

**RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ON THE REMAINDER  
OF PORTION 60 OF THE FARM PLATTEBOSCH NO.  
485, STILL BAY, WESTERN CAPE  
EA REF: 16/3/3/5/D5/19/0001/22**

**PHASE 1 CONSTRUCTION  
ECO REPORT  
JULY 2024**

This document has been produced for the exclusive use of WH van Schalkwyk Vervoer BK (the client) on the basis of instructions, information and data supplied by them. Enviro-EAP (Pty) Ltd makes/gives no warranty and gives no guarantee, either expressed or implied, with respect to the completeness or accuracy of this document. This report is not a legal opinion and is for the sole use of the client. No reliance should be placed thereon by any party other than the client. Enviro-EAP accepts no responsibility or liability in any way whatsoever to any person or entity in respect of the whole or any part or parts of this document, or any errors in or omissions from it, whether arising negligently or any other basis in law.

## **Table of Contents**

- 1. Abbreviations Used**
- 2. ECO Objectives**
- 3. ECO Scope**
- 4. ECO Methodology and Responsibilities**
- 5. Identification of the ECO Client**
- 6. Identification of the ECO Team**
- 7. Date of Site Visit**
- 8. Key Activities on the Site**
- 9. ECO Findings**
- 10. Conclusion**

## 1. Abbreviations used

The following abbreviations (in alphabetical order) have been used below:

Basic Assessment Report	<b>BAR</b>
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	<b>DEA&amp;DP</b>
Environmental Authorisation	<b>EA</b>
Environmental Control Officer	<b>ECO</b>
Environmental Management Programme	<b>EMP</b>
Storm Water Management Plan	<b>SWP</b>

## 2. ECO Objectives

The objective of the pre-construction meeting and site visit held, and ECO report provided were to conduct plant species search and rescue and discuss the requirements of the approved EA and EMP with the EA holder and determine readiness in terms of compliance to the EA and EMP before constructions activities commences on site. Compliance to pre-construction conditions were also assessed. This report summarises what was discussed and assessed at the meeting and site visit indicates what is still required before construction activities may commence on site.

## 3. ECO Scope

Enviro-EAP (Pty) Ltd is appointed as the independent ECO, as required by the EIA regulations promulgated in terms of Section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act (107 of 1998) as amended, for the construction phase of the development.

According to the EA and EMP requirements ECO compliance monitoring and inspections must be conducted monthly during the construction phase to determine whether or not all environmental conditions as stipulated in the EA, EMP and specialists reports are implemented and monitored throughout the construction phase of the project.

## 4. External ECO Methodology and Responsibilities

In accordance with the requirements of the EMP the ECO must and will be responsible for the following:

- Be appointed prior to commencement of any works (i.e. removal and movement of soil and / or rubble or construction activities commencing).
- Ensure and monitor compliance with the EMP and the amended EA conditions.
- Keep record of all activities on the site; problems identified; transgressions noted and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.

- Remain employed until all development activities are concluded, and the post construction rehabilitation and monitoring requirements are finalised.
- Monitor the on-site environmental management and implementation of the construction and rehabilitation phase specifications specified in this EMP.
- Assist to ensure that the conditions of the environmental authorisation will be complied with as well as with training of workers.
- Request and review the construction method statements of the contractors.
- Conduct monthly site monitoring of construction in respect of compliance with the EA and EMP.
- Report on the implementation of the EMP on a monthly basis.

***The ECO cannot be held liable legally or otherwise as a result of non-compliance with the amended Environmental Authorisation or the EMP, liability remains with the EA Holder.***

## **5. Identification of the ECO Client**

The ECO client is the EA holder WH van Schalkwyk Vervoer BK.

## **6. Identification of the ECO Team**

The ECO duties will be fulfilled by Johmandie Pienaar and Nicolaas Hanekom of Enviro-EAP.

## **7. Date of ECO Visit/s**

The ECO site visit and inspection was conducted on 15 July 2024.

