

## Carina Boonzaaier

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**From:** Carina Boonzaaier <carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za>  
**Sent:** 02 October 2019 08:24 AM  
**To:** 'Briege Williams'  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Marine Telecommunications System (Equiano Cable System) To Be Landed At Melkbosstrand On The West Coast: BID And Invitation To Participate In An EIA Process

**Importance:** High

Good morning Briege,

Hope you are well.


Sorry for only getting back to you now. I have been away and trying to reply to all my emails, so its been a bit hectic. We have made all the changes on the website, please see email below. I have also sent all the documents to Ms Colette Scheermeyer, Heritage Western Cape, is she the correct contact person? Thank you for your assistance.

Kind Regards,

**Carina Boonzaaier**  
Public Participation Administrator  
ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants

Tel: +27 35 340 2715  
Fax: +27 35 340 2232  
E-mail: [carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za)



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**From:** Salona Reddy <salona.reddy@acerafrica.co.za>  
**Sent:** 02 October 2019 08:11 AM  
**To:** 'Carina Boonzaaier' <carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za>  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Marine Telecommunications System (Equiano Cable System) To Be Landed At Melkbosstrand On The West Coast: BID And Invitation To Participate In An EIA Process

Hi Carina

I have made the necessary changes.

PROPOSED MARINE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (EQUIANO CABLE SYSTEM) TO BE LANDED AT MELKBOSSTRAND ON THE WEST COAST OF SOUTH AFRICA

Status: SUBMITTED

HeritageAuthority(s): HWC SAHRA

Case Type: Section 38 (b) - Statutory Comment Required

Development Type: Infrastructure

ProposalDescription: Submarine telecommunications cables are important for international telecommunications networks, transporting almost 100% of transoceanic internet traffic throughout the world (www.iscpc.org). This is significant because it is widely recognised that access to affordable international bandwidth is key to economic development in every country. The purpose of this project is to install a fibre optic submarine cable to provide international high-speed connectivity and reliability. Businesses and consumers will benefit from enhanced capacity and reliability for services such as telecommuting, HD TV broadcasting, internet services, video conferencing, advanced multimedia and mobile video applications. Internet traffic is growing exponentially as the appetite for new applications, like cloud computing and on-demand video, increases. Furthermore, the demand for new connectivity reflects an end-user and business environment in which high capacity data transmission is essential for sustainable growth and development. Communication via submarine telecommunications cables generally allows for lower cost, better performance and greater capacity (throughput) than that available via satellite. Improvement in Africa's information technology infrastructure via telecommunications cables will help strengthen development in Africa and support economic growth and opportunities on the continent. Telkom SA SOC Limited, acting through its Openserve division (hereafter referred to as "Openserve"), intends to install a submarine telecommunications cable, called the Equiano Cable System, to link South Africa with key international telecommunications hubs in West Africa.

Kind Regards  
Salona

**From:** Carina Boonzaaier [<mailto:carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za>]

**Sent:** 02 October 2019 07:43 AM

**To:** 'Salona Reddy' <[salona.reddy@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:salona.reddy@acerafrica.co.za)>

**Subject:** FW: Proposed Marine Telecommunications System (Equiano Cable System) To Be Landed At Melkbosstrand On The West Coast: BID And Invitation To Participate In An EIA Process

Hi Salona,


Please see email below from Briega (SAHRA – Western Cape). Would you be so kind to please change it on the website. I will send her an email once you have changed it. Thanks, so much for all your help.

Regards,

**Carina Boonzaaier**  
Public Participation Administrator  
ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants

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**From:** Briega Williams <[bwilliams@sahra.org.za](mailto:bwilliams@sahra.org.za)>  
**Sent:** 30 September 2019 09:49 AM  
**To:** Carina Boonzaaier <[carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za)>  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Marine Telecommunications System (Equiano Cable System) To Be Landed At Melkbosstrand On The West Coast: BID And Invitation To Participate In An EIA Process

Dear Carina

I am in the process of finalising the comment for the above case. I have however noticed on the case that the Heritage Authority is listed as AMAFA when it should be SAHRA and HWC (Heritage Western Cape). Also the Case type needs to be changed from Development to Section 38(8). You will need to approach HWC for a comment for any work done above the High water mark.

