

**COMMENTS RECEIVED ON DRAFT BAR: COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A 35M HIGH TELECOMMUNICATION MAST ON PORTION 1 OF FARM UITKOMST NO. 343, LAASTEDRIF BOERDERY, CERES, WESTERN CAPE**  
**(DEA&DP Ref. No.: 16/3/3/1/B1/7/1019/20)**

<b>C. DRAFT BAR COMMENTS &amp; RESPONSES ON PORTION 1 OF FARM UITKOMST NO. 343, LAASTEDRIF BOERDERY, CERES, WESTERN CAPE</b>					
Date	Comment	I&AP	Project	Response	Respondent
30/06/2020	<p>Dear Sir</p> <p>1. The electronic copy of the Application Form, as received by this Department on 15 June 2020, refer.</p> <p>2. This letter serves as an acknowledgement of receipt of the aforementioned document by the Department. Please note that this is not the latest version of the Department's Application Form. Only the latest version will be accepted for any future submission.</p> <p>3. Following a review of the information submitted to this Department, the following is noted:</p> <p>3.1. The proposal entails the development of a 35m high telecommunication mast and its associated infrastructure on Portion 1 of Farm Uitkomst No. 343, Laastedrif Boerdery, Ceres.</p> <p>3.2. The development footprint is 68.5m<sup>2</sup> and will be enclosed with a 2.4m high steel palisade fence.</p> <p>3.3. The site is zoned as Agriculture Zone I and is located outside the urban area of Ceres.</p> <p>3.4. Electricity to power the mast will be sourced from the landowner.</p> <p>3.5. No new roads will be constructed as an existing farm road will be used to gain access to the proposed site.</p>	DEA&DP: Region 1	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>Dear Ntanganedzeni,</p> <p>I hereby acknowledge receipt of the Department's acknowledgement letter dated 30 June 2020.</p> <p>The Department's correspondence dated 30 June 2020 is duly noted.</p> <p>Please see responses to the points raised in the aforementioned correspondence dated 30 June 2020 below:</p> <p>1. Noted.</p> <p>2. Noted. The Department's latest NEMA Application Form template dated November 2019 will be used for all future submissions to the Department.</p> <p>3. Noted.</p>	EnviroAfrica
"	<p>3.6. The proposed site is mapped to contain Matjiesfontein Shale Renosterveld vegetation, which is classified as Least Threatened. The site does not form part of the Critical Biodiversity Area ("CBA") but has been identified as an Ecological Support Area ("ESA") due to habitat type and watercourse protection.</p> <p>3.7. No rivers, surface water resources or wetlands occur on or within 32m of the proposed site. There is a dam approximately 245m south-east of the proposed site, mainly used for irrigation purposes.</p> <p>4. Screening Tool</p> <p>4.1. This Directorate notes that the Screening Report (dated 21 February 2020) has identified eleven specialist studies to be conducted. Confirmation of the relevant specialist studies and a motivation as to why the specialist studies will not be conducted have been provided in Appendix K9.</p> <p>4.2. The "Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Section 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, where applying for Environmental Authorisation" ("the Protocols") were published on 20 March 2020 (Government Notice No. 320 as of the protocols are applicable to your proposed development. According to the Protocols, before commencing with a specialist assessment, the current use of the land and the environmental sensitivity of the site under consideration identified by the screening tool must be confirmed by undertaking a site sensitivity verification. The information with respect to the site verification in Appendix K9 is noted and acknowledged. The criteria for reporting on an identified environmental theme are outlined in the Protocols and must be complied with.</p>	DEA&DP: Region 1	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>3. Noted.</p> <p>4.1. Noted. A motivation as to why specialist studies will not be conducted was attached as Appendix K9 of the NEMA Application Form.</p> <p>4.2. Noted. A site verification was attached to the Application Form as Appendix K9 of the NEMA Application Form. The criteria for reporting on an identified environmental theme as outlined in the Protocols will be complied with for all future submissions.</p>	EnviroAfrica
