



# LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT & TOURISM

Enq: Ms Rodgers MC

Tel: 083 443 5749 / 015 293 8540

E-mail: [rodgersmc@ledet.gov.za](mailto:rodgersmc@ledet.gov.za)

Ref: 12/1/9/3-W85

NEAS Ref: LIM/EIA/0001565/2022

Vodacom (Limpopo Region)  
93 Biccard Street  
**POLOKWANE**  
0699

**For attention:** Mr Tumelo Senoamadi    **Tel:** 082 277 5000    **E-mail:** [tumelo.senoamadi@vodacom.co.za](mailto:tumelo.senoamadi@vodacom.co.za)

**ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A 30M HIGH TELECOMMUNICATION MAST AT VODACOM BASE STATION: LEPHALALE ARMY BASE, ON THE REMAINDER OF THE FARM PIQUETBERG 523 LQ KR WITHIN LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY OF WATERBERG DISTRICT**

With reference to the abovementioned application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant authorisation. The environmental authorisation and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

In terms of regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2014, as amended you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days, of the date of the Department's decision in respect of your application as well as the provisions regarding the lodgement of appeals as provided for in National Appeals Regulations of 2014, as amended.

Should you wish to appeal any aspect of the decision, you must, *inter alia*, lodge an appeal with MEC for Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET), within 20 calendar days of date when this letter was sent to you, by means of prescribed forms obtainable from LEDET, using one of the following methods:

By post : P O Box 55464, **POLOKWANE**, 0700

By hand : Evridiki Towers Building, 20 Hans v Rensburg / 19 Biccard Street, **POLOKWANE**, 0699

Should you decide to appeal, you must serve a copy of your appeal on all registered interested and affected parties as well as a notice indicating where, and for what period, the appeal submission will be available for inspection.

Yours faithfully

**DIRECTOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT**

**DATE:** 6/09/2022



**Cc:** Tekplan Environmental Consultants – TW1A616 - Danie Combrink

**E-mail:** [tecoplan@mweb.co.za](mailto:tecoplan@mweb.co.za)

**HEAD OFFICE**

20 Hans Van Rensburg Street / 19 Biccard Street, Polokwane, 0700, Private Bag X 9484, Polokwane, 0700  
(Switchboard) Tel: +27 15 293 8300 Website: [www.ledet.gov.za](http://www.ledet.gov.za)

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# LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT & TOURISM  
ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION: THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A 30M HIGH TELECOMMUNICATION MAST AT VODACOM BASE STATION: LEPHALALE ARMY BASE, ON THE REMAINDER OF THE FARM PIQUETBERG 523 LQ KR WITHIN LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY OF WATERBERG DISTRICT.**

**Environmental impact Assessment Process:** Basic Assessment

LEDET Reference	12/1/9/3-W85
NEAS Reference	LIM/EIA/0001565/2022
Amendments	First Issue

**Holder of Authorisation:** Vodacom (Limpopo Region)

**Address:**

PO Box 3670  
POLOKWANE  
0700

93 Biccard Street  
POLOKWANE  
0699



**For attention:** Tumelo Senoamadi

**Tel/Cell Number:** 082 277 5000 / 082 909 6625

**Email:** [tumelo.senoamadi@vodacom.co.za](mailto:tumelo.senoamadi@vodacom.co.za)

**LOCATION OF ACTIVITY:**

Local Area description	Location	District Municipality	Local Municipality
Lephalale Army Base / Airfield	Remainder of the farm Piquetberg 523 LQ	Waterberg	Lephalale

**GPS Coordinates:**

Point	Coordinates applied for and confirmed			
1 (Centre)	South	23°	43'	37.64"
	East	27°	42'	10.90"

**ACRONYMS**

<b>NEMA</b>	National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998), as amended.
<b>Regulations</b>	EIA Regulations of 8 December 2014 in terms of Chapter 5 of NEMA.
<b>EIA</b>	Environmental Impact Assessment.
<b>Department</b>	Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism.
<b>I&amp;APs</b>	Registered Interested and Affected Parties
<b>EA</b>	Environmental Authorisation.
<b>EMPr</b>	Environmental Management Programme.

