

# Notice for **Wayleave Application** for underground fibre installation in Western Cape Region

**The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)** is mandated by the Department of Science and Innovation to connect all South African research and higher education institutions to the South African National Research Network broadband network. The South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO) spearheads South Africa's activities in the Square Kilometre Array Radio Telescope, commonly known as the SKA, in engineering, science and construction. SARAO is a national facility, managed by the National Research Foundation that incorporates radio astronomy instruments and programmes, such as the MeerKAT and KAT-7 telescopes, in the Karoo and other provinces.

Fibre connectivity is required between the SKA core site in the Northern Cape and a data processing facility in Cape Town to transport the science data for the SKA project and its precursor, MeerKAT. Therefore, there is a requirement to build an underground dark fibre link from Beaufort West along the N1, R381 via Loxton town and the R63 to Carnarvon.

The Western Cape Road and Transport Department requires that all licenced ICT Service Providers be informed on the pending Wayleave application and interested parties be invited to co-build ICT fibre infrastructure for their use and business needs on the same trenched route.

The CSIR hereby notifies all licenced ICT Service Providers of its intention to build the underground fibre link on the route mentioned above and invites interested parties to indicate their interest in co-building and sharing the trenched route. The project is expected to start in April 2020 and continue for a period of 12 months.

Interested parties are requested to communicate their interest/indication to co-build and share the trenched route to the **CSIR** via email to [mmajola1@csir.co.za](mailto:mmajola1@csir.co.za) or call **012 841 3555**, no later than **31 January 2020**.

Further engagements and legal contractual arrangements will be set up with interested parties soon after the closing date of this notice.