## **8. Key Activities on The Site**

Site clearance for Phase 1 has commenced and is still ongoing. The temporary platform for the construction camp has been created and the construction camp facilities i.e. site office container, portable ablution facilities, firefighting equipment etc. are expected to be established during the next month.

ECO inspected the demarcation of the no-go for ongoing correctness. The ECO also specifically inspected the cleared areas and edges of the site and stockpiled waste vegetation material for signs of Milkwood trees being removed or significantly damaged.

## **9. Summary of ECO Findings and Recommendations and Recommendations**

<b>Finding No.</b>	<b>Area of activity</b>	<b>ECO Findings and Recommendations</b>
J1	No-go boundaries and protected Milkwood trees	During the time of the inspection, it was found that the boundaries of the no-go areas were correctly demarcated, however as per the requirements of the EA and EMP protected Milkwood trees must be avoided as far as possible and may not be impacted or damaged

	within and along no-go boundaries	<p>during any construction activities without authorisation/permits.</p> <p><b>It was observed that Milkwood trees along the no-go edge/boundaries have been avoided and that in some areas the development boundary demarcations have been adjusted to exclude the Milkwood trees and avoid potential impacts as recommended by the ECO during the start-up construction inspection.</b></p>
J2	Milkwood trees within proposed development area	<p>A total of 26 Milkwood trees were counted by the ECO located within the Phase 1 development area. <b>NO MILKWOOD TREES MAY BE IMPACTED OR DAMAGED during any site clearance or construction activities without authorisation/permits.</b></p> <p>Extreme caution must be exercised during site clearance activities to ensure no impacts or damage to any protected Milkwood trees occurs.</p> <p>Once the Phase 1 development area has been cleared all Milkwood trees located within the approved development area must be recorded by the land surveyor and indicated on the proposed development layout. Thereafter this layout must be presented to the relevant official at the DFFE and applications for removal, relocation or pruning must be applied for and obtained from the relevant authority before any of these Milkwood trees may be impacted upon. As far as possible these trees must be accommodated on the layout within the proposed erven.</p> <p>Dense stands of Milkwood trees were also observed within Phase 2 and Phase 3 remaining indigenous vegetation areas and when these areas are being cleared the shrubs around the Milkwood trees must be carefully cleared by hand not to damage any Milkwood trees and all Milkwood trees must be recorded and where removal or impacts on these trees cannot be avoided applications for removal, relocation or pruning must be applied for and obtained from the relevant authority before any of these Milkwood trees may be impacted upon.</p> <p>Refer to the map below.</p>
J3	Construction Camp	<p>The construction camp was established at the main entrance to the site and further than 32m away from the edge of the drainage lines and not within an area containing Milkwood trees. Refer to the</p>

		<p>map below.</p> <p>All relevant construction camp requirements as per the EMP must be accommodated within this construction camp i.e. stockpiling; bunded fuel storage; fire fighting equipment; clear notice board with emergency telephone numbers; closed ablution facilities/chemical toilets for staff; hard copies of EA and EMP etc.</p>
J4	Plant Search and Rescue	<p>Search and rescue was implemented as per instruction of the ECO during the start-up investigation and restios and Mesembryanthemum sp. (small succent fig species) were removed and planted on the suitable area as part of Phase 2 that was identified by the ECO for temporary relocation of these species until they can be used for rehabilitation purposes.</p> <p>Refer to the photos below.</p>
J5	Training and Awareness	<p>All staff and contractors working on site must receive environmental awareness training on the requirements of the EA and EMPr before starting work on site. The site manager must provide a copy of the signed attendance register to the external ECO and keep a copy on site.</p>
J6	Complaints	<p>The site manager must keep a complaint register within which all public complaints must be recorded as well as how they were dealt with.</p> <p>To date the EA holder/developer has not received any official complaints from the public. However during an discussion between the ECO and Mr Shagon Carelse of Hessequa Municipality it was mentioned that Mr Carelse received an enquiry from the DFFE concerning site clearance activities taking place on site and potential impacts on Milkwood trees. The ECO indicated to Mr Carelse that the EA holder/developer was made aware of all requirements relating to Milkwood tree before site clearance activities started and that the ECO will monitor and report on any potential impacts observed on Milkwood trees during the monthly ECO inspections conducted.</p> <p>During the time of the ECO inspections that took place on 15 July 2024 no evidence of Milkwood tree materials were observed within any of the plant material stockpiles on site. Some superficial and minimal damage (less than 25% of the tree) was observed on approximately 5 of the 26 remaining Milkwood trees counted within the Phase 1 development area, however the superficial damage observed was breakage of some branches that took place during clearance activities and no damage to any main stems or the</p>