"	<p>4.3. Be advised that the Protocols must be complied with for every new application that is submitted after 9 May 2020. Specialist studies conducted during the pre-application phase must meet the requirements of the Protocols by the time they are submitted as part of an in-process draft report.</p> <p>5. Please note the following advice pertaining to the application:</p> <p>5.1. Applicable listed activities</p> <p>Having considered the information contained in the Application Form, you are hereby advised that only the activity applied for will be considered for authorisation. The onus is on the applicant to ensure that all the applicable listed activities are applied for as assessed as part of the EIA process. Omission of any activity may invalidate the application.</p>	DEA&DP: Region 1	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>4.3. Noted. No specialist studies was undertaken as part of this EIA process. Please refer to Appendix K9 of the NEMA Application Form for more detail regarding the site verification.</p> <p>5. 1. Noted. All applicable listed activities were included into the NEMA Application Form.</p>	EnviroAfrica

"	<p>6. Please note the following requirements to be complied with in respect to all applications for Environmental Authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA") and the EIA Regulations, 2014:</p> <p>6.1. Alternatives Be advised that in terms of the EIA Regulations and NEMA, the investigation of alternatives is mandatory. All alternatives identified must therefore be investigated to determine if they are feasible or reasonable. In this regard it must be noted that the Department may grant authorisation for an alternative as if it has been applied for or may grant authorisation in respect of all or part of the activity applied for. Alternatives are not limited to activity alternatives, but include layout alternatives, design, operational and technology alternatives. You are reminded that it is mandatory to investigate and assess the option of not proceeding with the proposed activity (the "no-go" option) in addition to the other alternatives identified. Every EIA process must therefore identify and investigate alternatives, with feasible and reasonable alternatives to be comparatively assessed.</p> <p>If, however, after having identified and investigated alternatives, no feasible and reasonable alternatives were found, no comparative assessment of alternatives, beyond the comparative assessment of the preferred alternative and the option of not proceeding, is required during the assessment. What would, however, be required in this instance is that proof of the investigation undertaken and motivation indicating that no reasonable or feasible alternatives other than the preferred option and the no-go option exist must be provided to the Department. Refer to the Department's Guideline on Alternatives available on the Department's website <a href="http://eadpwesterncape.kznshf.gov.za/your-resource-library">http://eadpwesterncape.kznshf.gov.za/your-resource-library</a>.</p>	DEA&DP: Region 1	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>6. Noted.</p> <p>6.1. Noted. Alternatives will be identified and investigated in the Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) that will go out for public comment in due course. The no-go option will also be considered in the draft BAR.</p>	EnviroAfrica
"	<p>6.2. Public participation The Public Participation Plan ("PPP") in terms of Regulation 41 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 submitted with the Application Form for consideration is acknowledged. However, please note the following amendments to the PPP that must be addressed before it can be formally accepted. The amended PPP must be submitted to the Department for formal acceptance before the public participation process may commence:</p> <p>* I&amp;APs without e-mail addresses must also be catered for. An alternative means of making the Draft Basic Assessment Report available will be required for those I&amp;APs where no e-mail addresses are available.</p> <p>* When the DBAR is made available for comment, the EAP must include a second download option, that allows the user to only download the executive summary instead of the whole report. This is aimed at addressing the data usage situation. This means that the executive summary must be comprehensive enough to enable someone to form a fair idea of the project for commenting purposes.</p>	DEA&DP: Region 1	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>6.2. Noted. The Public Participation Plan ("PPP") in terms of Regulation 41 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 submitted with the NEMA Application Form on 15 June 2020, will be updated and provided to the Department for approval before the public participation process on the draft BAR will commence. I&amp;APs without e-mail addresses will be notified via the Postal Office and via telephone calls. A second download option will be provided for the executive summary via We Transfer and will also be placed on our website.</p>	EnviroAfrica
