

## DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

NO. 806

29 MAY 2019

**DECLARATION TO PROHIBIT CERTAIN MINING ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE SUTHERLAND CENTRAL ASTRONOMY ADVANTAGE AREA IN TERMS OF THE ASTRONOMY GEOGRAPHIC ADVANTAGE ACT, 2007.**

This declaration applies to the Sutherland Central Astronomy Advantage Area declared for the purpose of optical astronomy and related scientific endeavours in terms of section 9(1) and (2) of the Astronomy Geographic Advantage Act, 2007 (Act No. 21 of 2007) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") on 12 March 2014, in Government Gazette No. 37434, under Notice No. 199. The declared area is described in the Schedule hereto.

As provided for in the Act, the declared Sutherland Central Astronomy Advantage Area is to be protected, preserved and properly maintained in respect of light pollution, dust pollution, earth tremors or interference in any other way.

I, Mmamoloko Kubayi-Ngubane, Minister of Science and Technology, in accordance with section 23 of the Act, hereby declare that certain mining activities, as detailed hereunder:

- (a) Open cast mining and mining dumps at ground level; and
- (b) Hydraulic fracturing (or fracking).

be prohibited within the Sutherland Central Astronomy Advantage Area.



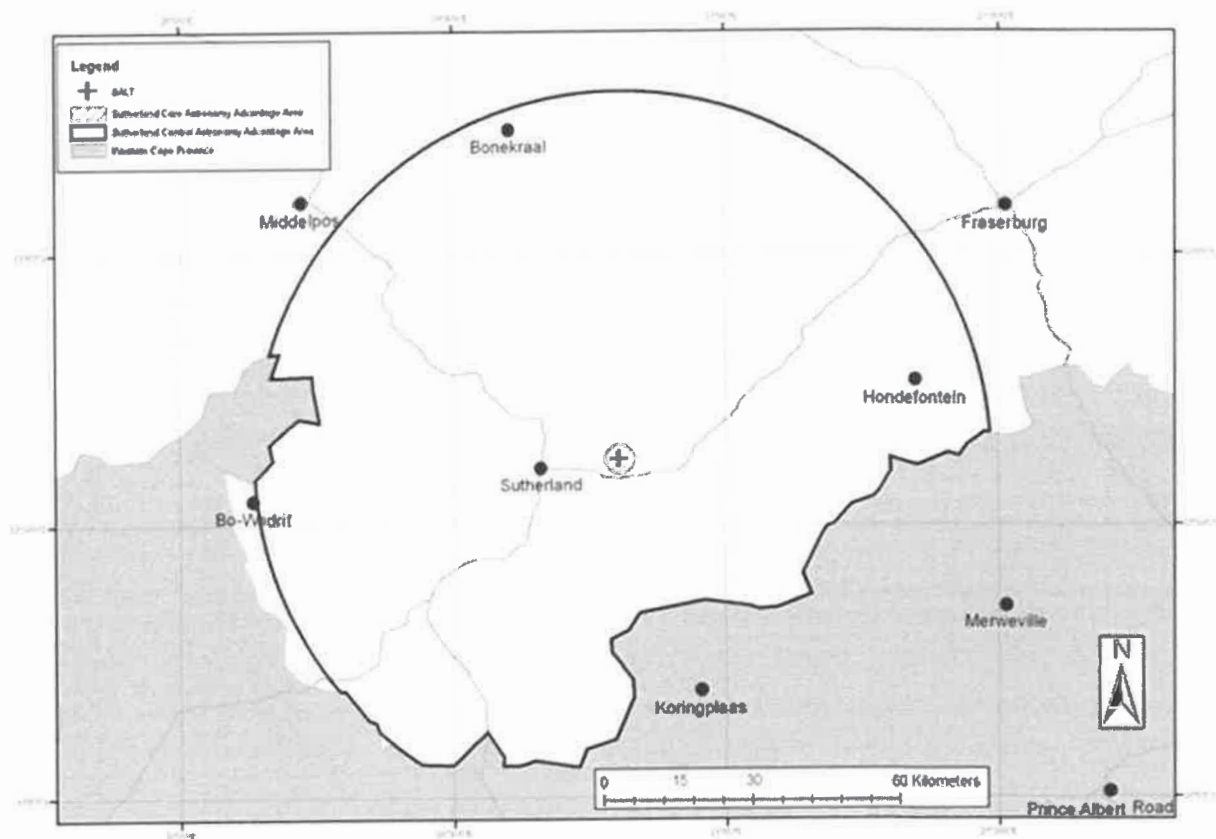
**MS MT KUBAYI-NGUBANE, MP**  
**MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**DATE:** 23/05/2019

## SCHEDULE

### DESCRIPTION OF THE SUTHERLAND CENTRAL ASTRONOMY ADVANTAGE AREA

The Sutherland Central Astronomy Advantage Area (Figure 1) consists of all land in the Northern Cape Province within an annulus of inner radius 3 kilometres and outer radius 75 kilometres centred on the dome of the Southern African Large Telescope (SALT) located at  $32^{\circ} 22' 33''\text{S}$  and  $20^{\circ} 48' 38''\text{E}$ .



**Figure 1:** Map of the Sutherland Central Astronomy Advantage Area.