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DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS:
NATIONAL INTEGRATED ICT POLICY GREEN PAPER PUBLISHED FOR COMMENT (GN 44
IN GG 37261 OF 24 JANUARY 2014) (P3)

We thank you for granting us an opportunity to comment on the above and attach hereto our comments on the green paper.

We trust that our input will be received as value-adding to the overall process.

Yours faithfully



Neo Tsholanku
GENERAL MANAGER (LEGAL AND COMPLIANCE)

NATIONAL INTEGRATED ICT POLICY GREEN PAPER

COMMENTS BY ESKOM TELECOMMUNICATIONS

DATE: 27 MARCH 2014

COMMENTS BY ESKOM ON NATIONAL INTEGRATED ICT POLICY GREEN PAPER

PUBLISHED FOR GENERAL COMMENT IN THE GOVERNMENT
GAZETTE NO. 37261– NOTICE no. 44 OF 2104

1. INTRODUCTION

Eskom has a Private Electronic Communications Network to provide its own communications services for the control and management of elements in the electricity grid throughout South Africa. Eskom also uses fixed and wireless communication services where required.

2. GENERAL COMMENTS

2.1 Comment on Section 5.2.5.2: Spectrum for national services

As stated in 5.2.5.2 Spectrum for National Security: *“Those parts of government that use the spectrum for public purposes have complained that they are treated like commercial operators due to the manner in which they are charged for the use of the spectrum. They complain that government has a Constitutional mandate to provide the services they provide and therefore their use of the spectrum should be considered within this context”.*

Comment: Eskom supports this view in the case of the spectrum requirements for the control and management of the electricity grid by Eskom. The provision of electricity is a national priority and thus the need for the spectrum to support this priority should be treated differently to applications by commercial operators.

2.2 Comment of 7.5 Innovation and new applications

In chapter 9.5 Emerging Challenges and New Possible UAS approaches, mention is made of: “smart metering services and solutions - automated meter reading (AMR), remote power load management and consumption trends analysis”

Comment: The above are all elements of the Smart Grid Technologies which are being implemented by utilities worldwide. Eskom recommends the inclusion of Smart Grid Technologies to be mentioned in **Section 7.5 Innovation and new applications**. Smart Grid Technologies are being implemented in South Africa for the management and control of electricity. These technologies would require exclusive use of a reliable and secure frequency spectrum nationally for point-to-multipoint system below and above 1 GHz.

3. SPECIFIC COMMENTS

3.1 Comments on the 5 Policy Questions in Chapter 5: Enabling environment for electronic Communications

1. Should policy promote either a facilities-based or service-based competition environment? Alternatively is there a case for a hybrid competition environment in which both these modes exist?

No comment.

2. What mechanisms are required to ensure effective co-ordination of broadband infrastructure planning and rollout?

Comment: The proposed formation of a Spectrum Management Agency is welcomed and the authority is urged to provide for the development of guidelines that would improve the effectiveness of broadband infrastructure planning and increase the rollout speed for all operators.

3. Notwithstanding current policy interventions to promote availability and access in the under-serviced areas, the local loop remains a great challenge. Should LLU policy be advanced, and if so, what are the principles which should underpin LLU policy?

No comment.

4. What other policy interventions can reduce the Significant Market Power (SMP) of the oligopolies in the South African communication sector?

No Comment

5. What considerations should inform the new policy and regulatory regime concerning the spectrum management taking into account the anticipated revision of the frequency spectrum regime? Is there a need for a separate agency to regulate spectrum?

Comment: The need for a separate agency to regulate spectrum to focus exclusively on spectrum licences and addressing interference complaints is supported. The increased use of wireless applications requires faster turnaround times to roll out infrastructure for increasing demand of communication services.

4. CONCLUSION

Eskom would like to extend its appreciation to the Department of Communications for the opportunity to provide comment to influence the Policy Green Paper. We trust that our comments have been constructive and that they are of assistance in finalising the Policy. In the event that further clarification or information is required, Eskom would be more than happy to provide same.

