



**Western Cape
Government**

Environmental Affairs and
Development Planning

Directorate: Development Management
(Region 1)

REFERENCE: 16/3/3/1/E4/11/1029/19

ENQUIRIES: BERNADETTE OSBORNE

DATE OF ISSUE: 2019-09-12

The Board of Directors
Atlas Towers (Pty) Ltd
Cecilia Square
100 Cecilia Street
PAARL
7620

Attention: Mr Cornelis Wessels

Tel: (021) 870 1302 / 1368
E-mail: cwessels@Atlaltowers.com

Dear Sir

APPLICATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT 107 OF 1998) AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT ("EIA") REGULATIONS, 2014: THE DEVELOPMENT OF A 30M HIGH TELECOMMUNICATION MAST ON PORTION 7 OF FARM JAGERSVLAKTE NO. 292, GRABOUW.

1. With reference to the above application, the Department hereby notifies you of its decision to **grant** Environmental Authorisation, attached herewith, together with the reasons for the decision.
2. In terms of Regulation 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, you are instructed to ensure, within 14 days of the date of the Environmental Authorisation, that all registered interested and affected parties ("I&APs") are provided with access to and reasons for the decision, and that all registered I&APs are notified of their right to appeal.
3. Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of the Appeal Regulations, 2014, which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. This procedure is summarised in the attached Environmental Authorisation.

Yours faithfully

**DIRECTOR: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT (REGION 1)
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

Cc: (1) Ms Inge Erasmus / Mr Bernard de Witt (EnviroAfrica CC)
(2) mariannege@twk.gov.za (Theewaterskloof Municipality)

Fax: (086) 512 0154



REFERENCE: 16/3/3/1/E4/11/1029/19
NEAS REFERENCE: WCP/EIA/0000596/2019
ENQUIRIES: Bernadette Osborne
DATE OF ISSUE: 2019 -09- 12

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT 107 OF 1998) AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014: THE DEVELOPMENT OF A 30M HIGH TELECOMMUNICATION MAST ON PORTION 7 OF FARM JAGERSVLAKTE NO. 292, GRABOUW.

With reference to your application for the abovementioned, find below the outcome with respect to this application.

DECISION

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA") and the Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Regulations, 2014, the Competent Authority herewith **grants Environmental Authorisation** to the applicant to undertake the listed activities specified in section B below with respect to Site Alternative A and Design Alternative 1 described in the Basic Assessment Report ("BAR"), dated June 2019.

The applicant for this Environmental Authorisation is required to comply with the conditions set out in section E below.

A. DETAILS OF THE APPLICANT FOR THIS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Atlas Towers SA (Pty) Ltd
c/o Cornelis Wessels
Cecilia Square
100 Cecilia Street
PAARL
7620

The abovementioned applicant is the holder of this Environmental Authorisation and is hereinafter referred to as "**the holder**".

B. LIST OF ACTIVITIES AUTHORISED

Listed Activities	Project Description
<p>Listing Notice 1 – Activity Number 12 <i>The development of-</i></p> <p><i>(i) Dams or weirs, where the dam or weir, including infrastructure and water surface area, exceeds 100 square metres; or</i></p> <p>(ii) Infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more;</p> <p><i>where such development occurs-</i></p> <p><i>(a) Within a watercourse;</i></p> <p><i>(b) In front of a development setback; or</i></p> <p>(c) If no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse; -</p> <p><i>excluding-</i></p> <p><i>(aa) the development of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour;</i></p> <p><i>(bb) where such development activities are related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 of Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies;</i></p> <p><i>(cc) activities listed in activity 14 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 or activity 14 of Listing Notice 3 of 2014, in which case that activity applies;</i></p> <p><i>(dd) where such development occurs within an urban area;</i></p> <p><i>(ee) where such development occurs within existing roads, road reserves or railway line reserves;</i></p> <p><i>(ff) the development of temporary infrastructure or structures where such infrastructure or structures will be removed within 6 weeks of the commencement of development and</i></p>	<p>The development will be located within 32 metres of a wetland.</p>