Once you have made these changes I will issue the comment.

Regards

Briega

---

**From:** Carina Boonzaaier <[carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za)>  
**Sent:** 19 September 2019 03:59 PM  
**To:** Briega Williams <[bwilliams@sahra.org.za](mailto:bwilliams@sahra.org.za)>  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Marine Telecommunications System (Equiano Cable System) To Be Landed At Melkbosstrand On The West Coast: BID And Invitation To Participate In An EIA Process


Thank you Briega.

Regards,

**Carina Boonzaaier**  
Public Participation Administrator  
ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants

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**From:** Briega Williams <[bwilliams@sahra.org.za](mailto:bwilliams@sahra.org.za)>  
**Sent:** 19 September 2019 03:53 PM  
**To:** Carina Boonzaaier <[carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za)>  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Marine Telecommunications System (Equiano Cable System) To Be Landed At Melkbosstrand On The West Coast: BID And Invitation To Participate In An EIA Process

Hi Carina

Thanks for uploading the location.

Cheers

Briega

---

**From:** Carina Boonzaaier <[carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za)>  
**Sent:** 19 September 2019 02:18 PM  
**To:** Briega Williams <[bwilliams@sahra.org.za](mailto:bwilliams@sahra.org.za)>  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Marine Telecommunications System (Equiano Cable System) To Be Landed At Melkbosstrand On The West Coast: BID And Invitation To Participate In An EIA Process

Hi Briega,


We have just uploaded the Location. Please note the "green line", that is the area where the cable will be landed. Please let me know if all is in order.

Kind Regards,

**Carina Boonzaaier**  
Public Participation Administrator  
ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants

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Fax: +27 35 340 2232  
E-mail: [carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za)



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**From:** Briega Williams <[bwilliams@sahra.org.za](mailto:bwilliams@sahra.org.za)>  
**Sent:** 19 September 2019 12:07 PM  
**To:** Carina Boonzaaier <[carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za)>  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Marine Telecommunications System (Equiano Cable System) To Be Landed At Melkbosstrand On The West Coast: BID And Invitation To Participate In An EIA Process

Hi Carina

I'm just looking at the case and note that there is nothing under the location tab. Could you please upload a KML for the route of the cable and then I will be able to plot it on our GIS system to see if it runs near any shipwrecks.

Thanks

Briega

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**From:** Carina Boonzaaier <[carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za)>  
**Sent:** 19 September 2019 12:00 PM  
**To:** Briega Williams <[bwilliams@sahra.org.za](mailto:bwilliams@sahra.org.za)>

**Cc:** Giles Churchill <[giles.churchill@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:giles.churchill@acerafrica.co.za)>

**Subject:** RE: Proposed Marine Telecommunications System (Equiano Cable System) To Be Landed At Melkbosstrand On The West Coast: BID And Invitation To Participate In An EIA Process

Hi Briega,

Thank you so much.

Kind Regards,

**Carina Boonzaaier**

Public Participation Administrator  
ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants

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**From:** Briega Williams <[bwilliams@sahra.org.za](mailto:bwilliams@sahra.org.za)>

**Sent:** 19 September 2019 11:57 AM

**To:** Carina Boonzaaier <[carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za)>

**Subject:** RE: Proposed Marine Telecommunications System (Equiano Cable System) To Be Landed At Melkbosstrand On The West Coast: BID And Invitation To Participate In An EIA Process

Hi Carina

Thanks for your email, I have now assigned myself as case officer and will issue a comment in due course.

