

DEFENCE

PROTOCOL FOR THE SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT AND MINIMUM REPORT CONTENT REQUIREMENTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ON DEFENCE INSTALLATIONS

1. SCOPE

This protocol provides the criteria for the specialist assessment and minimum report content requirements for impacts on defence installations for activities requiring environmental authorisation. This protocol replaces the requirements of Appendix 6 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations²².

The assessment and reporting requirements of this protocol are associated with the level of sensitivity identified by the national web based environmental screening tool (screening tool).

The screening tool can be accessed at: <https://screening.environment.gov.za/screeningtool>.

2. SITE SENSITIVITY VERIFICATION AND MINIMUM REPORT CONTENT REQUIREMENTS

Prior to commencing with a specialist assessment, the current use of the land and the potential environmental sensitivity of the site under consideration as identified by the screening tool must be confirmed by undertaking a **site sensitivity verification**.

- 2.1. The site sensitivity verification must be undertaken by an environmental assessment practitioner or specialist with expertise in radar.
- 2.2. The site sensitivity verification must be undertaken through the use of:
 - (a) a desk top analysis, using satellite imagery;
 - (b) a preliminary on-site inspection; and
 - (c) any other available and relevant information.
- 2.3. The outcome of the site sensitivity verification must be recorded in the form of a report that:
 - (a) confirms or disputes the current use of the land and environmental sensitivity as identified by the screening tool, such as new developments or infrastructure etc.;
 - (b) contains a motivation and evidence (e.g. photographs) of either the verified or different use of the land and environmental sensitivity; and
 - (c) is submitted together with the relevant assessment report prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.

3. SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT AND MINIMUM REPORT CONTENT REQUIREMENTS

TABLE 1: ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING OF IMPACTS ON DEFENCE INSTALLATIONS
<p>1. General Information</p> <p>1.1. An applicant intending to undertake an activity identified in the scope of this protocol for which a specialist assessment has been identified on the screening tool:</p> <p>1.1.1. on a site identified as being of:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">1.1.1.1. "very high", "high" or "medium" sensitivity for defence, must submit a Defence Compliance Statement; or</p>

²² The Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, as promulgated in terms of Section 24 (5) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998).