<p>where indigenous vegetation will not be cleared.</p>	
<p>Listing Notice 3 – Activity Number: 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 -</p> <p>(a) is to be placed on a site not previously used for this purpose; and</p> <p>(b) will exceed 15 metres in height-</p> <p>but excluding attachments to existing buildings and masts on rooftops.</p> <p>i. Western Cape</p> <p>i. All areas outside urban areas;</p> <p>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</p> <p>iii. Areas zoned for use as public open space or equivalent zoning within urban areas.</p>	<p>A 30m high telecommunication mast will be constructed on the subject property, located outside the urban area.</p>

The abovementioned list is hereinafter referred to as “**the listed activities**”.

The holder is herein authorised to undertake the following alternative that includes the listed activities as it relates to the development:

The development entails the construction of a 30m high lattice mast with associated infrastructure, including nine antennas and four equipment containers. The development footprint will be approximately 100m² and will be enclosed with a 2.4m high steel palisade fence. Existing access will be used.

C. SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The site where the authorised listed activities will be undertaken is located on Portion 7 of Farm Jagersvlakte No. 292, Grabouw, and has the following co-ordinates:

	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
Coordinates	34° 08' 47.7" South	18° 59' 51.19" East

The SG digit code is: C01300000000029200007

Refer to Annexure 1: Locality Map and Annexure 2: Site Plan.

The above is hereinafter referred to as "**the site**".

D. DETAILS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

EnviroAfrica CC
c/o Inge Erasmus / Bernard de Witt
PO Box 5367
HELDERBERG
7620

Tel: (021) 851 1616

Fax: (086) 512 0154

E. CONDITIONS OF AUTHORISATION

Scope of authorisation

1. The holder is authorised to undertake the listed activities specified in Section B above in accordance with and restricted to Site Alternative A and Design Alternative 1 described in the Basic Assessment Report ("BAR"), dated June 2019 on the site as described in Section C above.
2. The Environmental Authorisation is valid for a period of **five years** from the date of issue within which commencement must occur.
3. The development must be concluded within **ten years** from the date of commencement of the listed activities.
4. The holder shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions by any person acting on his/her behalf, including an agent, sub-contractor, employee or any person rendering a service to the holder.
5. Any changes to, or deviations from the scope of the alternative described in section B above must be accepted or approved, in writing, by the Competent Authority before such changes or deviations may be implemented. In assessing whether to grant such acceptance/approval or not, the Competent Authority may request information in order to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations, and it may be necessary for the holder to apply for further authorisation in terms of the applicable legislation.

Written notice to the Competent Authority

6. Seven calendar days' notice, in writing, must be given to the Competent Authority before commencement of construction activities.
 - 6.1 The notice must make clear reference to the site details and EIA Reference number given above.
 - 6.2 The notice must also include proof of compliance with the following conditions described herein:

Conditions: 7, 8, 11 and 18

Notification and administration of appeal

7. The holder must in writing, within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this decision–
 - 7.1 notify all registered Interested and Affected Parties ("I&APs") of –
 - 7.1.1 the outcome of the application;
 - 7.1.2 the reasons for the decision as included in Annexure 3;
 - 7.1.3 the date of the decision; and
 - 7.1.4 the date when the decision was issued.
 - 7.2 draw the attention of all registered I&APs to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against the decision in terms of the National Appeals Regulations, 2014 detailed in Section F below;
 - 7.3 draw the attention of all registered I&APs to the manner in which they may access the decision;
 - 7.4 provide the registered I&APs with:
 - 7.4.1 the name of the holder (entity) of this Environmental Authorisation,
 - 7.4.2 name of the responsible person for this Environmental Authorisation,
 - 7.4.3 postal address of the holder,
 - 7.4.4 telephonic and fax details of the holder,
 - 7.4.5 e-mail address, if any, of the holder,
 - 7.4.6 the contact details (postal and/or physical address, contact number, facsimile and e-mail address) of the decision-maker and all registered I&APs in the event that an appeal is lodged in terms of the 2014 National Appeals Regulations.
8. The listed activities, including site preparation, may not commence within 20 (twenty) calendar days from the date of issue of this Environmental Authorisation. In the event that an appeal is lodged with the Appeal Authority, the effect of this Environmental Authorisation is suspended until the appeal is decided.

