of impact:	
Probability of occurrence:	
Degree to which the impact can be reversed:	
Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable	

loss of resources:	
Cumulative impact prior to mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	
Degree to which the impact can be mitigated:	
Proposed mitigation:	
Cumulative impact post mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact after mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	

Potential impacts on the socio-economic aspects:	
Nature of impact:	<p>The proposed activity will increase the coverage of telecommunications services, including providing a more reliable and wider coverage.</p> <p>The proposed mast will have a <u>positive impact</u> on the socio-economics of the surrounding area as it will provide communication users with the option of faster internet coverage, cheaper cellular rates and available, stable coverage which could be critical in the case of an emergency.</p>
Extent and duration of impact:	Regional, long-term
Probability of occurrence:	Highly probable
Degree to which the impact can be reversed:	N/A. This is a positive impact
Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources:	N/A
Cumulative impact prior to mitigation:	Medium – positive
Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	Low – positive
Degree to which the impact can be mitigated:	N/A.
Proposed mitigation:	N/A. This is a positive impact. No mitigation measures are required.
Cumulative impact post mitigation:	Low – positive
Significance rating of impact after mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	Low – positive

Potential impacts on the cultural-historical aspects:	No heritage or cultural aspects are expected to be impacted during the operational phase since no cultural or historic aspects were identified on site.
Nature of impact:	
Extent and duration of impact:	
Probability of occurrence:	
Degree to which the impact can be reversed:	
Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources:	
Cumulative impact prior to mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	
Degree to which the impact can be mitigated:	
Proposed mitigation:	
Cumulative impact post mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact after mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	

Potential noise impacts:	The activity is not expected to have any noise impacts during the operational phase.
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Nature of impact:	
Extent and duration of impact:	
Probability of occurrence:	
Degree to which the impact can be reversed:	
Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources:	
Cumulative impact prior to mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	
Degree to which the impact can be mitigated:	
Proposed mitigation:	
Cumulative impact post mitigation:	
Significance rating of impact after mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	

Potential visual impacts:	
Nature of impact:	The development of the mast will most probably have a visual impact because of the height of the mast (25m in height).
Extent and duration of impact:	Local, permanent
Probability of occurrence:	Definite
Degree to which the impact can be reversed:	Very likely
Degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources:	Low – negative
Cumulative impact prior to mitigation:	Medium negative
Significance rating of impact prior to mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	Medium – negative
Degree to which the impact can be mitigated:	Medium
Proposed mitigation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrict the height of the mast to only 25m; • Construct a monopole mast, which is expected to blend in more with the surrounding area. The mast will be galvanised silver to blend in with background sky.
Cumulative impact post mitigation:	low – negative
Significance rating of impact after mitigation (Low, Medium, Medium-High, High, or Very-High)	Low – negative

- (c) **Impacts that may result from the decommissioning and closure phase (briefly describe and compare the potential impacts (as appropriate), significance rating of impacts, proposed mitigation and significance rating of impacts after mitigation that are likely to occur as a result of the decommissioning and closure phase.**

The project as proposed does not require ‘decommissioning’ or ‘closure’, as such the potential impacts thereof is considered irrelevant.

7. SPECIALIST INPUTS/STUDIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Please note: Specialist inputs/studies must be attached to this report as **Appendix G**. Also take into account the Department’s Guidelines on the Involvement of Specialists in EIA Processes available on the Department’s website (<http://www.capegateway.gov.za/eadp>).

Specialist inputs/studies and recommendations:

No specialist studies were deemed necessary for this proposed activity.

8. IMPACT SUMMARY

Please provide a summary of all the above impacts.

Construction phase.

Geographical aspects – **The activity is not expected to have any impact on physical and/or geographical aspects on the site.**

Biological aspects - **The activity is not expected to have any impact on biological aspects on the site.**

Job creation – **Low (Positive)**

Loss of cultural or historic aspects – **Negligible**

Noise impact - **Low (Negative)**

Visual impact – **Low (Negative)**

Operational Phase

Geographical and/or physical aspects – **The activity is not expected to have any impact on geographical and/or Physical aspects on the site.**

Biological aspects - **The activity is not expected to have any impact on biological aspects on the site**

Increased coverage of telecommunications services and its associated benefits – **Low (Positive)**

Loss of cultural or historic aspects – **The activity is not expected to have any impact on cultural or heritage aspects on the site.**

Noise impact – **The activity is not expected to have noise impacts during the operational phase.**

Visual impacts – **Low (Negative).**

Decommissioning

The project as proposed does not require 'decommissioning' or 'closure', as such the potential impacts thereof is considered irrelevant.

9. OTHER MANAGEMENT, MITIGATION AND MONITORING MEASURES

(a) Over and above the mitigation measures described in Section 6 above, please indicate any additional management, mitigation and monitoring measures.

Compliance with the Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr") (**Appendix H**) and appointment of an Environmental Control Officer ("ECO") during the construction phase.

(b) Describe the ability of the applicant to implement the management, mitigation and monitoring measures.

