



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM
AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Environmental Services : Impact Management Unit

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Reference: DC21/NN/45/2022

SBA Towers South Africa

4 The Crescent, Westway Office Park
Westville
3629

Attention: Mr. Mzo. Gwabuzela

Email: mgwabuzela@sbsite.com


Cell: 031 001 0093/082 928 5609

Dear Mr Mzo Gwabuzela

THE RESPONSE TO A QUERY PERTAINING TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROPOSED 45M HIGH LATTICE MAST ON ERF 33, IN UMZINTO NORTH ATKZN 1381, UMDONI LOCAL UMUNICIPALITY, UGU DISTRICT, DC21

Your written correspondence (query form) submitted to the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (hereafter referred to as "the Department") and site visit conducted on 11 July 2022, has reference.

1. The Department has been requested by SBA Towers South Africa to provide comments with respect to the proposed cell mast within in Umzinto area, Umdoni Local Municipality.
2. Based on the information submitted to the Department, it is noted that:
 - i. The development site is located within a sugarcane plantation area;
 - ii. The development will be located at the co-ordinates: 30° 17' 3.79" S - 30° 40' 8.92" E;
 - iii. The development entails installation of a 45m high lattice mast with a new 10m x 10m telecommunication base station;
 - iv. The property for the proposed development is approximately 4.81km away from the Vernon Crookes Nature reserve;
 - v. The extent of the property is 6.0703 Hectares;
 - vi. The proposed development footprint is 100 square meters;
 - vii. The proposed site is adjacent to an existing tarred road;

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- viii. The current land zonation for the area is agriculture;
 - ix. The development does not fall within a 32m distance of a watercourse and,
 - x. The site falls within 5km of a Protected Area which is the Vernon Crookes Nature Reserve.
3. Based on the information provided, the Department is of the opinion that the development of the Cell Mast will trigger a listed activity in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended and therefore environmental approval in terms of section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) **is required**. The listed activity triggered by this development read as follows:

Activity 12 of Listing Notice 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 meters in height—**

a. KwaZulu-Natal

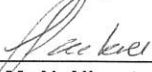
- i. In an estuarine functional zone;
 - ii. Trans-frontier protected areas managed under international conventions;
 - iii. Community Conservation Areas;
 - iv. World Heritage Sites;
 - v. Biodiversity Stewardship Programme Biodiversity Agreement areas;
 - vi. **A protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA**, excluding conservancies;
 - vii. Sites or areas identified in terms of an international convention;
 - viii. Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;
 - ix. Core areas in biosphere reserves;
 - x. Areas designated for conservation use in Spatial Development Frameworks adopted by the competent authority or zoned for a conservation purpose;
 - xi. Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority;
 - xii. Outside urban areas:
 - (aa) **Areas within 10 kilometers from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometers from any terrestrial protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core areas of a biosphere reserve; or**
 - (bb) Areas seawards of the development setback line or within 1 kilometer from the high-water mark of the sea if no such development setback line is determined; or
 - xiii. Inside urban areas:
 - (aa) Areas seawards of the development setback line or within 100 meters from the high-water mark of the sea if no such development setback line is determined;
 - (bb) Within urban protected areas;
 - (cc) Areas zoned for use as public open space; or
 - (dd) Areas within 1 kilometer from terrestrial protected areas identified in terms of NEMPAA.
4. Please note that this correspondence is not an approval to undertake any activities listed in terms of NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended nor is it an exemption from undertaking an EIA process for listed activities.
5. It must be noted that should the developer wish to undertake any activities listed in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended the due EIA process would need to be followed before such activities are undertaken.

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6. Please be advised that it is the developer's responsibility to continually ensure that environmental requirements are met, especially if there are changes in the project description.

Please contact the Department, should you have any queries.

Yours faithfully



For **Mr.N. Nkontwana**

Head of Department:

KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs

Signed by: Ms. Melissa Packree

Designation: Control Environmental Officer: Environmental Impact Assessment (Ugu District)

Date: 06/09/2022

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