

## Notice of Environmental Authorisation Process (Environmental Impact Assessment)

### PROPOSED 2AFRICA/GERA (EAST) MARINE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CABLE SYSTEM LANDING AT PORT ELIZABETH, EASTERN CAPE, SOUTH AFRICA

Notice is hereby given in terms of the amended Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 (as amended 2017) published under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), as amended, of the proposed landing of a submarine telecommunications cable at Port Elizabeth. Alcatel Submarine Networks (ASN) has been contracted to supply and install the proposed 2AFRICA/GERA (East) Cable System, which links Africa with Europe and parts of the Middle East. The cable landing at Port Elizabeth is to be operated by Vodacom (Pty) Limited (hereafter referred to as "Vodacom") as the South African landing partner and Project Applicant.

#### Environmental Assessment Practitioner

ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants

#### Location of the Project

The proposed 2AFRICA/GERA (East) Cable System will make landfall at Pollock beach and the cable will terminate at a Cable Landing Station located in Summerstrand (The preferred location for the CLS in Summerstrand has yet to be confirmed).

#### Environmental Authorisation

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) the proposed development of the 2AFRICA/GERA (East) Cable System landing at Port Elizabeth potentially triggers several listed activities and requires environmental authorisation via the undertaking of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

Listed Activities	
Listing Notice 1: No. R. 327 of April 2017	Activities 15,17, 18 and 19A
Listing Notice 2: No. R. 325 of April 2017	Activities 14 and 26
Listing Notice 3: No. R. 324 of April 2017	Activity 12

The national Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) is the competent authority for the issuing of environmental authorisation for this proposed development. There are other licenses/permits that may be required, which will be acquired in parallel to the environmental authorisation process, a Sea Shore Lease Permit from the Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT) and a Water Use License from the Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation (DHSWS).

#### Invitation to Participate

Interested and Affected Parties are requested to register with ACER and to provide their comments. A Background Information Document and Notification Letter, including a Registration and Comment Sheet can be obtained from the ACER Public Participation Office. For further information, please contact:

Carina Boonzaaier or Giles Churchill

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Please note that consistent with GNR 326, 42(a), 44 (1) and 19(1)(a) (7 April 2017) all comments received will be captured in a Comments and Responses Report which will be made available to the competent authority and which will be placed in the public domain as part of the public review process of the EIA reports.

Date of Notification: **04 November 2020**