"	<p>6.3. GHANTT Chart Please note that there is an extra 30 days available at each step in the process that can be used or not depending on specifics of the application. The implementation of the 30-day timeframe extension starts when the new process is commenced with. It is therefore crucial that the timeframes planned for a project be included and clearly reflected in the GHANTT chart. Since I&amp;APs have to be informed of the extended timeframes (or the fact that an extension will not be used in a particular case), the GHANTT chart has to be agreed to before, and must be included in the Draft BAR that is released for public comment. The GHANTT chart must be amended accordingly and submitted to the Department for acceptance with the amended PPP.</p> <p>Please note that the Department cannot refuse the use of the 30-day extension on any step as suggested by the EAP. However, where the EAP does not plan to use the extension and there is good reason to believe that it is better to make use of it, the Department can recommend that it must be used. The 30-day extension is the "default" situation, so if the EAP does not indicate that he will not be using it or use a shorter amount of time for the extension, the 30 days will automatically be included in every step.</p>	DEA&DP: Region 1	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>6.3. Noted. An additional 30 days will be added to the draft BAR that will go out for public comment in due course. The GHANTT chart submitted with the NEMA Application Form on 15 June 2020 will be amended, and will be submitted together with the updated Public Participation Plan for approval.</p>	EnviroAfrica

"	<p>6.4. Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr") In accordance with Section 24N of NEMA and Regulation 19 of the EIA Regulations 2014, the Department hereby requires the submission of an Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr"). The contents of such an EMPr must meet the requirements outlined in Section 24N (2) and (3) of the NEMA and Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations 2014. The EMPr must address the potential environmental impacts of the activity throughout the project life cycle, including an assessment of the effectiveness of monitoring and management arrangements after implementation (auditing). The EMPr must be submitted together with the BAR. When compiling the EMPr, the Department's Guideline for Environmental Management Plans (June 2005), available on the Department's website <a href="http://eadp-westerncape.kzsshf.gov.za/your-resource-library">http://eadp-westerncape.kzsshf.gov.za/your-resource-library</a> must be taken into account.</p> <p>6.5. Guidelines When undertaking the EIA process, you must take into account the applicable guidelines including the guidelines developed by the Department's guidelines can be downloaded from the Department's website (<a href="http://eadp-westerncape.kzsshf.gov.za/your-resource-library">http://eadp-westerncape.kzsshf.gov.za/your-resource-library</a>). In particular, the following guidelines that may be applicable to the proposed development, including, inter alia, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Guideline for the Review of Specialist Input in the EIA process (June 2005).</li> <li>* Guideline for Environmental Management Plans (June 2005).</li> <li>* Guideline on Alternatives (March 2013).</li> <li>* Guideline on Need and Desirability.</li> </ul>	DEA&DP: Region 1	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>6.4. Noted. The requirements of Section 24N of the NEMA and Regulation 19 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, will be complied with in the draft BAR.</p> <p>6.5. Noted. The Department's identified guidelines will be considered in the draft BAR.</p>	EnviroAfrica
"	<p>6.6. Need &amp; desirability In terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, when considering an application, the Department must take into account a number of specific considerations including inter alia, the need for and desirability of any proposed development. As such, the need for and desirability of the proposed activity must be considered and reported on in the BAR. The BAR must reflect how the strategic context of the site in relation to the broader surrounding area, has been considered in addressing need and desirability. Refer to the Department's Guideline on Need and Desirability (March 2013).</p> <p>6.7. NEMA Principles In addition to the above, you must clearly show how the proposed development complies with the principles contained in Section 2 of the NEMA and must also show how the proposed development meets the requirements of sustainable development.</p>	DEA&DP: Region 1	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>6.6. Noted. Need and Desirability considerations of the proposed development will be considered in the draft BAR that will go out for public comment in due course. The Department's Need and Desirability (March 2013) guideline will be considered in the draft BAR.</p> <p>6.7. Noted. To be addressed in the draft BAR.</p>	EnviroAfrica