Under South African environmental legislation, the Applicant / Employer is accountable for the potential impacts of the activities that are undertaken and is responsible for managing these impacts. Eagle Towers SA (Pty) Ltd. as the Applicant / Employer therefore has overall and total environmental responsibility to ensure that the implementation of the construction phase of this EMPr complies with the relevant legislation and the conditions of the environmental authorisation. The developer will be responsible for the development and implementation of the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation in terms of the design of the development and construction thereof. The developer will thus be responsible for the implementation of this EMPr. The applicant has shown commitment to implement management, mitigation and monitoring measures as specified in the recommendations in the EMPr.

Please note: A draft **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME** must be attached this report as **Appendix H**.

SECTION G: ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGIES AND CRITERIA, GAPS IN KNOWLEDGE, UNDERLYING ASSUMPTIONS AND UNCERTAINTIES

(a) Please describe adequacy of the assessment methods used.

The Basic Assessment Report for the proposed telecommunication mast is being undertaken with sustainable development as a goal. The assessment looked at the impacts of the proposals on the environment and assesses the significance of these, as well as the possible avoidance of negative impacts. Where negative impacts could not be avoided, mitigation measures have been proposed, to reduce the anticipated impacts to acceptable levels. This is to ensure that the development makes “*equitable and sustainable use of environmental and natural resources for the benefit of present and future generations*”.

(b) Please describe the assessment criteria used.

The assessment criteria are based on the EIA Guidelines, published by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (June 2006) in support of the EIA Regulations, 2014.

(c) Please describe the gaps in knowledge.

There are no significant gaps of knowledge that have been identified.

(d) Please describe the underlying assumptions.

The following assumptions are made:

- The information on which the report is based (i.e. project information) is correct.
- The construction and management of this proposed development will be in line with the recommendations in this report, which will be enforced by the implementation of a detailed Environmental Management Programme (“EMPr”). Much of the long-term success lies in the effective implementation of the measures prescribed in the EMPr.

(e) Please describe the uncertainties.

There are no uncertainties that we are aware of at present.

SECTION H: RECOMMENDATION OF THE EAP

In my view (EAP), the information contained in this application form and the documentation attached hereto is sufficient to make a decision in respect of the activity applied for.	YES	NO
If "NO", list the aspects that should be further assessed through additional specialist input/assessment or whether this application must be subjected to a Scoping & EIR process before a decision can be made:		
N/A		
If "YES", please indicate below whether in your opinion the activity should or should not be authorised:		
Activity should be authorised:	YES	NO
Please provide reasons for your opinion		
<p>The proposed activity should be authorised for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed communication mast, allows for multiple service providers to attach and house their equipment on the mast, decreasing the need for additional communications masts to be erected in the area. • The benefits of telecommunications services in modern society are potentially limitless. The proposed activity will increase the coverage of these telecommunications services, including providing a more reliable and wider coverage. • The social benefits are considered to greatly outweigh any potential negative environmental impacts from the activity. The activity would create a more efficient telecommunications service, considered as essential to the business and private sector. • The construction of the telecommunications mast is considered as part of the essential services for the greater community. The data capabilities provided by the proposed mast are important in business, education and for the public, and has thus become paramount for social and economic development. • The impact on the visual character of the area is expected to be low but acceptable. • There are no significant biodiversity features present on site and the site contains no indigenous natural vegetation. • No sensitive biodiversity features, no CBAs or ESAs, and no populations of threatened plant or animal species were observed on site. • No cultural or historical aspects were identified on the site. • The proposed communications mast is not expected to produce any noise or odours during the operational phase. Some noise can be expected during the construction phase, but this will be temporary and expected to be negligible. <p>Considering all the information, it is not envisaged that this proposed development will have a negative impact on the environment.</p> <p><u>It is therefore recommended that this application be authorised with the necessary conditions of approval as described throughout this BAR.</u></p>		
If you are of the opinion that the activity should be authorised, then please provide any conditions, including mitigation measures that should in your view be considered for inclusion in an authorisation.		
Compliance with the EMPr and appointment of an ECO during the construction phase.		
<p>Duration and Validity:</p> <p>Environmental authorisations are usually granted for a period of three years from the date of issue. Should a longer period be required, the applicant/EAP is requested to provide a detailed motivation on what the period of validity should be.</p>		
N/A		

SECTION I: APPENDICES

The following appendices must be attached to this report:

Appendix		Tick the box if Appendix is attached
Appendix A:	Locality map	√
Appendix B:	Site plan(s)	√
Appendix C:	Photographs	√
Appendix D:	Biodiversity overlay map	√
Appendix E:	Permit(s) / license(s) from any other organ of state including service letters from the municipality & Title deeds	√
Appendix F:	Public participation information: including a copy of the register of interested and affected parties, the comments and responses report, proof of notices, advertisements and any other public participation information as required in Section C above.	√
Appendix G:	Specialist Report(s)	
Appendix H :	Environmental Management Programme	√
Appendix I:	Additional Information – Reports	√

