

# Proposed Submarine Telecommunications Cable System (T3 Submarine Cable System) to be Landed at Amanzimtoti, Kwazulu-Natal South Africa

Our Ref:



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: [info@sahra.org.za](mailto:info@sahra.org.za)  
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001  
[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

Enquiries: Briega Williams  
Tel: 021 462 4502  
Email: [bwilliams@sahra.org.za](mailto:bwilliams@sahra.org.za)

Date: Thursday April 15, 2021  
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## Interim Comment

### In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Liquid Telecom

**Alcatel Submarine Networks has been contracted to supply and install the proposed T3 submarine cable system connecting South Africa to Mauritius with branching units to Madagascar and Reunion. The South African landing is proposed to be at Amanzimtoti, KwaZulu-Natal on the East Coast of South Africa and is to be operated by Liquid Telecom as the South African Landing Partner.**

The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) would like to thank you for submitting the Background Information Document (BID) for the Proposed Submarine Telecommunications Cable System (T3 Submarine Cable System) to be landed at Amanzimtoti, Kwazulu-Natal, ZN South Africa.

As part of the Environmental Authorisation process a Scoping Report and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) must be completed. The BID has already identified that a Heritage Assessment is to be undertaken as part of the process and this is supported by SAHRA.

In terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, No 25 of 1999 (NHRA), Sections 2 and 35 stipulates that any wreck, being any vessel or aircraft or any part thereof older than 60 years in South Africa's territorial waters or maritime cultural zone is protected and falls under the jurisdiction of SAHRA's Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit. These heritage sites or objects may not be disturbed without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority.

The proposed cable runs to the south of Durban and lands at Amanzimtoti. There are no recorded historic wrecks in the immediate vicinity of the proposed cable route or near the landing site. However, there are a number of wrecks further out in deeper waters, some of which were casualties of German U-boats during the Second World War. The locations of these wrecks are approximate positions but as they are considered war graves their possible presence and cultural heritage significance should be highlighted during any heritage assessments.

Due to the possibility that heritage resources may be present along the proposed route of the cable, the

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heritage impact assessment must include a specialist study of maritime and underwater cultural heritage to be undertaken by a suitably qualified Maritime Archaeologist.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

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Briege Williams  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Lesla la Grange  
Manager: Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

## ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/567470>

## Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.