Management of activities

9. The draft Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr") submitted as part of the application for Environmental Authorisation is hereby approved and must be implemented.
10. The EMPr must be included in all contract documentation for all phases of implementation.

Monitoring

11. The holder must appoint a suitably experienced environmental control officer ("ECO"), or site agent where appropriate, before commencement of any land clearing or construction activities to ensure compliance with the provisions of the EMPr and the conditions contained herein.
12. A copy of the Environmental Authorisation, EMPr, audit reports and compliance monitoring reports must be kept at the site of the authorised activities, and must be made available to anyone on request, including a publicly accessible website.
13. Access to the site referred to in Section C above must be granted, and the environmental reports mentioned above must be produced, to any authorised official representing the Competent Authority who requests to see it for the purposes of assessing and/or monitoring compliance with the conditions contained herein.

Auditing

14. 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.

The holder must undertake an environmental audit quarterly for the duration of the construction phase and submit Environmental Audit Reports to the Competent Authority once every six months during the construction phase. The final Environmental Audit Report must be submitted to the Competent Authority within six months after operation commenced.

The holder must, within 7 days of the submission of each of the above-mentioned reports to the Competent Authority, notify all potential and registered I&APs of the submission and make the report available to anyone on request and on a publicly accessible website (if applicable).

Specific Conditions

15. Should any heritage remains be exposed during excavations or any other actions on the site, these must immediately be reported to the Provincial Heritage Resources Authority of the Western Cape, Heritage Western Cape. Heritage remains uncovered or disturbed during earthworks must not be further disturbed until the necessary approval has been obtained from Heritage Western Cape.

Heritage remains include: meteorites, archaeological and/or palaeontological remains (including fossil shells and trace fossils); coins; indigenous and/or colonial ceramics; any articles of value or antiquity; marine shell heaps; stone artifacts and bone remains; structures and other built features with heritage significance; rock art and rock engravings; and/or graves or unmarked human burials including grave goods and/or associated burial material.

16. A qualified archaeologist and/or palaeontologist must be contracted where necessary (at the expense of the holder) to remove any heritage remains. Heritage remains can only be disturbed by a suitably qualified heritage specialist working under a directive from the relevant heritage resources authority.
17. The existing transformer 49C1100 must be upgraded and a low voltage 70mm bundle conductor must be installed from the upgraded transformer for sufficient power supply.
18. Clear demarcation of the development footprint and the no-go areas must take place before commencement of construction activities.
19. Construction activities must occur during the summer months.

F. GENERAL MATTERS

1. Notwithstanding this Environmental Authorisation, the holder must comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable when undertaking the listed activities.
2. Non-compliance with a condition of this Environmental Authorisation or EMPr may render the holder liable to criminal prosecution.
3. If the holder does not commence with the listed activities within the period referred to in Condition 2, this Environmental Authorisation shall lapse for the activities, and a new application for Environmental Authorisation must be submitted to the Competent Authority. If the holder wishes to extend the validity period of the Environmental Authorisation, an application for amendment in this regard must be made to the Competent Authority prior to the expiry date of the Environmental Authorisation.

4. The holder must submit an application for amendment of the Environmental Authorisation to the Competent Authority where any detail with respect to the Environmental Authorisation must be amended, added, substituted, corrected, removed or updated. If a new holder is proposed, an application for Amendment in terms of Part 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 must be submitted.

Please note that an amendment is not required if there is a change in the contact details of the holder. In this case, the Competent Authority must only be notified of such changes.