DECLARATIONS

THE APPLICANT

I, in my personal capacity or duly authorised (please circle the applicable option) by thereto hereby declare that I:

- regard the information contained in this report to be true and correct, and
- am fully aware of my responsibilities in terms of the National Environmental Management Act of 1998 ("NEMA") (Act No. 107 of 1998), the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations ("EIA Regulations") in terms of NEMA (Government Notice No. R. 543 refers), and the relevant specific environmental management Act, and that failure to comply with these requirements may constitute an offence in terms of the environmental legislation;
- appointed the environmental assessment practitioner as indicated above, which meet all the requirements in terms of regulation 17 of GN No. R. 543, to act as the independent environmental assessment practitioner for this application;
- have provided the environmental assessment practitioner and the competent authority with access to all information at my disposal that is relevant to the application;
- will be responsible for the costs incurred in complying with the environmental legislation including but not limited to –
 - costs incurred in connection with the appointment of the environmental assessment practitioner or any person contracted by the environmental assessment practitioner;
 - costs incurred in respect of the undertaking of any process required in terms of the regulations;
 - costs in respect of any fee prescribed by the Minister or MEC in respect of the regulations;
 - costs in respect of specialist reviews, if the competent authority decides to recover costs; and
 - the provision of security to ensure compliance with the applicable management and mitigation measures;
- am responsible for complying with the conditions that might be attached to any decision(s) issued by the competent authority;
- have the ability to implement the applicable management, mitigation and monitoring measures;
- hereby indemnify, the government of the Republic, the competent authority and all its officers, agents and employees, from any liability arising out of, inter alia, the content of any report, any procedure or any action for which the applicant or environmental assessment practitioner is responsible; and
- am aware that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 71 of GN No. R. 543.

Please Note: If acting in a representative capacity, a certified copy of the resolution or power of attorney must be attached.

Signature of the applicant:

Name of company:

Date:

THE INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (EAP)

I, as the appointed independent environmental practitioner ("EAP") hereby declare that I:

- act/ed as the independent EAP in this application;
- regard the information contained in this report to be true and correct, and
- do not have and will not have any financial interest in the undertaking of the activity, other than remuneration for work performed in terms of the NEMA, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 and any specific environmental management Act;
- have and will not have no vested interest in the proposed activity proceeding;
- have disclosed, to the applicant and competent authority, any material information that have or may have the potential to influence the decision of the competent authority or the objectivity of any report, plan or document required in terms of the NEMA, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 and any specific environmental management Act;
- am fully aware of and meet the responsibilities in terms of NEMA, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (specifically in terms of regulation 17 of GN No. R. 543) and any specific environmental management Act, and that failure to comply with these requirements may constitute and result in disqualification;
- have ensured that information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application was distributed or made available to interested and affected parties and the public and that participation by interested and affected parties was facilitated in such a manner that all interested and affected parties were provided with a reasonable opportunity to participate and to provide comments;
- have ensured that the comments of all interested and affected parties were considered, recorded and submitted to the competent authority in respect of the application;
- have kept a register of all interested and affected parties that participated in the public participation process;
- have provided the competent authority with access to all information at my disposal regarding the application, whether such information is favourable to the applicant or not; and
- am aware that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 71 of GN No. R. 543.

Note: The terms of reference must be attached.

Signature of the environmental assessment practitioner:

Name of company:

Date:

THE INDEPENDENT PERSON WHO COMPILED A SPECIALIST REPORT OR UNDERTOOK A SPECIALIST PROCESS

I, as the appointed independent specialist hereby declare that I:

- act/ed as the independent specialist in this application;
- regard the information contained in this report as it relates to my specialist input/study to be true and correct, and
- do not have and will not have any financial interest in the undertaking of the activity, other than remuneration for work performed in terms of the NEMA, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 and any specific environmental management Act;
- have and will not have no vested interest in the proposed activity proceeding;
- have disclosed, to the applicant, EAP and competent authority, any material information that have or may have the potential to influence the decision of the competent authority or the objectivity of any report, plan or document required in terms of the NEMA, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 and any specific environmental management Act;
- am fully aware of and meet the responsibilities in terms of NEMA, the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (specifically in terms of regulation 17 of GN No. R. 543) and any specific environmental management Act, and that failure to comply with these requirements may constitute and result in disqualification;
- have ensured that information containing all relevant facts in respect of the specialist input/study was distributed or made available to interested and affected parties and the public and that participation by interested and affected parties was facilitated in such a manner that all interested and affected parties were provided with a reasonable opportunity to participate and to provide comments on the specialist input/study;
- have ensured that the comments of all interested and affected parties on the specialist input/study were considered, recorded and submitted to the competent authority in respect of the application;
- have ensured that the names of all interested and affected parties that participated in terms of the specialist input/study were recorded in the register of interested and affected parties who participated in the public participation process;
- have provided the competent authority with access to all information at my disposal regarding the application, whether such information is favourable to the applicant or not; and
- am aware that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 71 of GN No. R. 543.

Note: The terms of reference must be attached.

Signature of the specialist:

Name of company:

Date: