



**agriculture
& environmental affairs**

Department:
Agriculture
& Environmental Affairs
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

KZN Department of Agriculture & Environmental Affairs
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Date: 01 April 2014

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Attention: Pieter de Villiers

Tel: 021 853 0682

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Dear Sir

DC23/ENQ0001/2014: PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF OPTIC FIBRE CABLE IN THE VICINITY OF LADYSMITH IN LADYSMITH/ EMNAMBITHI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN UTHUKELA DISTRICT (DC 23)

1. Your correspondence dated 19 March 2014 with regard to the aforementioned proposed activity refers.
2. This Department has reviewed your application and would like to inform you that the proposed development which entails **installation of the 16 poles at the 73 metres interval for the optic fibre cable does not constitute a listed activity** in terms of EIA Regulation R.544 Listing notice 1, 2 and 3 of 18 June 2010 promulgated under National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998). As such, written environmental authorization in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) is not required from this Department prior to the undertaking of the said activity. This determination is based on following:
 - 2.1 The total area to be disturbed by digging of the holes for the poles will be less than 50 square meters;
 - 2.2 The excavation will be less than 5 cubic meters; and
 - 2.3 The poles will be planted outside the 32 meter buffer areas on both sides of the watercourse.
3. This Department hereby in terms of the said Act reminds the developer of its obligation to give effect to the principles of integrated environmental management as contained in section 24(1) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) which states that the "potential impact on the environment, socio-economic conditions and cultural heritage of activities that require authorization or permission by law and which may significantly affect the environment, must be considered, investigated and assessed prior to their implementation and reported to the organ of state charged by law with authorization, permitting or otherwise allowing the implementation of an activity".

4. This Department reserves the right to **revise/withdraw** this comment and to request further information from the applicant; should any other information that contradicts the above come to light.
5. Should you need more clarification on this matter, do not hesitate to contact this Department.



For: Acting Head of Department:

Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs

Date: 02 / 04 / 2014