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

CONSTRUCTION PHASE

ECO REPORT

FOR FEBRUARY 2025

(Submitted 28 February 2025)

Table of Contents

1. Abbreviations used

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

Basic Assessment Report	**BAR**
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	**DEA&DP**
Environmental Authorisation	**EA**
Environmental Control Officer	**ECO**
Environmental Management Programme	**EMP**
Storm Water Management Plan	**SWP**

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 or Nicolaas Hanekom of Enviro-EAP.

7. Date of ECO Visit/s

The ECO site visit was conducted on 25 February 2025 by Johmandie Pienaar

8. Key Activities on The Site

Phase 1 and partial Phase 2 and 3 construction of roads and civil services continues.

9. Summary of ECO Findings and Recommendations and Recommendations

Finding No.	Area of activity	ECO Findings and Recommendations
F1 (Finding since Sept 2024)	Milkwood trees within development area	A total of 26 Milkwood trees were counted by the ECO located within the Phase 1 development area. The remaining presence of these Milkwood trees within the cleared Phase 1 development area was confirmed during the site visit conducted 29 January 2025. Within the norther corner of Phase 2 where vegetation clearance has already been conducted 7 clusters of Milkwood trees and 3 individual trees were recorded and photographed. During the February 2025 ECO inspection it was also observed that the developer continued with clearance activities around stands of Milkwood trees falling within Phase 2 development area. Several individual and clusters of Milkwood trees were

		recorded to remain within the cleared area and no significant damage or removal of Milkwood trees observed within this area. To show how Milkwood trees are incorporated into the development layout and proof that observed Milkwood trees remain undamaged/are not removed within the development area throughout the construction and development phases all Milkwood trees falling within the development footprint area must be recorded and indicated on the approved development layout plan. This is required for all remaining Milkwood trees within the already cleared Phase 1 and 2 areas as well as clearly visible Milkwood trees along the boundaries of Phase 1 and 2 and Phase 3 areas which has also been cleared. Should removal, relocation or pruning (of more than 25% of the canopy) of any Milkwood trees be required application/s must be made to the DFFE for removal, relocation or pruning before any Milkwood trees may be impacted upon. As far as possible these trees must be accommodated within the layout and not removed. **Refer to the map below.**
F2 (Finding since October 2024)	Stormwater Management and Services Infrastructure Proposed within No-go Areas	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. 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. This must be confirmed by the engineer and before the detailed SWMP can be finalised and implemented it is recommended that the SWMP proposal with all associated services infrastructure plans 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. During the time of the site visit it was confirmed that the services plans have been finalised and observed that the laying of services pipelines has commenced within the No-go area. Previously the ECO stated that this should not occur before the services plans have been provided to the ECO and the Department for

		confirmation that it is in line with the approved EA and EMP requirements. Thus far plans for the construction of the sewer pipeline within the no-go area has been provided and the method statement as approved by the ECO for the laying of the sewer pipeline together with the plans provided is attached to this ECO report (of which a copy of this ECO report is also provided to the Department). During the time of the Feb 2025 ECO inspection the ECO walked the demarcated first section of the sewer pipeline and agrees that the relevant section has been placed along a route which avoids Milkwood trees as far as possible however three Milkwood trees were observed currently present within the path of the marked pipeline route. The site manager must record the location of these three Milkwood trees and amend the pipeline route accordingly to avoid these trees. The amended pipeline route with recorded Milkwood trees must be provided to the ECO for approval before further pipeline excavations commences. If damage or removal of Milkwood trees cannot be avoided the EA holder must first apply to the DFFE for removal, relocation or pruning before any Milkwood trees may be impacted upon.
F3	Demarcation of No-go Areas	During the time of the ECO inspection, it was observed that site clearance and construction activities along the boundaries of Phase 3 no-go areas commenced without providing the ECO opportunity to inspect the correctness of the no-go boundary demarcations. This has led to significant damage to at least two Milkwood trees observed along the no-go boundaries of phase 3. It was discussed with the site manager on site that rehab around the damaged Milkwood trees would take place same day to try and stabilise what remains of the trees to prevent the trees from dying.
F4	Dust Management Monitoring	A dust monitoring specialists has been appointed and dust monitoring equipment have been installed, however a copy of the dust monitoring plan as compiled and to be implemented by the dust monitoring specialists has not yet been provided to the ECO.

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.

NO MILKWOOD TREES MAY BE IMPACTED OR DAMAGED during any site clearance or construction activities without authorisation/permits.

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.

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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. **The blue squares on the map above shows where encroachment into the no-go areas have occurred, as per the recommendations no-go demarcation must remain reinstated as per original demarcation done by the land surveyor and the impacted no-go area must be monitored for rehabilitated**

Supporting photographs:

Photo 1: Remaining Milkwood trees om Phase 1 cleared area, to be recorded on layout plan (photo taken 25 February 2025).

Photo 2: Construction along Phase 3 no-go areas, where the ECO was not provided with the opportunity to confirm correct demarcation before construction continued (photo taken 25 Feb 2025)

Photo 4: Damage to Milkwood trees along Phase 3 no-go boundary as observed by ECO (photo taken 25 Feb 2025)

Photo 5: Milkwood tree clusters remaining within Phase 2 cleared areas (photo taken 25 Feb 2025)

Photo 6: Backfilled first section of sewer pipeline within no-go area, to be rehabilitated (photo taken 25 Feb 2025)

Photo 7: First 3m wide demarcated section of proposed sewer pipeline route within no-go area as inspected by the ECO, with Milkwood tree (nr 1) located within the route to be avoided (photo taken 25 Feb 2025).