5. The manner and frequency for updating the EMPr is as follows:
Amendments to the EMPr, must be done in accordance with Regulations 35 to 37 of the EIA Regulations 2014 or any relevant legislation that may be applicable at the time.

G. APPEALS

Appeals must comply with the provisions contained in the National Appeal Regulations 2014 (as amended).

1. An appellant (if the holder of the decision) must, within 20 (twenty) calendar days from the date the notification of the decision was sent to the holder by the Competent Authority –
 - 1.1. Submit an appeal in accordance with Regulation 4 of the National Appeal Regulations 2014 (as amended) to the Appeal Administrator; and
 - 1.2. Submit a copy of the appeal to any registered I&APs, any Organ of State with interest in the matter and the decision-maker i.e. the Competent Authority that issued the decision. -
2. An appellant (if NOT the holder of the decision) must, within 20 (twenty) calendar days from the date the holder of the decision sent notification of the decision to the registered I&APs–
 - 2.1. Submit an appeal in accordance with Regulation 4 of the National Appeal Regulations 2014 (as amended) to the Appeal Administrator; and
 - 2.2. Submit a copy of the appeal to the holder of the decision, any registered I&AP, any Organ of State with interest in the matter and the decision-maker i.e. the Competent Authority that issued the decision.
3. The holder of the decision (if not the appellant), the decision-maker that issued the decision, the registered I&AP and the Organ of State must submit their responding statements, if any, to the appeal authority and the appellant within 20 (twenty) calendar days from the date of receipt of the appeal submission.

4. The appeal and the responding statement must be submitted to the address listed below:

By post: Western Cape Ministry of Local Government, Environmental
Affairs and Development Planning
Private Bag X9186
CAPE TOWN
8000

By facsimile: (021) 483 4174; or
By hand: Attention: Mr Marius Venter (Tel: 021 483 3721)
Room 809
8th Floor Utilitas Building, 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001

Note: For purposes of electronic database management, you are also requested to submit electronic copies (Microsoft Word format) of the appeal, responding statement and any supporting documents to the Appeal Authority to the address listed above and/ or via e-mail to DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za.

5. A prescribed appeal form as well as assistance regarding the appeal processes is obtainable from Appeal Authority at: Tel. (021) 483 3721, E-mail DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za or URL <http://www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp>.

H. DISCLAIMER

The Western Cape Government, the Local Authority, committees or any other public authority or organisation appointed in terms of the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation shall not be responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder, developer or his/her successor in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction is temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance with the conditions as set out herein or any other subsequent document or legal action emanating from this decision.

Your interest in the future of our environment is appreciated.

Yours faithfully



MR. ZAAHIR TOEFY

DIRECTOR: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT (REGION 1)