"	<p>6.8. BAR Requirements The BAR must contain all the information outlined in Appendix 1 of the EIA Regulations 2014 and must also include the information requested in this letter. Omission of any of the said information may result in the application for Environmental Authorisation being refused.</p> <p>The Department awaits the submission of the BAR as prescribed by Regulation 19 of the EIA Regulations, 2014. In accordance with Regulation 19 of the EIA Regulations 2014, the Department hereby stipulates that the BAR must be submitted to this Department for decision within 90 days from the date of receipt of the application by the Department, calculated from 15 June 2020. Any additional days, as indicated in the GHANTT chart and PPP, as agreed to by the competent authority, must be included in the reckoning of days. If however, significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the BAR, the applicant/EAP must notify the Department that an additional 50 days (i.e. 140 days from receipt of the application-as calculated above) would be required for the submission of the BAR. The additional 50 days must include a minimum 30-day commenting period to allow registered I&amp;APs to comment on the revised report/additional information.</p> <p>If the BAR is not submitted within 90 days or 140 days, where an extension is applicable, the application will lapse in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014 and your file will be closed. Should you wish to pursue the application again, a new application process would have to be initiated. A new Application Form would have to be submitted and the prescribed application fee would have to be paid.</p> <p>Please note that the BAR must be submitted electronically to the Department.</p>	DEA&DP: Region 1	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>6.8. Noted. The draft BAR will contain all the information outlined in Appendix 1 of the EIA Regulations 2014 and will also include the information requested in the department's correspondence dated 30 June 2020. An additional 30 days will be added to the draft BAR that will go out for public comment in due course. The GHANTT chart submitted with the NEMA Application Form on 15 June 2020 will be amended and will be submitted together with the updated Public Participation Plan for approval. An electronic copy of the draft BAR will be submitted to the Department in due course.</p>	EnviroAfrica

	<p>6.9. General Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.</p> <p>Please note that the activity may not commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department. It is an offence in terms of Section 49A of the NEMA for a person to commence with a listed activity unless the Department has granted an environmental authorisation for the undertaking of the activity. Failure to comply with the requirements of Section 24F and 49A of the NEMA will result in the matter being referred to the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Directorate of this Department for prosecution. A person convicted of an offence in terms of the above is liable to a fine not exceeding R10 million or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10 years, or to both such fine and imprisonment.</p> <p>7. The Department reserves the right to revise its comments and request further information from you based on any new or revised information received.</p> <p>Yours faithfully Head of Component</p>	DEA&DP: Region 1	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>6.9. Noted. The aforementioned reference number will be used in all future correspondence in respect of this NEMA Application. No activities will commence unless the Department has issued an environmental authorisation.</p> <p>7. Noted.</p> <p>I would like to thank you for providing comment on the NEMA Application Form that was submitted to the Department on 15 June 2020.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p>	EnviroAfrica
16/07/2020	<p>Dear Emile,</p> <p>Please note the HWC comment dated 4 March 2020 stands, no further action in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act is required.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Waseefa Dhansay</p>	Heritage Western Cape	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>Dear Waseefa Dhansay,</p> <p>I hereby acknowledge receipt of your email comment dated 16 July 2020.</p> <p>Thank you for confirming that Heritage Western Cape has no further comment other than the comment issued on 04 March 2020, where it was indicated that no further actions in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act is required.</p> <p>I would like to thank you for participation in the public participation process for the aforementioned development proposal.</p> <p>Kind regards, Emile Esquire</p>	EnviroAfrica
