

**INDEPENDENT COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY OF SOUTH AFRICA  
NOTICE 351 OF 2016**

**INDEPENDENT COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY OF SOUTH AFRICA**



**AMENDMENT TO THE RADIO FREQUENCY SPECTRUM REGULATIONS, 2015**

The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (“the Authority”) hereby amends the Radio Frequency Spectrum Regulations, 2015 (Notice No. 279 of 2015) and the Radio Frequency Spectrum Amendment Regulation 2015 (Notice 386 No. 386 of 2015) to the extent reflected in the schedule.

1. The draft revision incorporates a number of issues identified that enhances the Radio Frequency Spectrum Regulations and to adapt to future technological advancements.
2. Interested persons are hereby invited to submit written representations, including an electronic version of the representation in Microsoft Word, of their views on the **Draft Amendments to the Radio Frequency Spectrum Regulations 2016** by no later than 16h00 on 5 August 2016.
3. Written representations or enquiries may be directed to:

The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA)

*Pinmill Farm Block A*

*164 Katherine Street*

*South Africa*

*or*

Private Bag XI0002

Sandton

2146

**Attention:**

Mr Manyapelo Richard Makgotlho

e-mail: [rmakgotlho@icasa.org.za](mailto:rmakgotlho@icasa.org.za)

4. All written representations submitted to the Authority pursuant to this notice shall be made available for inspection by interested persons from 9<sup>th</sup> of August 2016 at the ICASA Library or website and copies of such representations and documents will be obtainable on payment of a fee.

Where persons making representations require that their representation, or part thereof, be treated confidentially, then an application in terms of section 4D of the ICASA Act, 2000 (Act No. 13 of 2000) must be lodged with the Authority. Such an application must be submitted simultaneously with the representation on the draft regulations and plan. Respondents are requested to separate any confidential material into a clearly marked confidential annexure. If, however, the request for confidentiality is refused, the person making the request will be allowed to withdraw the representation or document in question.

  
NOMVUYISO BATYI  
COUNCILLOR

**AMENDMENT OF THE RADIO FREQUENCY SPECTRUM REGULATIONS, 2015  
DEVELOPED IN TERMS OF THE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS ACT, 2005  
(ACT NO. 36 OF 2005, AS AMENDED)**

The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa has, under section 4, read with sections 31(3), 34(7)(c)(iii), 34(8) and 34(16) of the Electronic Communications Act, 2005 (Act No. 36 of 2005, as amended), made the regulations in the schedule.

**SCHEDULE**

**1. Definitions**

In these regulations “the Regulations” means the regulations published by Government Notice No. 279 of 2015, as amended by Government Notices Nos. R. 386 of 30 April 2015.

**2. Amendment of regulation 1 of the Regulations**

2.1 Regulation 1 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the addition, after the definition “Dynamic Frequency Selection” of the following definition:

“**E Band**” means a set of frequencies in the range 71 -76GHz paired with 81 -86GHz”

2.2 Regulation 1 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the addition, after the definition “MHz”, of the following definitions:

“**m ASL**” means height expressed in meters above sea level”

“**m AGL**” means height expressed in meters above ground level.”

2.3 Regulation 1 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the addition, after the definition “UHF” of the following definition:

“**V Band**” is continuous block of 9 GHz of spectrum between 57 and 66 GHz”

### **3. Amendment of regulation 7 of the Regulations**

Regulation 7, sub-regulation (3) of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for paragraph (d) of the following paragraph:

“(d) subject to chapter 15 of the Act, has less than 30% (thirty percent) equity ownership by HDP.”

### **4. Amendment of regulation 12 of the Regulations**

Regulation 12 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-regulation (6) of the following sub-regulation:

“(6) A radio frequency spectrum licence transfer application will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- (a) Promotion of competition and interests of consumers;
- (b) Equity ownership by HDPs; or
- (c) any other criteria applicable at the time of the award of the licence.”

### **5. Amendment of regulation 12 of the Regulations**

Regulation 12 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the deletion of sub-regulation (7).

### **6. Amendment of regulation 12 of the Regulations**

Regulation 12, sub-regulation (9) of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for paragraph (c) of the following paragraph:

“(c) if such transfer will result in the reduction of equity ownership held by HDP to be less than 30%.”

**7. Amendment of regulation 15 of the Regulations**

Regulation 15 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-regulation (5) of the following sub-regulation:

“(5) A radio frequency spectrum licence transfer of control application will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- (a) Promotion of competition and interests of consumers;
- (b) Equity ownership by HDPs; and
- (c) any other criteria applicable at the time of the award of the licence.”

**8. Amendment of regulation 15 of the Regulations**

Regulation 15 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the deletion of sub-regulation (6).