DATE OF DECISION: 12/07/2019

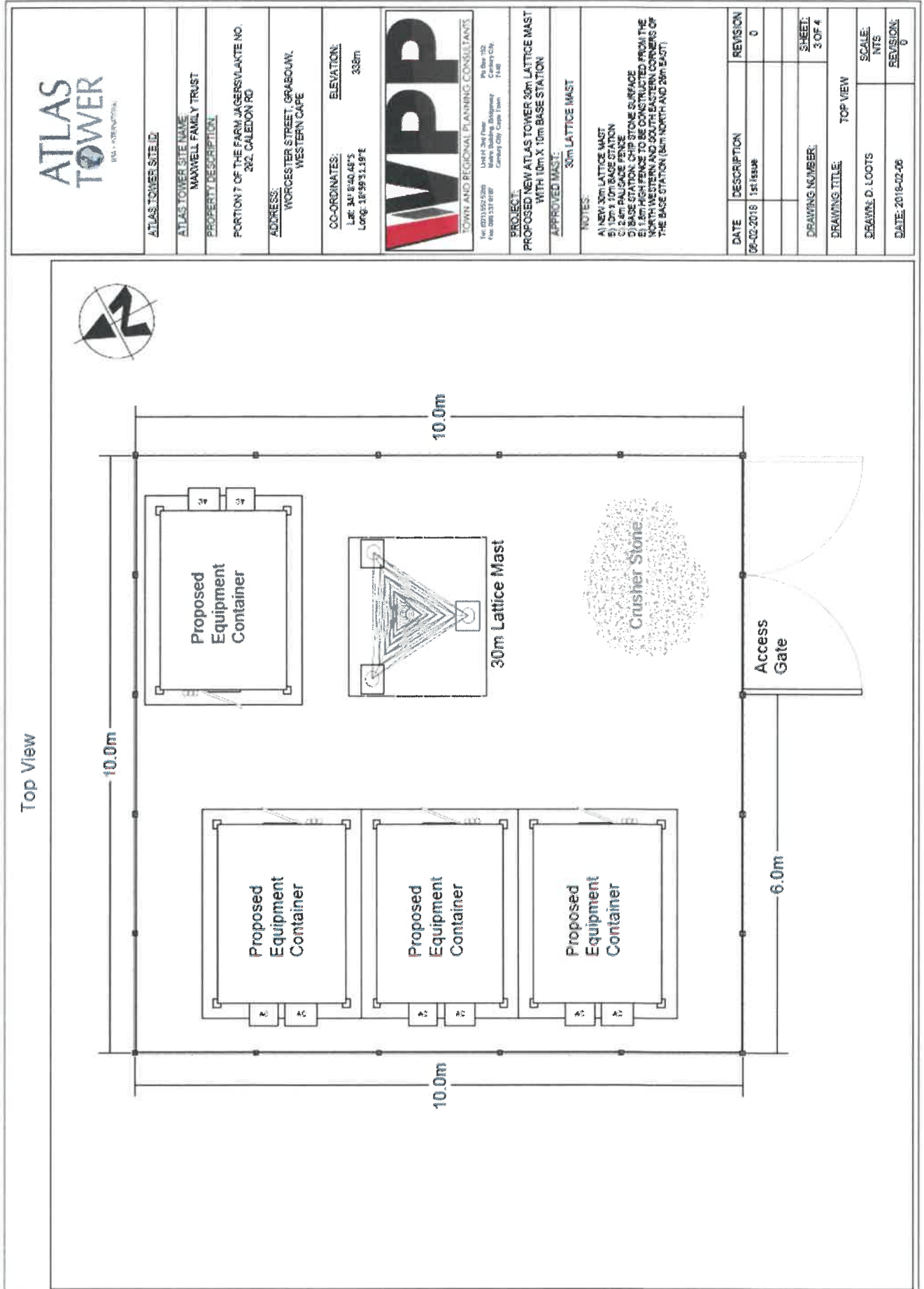
Cc: (1) Inge Erasmus / Bernard de Witt (EnviroAfrica CC)
(2) mariannege@twk.gov.za (Theewaterskloof Municipality)


