



**SPREP  
PROE**

**ANNEX 5 ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT & ENVIRONMENT PERMIT**

DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AND CONSERVATION

Private Mail Bag 9063  
Port Vila  
REPUBLIC OF VANUATU



BUREAU DE LA PROTECTION DE  
L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET DE LA  
CONSERVATION

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DIPATMEN BLONG ENVAEROMEN PROTEKSEN MO KONSEVESEN

Tel: (678) 25302 / 33430

DEPC reference: ENV/304/OTH/33/2022

20 June 2022

The Director  
Vanuatu Meteorological Geo-Hazards Department  
Port Vila  
EFATE

Dear Director,

**Environmental Permit for installation of a weather radar tower at Klems Hill Area, EFATE**

I refer to your application for an Environmental Permit for the installation of a weather radar tower at Klems Hill, Efate; received by the Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (the Department) on 24 May, 2022.

After reviewing your application and the preliminary environmental assessment undertaken by the Department, I have decided to grant an Environmental Permit for your project. **Enclosed** is a copy of your Environmental Permit.

In making my decision I have considered:

1. Whether your project is likely to cause any environmental, social or custom impact
2. Geotechnical study report done by the Geology and Mines Unit and submitted via email to the Environmental Planning & Impact Assessment Division on 20 June 2022
3. Preliminary Environmental Report carried out by divisional staff
4. The significance of any identified impact
5. Whether your proposed management actions/measures are likely to effectively mitigate, minimise, reduce or eliminate any identified significant impact
6. Whether any residual impacts will remain after your proposed management actions/measures to mitigate, minimize, reduce or eliminate any significant impacts have been implemented
7. Whether your project is controversial

8. The degree to which your project creates a precedent for future action
9. The potential for cumulative impacts
10. The degree to which your project takes unique or unknown risks

As part of carrying out the activities authorised under your Environmental Permit you are responsible for ensuring that your staff and sub-contractors comply with the Environmental Permit. Any non-compliance by staff or sub-contractors will be considered as a breach of your Environmental Permit by you and the Department will take further action as appropriate.

**Please note:**

1. Departmental officers may visit your site for monitoring activities. Departmental officers are authorised to do so under section 42A of the *Environmental Protection and Conservation Act* [CAP 283] (the EPC Act).
2. You are authorised to carry out the activities listed in the Environmental Permit only. If you wish to change your activities you will need to apply to amend your Environmental Permit.
3. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of your Environmental Permit is an offence against the EPC Act and carries with it significant penalties.
4. Your Environmental Permit is for the purpose of the EPC Act only. Depending on the nature of your project, you may need other environment-related approvals. As the project proponent, you are responsible for ensuring that any other approvals, permits, licenses, agreements, authorities or permissions required under any other laws of the Republic of Vanuatu are obtained before any activities are carried out. The approvals etc. you need will vary depending on the nature of your project but may include:
  - a. The consent of the custom land owner
  - b. A land lease of a suitable class
  - c. Foreshore development consent from the Minister of Internal Affairs
  - d. A building permit and planning permission from the relevant municipal or provincial council
  - e. A water works or water use permit from the Department of Water Resources
  - f. A quarry permit from the Commissioner of Mines
  - g. Customs and quarantine approvals from Biosecurity Vanuatu and the Department of Customs and Inland Revenue

- h. An authorisation from the Department under the *Ozone Layer Protection Act No. 27 of 2010* to, for example, import air conditioning or refrigeration equipment containing controlled substances.
5. Your Environmental Permit states the day by which works must substantially commence. If you fail to substantially commence your project within this timeframe your Environmental Permit will be invalid and a new application must be submitted. You may apply to extend this timeframe once only and the maximum extension that can be granted is 12 months. An application to extend the timeframe, including the associated fee, must be received before the date stated on your Environmental Permit.

Should you require any further information, please contact Mrs Naomay Tor, Principal Officer Environmental Impact Assessment, on the above number or via email [njtor@vanuatu.gov.vu](mailto:njtor@vanuatu.gov.vu)

Yours sincerely,



Donna Kalfatak  
Director  
Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation



Encl: Environmental Permit



# Environmental Permit

*Environmental Protection and Conservation Act*  
[CAP 283]

Section 14



**Permit number** ENV304/OTH/33/2022

**Date issued:** 20 June 2022

**Date by which works must substantially commence:** 20 June 2023

**Holder:** The Director  
Vanuatu Meteorological Geo-Hazards Department  
Port Vila  
EFATE

**Authorised activity:** For the purpose of the *Environmental Protection and Conservation Act* [CAP 283] only, this permit authorises you to:  
**Install a weather radar tower at Klems Hill area, EFATE**

**Definitions:** In this permit, unless the contrary intention appears, the terms used are as defined in the *Environmental Protection and Conservation Act* [CAP 283] or *Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations*.