**9. Amendment of regulation 15 of the Regulations**

Regulation 15, sub-regulation (8) of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for paragraph (c) of the following paragraph:

“(c) If such transfer will result in the reduction of equity ownership held by HDP to be less than 30%.”

**10. Insertion of regulations 16A and 16B of the Regulations**

The following regulations are hereby inserted in the Regulations, after regulation 16:

**“16A. Channel Plans**

***The E Band***

- (1) The use of the E-Band shall be as follows:

- (a) The band 71 -76 GHz is paired with 81 – 86 GHz.
  - (b) The plan is based on 2 x 19 basic channels of 250MHz with 10GHz duplex separation and 125MHz guard channels on the band edges.
  - (c) The basic channels can be aggregated to form higher bandwidth channels.
- (2) The E Band is segmented as follows:
- (a) A self-coordination block, 73.375–75.875 GHz paired with 83.375-85.875 GHz which shall be referred to as **Block A**; and
  - (b) A block coordinated fully licensed by the Authority, 71.125-73.125 GHz paired with 81.125-83.125 GHz which shall be referred to as **Block B**.
- (3) The use of Block A shall be in the following manner:
- (a) The prospective user shall notify the Authority of the position and technical details of the link (s) within 30-days of link deployment. Details of what needs to be notified are contained in Annex 1.
  - (b) Prior to link notification, the prospective user shall perform technical assessments against a database of already registered links. The link can only be registered once it has been established that it won't cause harmful interference to the links in the database.
- (4) The use of Block B shall follow the standard application process as prescribed in the Radio Frequency Spectrum Regulations, 2015.
- (5) The Technical parameters reflected in Annexure 3 must be complied with.

### *The V Band*

#### **16B. Radio Frequency Spectrum Licence Exemption**

- (1) The use of the V band is licence exempt provided that technical parameters reflected in Annex B are complied with.
- (2) The detailed frequency coordination is not required and there are no prescribed channel arrangements.

- (3) Single frequency (TDD) systems and two frequency (FDD) systems may use any channel.
- (4) The radio frequency spectrum fee is not applicable.”

#### **11. Amendment of regulation 42 (Offences and Penalties) of the Regulations**

Regulation 42 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the addition of the following sub-regulation:

- “(8) Any person that contravenes the terms and conditions of their licence is subject to a fine not exceeding R5 000 000,00 (Five million rand).

#### **12. Short Title and Commencement**

These Regulations are called the Radio Frequency Spectrum Amendment Regulations, 2016 and will come into force upon publication in the Government Gazette.

### **PART IX - Annexures**

#### **13. Insertion of Annexure C1 of the Regulations**

The following annexures are hereby inserted in the Regulations, after Annexure C:

**“Annexure C1: E-band link registration database fields**

The following Table gives the fields that needs to be completed in the online link registration database once implemented.

Licensee name
The Authority’s serial reference number
Date of link registration with a time stamp
Province
Path length (km)
Bandwidth (MHz)

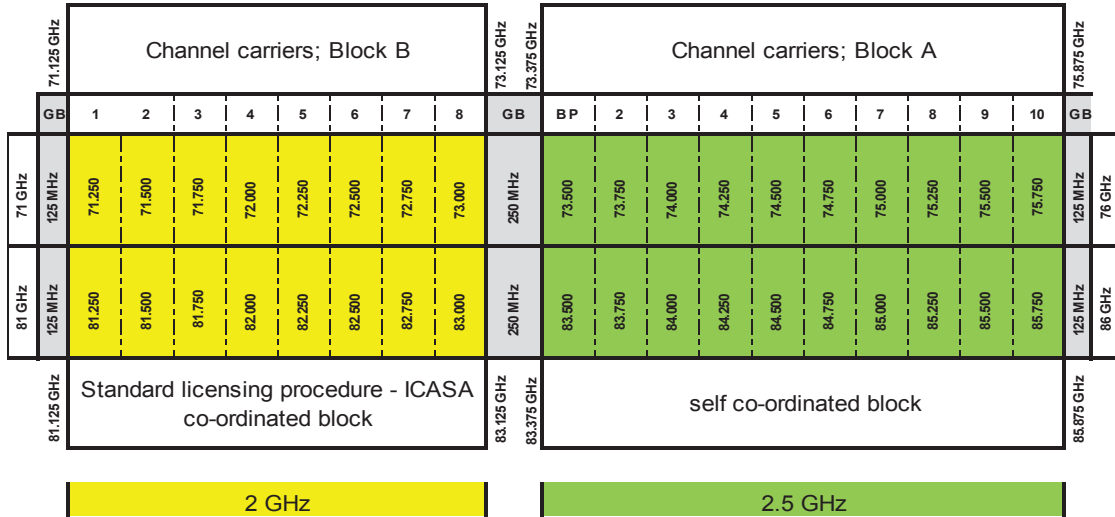
Bit-rate (Mbps)	
Receiver sensitivity	
Polarisation (H, V or H &V)	
Duplexing method (FDD /TDD)	
Site A	Site B
Geographical coordinates (dd:mm:ss)	Geographical coordinates (dd:mm:ss)
Ground Height (m ASL)	Ground Height (m ASL)
Antenna height (m AGL)	Antenna height (m AGL)
Equipment manufacturer	Equipment Manufacturer
Equipment Model Number	Equipment Model Number
Equipment type approval number (TA number)	Equipment type approval number (TA number)
Antenna manufacturer	Antenna manufacturer
Antenna model number	Antenna model Number
Antenna maximum gain (dBi)	Antenna maximum gain (dBi)
Antenna elevation angle (degrees)	Antenna elevation angle (degrees)
Antenna azimuth angle (degrees)	Antenna azimuth angle (degrees)
EIRP (dBW)	EIRP (dBW)
Transmit frequency (MHz)	Transmit frequency (MHz)