Fax: (086) 512 0154

ANNEXURE 1: LOCALITY MAP

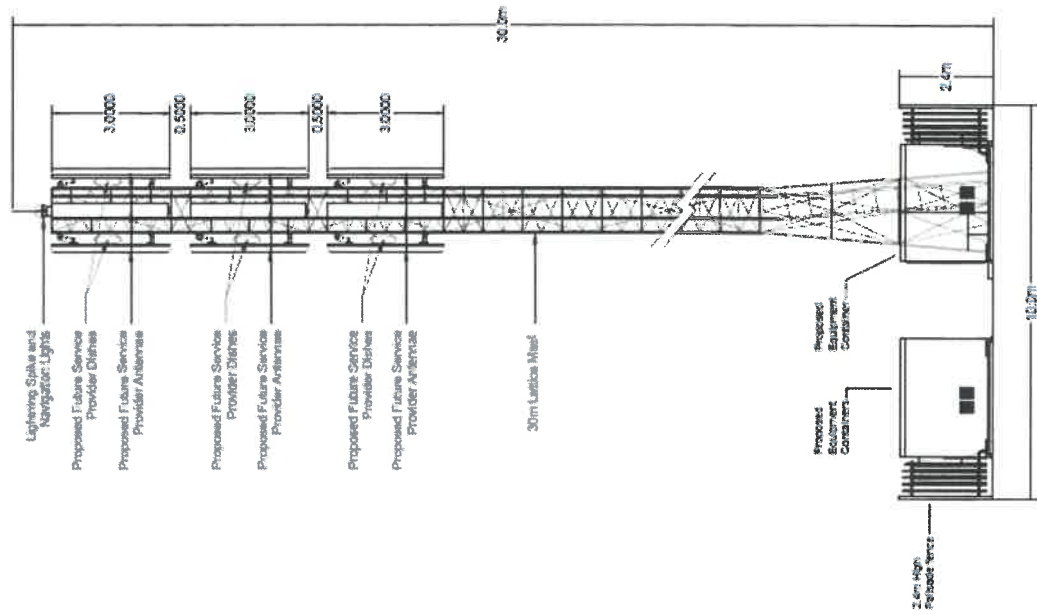


ANNEXURE 2: SITE PLAN



ATLAS TOWER SITE ID:	
ATLAS TOWER SITE NAME: MANWELL FAMILY TRUST	
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: PORTION 7 OF THE FARM JAGERSVILANTE NO. 282, CALEDON RD	
ADDRESS: WORCESTER STREET, GRABOUW, WESTERN CAPE	
CO-ORDINATES: Lat: 34° 24' 40.467 S Long: 18° 59' 31.197 E	ELEVATION: 338m
	
TOWN AND REGIONAL PLANNING CONSULTANTS Unit 11 2nd Floor, Ph. No: 021 532 5266 Metro Building, Bishops Cattery City Fax: 021 532 6787 Century City, Cape Town 7440	
PROJECT: PROPOSED NEW ATLAS TOWER 30m LATTICE MAST WITH 10m X 10m BASE STATION	
APPROVED MAST: 30m LATTICE MAST	
NOTES: A) NEW 30m LATTICE MAST B) 10m X 10m BASE STATION C) 2.4m PAULICAGE FENCE D) BASE STATION: CHIP STONE SURFACE E) 1.8m HIGH FENCE TO BE CONSTRUCTED FROM THE NORTH WESTERN AND SOUTH EASTERN CORNERS OF THE BASE STATION (SOUTH NORTH AND 25m EAST)	
DATE: 06-02-2018	REVISION: 1st Issue 0
DRAWING NUMBER:	SHEET: 3 OF 4
DRAWING TITLE: TOP VIEW	
DRAWN: D. LOOTS	SCALE: NTS
DATE: 2018-02-06	REVISION: 0

Elevation



ATLAS TOWER SITE ID

ATLAS TOWER SITE NAME
MANWELL FAMILY TRUST

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

PORTION 7 OF THE FARM JAEGERSVLAKTE NO.
262, CALEDON RD

ADDRESS:
WORCESTER STREET, GRABOUW,
WESTERN CAPE

COORDINATES:
Lat: 34° 6' 40.48" S
Long: 18° 59' 53.19" E

ELEVATION:
335m



TOWN AND REGIONAL PLANNING CONSULTANTS
Tel: 021 935 1800
Fax: 021 935 1818
14th St Floor
Century City, Cape Town

PROJECT:
PROPOSED NEW ATLAS TOWER 30m LATTICE MAST
WITH 10m X 10m BASE STATION

APPROVED MAST
30m LATTICE MAST

NOTES:

- A) NEW 30m LATTICE MAST
- B) 10m X 10m BASE STATION
- C) 2.4m PALISADE FENCE
- D) BASE STATION CHIPSTONE SURFACE
- E) 1.8m HIGH FENCE TO BE CONSTRUCTED FROM THE NORTH WESTERN AND SOUTH EASTERN CORNERS OF THE BASE STATION (54m NORTH AND 26m EAST)

