

## Notice of Environmental Authorisation Process

### PROPOSED MARINE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (ACE CABLE SYSTEM) TO BE LANDED AT VAN RIEBEEKSTRAND ON THE WEST COAST OF SOUTH AFRICA

Notice is hereby given in terms of the amended EIA Regulations published under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), as amended, of MTN (Pty) Ltd's (MTN) intention to install a submarine telecommunications cable, referred to as the ACE Cable System, to link South Africa, the West Coast of Africa and Europe with key international telecommunication hubs in Europe. As the designated Landing Partner of the ACE Cable System in South Africa, MTN aims to secure local landing permits to land the ACE Cable System near Van Riebeeckstrand. MTN has the required licenses to operate this system in South Africa.

Environmental Assessment Practitioner: ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants

#### Location of the Project

The proposed ACE Cable System will make landfall near Van Riebeeckstrand and the cable will terminate at the MTN Duynefontein Cable Landing Station.

#### Environmental Authorisation

In terms of the amended EIA Regulations published under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), as amended, the proposed development of the ACE Cable System triggers a number of listed activities and requires environmental authorisation via the undertaking of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

Listed Activities	
Listing Notice 1: No. R. 983 of December 2014	Activities 17,18 and 19
Listing Notice 2: No. R. 984 of December 2014	Activity 10,14 and 26
Listing Notice 3: No. R. 985 of December 2014	Activities 12 and 15

Based on the current regulations, the national Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) is the competent authority for the issuing of environmental authorisation for this proposed development. Should a Water Use License be required, an application will be submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation in terms of Chapter 4 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No 36 of 1998), in particular, Section 40(4). It is anticipated that this process will be completed by **July 2017**.

#### Invitation to Participate

Interested and Affected Parties are requested to register with ACER and provide their comments. A Background Information and Notification Letter including a Registration and Comment Sheet can be obtained from the Public Participation Office.

For further information, please contact:

Charlene Weber or Giles Churchill

P O Box 503, Mtunzini, 3867

Tel: 035 340 2715; Fax: 035 340 2232

E-mail: [ace-cable@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:ace-cable@acerafrica.co.za)