## CHAPTER 10  CLOSING OR DIVERTING OF NATIONAL ROADS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>OVERVIEW</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>POLICIES AND PROCEDURES</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>INFORMATION REQUIRED BY SANRAL</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>ANNEXURES</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEXURE 10.1</td>
<td>Application form for the closure or diversion of a national road</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
10.1 OVERVIEW

10.1.1 The SANRAL may close a national road to traffic or divert the roadway of a national road whenever in its opinion it is necessary or desirable to do so.

10.1.2 The closure or diversion of a national road to traffic may arise in a number of situations:

10.1.2.1 where the SANRAL wishes to undertake the maintenance or upgrading of the road;

10.1.2.2 where a third party requires the road to be closed or diverted;

10.1.2.3 where the SANRAL is obliged to close the road because it is unsafe as a result of an accident or factors beyond the control of the SANRAL;

10.1.3 Any person who without the permission of the SANRAL uses a national road so closed to traffic, is guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a term of imprisonment not longer than three months, or a fine, or to both the term of imprisonment and the fine.

10.2 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

10.2.1 The SANRAL must at all times manage and control national roads with a view to providing for the convenience and safety of road users.

10.2.2 Closure or diversion of a national road for the maintenance or upgrade thereof

10.2.2.1 It may be necessary, from time to time, to close or divert a national road in order to undertake the maintenance and/or repair of such road.

10.2.2.2 The SANRAL must take adequate steps to accommodate the traffic during the entire period the national road is to be closed or diverted.

10.2.2.3 If it is necessary to stop traffic or close off some lanes of traffic, the SANRAL shall ensure that the road user is given warning in advance by means of:

10.2.2.3.1 the publication of not less than 2 advertisements in local newspapers advising of the impending road diversion or closure;

10.2.2.3.2 the airing of not less than 2 announcements on local radio stations advising of the impending road diversion or closure;

10.2.2.3.3 the erection of signs in the vicinity of the proposed closure or diversion, at least 14 days prior, warning thereof.

10.2.2.4 The advertisements and announcements should be not more than 10 (ten) days in advance of the impending road diversion or closure.

10.2.2.5 The SANRAL must warn Provincial and Municipal Traffic Authorities at least 30 (thirty) days in advance so that adequate arrangements can be made for traffic control.
10.2.2.6 The SANRAL must ensure that signs are erected throughout the period that the national road is closed or diverted, warning thereof.

10.2.2.7 The SANRAL must ensure that all open trenches and pits are temporarily safeguarded until the re-instatement of such trenches and pits are completed.

10.2.2.8 In the event that a contractor is appointed to undertake the maintenance and/or repair of a national road, such contractor shall be made liable for compliance with all procedures relating to the closure or diverting of a national road, as well as any legislation pertaining thereto, including the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 85 of 1993, and the regulations published thereunder.

10.2.2.9 The contractor shall be made contractually liable for any loss or damages suffered by a third party as a result of the closure or diversion of the national road. The contractor shall indemnify the SANRAL against all or any costs or damages which it may incur arising from the closure or diversion of the national road.

10.2.2.10 The contractor must also ensure the safety of all workers employed to assist in the required construction, maintenance or repair during the period that the national road is closed or diverted.

10.2.2.11 All costs relating to the control of traffic and the closing or diversion of the national road will be the responsibility of the contractor or service provider.

10.2.3 Closure or diversion of a national road on the request of a third party

10.2.3.1 It may be necessary, from time to time, to close or divert a national road in order to allow for the construction, maintenance or repair of utility services that have been or are to be constructed within the road reserve of a national road. It may also be necessary because of activities that do not involve the national road, but are adjacent to it, such as blasting.

10.2.3.2 The service provider must make application to the SANRAL for consent for the closure or diversion of the national road. The service provider must make application to the SANRAL for consent for the closure or diversion of the national road. The contractor shall be made liable for any loss or damages suffered by a third party as a result of the closure or diversion of the national road. The contractor shall indemnify the SANRAL against all or any costs or damages which it may incur arising from the closure or diversion of the national road.

