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**GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS**

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**DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

NO. 745

25 JULY 2018

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DECLARE CERTAIN MINING ACTIVITIES TO BE PROHIBITED WITHIN THE SUTHERLAND CENTRAL ASTRONOMY ADVANTAGE AREA IN TERMS OF THE ASTRONOMY GEOGRAPHIC ADVANTAGE ACT, 2007.**

I, Mmamoloko Kubayi-Ngubane, Minister of Science and Technology, in accordance with section 23 of the Astronomy Geographic Advantage Act, 2007 (Act No. 21 of 2007) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"), hereby give notice of my intention to declare that certain mining activities, as detailed hereunder, are prohibited within the Sutherland Central Astronomy Advantage Area, these activities are:

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

This notice only 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.

Interested or affected persons and members of the public are invited to submit written representations on or objections to the proposed declaration within sixty (60) days from the date of publication of this notice to:

Mr Mere Kgampe

Dept of Science and Technology	Or	Dept of Science and Technology
Building 53, CSIR Campus		Private Bag X894
Meiring Naude Road		Pretoria
Brummeria		0001
Pretoria		
0184		

Or E-mail address [mere.kgampe@dst.gov.za](mailto:mere.kgampe@dst.gov.za)

Enquiries can be made at telephone number 012 843 6644.

Attention is drawn to the matters described hereunder –  
Please note that any written representations which are received after the closing date may be disregarded.

Any person submitting written representations who wishes to also make an oral representation at a public hearing must indicate this in their written representations.



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

## 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° 22' 33" S and 20° 48' 38" E.