16/07/2020	<p>Dear Emile,</p> <p>My colleague Alana Duffell-Canham has responded that she is satisfied with the responses you provided to her comments (as attached) on the pre-app BAR.</p> <p>Please direct any future correspondence to her, no need to copy me in.</p> <p>Kind regards, Philippa</p>	CapeNature	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>Dear Philippa,</p> <p>Your email correspondence below, refers.</p> <p>Thank you for confirming that CapeNature's comments have been addressed.</p> <p>I will forward all future correspondences to Alana Duffell-Canham.</p> <p>I would like you for participating in the public participation process for the aforementioned development proposal.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p>	EnviroAfrica
19/07/2020	<p>Good day</p> <p>The right person to communicate with is the SACAA Environmental Specialist. Her contact details are as follows; Ms Evelyn Shogole Telephone Number: 0115451199 Email address: ShogoleE@caa.co.za</p> <p>Kind regards, Marié</p>	SACAA - Marie Pretorius	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>Dear Marié,</p> <p>Your email dated 19 July 2020, refers.</p> <p>Your email correspondence is duly noted.</p> <p>I will contact Ms. Evelyn Shogole to obtain her comment.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p>	EnviroAfrica

22/07/2020	<p>Good afternoon Sir</p> <p>May you please forward an electronic copy of the application via email in order to provide comments.</p> <p>Regards Bukelwa Mtandana (Miss)</p>	Department of Water & Sanitation	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>Dear Ms Mtanda Bukelwa,</p> <p>Your email correspondence of earlier today, refers.</p> <p>Please find the attached copy of the Draft BAR with Appendix A1 to Appendix F4.</p> <p>I will forward Appendix F5 to Appendix K11 after this email notification.</p> <p>Please note that an electronic copy of the Draft BAR is also available on our website, under projects for public participation: <a href="https://www.enviroafrica.co.za/projects/for-public-participation/">https://www.enviroafrica.co.za/projects/for-public-participation/</a></p> <p>Please don't hesitate to contact me should you require any additional information.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p>	EnviroAfrica
"	"	Department of Water & Sanitation	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>Dear Ms Mtandana Bukelwa,</p> <p>Please find attached Appendix F5 to Appendix K11 of the Draft BAR for the aforementioned development proposal.</p> <p>Please note that an electronic copy of the Draft BAR is also available on our website, under projects for public participation: <a href="https://www.enviroafrica.co.za/projects/for-public-participation/">https://www.enviroafrica.co.za/projects/for-public-participation/</a></p> <p>Please don't hesitate to contact me should you require any additional information.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p>	EnviroAfrica
"	<p>Dear Ms Mtandana Bukelwa,</p> <p>My email correspondences dated 22 July 2020, refers.</p> <p>Please advise if you have received the pdf copy of the draft BAR for the aforementioned proposal.</p> <p>Kind regards, Emile Esquire</p>	EnviroAfrica	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>Dear Sir</p> <p>Thank you for your response.</p> <p>I have not received the e-mail that you made reference to but I was able to open the link contained in the e-mail you refer to today.</p> <p>Please note that Department cannot provide comments on this application because this development falls within the Breede-Gouritz CMA.</p> <p>Please forward the application to the BGCMA for comment.</p> <p>Below are the contact details of the person in BGCMA: Ms Elkerine Rossouw - Water Use Specialist Email: <a href="mailto:erossouw@bgcma.co.za">erossouw@bgcma.co.za</a> Tel: 023 3468000</p> <p>Regards Bukelwa Mtandana (Miss)</p>	Department of Water & Sanitation
"	<p>Dear Ms Mtandana Bukelwa,</p> <p>Thank you for your prompt response.</p> <p>I will forward a notification to Ms Elkerine Rossouw at BGCMA for comment.</p> <p>Thank you for your assistance.</p> <p>Kind regards, Emile Esquire</p>	EnviroAfrica	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	"	EnviroAfrica

