

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NO. 213

16 MARCH 2018

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998
(ACT NO. 107 OF 1998)**

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ADOPT THE INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE SQUARE KILOMETRE ARRAY (PHASE 1) AS ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT INSTRUMENT AND TO EXCLUDE, IN TERMS OF SECTION 24(2)(e) OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998, ACTIVITIES IDENTIFIED IN TERMS OF SECTION 24(2)(a) OR (b) OF THE ACT FROM THE REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE ACT

I, Bomo Edna Edith Molewa, Minister of Environmental Affairs, hereby give notice of my intention to adopt the Integrated Environmental Management Plan (IEMP) for the Square Kilometre Array (Phase 1) as an environmental management instrument and based on compliance to Chapter 4 of the IEMP, I intend to exclude, in terms of section 24(2)(e) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), all activities, identified in terms of section 24(2)(a) and (b) of the Act, which are associated with the development of phase 1 of the SKA and which are described in Chapter 2 of the IEMP from the requirement to obtain environmental authorisation.

Members of the public are invited to submit to the Minister, within 30 days of publication of this notice in the *Gazette*, written comments or inputs to the following addresses:

By post to: The Director-General
 Department of Environmental Affairs
 Attention: Mr A Mocheke
 Private Bag X447
 PRETORIA
 0001

By hand at: Reception, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083

By e-mail: amocheke@environment.gov.za

Any inquiries in connection with the Notice can be directed to 012 399 9315.
Comments received after the closing date may not be considered.



**BOMO EDNA EDITH MOLEWA
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

SCHEDULE

1. INTRODUCTION

This Schedule applies to the Integrated Environmental Management Plan (IEMP) for the Square Kilometre Array (Phase 1), as submitted to the Minister of Environmental Affairs by the National Research Foundation.

A Strategic Environmental Assessment has been undertaken for the South African mid-frequency array of the Square Kilometre Array (SKA1_MID) project (Phase 1) in order to identify site environmental sensitivities and to prepare an Integrated Environmental Management Plan (IEMP) for adoption by the Minister as an environmental management instrument. This schedule proposes to adopt the IEMP and exclude all activities associated with the development, as identified in the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, from the requirement to obtain environmental authorisation.

2. ADOPTION OF THE INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SQUARE KILOMETRE ARRAY (PHASE 1)

The Integrated Environmental Management Plan (IEMP) for the Square Kilometre Array (Phase 1), as submitted by the National Research Foundation, has been reviewed and has been found to meet the requirements of and general principles contained in section 24N(2) and (3) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (the Act). The IEMP is therefore proposed to be adopted as an environmental management instrument in terms of the Act.

3. EXCLUSION OF ACTIVITIES IDENTIFIED IN TERMS OF SECTION 24(2)(a) AND (b) OF THE ACT

Based on the proposed adoption of the IEMP, the National Research Foundation will be excluded, in terms of section 24(2)(e) of the Act, from the requirement to obtain environmental authorisation for activities contemplated in Part V: Proposed SKA activities and infrastructure of Chapter 2: Project

Scope of the IEMP for the Square Kilometre Array (Phase 1), when undertaken outside of areas identified in the IEMP as unsuitable for development.

4. CONDITIONS OF EXCLUSION

The proposed exclusion contemplated in this Notice is subject to the following conditions:

4.1 The National Research Foundation—

4.1.1 must comply with the conditions contained in Chapter 4: of the Environmental Management Programme of the IEMP for the Square Kilometre Array (Phase 1) (hereinafter referred to as the "Environmental Management Programme"); and

4.1.2 may amend the environmental management actions contained in the Environmental Management Programme, if required in order to achieve the management outcomes, by—

4.1.2.1 effecting such amendments immediately; and

4.1.2.2 reflecting such amendments in the annual external environmental audit report as contemplated in the Environmental Management Programme.

5. Failure to comply with the conditions and commitments contemplated in this notice constitutes an offence in terms of Section 49(A)(1)(c) of the Act.

6. The IEMP for the Square Kilometre Array (Phase 1) and the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Report for the South Africa mid-frequency array of SKA Phase 1 (SKA_MID), 2016 can be accessed at:

<http://www.skaphase1.csir.co.za>; and

<https://egis.environment.gov.za/SKAphase1>;

and the Gazetted notice can be accessed at:

https://www.environment.gov.za/legislation/gazetted_notices.