**Controlled substance** means any substance specified in the Schedule of the Ozone Layer Protection Act, whether existing alone or in a mixture, including any controlled substance that has been or is in the process of being recovered, recycled or reclaimed. It includes the isomers of any such substance, except as specified in the relevant Annex of the Schedule, but excludes any controlled substance, whether alone or in a mixture, which is in a manufactured product other than a container used for the transportation or storage of that substance.

**Manufactured product** means any of the following products that contains a controlled substance or that is designed to use a controlled substance:

- (a) Dry-cleaning machines
- (b) Fire extinguishers
- (c) Automobile and truck air conditioning units (whether incorporated in vehicles or not)
- (d) Marine and transportation refrigeration
- (e) Domestic, commercial and industrial refrigerators, freezers, chillers, dehumidifiers, water coolers, ice machines, display cabinets, cold storage systems,

air conditioning and heat pump units and any other refrigeration and air conditioning/heat pump equipment;

- (f) Any other product prescribed by regulations under the Ozone Layer Protection Act.

## **Conditions**

### General:

1. Stockpiling of all construction and maintenance materials must be stored away from water prone areas and environmental sensitive area.
2. All traffic to and from site must be managed to ensure no hazards to other road user/residences.
3. Dust must be controlled to avoid nuisance to any neighbouring property, including gardens or habitations.
4. The discharge, dumping etc. of construction materials, oils, fuels, chemicals or wastes, including wash and waste water, to the environment is prohibited.
5. Subject to the *Control of Nocturnal Noise Act* [CAP 40], working onsite is prohibited between 9 pm and 5 am.
6. In the event the authorised activities cease, all wastes and hazardous materials must be removed from the site and disposed of off-site at a licensed or Council approved waste disposal facility.
7. The installation of controlled Substances is prohibited.
8. Allow departmental staffs on site for monitoring purposes.

### Staff and subcontractors:

9. Staff and sub-contractors must be made aware of the importance of environmental protection and must receive appropriate trainings.
10. Staff and sub-contractors must be made aware of the conditions of this Environmental Permit and must comply with all relevant conditions.
11. The site must be maintained in a tidy condition, free from litter and waste (whether arising from activities associated with the project or external sources).

### Use of machinery:

12. Machinery must be serviced and maintained in good condition to avoid leakage and spillage of oil, fuel and other contaminants.
13. No machinery shall operate within the drip zone of any trees identified to remain on the site.
14. Machinery must not operate in wet or rainy weather.
15. Only experienced and trained personnel must be allowed to operate any machinery onsite.

Site Specific:

16. Radio frequency fields which the public can and will be possibly exposed to must be kept to lowest level as possible.
17. Radar installation site must be on area as specified by the basic site plan submitted with the Environmental Permit application.
18. Installation of radar tower must be in compliant with the design submitted with the application.
19. The height of the tower must be relatively less than the distance from the base of the tower to the nearest residence building or properties to ensure safety during any unexpected falling event.
20. Proper fencing must be installed to ensure the weather tower area is enclosed from external interactions and those who use the adjacent areas are secure and safe.
21. Warning signs must be placed on the project site during construction.
22. Tower must be able to withstand strong winds/cyclone, earthquakes and lightning of the tower.
23. A specific site must be allocated for storing used solar batteries ready for disposal once relevant legislation has been gazetted.
24. Installation of any standby generator must comply with the national standard and all wastes must be deposited at a licensed landfill only;
25. Nearby communities must be informed of the daily schedule of work from site preparation, construction and operation.
26. Workers must wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when constructing the tower.
27. The site must be maintained in a tidy condition, free from litter and waste (whether arising from activities associated with the project or external sources).
28. Disposal of any kind of waste (solid or liquid) into any water bodies or into the surrounding environment is not allowed.
29. Consents must be obtained from appropriate owner(s) prior to removing any garden crops.
30. Consents must be obtained from affected party (ies) prior to any relocation of buildings and/or residential dwellings.
31. As the developer, you are responsible for any future unforeseen environmental impact(s) resulted as part of your project.
32. Departmental officers must be allowed on site for monitoring purposes.





**Donna Kalfatak**  
**Director**

Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation

