



Statement with regard to cellular signal in towns surrounding the SKA site

The NRF|SARAO has been made aware by communities that there are problems with the mobile telecommunications signals in towns surrounding the SKA site. These include outages that last for days at a time. The NRF|SARAO understands that community members link these outages and network problems to the SKA and MeerKAT projects.

The NRF|SARAO has contacted the mobile service providers, who have indicated that there are problems with their infrastructure in the area. This was confirmed by community members who have independently contacted the service providers as well.

The NRF|SARAO has had no impact on mobile service providers, and in the case of towns there will be no impact. The expected impact of the SKA on the farming community is continuously being discussed with landowners and affected parties on a regular basis.

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