22/07/2020	<p>Dear Sir,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The draft BAR dated June 2020, as received by this Department on 16 July 2020, refer.</li> <li>This letter serves as an acknowledgement of receipt of the aforementioned document by the Department.</li> <li>This Department will consider the draft BAR and issue a comment within the prescribed commenting period ending on the 11 September 2020.</li> <li>Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.</li> <li>Please note that the activity may not commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department. It is an offence in terms of Section 49A of the NEMA for a person to commence with a listed activity unless the Department has granted an Environmental Authorisation for the undertaking of the activity. Failure to comply with the requirements of Section 24F and 49A of the NEMA will result in the matter being referred to the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Directorate of this Department for prosecution. A person convicted of an offence in terms of the above is liable to a fine not exceeding R10 million or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10 years, or to both such fine and imprisonment.</li> <li>The Department reserves the right to revise its comments and request further information from you based on any new or revised information received.</li> </ol> <p>Yours faithfully HEAD OF COMPONENT</p>	DEA&DP: Region 1	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>Dear Mr Ntanganedzeni Mabasa,</p> <p>I hereby acknowledge receipt of the attached correspondence from the Department dated 22 July 2020.</p> <p>Please note that the contents of the aforementioned correspondence dated 22 July 2020 is duly noted.</p> <p>Kindly note that the proposed activity will only be commenced with once an environmental authorisation has been issued by the Department.</p> <p>Kind regards, Emile Esquire</p>	EnviroAfrica
23-Jul-20	<p>Thank you for your response.</p> <p>I have not received the e-mail that you made reference to but I was able to open the link contained in the e-mail you refer to today.</p> <p>Please note that Department cannot provide comments on this application because this development falls within the Breede-Gouritz CMA. Please forward the application to the BGCMA for comment. .</p> <p>Below are the contact details of the person in BGCMA: Ms Elkerine Rossouw - Water Use Specialist Email: erossouw@bgcma.co.za Tel: 023 3468000</p>	Dept of Water and Sanitation: Western Cape Region	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>Dear Ms Mtandana Bukelwa,</p> <p>Thank you for your prompt response.</p> <p>I will forward a notification to Ms Elkerine Rossouw at BGCMA for comment.</p> <p>Thank you for your assistance. [Ms Elkerine Rossouw was contacted on the 23rd July 2020 (Appendix F12(1.2) for their opportunity to comment. (A comment was received from BGCMA on 13 August 2020 - please see below)].</p>	EnviroAfrica
13-Aug-20	<p>BGCMA received the Draft Basic Assessment Report for the proposed development of a 35 m high telecommunication mast on the portion 1 of the farm 343, Laastedrif Boerdery, Ceres, Western Cape on the 24 July 2020.</p> <p>We noted that the proposed activity does not fall within the BGCMA areas, but there are no water uses triggered by the activities.</p> <p>You can contact Darril Daniels for formal comments.</p>	Water Use Officer: Breede-Gouritz Water Management Agency	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>Your comments have been received and have been duly noted. Thank you for providing comment on the proposed development.</p>	EnviroAfrica
19-Jul-20	<p>Good day</p> <p>The right person to communicate with is the SACAA Environmental Specialist. Her contact details are as follows; Ms Evelyn Shogole Telephone Number: 0115451199 Email address: ShogoleE@caa.co.za</p>	Inspector: PANS-OPS/Cartography PANS-OPS Section Air Navigation Services Department	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>Your email dated 19 July 2020, refers. Your email correspondence is duly noted.</p> <p>I will contact Ms. Evelyn Shogole to obtain her comment.</p> <p>[Ms Evelyn Shogole was contacted on the 20th July 2020 to provide comment - See Appendix F12 (3)].</p>	EnviroAfrica

10-Sep-20	<p>Dear Sir,</p> <p>1. The electronic copy of Draft BAR and letter dated June 2020, as received by this Department on the 16 July 2020 and the Department's acknowledgement thereof issued on 22 July 2020, refer.</p> <p>2. Following the review of the information submitted to this Department, the following is noted:</p> <p>2.1 The proposal entails the development of a 35m high telecommunication mast and its associated infrastructure on Portion 1 of Farm Uitkomst No. 343, Laastedrif Boerdery, Ceres.</p> <p>2.2 The development footprint is 68.5m2 and will be enclosed with a 2.4m high steel palisade fence.</p> <p>2.3 The site is zoned as Agriculture Zone I and located outside the urban area of Ceres.</p> <p>2.4 Electricity to power the mast will be sourced from the land owner.</p> <p>2.5 No new roads will be constructed as an existing farm road will be used to gain access to the proposed site.</p> <p>2.6 The proposed site is mapped to contain Matjiesfontein Shale Renosterveld vegetation that is not listed as threatened but supports some unique micro-habitats. The site does not form part of the Critical Biodiversity Area ("CBA") but has been identified as an Ecological Support Area ("ESA") due to habitat type and watercourse protection.