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**NATIONAL INTEGRATED ICT POLICY
GREEN PAPER**

**COMMENTS BY ESKOM INFORMATION RISK
AND COMPLIANCE -
GROUP IT**

DATE: 27 MARCH 2014

Comments on : "NATIONAL INTEC-RATED ICT POLICY GREEN PAPER"

Section 2

Principle 6 : "South Africans have a right to equitable universal access to communication infrastructure and services"

- How does this impact on employees (think covered through allowing limited private usage)
- Customers – IP over phone to other Eskom sites?
 - Wifi – especially where a state owned enterprise is the only active point (thinking of rural communities where we have a presence and using something like MWEB's Fon)

Principle 9 : "South Africans have a right to privacy and to protection of personal information" vs the policy statements in 32-85

2.2.12.5.1 "right to review, audit, intercept, access, monitor and delete ... "

2.2.12.6 "Waiver of Right to Privacy" (is this still allowed)

Section 3

Notes :

3.2 mentions CERT/CSIRT/CSERT – would Eskom need to link into these

E-Signatures – likelihood of these being made more available (thinking of current cost involved in getting these)

Cyber Inspectors – how to interact with these

National Cyber Security Policy – impact on Eskom (BC & DR specific. Also impact on info security and protection of resources.

E-Commerce – we currently have OVS and CS-online in this area at the moment

SITA vs Group IT – maybe look at close relationship if both part of drive for universal access

Also look at initiatives where we are already assisting other external parties with Eskom IT resources.

Section 4 :

Policy questions:

1. Is the distinction between reserved and unreserved services a clear one in practice? Should this distinction be maintained into the future? If so, is the scope of the monopoly broad enough to fund universal service obligations?

- (A) Would recommend that this area be cleared up as lots of duplication in some areas and no requirement to spread out into areas where still needed.

2. How can SAPO's infrastructure be leveraged to rollout government services?

(A) Look at where only point of connectivity in an area and how to boost that – this also holds true for all SOE who have rural presences.

3. Should the Postbank continue to be a subsidiary of SAPO or should it be a stand-alone fully-fledged independent banking institution?

(A) If plan to expand its services would recommend being separate so that the different regulatory requirements can be clearly managed.

4. How do we ensure the right of every citizen to an address? Should government continue subsidising SAPO in order to fund universal service?

(A) Would need involvement of all parties that give a service based on place of residence – everyone contribute but also able to consume this information – but only for the service provided eg electricity, water, mail – and then only to assure data quality

(B) Also how can other SOE support this eg Eskom when connecting customers to grid – could be first time a fixed abode is determined. (see 4.5.1 also)

5. What role should operators in the unreserved segment of the market play insofar as universal service is concerned?

(A) Where required to go into a new area – look at what extra can be done to provide basic connectivity at an affordable price ie putting down a line to an Eskom substation – any way of linking to a community centre to give a point of connectivity as large part of cost is construction of the original line.

6. What role can SAPO play in the roll-out of broadband?

(A) If SAPO is co-ordinating this then it should have all information of existing and future plans. Problem is this only works if it does not own any of that infrastructure itself. Thus assist with any future growth plans.

Section 5 :

Notes :

5.1 Impact of SA Connect – Broadband Policy on Eskom both as a customer and also as a supplier (Telecomms)

Will we still be able to have a dedicated network or will everything be shared with only levels of availability defined. Particularly for core network and where we are currently the only user of that network (remote sites where we have offices)

5.2.3 What licenses does Telecomms have and thus impact of the ECA on them
Also impact of the Spectrum management Agency on SCADA and our radio control networks?

Also would one open up networks for Private and Public traffic ie Eskom wifi being used by any party – look here at the plan MWEB has for sharing ADSL. Also would need to look at the security and legal parts of this ie can we let 3rd party traffic pass through or is that at the discretion of the network provider?

5.4.1.4 Open Access regimes – impact of this on Telecomms needs to be looked at.

Policy Questions:

1. Should policy promote either a facilities-based or service-based competition environment?