**HEAD OFFICE**

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(Switchboard) Tel: +27 15 293 8300 Website: [www.ledet.gov.za](http://www.ledet.gov.za)

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Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

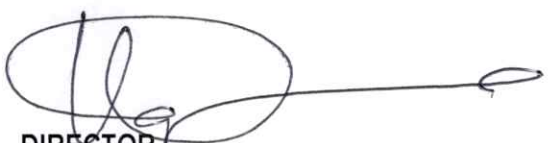
### ACTIVITY AUTHORISED

Notice and description	Activity Number and description	Component in the proposed development/expansion
Notice 3: R. 985 of 2014	<p>Activity 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— but excluding attachments to existing buildings and masts on rooftops.</p> <p>e. Limpopo i Outside urban areas: (gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core areas of a biosphere reserve.</p>	<p>The project will consist of an individual 30m high mast on a base station measuring approximately 10m x 12m (120m<sup>2</sup>) within 5km of the D’Nyala Nature Reserve (approximately 4.5km).</p> <div data-bbox="995 768 1455 1055" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"><p>DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM</p><p>HEAD OFFICE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT</p><p><b>06 -09- 2022</b></p><p>P.O. BOX 55464 POLOKWANE, 0700 LIMPOPO PROVINCE</p></div>

### CONDITIONS

1. Departmental standard conditions attached as Annexure 2.
2. The EMPr attached as part of reports for the above development submitted as part of the application for an EA is hereby approved and must be adhered to during the construction phase of the activity.

This activity must commence within a period of ten (10) years from the date when the EA was issued. All construction activities must be finalised within this 10-years validity period of the EA. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the EA lapses and a new application for EA must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken. Any application for extension of validity period of the EA must be lodged with the Department before the expiry date of the EA.

  
**DIRECTOR**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT**  
DATE: 6/09/2022

**ANNEXURE 1: REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

**1. Environmental Assessment Practitioner**

**Names:** Mr Danie Combrink  
**Company (where applicable):** Tekplan Environmental Consultants  
**Telephone Number/Cell Number:** 015 291 4177 / 082 335 9553  
**E-mail:** [tecoplan@mweb.co.za](mailto:tecoplan@mweb.co.za)



**2. Dates of receipt of information**

Document	Application Form	Basic Assessment Report
Date of receipt	14 June 2022	Consultation – 14 June 2022 Decision – 22 July 2022
Date of acknowledgement of receipt	21 June 2022	Consultation – 21 June 2022 Decision – 27 July 2022

**Date of Site visit:** None by Department, as mast will not be visible from the D’Nyala Nature Reserve and there is enough information from decision support tools to inform decision making.

**3. List of specialist reports and other information:**

Report description	Person (and Company) where applicable, who compiled the report and Date	Appendices
Heritage Impact Assessment	Mr J van der Walt of Beyond Heritage Cultural Resource Consultants, dated June 2022	Appendix D
Palaeontological Impact Assessment	Prof Marion Bamford - Palaeobotanist	Appendix D
Civil Aviation Approval CAA_2020_12_107	Vodacom (Pty) Ltd - Approval date 19 March 2021	Appendix G

**4. Key factors considered in making the decision**

**4.1 Public Participation**

**Name of newspaper:** Mogol Pos

**Date of advert in the newspaper:** 13 May 2022

**Site Notices:** Site notice was placed at the entrance gate of the farm next to the Lephale Army Base / Airfield where the site is to be located adjacent to the road towards the Lephale Army Base / Airfield.

**Notification of interested and affected parties about the development:** Notifications were sent by e-mail, by registered post and delivered by hand.

**Issues raised by I&APs; and responses from the EAP and Department:**

Issue	Comment by EAP	Comment by the Department
None		

**4.2 Findings**

Activity/Report	Finding
Heritage Impact Assessment	No other developments occur on site and no structures, graves or heritage finds of significance were recorded during the survey.
Palaeontological Impact Assessment	Very small chance that fossils may occur below ground in the sandstones of the Mokgalakwena Formation.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the EA, the proposed activity will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the NEMA and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the proposed activity can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The authorisation is accordingly granted.