DATE	DESCRIPTION	REVISION
26-02-2018	1st Issue	0
DRAWING NUMBER: DRAWING TITLE: ELEVATION		
DRAWING D. 1.00TS		SCALE: MFS
DATE: 2018-02-08		REVISION: 0

ANNEXURE 3: REASONS FOR THE DECISION

In reaching its decision, the Competent Authority considered, inter alia, the following:

- a) The information contained in the Application Form dated 16 April 2019, and the EMPr submitted together with the final Basic Assessment Report on 6 June 2019;
- b) Relevant information contained in the Departmental information base, including the Guidelines on Public Participation and Alternatives (dated March 2013);
- c) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998);
- d) The comments received from I&APs and responses to these, included in the final Basic Assessment Report received on 6 June 2019; and
- e) The balancing of negative and positive impacts and proposed mitigation measures.

No site visits were conducted. The Competent Authority had sufficient information before it to make an informed decision without conducting a site visit.

All information presented to the Competent Authority was taken into account in the consideration of the application for Environmental Authorisation. A summary of the issues that were considered to be the most significant for the decision is set out below.

1. Public Participation

The public participation process included:

- identification of and engagement with I&APs;
- a notice board was placed at the site where the listed activities are to be undertaken;
- the placing of a newspaper advertisement in the *'Theewaterskloof & Kaap Agulhas'* on 19 June 2018;
- giving written notice to the owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the listed activities are to be undertaken, the municipality and ward councilor, and the various organs of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the listed activities on 21 June 2018, 5 October 2018 and 17 April 2019;
- making the pre-application draft BAR available to I&APs for public review from 5 October 2018; and
- making the post-application draft BAR available to I&APs for public review from 18 April 2019.

The Department is satisfied that the Public Participation Process that was followed met the minimum legal requirements and all the comments raised and responses thereto were included in the comments and response report.

Specific alternatives, management and mitigation measures have been considered in this Environmental Authorisation and EMPr to adequately address the concerns raised.

2. Alternatives

The following three Design Alternatives were considered:

Design Alternative 1 (Preferred and herewith authorised)

This alternative entails the development of a 30m high lattice mast with associated infrastructure, including nine antennas and four equipment containers. The development footprint will be approximately 100m² and will be enclosed with a 2.4m high steel palisade fence. Existing access will be used. This alternative was preferred for the following reasons:

- It is able to hold the necessary amount of equipment, allowing for equipment from various service providers and thereby reducing the requirement to erect other masts for coverage in the vicinity.
- The construction of a lattice mast is less expensive to construct than a monopole or tree mast.
- Based on the findings of the Visual Impact Assessment compiled by Mr Christoff du Plessis of Enviroworks, dated September 2018, a lattice mast will have a lower visual impact than a monopole mast in the agricultural setting.

Design Alternative 2

This alternative entails the development of a tree mast. It was not preferred since it will not be able to hold as much equipment as a lattice mast and thereby increasing the need to erect more masts for coverage in the vicinity.

Design Alternative 3

This alternative entails the development of a monopole mast. It was not preferred since it will not be able to hold as much equipment as a lattice mast and will increase the need to erect additional masts for coverage in the vicinity. Based on the findings of the Visual Impact Assessment compiled by Mr Christoff du Plessis of Enviroworks, dated September 2018, a monopole mast will have a higher visual impact than a lattice mast in the agricultural setting.

Site Alternatives

Site Alternative A (Preferred and herewith authorised)

This alternative entails the development of a 30m high telecommunication lattice mast on portion 7 of Farm Jagersvlakte No. 292, Grabouw. Based on the findings of the Freshwater Report compiled by WATSAN Africa, dated January 2019 and agreed upon by Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency ("BGCMA"), this alternative was preferred since it is not located within the delineated wetland and spring present on

the site and is positioned further away from the watercourses than the site recommended by CapeNature.

