



**NATIONAL RADIATION  
PROTECTION AUTHORITY**  
*Established pursuant to Section 33 (1) of the Atomic Energy &  
Radiation Protection Act, Act No 5 of 2005*

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Date: 25 February 2025

Mr Timoteus Mufeti  
Environmental Commissioner  
Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism

**Dear Mr Mufeti**

**Subject: Proponents Non-Adherence or Non-Compliance with Non-Ionising Radiation Protection Regulations: Atomic Energy and Radiation Protection Act, 2005.**

The National Radiation Protection Authority (NRPA) is a statutory body established in terms of Section 33 of the Atomic Energy and Radiation Protection Act, Act No 5 of 2005. The mandate of the NRPA is to provide for adequate protection of the environment and of people in current and future generations against the harmful effects of radiation including controlling and regulating **non-ionising radiation** sources such as mobile communication network towers and related infrastructure.

In an attempt to bring the operators of mobile communication towers under regulatory control or oversight, we held numerous consultative meetings and engagements with mobile communication service providers sensitizing them on the regulatory requirements as outlined in the Non-Ionising Radiation Regulations: Atomic Energy and Radiation Protection Act, 2005.

We have noted with concern that Mobile Telecommunications Limited (MTC) and Paratus Telecommunications (Pty) Ltd have disregarded our advice and recommendations. MTC has clearly communicated that they do not believe they fall within our regulatory process and rather advised Government to reform. Further, we experience that some proponents only approach our office in case they encounter challenges such as community opposition and resistance. Our recommendations to the mobile communication service providers have been in line with the regulatory provisions as outlined in clauses 4, 5 and 9 of the afore-mentioned regulations.

These Recommendations include that:

- i. Mathematical calculation or appropriate modelling tool be used to establish boundaries (exclusion zone) for every antenna mounted on the base station, outside

**Mission**

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of which electric and magnetic field (EMF) exposure is below the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation (ICNIRP) limits. This information should be provided to the Authority as soon as practical.

- ii. Reasonable and practicable engineering or administrative control measures are implemented for established boundaries to regulate access by members of the public and workers.
- iii. The site be registered as required by the Non-Ionising Radiation Regulations (Government Notice No 126 of 2020).

In light of the above, the NRPA will no longer review or approve installations by MTC and Paratus, until such time that they demonstrate readiness to comply with the regulatory requirements.

I trust the above is in order.

**Yours Sincerely,**

**Axel Tibinyane**

**Director**