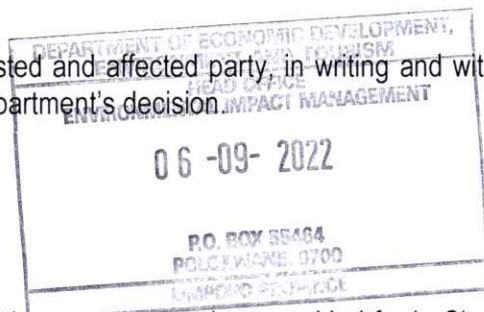
**LEDET DEPARTMENTAL STANDARD CONDITIONS**

**1. SCOPE OF AUTHORISATION**

- 1.1 The holder of the EA shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this EA. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the EA.
- 1.2 Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this EA must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of the EA to apply for further authorisation in terms of the Regulations.
- 1.3 The activity, which is authorised, may only be carried out at the property indicated in the EA.
- 1.4 The holder of the EA will be held liable for any damages to the environment and associated costs, which results from any activity related to the construction and/or operation of the proposed project.
- 1.5 Where any of the holder of the EA's contact details change, including the name of the responsible person, the physical or postal address and/or telephonic details, the holder of the EA must notify the Department as soon as the new details become known to the holder of the EA.
- 1.6 The Department reserves the right to monitor and audit the development throughout its full life cycle.
- 1.7 This EA does not negate the holder of the EA's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

**2. APPEAL OF AUTHORISATION**

- 2.1. The holder of the EA must notify all registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days, of receiving notice of the Department's decision.
- 2.2. The notification referred must –
  - 2.2.1 specify the date on which the EA was issued;
  - 2.2.2 inform all the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in Chapter 7 of the Regulations;
  - 2.2.3 advise all the interested and affected party that a copy of the EA will be furnished on request; and
  - 2.2.4 give the reasons for the decision.



**3. APPEAL PROCEDURE**

- 3.1 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 Department.
- 3.2 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, submit an appeal in accordance with Regulation 4 of the National Appeal Regulations 2014 (as amended) using the prescribed form obtainable from the Department, to the Appeal Administrator.
- 3.3 Submit an appeal in accordance with Regulation 4 of the National Appeal Regulations 2014 (as amended) to the Appeal Administrator; as follows:

Ms Aluwani Khorommbi

**Address:** 20 Hans van Rensburg Street, Evridiki Towers, **POLOKWANE**, 0700

MEC Support Services

Tel: (015) 293 8523 | Fax: (015) 291 1168 | Mobile: 0835721721

Web: [www.ledet.gov.za](http://www.ledet.gov.za)

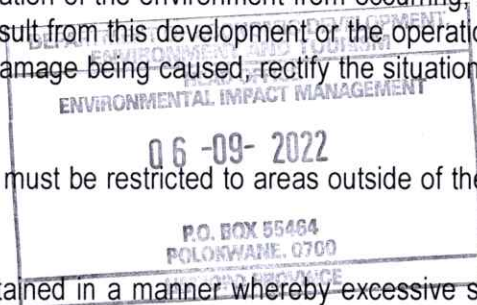


- 3.4 Submit a copy of the appeal to any registered I&APs, any Organ of State with interest in the matter and the decision-maker i.e. the Department that issued the decision.

