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22 November 2021

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Dear Interested and Affected Party

Geagte Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Party

**NOTIFICATION: PROPOSED SQUARE KILOMETRE ARRAY (SKA) FIBRE OPTIC CABLE BETWEEN BEAUFORT WEST AND CARNARVON, IN THE NORTHERN CAPE AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES – SUBMISSION OF THE FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT**

**KENNISGEWING: VOORGESTELDE “SQUARE KILOMETRE ARRAY” (SKA) OPTIESE VESEL KABEL TUSSEN BEAUFORT WES EN CARNARVON, IN DIE WESKAAP EN NOORDKAAP PROVINSIËS – INDIENING VAN DIE FINALE BASIESE ASSESSERING VERSLAG**

Environmental Authorisation Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2419  
 Water Use General Authorisation Reference Number: WU18079.

Omgewingsmagtiging Verwysings Nommer: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2419  
 Waterverbruik-magtiging Verwysings Nommer: WU18079.

This serves as a notification that the Final Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the proposed Square Kilometre Array (SKA) fibre optic cable between Beaufort West and Carnarvon has been submitted to the Competent Authority, i.e. the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), for decision-making in terms of Regulations 19 (1) (a) and Regulation 20 of the 2014 National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended) (NEMA) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (as amended).

U word Hiermee in kennis gestel dat die Finale Basiese Assessering (BA) Verslag vir die voorgestelde Square Kilometre Array” (SKA) optiese vesel kabel tussen Beaufort West en Carnarvon aan die Bevoegde Owerheid, die Departement van Omgewingsake / "Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment" (DFFE), ingedien is vir besluitneming in terme van Regulasie 19 (1) (a) en Regulasie 20 van die "National Environmental Management Act" (NEMA) "Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulasies (2014, soos gewysig).

Also note that the following authorisations have also been obtained for the proposed SKA Fibre Optic Project:

Neem ook kennis dat die volgende goekeurings vir die voorgestelde SKA Optiese Vesel Projek onvang is:

- Approval in terms of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (NEM:PAA) has been issued by South African National Parks (SANParks) for installing cabling in the eastern part of the park in the Karoo National Park.
- Water Use General Authorisation has been issued by the Department of Water and Sanitation
- Approvals with regards to heritage resources from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) and Heritage Western Cape.

- Goedkeuring in terme van die “National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act” (NEM:PAA) is uitgereik deur Suid-Afrikaanse Nasionale Parke (SANParke) vir die installasie van die kabel in die oosterlike gedeelte van die Karoo Nasionale Park.
- Water Verbruik Algemene Goedkeuring is uitgereik deur die Departement van Waterwese.
- Goedkeurings rakende erfenis aspekte kan af die “South African Heritage Resources Agency” (SAHRA) en “Heritage Western Cape”.

The draft BAR was made available to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), Organs of State and stakeholders for a 30-day review period between 30 August and 30 September 2021. All comments and issues received as part of the comment period have been captured in a Comments and Responses Report and addressed, where applicable, in the Final BAR.

For your record and information purposes, the Final BAR can be accessed at <https://www.csir.co.za/square-kilometre-array-ska-fibre-optic-cable-between-beaufort-west-and-carnarvon>

Thank you for your participation in this project. Should you have any queries or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned using the contact details provided above.

Kind regards,



Luanita Snyman-Van der Walt (Pr.Sci.Nat. 400128/16)  
Project Manager and EAP | Projekbestuurder en EAP  
CSIR | WNNR Environmental Management Services

Die konsep BA Verslag was vrygestel aan Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Partye (B&GPs), staatsorganisasies en ander belanghebbendes vir 'n 30-dae hersieningsperiode tussen 30 Augustus en 30 September 2020. Alle kommentaar en kwessies wat ontvang is tydens die hersieningsperiode is ingesluit in "Comments and Responses Report" en is aangespreek, waar toepaslik, in die Final BA Verslag.

Die Finale BA Verslag is beskikbaar by <https://www.csir.co.za/square-kilometre-array-ska-fibre-optic-cable-between-beaufort-west-and-carnarvon>, vir u inligting.

Dankie vir u deelname in hierdie projek. Indien u enige navrae het of addisionele inligting benodig, kontak gerus die ondergetekende by die bogenoemde besonderhede.

Vriendelike groete,