Regards

Briega

---

**From:** Carina Boonzaaier <[carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:carina.boonzaaier@acerafrica.co.za)>

**Sent:** 19 September 2019 11:27 AM

**To:** Briega Williams <[bwilliams@sahra.org.za](mailto:bwilliams@sahra.org.za)>; Lesa la Grange <[llagrange@sahra.org.za](mailto:llagrange@sahra.org.za)>

**Cc:** Giles Churchill <[giles.churchill@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:giles.churchill@acerafrica.co.za)>

**Subject:** RE: Proposed Marine Telecommunications System (Equiano Cable System) To Be Landed At Melkbosstrand On The West Coast: BID And Invitation To Participate In An EIA Process

**Importance:** High

Good morning Briega,


Thank you so much for your email. We have loaded all the documents onto the SAHRIS link. The Application date: Thursday 19 September 2019, Case ID: 14348, Consultants/Experts: Giles Churchill.

Kind Regards,

**Carina Boonzaier**  
Public Participation Administrator  
ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants

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**From:** Briege Williams <[bwilliams@sahra.org.za](mailto:bwilliams@sahra.org.za)>  
**Sent:** 19 September 2019 09:05 AM  
**To:** [equiano@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:equiano@acerafrica.co.za)  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Marine Telecommunications System (Equiano Cable System) To Be Landed At Melkbosstrand On The West Coast: BID And Invitation To Participate In An EIA Process

Dear Mr Churchill

My manager Lesa la Grange forwarded me the below email that she received regarding the above project.

In order for us to issue a comment on the project you will need to create a case on SAHRIS and upload the relevant documents. Once you have done this, please contact me and I will assign myself as case officer and issue a comment.

The link to SAHRIS is <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/>

Please contact me if you have any queries.

Regards

Briege

**From:** ACER - Public Participation <[publicparticipation@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:publicparticipation@acerafrica.co.za)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 18, 2019 3:38:37 PM  
**To:** Lesa la Grange <[llagrange@sahra.org.za](mailto:llagrange@sahra.org.za)>  
**Subject:** Proposed Marine Telecommunications System (Equiano Cable System) To Be Landed At Melkbosstrand On The West Coast: BID And Invitation To Participate In An EIA Process

18 September 2019

Dear Ms Lesa la Grange,

**PROPOSED MARINE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (EQUIANO CABLE SYSTEM) TO BE LANDED AT MELKBOSSTRAND ON THE WEST COAST OF SOUTH AFRICA**  
**BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT)**

**Project Background**

Submarine telecommunications cables are important for international telecommunications networks, transporting almost 100% of transoceanic internet traffic throughout the world ([www.iscpc.org](http://www.iscpc.org)). This is significant because it is widely recognised that access to affordable international bandwidth is key to economic development in every country.

The purpose of this project is to install a fibre optic submarine cable to provide international high-speed connectivity and reliability. Businesses and consumers will benefit from enhanced capacity and reliability for services such as telecommuting, HD TV broadcasting, internet services, video conferencing, advanced multimedia and mobile video applications. Internet traffic is growing exponentially as the appetite for new applications, like cloud computing and on-demand video, increases. Furthermore, the demand for new connectivity reflects an end-user and business environment in which high capacity data transmission is essential for sustainable growth and development.

Communication via submarine telecommunications cables generally allows for lower cost, better performance and greater capacity (throughput) than that available via satellite. Improvement in Africa's information technology infrastructure via telecommunications cables will help strengthen development in Africa and support economic growth and opportunities on the continent.

Telkom SA SOC Limited, acting through its Openserve division (hereafter referred to as "Openserve"), intends to install a submarine telecommunications cable, called the Equiano Cable System, to link South Africa with key international telecommunications hubs in West Africa (Nigeria) and Europe (Portugal). As the designated Landing Partner of the Equiano Cable System in South Africa, Openserve has the required licenses to operate this system in South Africa and aims to secure local permits to land the Equiano Cable System at Melkbosstrand, Western Cape.