#### 4. COMMENCEMENT OF THE DEVELOPMENT

- 4.1 In order to ensure their safety, all employees must be given the necessary personal protective equipment.
- 4.2 This EA must be provided to the site operator and the requirements thereof must be made fully known to him/her.
- 4.3 Appropriate notification signs must be erected at the construction site, warning the public (residents, visitors etc) about the hazards around the construction site and presence of heavy vehicles and machinery.
- 4.4 Hauling routes for construction vehicles and machinery must be clearly marked and appropriate signalling must be posted to that effect. Further, movement of construction vehicles and machinery must be restricted to areas outside of the drainage line/wet area.
- 4.5 Construction must include appropriate design measures that allow surface and subsurface movement of water along drainage lines so as not to impede natural surface and subsurface flows. Drainage measures must promote the dissipation of stormwater run-off.
- 4.6 Vegetation clearing must be kept to an absolute minimum. Mitigation measures must be implemented to reduce the risk of erosion and the invasion of alien species.
- 4.7 The holder of the EA must note that in terms of the National Forest Act (Act No. 84 of 1998); protected plant species (also listed in Limpopo Environmental Management Act, 2003 (Act No. 7 of 2003) must not be cut, disturbed, damaged, destroyed, and their product must not be possessed, collected, removed, transported, exported, donated, purchased or sold unless permission is granted by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF).

- 4.8 All construction areas (e. g. material lay down area), topsoil and sub-soils must be protected from contamination or pollution and stockpiling must not take place in drainage lines or where it would impede surface water runoff.
- 4.9 If any soil contamination is noted during the construction and operational phase of the proposed activities, the contaminated soil must be removed to a suitable waste disposal facility and the site must be rehabilitated to the satisfaction of this Department and DWS. The opportunity for the on-site remediation and re-use of contaminated soil must be investigated prior to disposal and this Department must be informed in this regard.
- 4.10 Should infill material be required for any purpose, the use of borrow pits must comply with the provisions of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) administered by the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE).
- 4.11 An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation and must incorporate avoidance, reduction, recycling, re-use and disposal where appropriate. Uncontaminated builders' rubble generated during the construction can be re-used as back filling material on site. Ensure that no refuse or builders rubble generated on the premises is placed, dumped or deposited on adjacent properties or public places and open spaces during or after construction.
- 4.12 Section 28 of the NEMA places a duty of care on the holder of the EA to ensure that reasonable measures are taken to prevent pollution or degradation of the environment from occurring, continuing or recurring. Should any environmental damage result from this development or the operation thereof, the holder of the EA, must within 14 days of the damage being caused, rectify the situation at his/her own expense.
- 4.13 Movement of construction vehicles and machinery must be restricted to areas outside of the drainage lines/wet area.
- 4.14 Construction vehicles must be serviced and maintained in a manner whereby excessive smoke and noise production is reduced to acceptable levels, and to prevent oil leaks. Contaminated soil must be remediated on site or removed to an appropriately authorised landfill site.
- 4.15 Dust and nuisance must be minimised through damping down of unsurfaced areas.
- 4.16 Residents (if any) on the property and surrounding area must be informed if any unusually noisy activities are planned. Noise impacts must be reduced over distance at a rate of 1db (decibel) per 13 metres.
- 4.17 Chemical sanitation facilities or systems such as "toilets" that do not rely on seepage of liquids must be provided with a ratio of one for every 15 workers. These must be placed such that they prevent spills or leaks to the environment and must be maintained according to operating instructions and the contents thereof must be disposed of at an authorised waste water treatment works.
- 4.18 Mixing of cement, concrete, paints, solvents, sealants and adhesive must be done in specified areas on concrete aprons or on protected plastic linings to contain spillage or overflows onto soil to avoid contamination to underground water and environmental damage.
- 4.19 Construction activities must be suspended and a representative of the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) and/ or Limpopo Heritage Resources Agency (LIHRA) be contacted immediately in the event of finding or uncovering any subterranean (middens, graves, etc.).





- 4.20 Care must be taken to ensure that the material and excavated soil required for backfilling are free of contamination from hydrocarbons.
- 4.21 The hydraulic fluids or chemicals required during construction must be stored in a concrete lined surface with bund walls and shall be designed in such a manner that any spillage can be contained and reclaimed without any impact on the surrounding environment. Should any spills occur it should be cleaned immediately by removing the spillage together with the polluted solid and dispose it in an authorised disposal site permitted to dispose of such waste. The Regional Office of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) must be notified within 24 hours of an incident that may pollute surface and ground water.