Site Alternative B

This alternative entails the development of a 30m high telecommunication lattice mast on portion 7 of Farm Jagersvlakte No. 292, Grabouw. This alternative is located 60m southeast from Site Alternative A and was recommended by CapeNature since it falls outside the mapped wetland and Ecological Support Area. However, based on findings of the Freshwater Report compiled by WATSAN Africa, dated January 2019, this alternative was not preferred since it is located closer to the delineated wetland and spring present on the site than Site Alternative A.

No-go Option

This alternative is the option of not constructing the mast and associated infrastructure on the site and was not preferred since it will not provide a more efficient telecommunication service to the greater community in the surrounding area.

3. Impact Assessment and Mitigation measures

3.1 Activity need and desirability

The mast is considered as part of the essential services for the greater community and will facilitate social and economic development. It will provide an improved, more reliable network coverage and communication service infrastructure to the greater community in the surrounding area.

3.2 Biophysical Impacts

According to the available mapping resources, the site is located within a channeled valley-bottom wetland associated with southwest Sandstone Fynbos vegetation. CapeNature suggested in their comment dated 7 November 2018, that an alternative site should be investigated 60m southeast of the original site. It was further suggested by BGCMA in their comment dated 7 November 2018 that a wetland delineation and Risk Matrix must be conducted to determine the impact of the mast on the wetland. Based on these comments a Freshwater Impact Assessment was conducted to delineate the wetland and to evaluate both site alternatives. Findings of the Freshwater Report compiled by WATSAN Africa dated January 2019, indicated that the original site is not located within the delineated wetland present on the site but it is located within 32m of the wetland and within the 500m buffer area of the wetland. The original site was therefore considered the preferred location when compared to the alternative site suggested by CapeNature, which is located closer to the wetland. This was agreed upon by BGCMA and a General Authorisation was issued in terms of the National Water Act 1998 (Act 36 of 1998).

In addition, the site is vacant and covered with grass species, with no indigenous vegetation remaining on the site. The development is therefore not expected to have any significant biophysical impacts.

3.3 Visual Impacts

The Visual Impact Assessment compiled by Mr Christoff du Plessis of Enviroworks, dated September 2018, recommended a lattice mast, since the development is located within the agricultural area of Grabouw. The visual impact on residents in the area, commuters making use of the N2 road and tourists visiting the surrounding tourist attractions will be low after mitigation.

The development will result in both negative and positive impacts.

Negative Impacts:

- During the construction phase noise and dust impacts can be expected, which will only be temporary and is expected to be negligible.
- The development will have a low negative impact on the visual character of the area but will be mitigated to an acceptable level due to its design and location.

Positive impacts:

- The development will provide additional service coverage to the community in the surrounding area.
- The mast will allow for multiple service providers to attach and house their equipment on the mast, decreasing the need for additional masts in the area.

4. National Environmental Management Act Principles

The National Environmental Management Principles (set out in section 2 of the NEMA, which apply to the actions of all organs of state, serve as guidelines by reference to which any organ of state must exercise any function when taking any decision, and which must guide the interpretation, administration and implementation of any other law concerned with the protection or management of the environment), *inter alia*, provides for:

- the effects of decisions on all aspects of the environment to be taken into account;
- the consideration, assessment and evaluation of the social, economic and environmental impacts of activities (disadvantages and benefits), and for decisions to be appropriate in the light of such consideration and assessment;
- the co-ordination and harmonisation of policies, legislation and actions relating to the environment;
- the resolving of actual or potential conflicts of interest between organs of state through conflict resolution procedures; and
- the selection of the best practicable environmental option.

5. Conclusion

In view of the above, the NEMA principles, compliance with the conditions stipulated in this Environmental Authorisation, and compliance with the EMPr, the Competent Authority is satisfied that the proposed listed activities will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management stipulated in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the listed activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels.

-----END-----