Alcatel Submarine Networks (ASN) has been appointed as the supplier and installer of the Equiano Cable System connecting Africa and Europe. The system is to be installed in phases. The first phase ("Baseline System") will entail the installation of cable landings at:

- South Africa: Melkbosstrand.
- Portugal: Lisbon (Sesimbra).
- Nigeria: Lagos.

Through the Equiano Cable System, Openserve will facilitate more affordable and effective transport of voice, data, internet and television services in South Africa. Furthermore, the cable will support the objectives set out by the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and provide a means of fulfilling the South African Government's requirements in terms of digital television broadcasting in the country. The Equiano Cable System will have an initial design capacity of up to 200 Terabits per second.

#### **Environmental Legislation**

The current Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended 2017) published under Section 24(5) read with Sections 24, 24D and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended) apply to this project.

Based on these regulations, the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) must complete Scoping and an Impact Assessment within 300 days of acceptance of the Application for Authorisation by the competent authority, viz. the national Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF). DEFF is the competent authority for the issuing of environmental authorisation because the Equiano Cable System traverses' international boundaries. It is also envisaged that a Water Use Licence may be required from the Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation in terms of Chapter 4 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No 36 of 1998), particularly Section 40(4).

On behalf of Openserve and ASN, ACER will fulfil the role and responsibilities of EAP, undertaking the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), the associated public participation process, and submitting the required application and supporting documentation to DEFF for consideration and decision-making.

The purpose of this letter is to invite you, as a potentially Interested & Affected Party to participate in the EIA. A Background Information Document (Appendix 1) and Comment Sheet (Separate Attachment) have been compiled and are provided herewith to facilitate your participation (these documents are also available at [www.acerafrica.co.za](http://www.acerafrica.co.za) under the "Current Projects" link (Equiano Cable System)). Please note that the closing date for initial comments [1] during public announcement is 22 October 2019.

Please contact the Public Participation Office to obtain further information:

- **ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants**
  - Carina Boonzaaier or Giles Churchill
    - P O Box 503, Mtunzini, 3867
- Tel: 035 340 2715 Fax: 035 340 2232 - E-mail: [equiano@acerafrica.co.za](mailto:equiano@acerafrica.co.za)

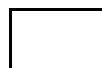
Your participation is valued and will be appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. G Churchill

**ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants**  
Environmental Assessment Practitioner

[1] Please note that consistent with GNR 326, 42(a), 44 (1) and 19(1)(a) (7 April 2017) all comments received will be captured in a Comments and Responses Report which will be made available to the competent authority and which will be placed in the public domain as part of the public review process of the EIA reports.



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**Lesla la Grange**

MUCH Manager

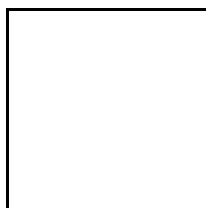
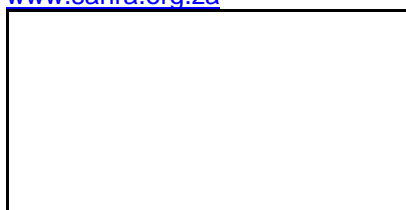
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)



**Briege Williams**

Heritage Officer: Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit

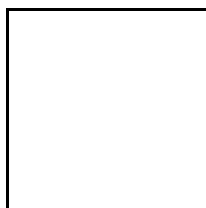
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**Briege Williams**

Heritage Officer: Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit

South African Heritage Resources Agency

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**Briege Williams**

Heritage Officer: Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit

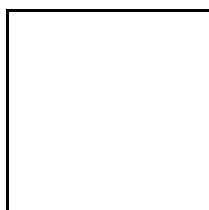
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**Briege Williams**

Heritage Officer: Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit

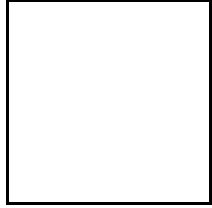
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**Briege Williams**

Heritage Officer: Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit

South African Heritage Resources Agency

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