

(CONTROL AND REGULATING OF COMMUNICATION MASTS)
BYE-LAW, 2017

IN exercise of the powers conferred on the Sekondi Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly by section 181 of the Local Governance Act, 2017 (Act 936), the following Bye-law is hereby made.

Title

I. This Bye-law may be cited as the Sekondi Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly (Control and Regulating of Communication Masts) Bye-law, 2017 and shall apply to the area of administration of the Sekondi Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly (hereinafter called "the Assembly").

Approval for Erecting a Mast

1. The Assembly shall have the sole right to give permit approval for erecting of communication masts, with a prior approval from the National Communications Authority (NCA), to operate a telecommunication business.
2. A person shall not be allowed to erect a communication mast in the Metropolis unless the person has submitted as part of the application for a license a communication impact assessment report.

Design and Construction

4. The design of towers shall be in accordance with the specifications contained in the NCA-approved structure. In designing towers, due cognizance shall be taken of the following:
 1. Tapered steel and flanged steel poles feature designs that blend well into the environment and require minimum space for installation.
 2. Flanged steel poles are easy to handle and install.
 3. Connections shall be precision-fitted to allow quick assembly of modular sections and the top platform, side arms or mounting frame.
 4. Pole sections shall be made with identical base flange plates to permit simplified modifications of mounting heights and antenna reconfigurations.
 5. Tapered steel poles have comparatively smaller base diameters and so demand minimal land space. f. tapered poles can be installed quickly and offer an extremely efficient strength to cost ratio.
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Superstructure

5. The following parameters shall apply to all superstructure of towers and masts:

1. All steel materials to be used in the finishing of the superstructure shall be hot-dip galvanized and painted according the Ghana Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), paint Schedule for obstructions.
2. All aluminium materials shall have aluminium finish and painted according to Ghana Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) paint Schedule for obstructions.

Painting

6. All skeleton type structures must be painted to International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) stipulations on obstruction painting. 7. ICAO stipulates that:

1. For structures up to 212 meters, the structure shall be given seven equal bands of red and white paint or orange and white paint.
2. For structures above 212 meters, nine bands of paint in alternating red and white or red and/orange.
3. In all cases, the top and bottom of mast or tower must be painted red or orange.
4. Paint shall be non-gloss finish (matt).
5. Mast and Towers shall, in addition, be painted with base primer paint, one suitable under coat of red and white or orange and white, followed by two coats of non-gloss (matt) paint.

Obstruction Lighting

8. All mast and tower must conform strictly to ICAO/ GCAA guidelines with respect to obstruction lighting of tall structures.

1. For every fifty meters of height above ground level, a tower shall have installed on it, one lamp on top and two lamps at the sides.
2. Obstruction lamps shall be maintained in a working condition at all times on all structures within 15 kilometers of an airport or helipad.

Offence and Penalty

9. (1) Whoever contravenes any of the provisions of this Bye-law commits an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine for at least 100 penalty units and at most 250 penalty units, or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding six months, or to both.
 1. There shall be a further fine of 25 penalty units for each day on which the offence is continued after written notice of the conviction has been served on the offender in the case of a continuing offence.
 2. Alternative to penalty (2) above, there shall be a minimum spot fine of GEIC 200.00 to be exacted where necessary by authorized officers of the Assembly and for which an appropriate receipt shall be issued.