**E-BAND CHANNEL ARRANGEMENTS AND TECHNICAL PARAMETRS.**

**E-BAND (71 - 81 GHZ paired with 81 - 86 GHZ)**

**250 MHz channel spacing**



**Technical parameters**

E- BAND TECHNICAL RULES		
Band	71 – 76 GHz	81 – 86 GHz
Maximum power	35dBm	
Maximum e.i.r.p	+85	for $G_{ant} > 55dBi$
	$+85 - (55 - G_{ant})$	for $55dBi \geq G_{ant} > 45dBi$
	$+75 - 2 \times (45 - G_{ant})$	for $45dBi \geq G_{ant} > 38dBi$
Automatic transmit power control	Optional	
Maximum power spectral density	150 mW/100MHz	
Minimum Antennae gain	38 dBi	

#### 14. Substitution of Form B of Annexure A of the Regulations

The following form is hereby substituted for Form B of Annexure A of the Regulations:

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<p><b>FORM B</b></p> <p><b>APPLICATION TO TRANSFER OR TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF A RADIO FREQUENCY SPECTRUM LICENCE</b></p>
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- Note: (a) Applicants must refer to the Electronic Communications Act, 2005 (Act No. 36 of 2005) (“the Act”) and any regulations published under that Act with regard to the requirements to be fulfilled by applicants.*
- (b) Information required in terms of this Form which does not fit into the space provided may be included in an appendix attached to the Form. Each appendix must be numbered with reference to the part of the Form.*
- (c) Where any information in this Form does not apply to the applicant, the applicant must indicate that the relevant information is not applicable.*
- (d) Annexure E MUST be completed and submitted with this Form B, for spectrum license issued through an Extended Application Procedure*

Type of application:

Transfer

Transfer Control

<b>1. PARTICULARS OF LICENCE</b>	
1.1	Licence number:
1.2	Nature of services authorised to be provided in terms of the Licence:
1.3	Attach a copy of the Licence that is the subject of this application. The copy of the Licence must be marked clearly as <b>ANNEXURE A of FORM B 1</b> .

<b>2. PARTICULARS OF THE TRANSFEROR (HOLDER OF THE LICENCE)</b>	
2.1 Full name:	
2.2. Designated contact person:	
2.3 Street address:	
2.4 Principal place of business (if different from street address):	
2.5 Postal address:	
2.6 Designated contact person's telephone number/s:	
2.7 Designated contact person's telefax number/s:	
2.8 E-mail address of designated contact person:	

<b>3. PARTICULARS OF THE TRANSFEREE (SEEKER OF RIGHTS UNDER THE LICENCE)</b>	
3.1 Full name:	
3.2 Designated contact person:	
3.3 Street address:	
3.4 Principal place of business (if different from street address):	
3.5 Postal address:	
3.6 Designated contact person's Telephone number/s:	
3.7 Designated contact person's Telefax number/s:	
3.8 E-mail address of the designated contact person:	

<b>4. LEGAL FORM OF TRANSFEREE</b>	
4.1 Indicate if the transferee is:	
(i) a natural person	
(ii) a partnership	
(iii) a juristic person	

(iv) other (specify)	
4.2 If the transferee is a natural person or a partnership:	
4.2.1 Provide the identity number of the applicant or each partner in the transferal:	
4.2.2 Attach a copy of the identity document of the transferee or certified copies of the identity document of each partner in the transferee marked clearly as <b>Annexure A of FORM B 2</b> .	
4.3 If the applicant is a juristic person:	
4.3.1	Indicate the legal form of the transferee (e.g. private company incorporated in terms of the Companies Act, 1973):
4.3.2	Registration number:
4.3.3	Attach certified copies of certificate of incorporation, and memorandum and articles of association or other constitutive and/or other governing documents (e.g. memorandum and articles of association, association agreement, constitution) marked clearly as <b>ANNEXURE A of FORM B 3</b> .
4.4	If the transferee is not a juristic person but intends to operate as one if this application is granted:
4.4.1	Provide a written undertaking that the transferee will comply with section 5(8) (b) of the Act marked clearly as <b>ANNEXURE A of FORM B 4</b> .
4.4.2	Indicate when and how the transferee will comply with section 5(8) (b) of the Act:

## 5. OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF THE TRANSFEREE

5.1 Provide details of all ownership interests and the identity and address of each holder of an ownership interest in the transferee. Where the transferee is a juristic person, only shareholdings (or equivalent) of 5% or more of the total issued shares (or equivalent) in the applicant are relevant.

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5.2 Indicate whether the transferee is listed on any stock exchange, and provide details of any such listing:
5.3 In respect of each holder of any ownership interest in any person holding an ownership interest in the transferee, provide the details required in respect of each such holder:
5.4 Indicate the extent to which any ownership interest referred to above is held by an historically-disadvantaged person:
(a) Before the rights under the licence are acquired:
(b) After the rights under the licence are acquired:
5.5 Indicate whether the holder of any ownership interest in the transferee is a foreign citizen or an entity

registered or incorporated in any country other than South Africa:
5.6. Indicate whether any person holding an ownership interest in the transferee holds a Licence issued in terms of the Act or holds an ownership interest in any other licensee licensed to provide a service similar to that to which this application relates:
5.7. Provide particulars of any ownership interest held by the transferee in another licensee licensed in terms of the Act:
5.8. Provide details (including name, nationality, identification or passport number, position and address) of each member of the transferee's: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Board of directors or similar body; and</li> <li>(ii) Senior management.</li> </ul>
<b>6. BUSINESS PLAN OF THE TRANSFEREE</b>

6.1 Provide details of the transferees' business plan in respect of the licensed service outlining details as per format in Annexure D (ii-v) marked clearly as <b>ANNEXURE A of FORM C 5</b> :
6.2 Provide details of how the promotion of competition will be achieved by the transfer of the licence as <b>ANNEXURE A of FORM B 6</b> :
6.3 Provide separately and mark clearly as <b>ANNEXURE A of FORM B 7</b> , copies of the audited annual financial statements for the previous three (3) years:
<b>7. TRANSFEROR 'S LICENCE OBLIGATIONS</b>
7.1 Indicate those obligations in terms of the licence which have been discharged and those which will be assumed by transferee, should this application be granted:
7.2 Provide separately and mark clearly as <b>ANNEXURE A of FORM B 8</b> , a written undertaking given by the transferee, through its duly authorised representative, that it will comply with the transferor's licence obligations in the event of the transfer application being approved by the Authority.
<b>8. REASONS FOR THE TRANSFER/TRANSFER OF CONTROL</b>
Provide reasons for the transfer of the Radio Frequency Spectrum Licence:
<b>9. LICENCE SUBJECT TO TRANSFER/TRANSFER OF CONTROL</b>
9.1 Indicate if transferor obtained licence through:  Standard Application Procedure <input type="checkbox"/> Extended Application Procedure <input type="checkbox"/>
9.2 Subject to regulation 12(5) of the Regulations, indicate the amount to be paid by the transferee to the transferor for the transfer of the licence:  R.....
9.3 Indicate which Radio Frequency Spectrum is currently licensed to transferor as <b>ANNEXURE A of FORM B 9</b> .
<b>10. UNDERTAKINGS</b>
Specify any undertakings which the transferee is prepared to make in order to promote the objectives of the Act, if the Licence is transferred.

**11. SWORN STATEMENT**

The persons signing the application on behalf of the applicants must acknowledge as follows:

I, the applicant, acknowledge that the Authority reserves the right to have any Licence amended pursuant to this application being set aside, should any material statement made herein, at any time, be found to be false.

.....

**Transferor**

.....

**Transferee**

I certify that this declaration was signed and sworn to before me at ..... on the ..... day of ..... 20..., by the deponent who acknowledged that he/she:

1. knows and understands the contents herein;
2. has no objection to taking the prescribed oath or affirmation; and
3. considers this oath or affirmation to be truthful and binding on his/her conscience.

.....

**COMMISSIONER OF OATHS**

**Name:**

**Capacity:**

**Address:**

\_\_\_” end of substitution