</p> <p>2.7 No rivers, surface water resources or wetlands occur within 32m of the proposed site. There is a dam approximately 245m south-east of the proposed site, mainly used for irrigation purposes. There are two non-perennial watercourses approximately 370m south-east and 240m north of the proposed site.</p>	DEA&DP: Region 1	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>Dear Ntanganedzeni,</p> <p>1. Your comment have been duly noted.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>2.1. Noted, thank you.</p> <p>2.2. Noted, thank you.</p> <p>2.3. Noted, thank you.</p> <p>2.4. Noted, thank you.</p> <p>2.5. Noted, thank you.</p> <p>2.6. Noted.</p> <p>2.7. Noted.</p>	EnviroAfrica
"	<p>3. This Department's comments are as follows:</p> <p>3.1 It is indicated that the obstacle approval dated 2 March 2020 is attached as Appendix E2, but a copy is not included in the draft BAR. A copy of the approval must be included in the final BAR submitted for decision-making.</p> <p>3.2 A copy of the Public Participation Plan Approval for the application referenced 16/3/3/6/7/1/F1/11/2186/19 is included in the public participation information appended to the draft BAR and must be removed.</p> <p>3.3 The EMPr must be amended to include the site plan of the proposed development.</p> <p>3.4 In terms of Regulation 34 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, the holder must conduct environmental audits to determine compliance with the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation, the EMPr and submit Environmental Audit Reports to the Competent Authority. The Environmental Audit Report must be prepared by an independent person and must contain all the information required in Appendix 7 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014. Please advise what the estimated duration of the construction phase will be. In addition, you are required to recommend and motivate the frequency at which the environmental audits must be conducted by an independent person.</p> <p>3.5 Please be advised that an original signed and dated applicant declaration is required to be submitted with the BAR to this Department for decision-making. It is important to note that by signing this declaration, the applicant is confirming that they are aware and have taken cognisance of the contents of the report submitted for decisionmaking. Furthermore, through signing this declaration, the applicant is making a commitment that they are both willing and able to implement the necessary mitigation, management and monitoring measures recommended within the report with respect to this application.</p> <p>3.6 In addition to the above, please ensure that original signed and dated EAP and specialist declarations are also submitted with the BAR for decision-making.</p> <p>3.7 In addition to the above, please ensure that original signed and dated Environmental Assessment Practitioner ("EAP") declaration is also submitted with the final BAR for decision-making.</p>	DEA&DP: Region 1	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>3.</p> <p>3.1. The CAA Obsracle Approval has been attached as Appendix E2. Please note that an electronic version of the Final BAR and Appendices can be accessed at the following link: <a href="https://enviroafrica.co.za/projects/current/">https://enviroafrica.co.za/projects/current/</a></p> <p>3.2. Noted.</p> <p>3.3. Site plans have been included in the EMPr.</p> <p>3.4. Noted. Please refer to section 13.1. and 13.3. of the Final EMPr (Appendix H) for more information. In terms of Regulation 34 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, the holder must conduct environmental audits to ensure compliance with conditions of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) and EMPr. The Environmental Audit Report must be prepared by an independent person and must contain all the information required in Appendix 7 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014. The estimated duration of telecommunication masts is four (4) weeks. Three (3) ECO audits must be conducted, which include an initial site audit (namely the start-up site meeting and initial audit), an audit during the construction phase, and a closing ECO audit, once construction has been completed.</p> <p>3.5. Noted.</p> <p>3.6. Noted.</p> <p>3.7. Noted.</p>	EnviroAfrica
"	<p>4. Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.</p> <p>5. Please note that the proposed development may not commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Competent Authority.</p>	DEA&DP: Region 1	Laastedrif Telecommunication Mast	<p>4. Noted, thank you.</p> <p>5. Noted, thank you.</p>	EnviroAfrica