Photo 8: First 3m wide demarcated section of proposed sewer pipeline route within no-go area as inspected by the ECO, with Milkwood tree (nr 2) located within the route to be avoided (photo taken 25 Feb 2025).

Photo 9: First 3m wide demarcated section of proposed sewer pipeline route within no-go area as inspected by the ECO, with Milkwood tree (nr 3) located within the route to be avoided (photo taken 25 Feb 2025).

METHOD STATEMENT

CONTRACT: Residential Development on Remainder of Portion 60 of Farm Plattebosch No.485, Still Bay

DATE: 11/02/2025 (Final)

PROPOSED ACTIVITY (give title of method statement and reference number from the EMP):

Construction of 506m long sewer pipeline within Private Open Space area on Remainder of Portion 60 of Farm Plattebosch No 485

WHAT WORK IS TO BE UNDERTAKEN (give a brief description of the works):

In accordance with the GLS report a 160mm diameter uPVC sewer pipe will be constructed from northeastern point of the development (Phase 1) to Erf 196.

These works will be undertaken within the area to be zoned as Private Open Space, currently demarcated as No-Go natural areas and therefore all works within this area must be done under the requirements of a detailed Method Statement approved by the appointed Environmental Control Officer (ECO).

WHERE ARE THE WORKS TO BE UNDERTAKEN (where possible, provide an annotated plan and a full description of the extent of the works):

START AND END DATE OF THE WORKS FOR WHICH THE METHOD STATEMENT IS REQUIRED:

Start Date: 28 Feb 2025

End Date: 31 March 2025

HOW ARE THE WORKS TO BE UNDERTAKEN (provide as much detail as possible, including annotated maps and plans where possible):

Before any site clearance or excavation of sewer pipeline route may commence within the Private Open Space area the following must be completed:

- The shortest route from the northeastern corner of Phase 1 must be followed over the Private Open Space area. This route must however take into consideration to avoid significantly steep slopes and Milkwood trees as far as possible.
- The proposed pipeline route must be clearly marked with pegs and the ECO must investigate the route and confirm in writing to the developer that the route is in line with the requirements of the EA, EMP and method statement before site clearance and excavation continues.
- Once the proposed pipeline route has been approved by the ECO a 3m construction corridor must be clearly demarcated along the approved route in the form of lime lines on either side of the 3m corridor. Once the ECO has confirmed that the demarcation has been done sufficiently, site clearance and construction activities may commence.

Pipeline construction (which includes site clearance beforehand) must take place within the following parameters:

- Once the proposed pipeline route has been approved by the ECO a 3m construction corridor must be clearly demarcated along the approved route in the form of lime lines on either side of the 3m corridor. Once the ECO has confirmed that the demarcation has been done sufficiently, site clearance and construction activities may commence within the 3m corridor.
- Construction must take place in as short a period as possible and the excavation must be immediately filled in with the removed materials once the pipeline has been placed.
- Construction of the pipeline must not take place during the main rainfall period and must therefore be completed and the entire route filled in before May 2025.
- No Milkwood trees may be impacted, damaged, removed or relocated without approval from the DFFE.
- No construction vehicles may operate outside of the 3m corridor this includes no reversing or parking outside the 3m corridor.
- No new roads may be created outside of the 3m corridor, this includes no temporary crossing of any areas within the no-go/Private open space area.
- No stockpiling of any construction materials may take place outside of the

3m corridor within Private open space area.

- Should any construction impacts occur outside of the 3m corridor the ECO must recommend stricter and more permanent demarcation methods i.e. temporary fencing to be implemented, and rehabilitation measures must be recommended to be implemented within impacted areas by the developer.
- Where construction machinery cannot work within the 3m corridor due to steep slopes etc. excavations must be done by hand.
- No hazardous materials i.e. fuels, oils, cement may be kept within the no-go/Private open space areas.
- No construction machinery may be parked overnight within the no-go/Private open space areas.
- All construction waste must be removed same day from the no-go-Private area and may not be dumped or disposed of within the no-go/Private open space area.
- All requirements of the EA and EMP also remains applicable during work within the Private open space areas.

Rehabilitation and monitoring:

- Once construction of the pipeline has been completed and all of the materials have been backfilled the impacted corridor must be monitored for rehabilitation by the ECO during the monthly ECO inspections.
- The ECO must keep a photographic record of rehabilitation progress.
- Should any erosion be detected the ECO must provide recommendations on rectifications and prevention measures to be implemented immediately.
- Should natural re-vegetation not take place at a satisfactory rate i.e. ongoing erosion or infestation with alien vegetation be detected the ECO must recommend suitable indigenous vegetation species to be planted within impacted areas.
- Alien and weed vegetation growth within impacted areas must be monitored by the ECO whom must recommend eradication and follow-up measures to be implemented should any alien or weed species be detected within impacted areas.

DECLARATIONS

1) ENVIRONMENTAL SITE OFFICER

The work described in this method statement, if carried out according to the methodology described, is satisfactorily mitigated to prevent avoidable environmental harm:

_____ _____
(signed) (print name)

Dated: _____

2) PERSON UNDERTAKING THE WORKS

I understand the contents of this method statement and the scope of the works required of me. I further understand that this method statement may be amended on application to other signatories and that the ECO / EO and ER will audit my compliance with the contents of this method statement

_____ _____
(signed) (print name)

Dated: _____