10.2.3.3 The SANRAL must take adequate steps to accommodate the traffic during the entire period the national road is to be closed or diverted.

10.2.3.4 If it is necessary to stop traffic or close off some lanes of traffic, the SANRAL shall ensure that the road user is warned well in advance by means of:

10.2.3.4.1 the publication of not less than 2 (two) advertisements in local newspapers advising of the impending road diversion or closure;

10.2.3.4.2 the airing of not less than 2 (two) announcements on local radio stations advising of the impending road diversion or closure;

10.2.3.4.3 the erection of signs in the vicinity of the proposed closure or diversion, at least 14 (fourteen) days prior, warning thereof.

\(^5\) See application form annexed hereto
10.2.3.5 The SANRAL must warn Provincial and Municipal Traffic Authorities at least 30 (thirty) days in advance so that adequate arrangements can be made for traffic control.

10.2.3.6 The SANRAL must ensure that signs are erected throughout the period that the national road is closed or diverted, warning thereof.

10.2.3.7 The SANRAL must ensure that all open trenches and pits are temporarily safeguarded until the re-instatement of such trenches and pits are completed.

10.2.3.8 The service or utility provider must be made contractually liable for any loss or damages suffered by a third party as a result of the closure or diversion of the national road. The service or utility provider shall indemnify the SANRAL against all or any costs or damages which it may incur arising from the closure or diversion of the national road.

10.2.3.9 The service or utility provider must also ensure the safety of all workers employed to assist in the required construction, maintenance or repair during the period that the national road is closed or diverted.

10.2.3.10 All costs relating to the control of traffic and the closing or diversion of the national road will be the responsibility of the service or utility provider.

10.2.4 Closure or diversion of a national road as a result of an Act of God.

10.2.4.1 It may be necessary, from time to time, to close or divert a national road because of reasons beyond the control of the SANRAL, such as flooding, a landslide or a fire.

10.2.4.2 The SANRAL must take adequate steps to accommodate the traffic during the entire period the national road is to be closed or diverted.

10.2.4.3 If it is necessary to stop traffic or close off some lanes of traffic, the SANRAL must take all reasonable steps to warn road users. The SANRAL must make arrangements to broadcast announcements regarding the road closure or diversion on local radio stations.

10.2.4.4 If the closure is likely to be for an extended period, then road users must be given further notice thereof by the publication of not less than 2 (two) advertisements in local newspapers advising of the expected period of the road diversion or closure.

10.2.4.5 Further announcements should be broadcasted on local radio stations to keep road users abreast of the situation.

10.2.4.6 The SANRAL must immediately make arrangements for the erection of signs in the vicinity of the closure or diversion, warning thereof.

10.2.4.7 The SANRAL must immediately interact with Provincial and Municipal Traffic Authorities so that adequate arrangements can be made for traffic control.

10.2.4.8 The SANRAL must ensure that signs are erected throughout the period that the national road is closed or diverted,
warning thereof.

10.3 INFORMATION REQUIRED BY SANRAL

10.3.1 A third party requiring the closure or diversion of a national road must provide the SANRAL with the following:

10.3.1.1 a detailed motivation setting out the reasons a closure or diversion of the national road is required;

10.3.1.2 a plan showing the proposed closure or diversion;

10.3.1.3 an example of the newspaper advertisement that will be placed in a local newspaper;

10.3.1.4 details of the proposed radio advertisement;

10.3.1.5 a programme for the work to be undertaken by the contractor or service provider, showing the period during which the national road must be closed or diverted;

10.3.1.6 details of signage that will be erected;

10.3.1.7 details of additional steps that will be taken to ensure the safety of road users and persons working on site.

10.3.2 If the SANRAL approves an application for the closure or diversion of a national road, it will impose conditions applicable to such approval.

10.4 ANNEXURES