		<p>"main crown" was observed.</p> <p>Refer to the photos below.</p>
J7	Waste Management	Closable, weather proof and animal proof waste bins must be provided at the site which is emptied on a regular basis and disposed of at the local municipal skip or landfill site. These bins may not be located within any no-go areas. A waste register must be maintained recording when, where, type of waste and how much is disposed of at the municipal skip or landfill site.
J8	Fire Fighting	Suitable fire fighting equipment must be available on site i.e. fire extinguishers.
J9	Ablution/Toilet Facilities	A suitable toilet i.e. portable chemical toilet must be available at the construction camp. This toilet must be serviced regularly and no leakage or pollution may occur.
J10	Stormwater Management	<p>As per the requirements of the EMP the detailed stormwater management plan must be provided to the ECO for inputs before finalisation. The draft SWMP has been provided to the ECO for inputs and a meeting was also held with the engineer during the first ECO site visit to discuss the plans as proposed.</p> <p>During engineer investigations it was determined that stormwater attenuation facilities would be required within the no-go areas to accommodate stormwater from the proposed development area.</p> <p>After the initial site visit the ECO recommended alternative locations for the attenuation ponds taking into consideration the steep gradients of the drainage lines within the no-go areas. Before the detailed SWMP can be finalised and implemented it is recommended that the SWMP proposal also be represented to the Department for inputs to ensure that the proposal remains within the scope of the authorisation as it relates to the requirements of the EA and EMP.</p>

## 10. Conclusion

The findings and recommendations as listed in the table above is not a complete list of the EA and EMP requirements to be adhered to by the EA holder. It remains the responsibility of the EA holder to ensure that he/she understands and adheres to ALL the requirements of the EA and EMP.

Should there be any uncertainty on the requirements the EA holder must please contact the external ECO to discuss and clarify.

This external ECO report has been compiled by environmental assessment practitioner Johmandie Pienaar from Enviro-EAP.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'JP Pienaar', is enclosed in a light blue rectangular box.

**Johmandie Pienaar**

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

**Enviro-EAP (Pty) Ltd**

Email: [johmandie@enviro-eap.co.za](mailto:johmandie@enviro-eap.co.za)

Cell: 072 240 3092





**Map 1:** July 2024 ECO map for indicating areas where Milkwood trees were observed and to be avoided; proposed construction camp placement; proposed search and rescue plants temporary placement; and Phase 1 no-go area boundary demarcation adjusted to exclude Milkwood trees present along the no-go boundary.



**Supporting photographs:**



**Photo 1:** Searched and rescue restios and succulents (photo taken 15 July 2024).



**Photo 2:** Remaining Milkwood trees on Phase 1 area (photo taken 15 July 2024).





**Photo 3:** Minimal damage observed on Milkwood tree located in Phase 1 cleared area (photo taken 15 July 2024).



**Photo 4:** Remaining Milkwood trees on Phase 1 area (photo taken 15 July 2024).





**Photo 5:** Remaining Milkwood trees on Phase 1 area (photo taken 15 July 2024).



**Photo 6:** Demarcated no-go area (photo taken 15 July 2024).





**Photo 7:** Demarcated no-go area (photo taken 15 July 2024)



**Photo 8:** No-go boundary adjusted to exclude Milkwood tree (photo taken 15 July 2024)