

**VOLKSRUST
ONLINE**

RADIO

REG NO: 249 – 651

WRITTEN REPRESENTATION BY VOICE OF PIXLEY FM

REGARDING THE SECOND DRAFT NATIONAL RADIO FREQUENCY PLAN 2025 AND REQUEST FOR FM BROADCAST FREQUENCY ALLOCATION**

Date: 10 December 2025

To: The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA)

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1. Introduction

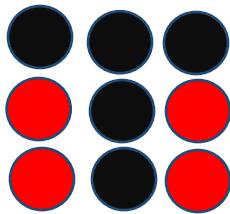
Voice of Pixley FM | Volksrust Online Radio (“the Station”) welcomes the opportunity to submit written representations to the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (“the Authority”) following the publication of the **Second Draft National Radio Frequency Plan 2025**, issued in terms of **Sections 34(2) and (5)** of the Electronic Communications Act, 2005 (Act No. 36 of 2005).

The Station acknowledges the Authority’s mandate to ensure efficient, harmonized, and forward-looking management of spectrum resources in alignment with:

- The Final Acts of WRC-23
- ITU Radio Regulations (2024 Edition)
- The African Telecommunications Union Spectrum Assignment Plan (AfriSAP, July 2025)
- The SADC Radio Frequency Allocation Plan (2024 Edition)

2. Background on Voice of Pixley FM

Voice of Pixley FM is a community-based media service operating in the **Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality** (Mpumalanga Province), currently broadcasting online while engaging in community development, education, youth empowerment, and local content creation.



The Station has:

- **A growing audience base** in Volksrust, Wakkerstroom, Amersfoort, and surrounding rural villages.
- Active roles in **education, community alerts, empowerment programmes**, and local economic development coverage.
- A focus on **local language promotion** (isiZulu, English, and Sesotho).
- Abilities to produce high-quality talk shows, news, public interest programming, and emergency broadcasting.

The Station seeks to expand to terrestrial FM broadcasting in order to improve **community access**, especially in low-income rural areas with limited internet availability.

3. Motivation for Frequency Allocation

3.1 Community Need and Accessibility

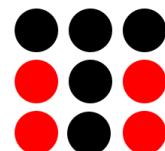
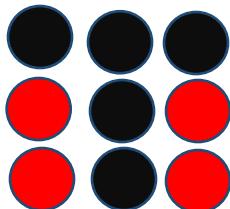
A significant portion of the communities in the region rely on radio as their primary source of information. Limited mobile data access creates a barrier for online-only platforms. An FM frequency will enable equitable information access for residents in:

- Volksrust
- Wakkerstroom
- Amersfoort
- Perdekop & Daggakraal
- Rural farms and surrounding villages

3.2 Public Interest and Local Development

The Station provides essential services, including:

- Local municipal updates
- Public safety and emergency broadcasts
- Youth development programmes
- Community education and local skills training
- Local economic development coverage



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FM broadcasting would significantly enhance community responsiveness and civic participation.

3.3 Spectrum Availability in the Region

Preliminary informal scans indicate that certain portions of the FM band may still be underutilized in the **Pixley Ka Isaka Seme sub-region**.

We request that ICASA consider conducting a technical feasibility assessment for frequency availability for a low-power community broadcasting service.

4. Request to the Authority

Voice of Pixley FM hereby requests:

4.1 Allocation of an FM Broadcasting Frequency

A suitable FM frequency within the **87.5 – 108 MHz** band to enable community broadcasting in the Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme region.

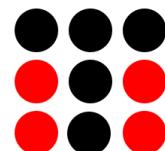
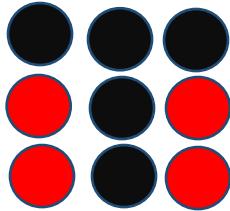
4.2 Consideration in the Final National Radio Frequency Plan

That ICASA include provisions supporting:

- The expansion of community broadcasting spectrum in rural municipalities.
- Easier access to low-power FM community licenses.
- Prioritization of underserved areas such as Volksrust and surrounding regions.

4.3 Opportunity for Oral Presentation

The Station respectfully requests the opportunity to make **oral representations** during the public hearings, as provided for in the Authority's notice.



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Voice of Pixley FM supports ICASA's efforts to modernize and harmonize the national spectrum framework. Granting this frequency allocation will significantly enhance community development, access to information, and the growth of the broadcasting sector in previously underserved areas.

We remain committed to complying with all technical, regulatory, and operational standards required by the Authority.

Submitted by:

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