

**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  
FOR DECEMBER 2024  
(Submitted 11 December 2024)**

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## 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 or Nicolaas Hanekom of Enviro-EAP.

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

The ECO site visit was conducted on 6 December 2024 by Johmandie Pienaar

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

Phase 1 and partial Phase 2 construction of civil services.

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>
D1 (Finding since Nov 2024)	No-go boundaries and protected Milkwood trees within and along no-	During the time of the December 2024 inspection, it was found that the original no-go boundaries have maintained. Demarcation must remain throughout construction phase and the ECO will monitor the rehabilitation progress of impacted no-go area edges and recommend indigenous vegetation planting if required.  Within the north-eastern corner no-go area encroachment stockpiles of lime rocks were observed which must be removed as

	go boundaries	soon as possible. These rocks may not be dumped or placed within any of the no-go areas.
D2 (Finding since Sept 2024)	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 construction activities to ensure no impacts or damage to any protected Milkwood trees occurs.</p> <p><b>Phase 1 and partial Phase 2 development areas have 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, this was proposed to be done before the December ECO site visit, but has not yet been done. Mapping of remaining Milkwood trees on layout within Phase 1 and 2 areas must be completed before the next ECO site visit scheduled for 28 Jan 2025 and map must be provided to the ECO before the scheduled site visit.</b> The layout map indicating the locations of the recorded Milkwood trees must be provided to the ECO before 6 December 2024 so that the ECO can check the map for correctness when conducting the next site visit. 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>During the July ECO report the following was recorded - <i>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.</i> During the ECO inspection conducted on 29 August 2024 it was observed that clearance activities has</p>

		<p>commenced within the dense stands of Milkwood trees within Phase 2 area, this was also done with machines and not by hand as recommended by the ECO. The EA holder therefore did not adhere to the recommendations of the ECO. No further clearance was observed within the Phase 2 area and <b>it is recommended that no clearance activities within the dense stands of Milkwood trees continues until authorisation has been obtained from the DFFE as damage to Milkwood trees have been observed. This is the final warning and should this non-compliance not be adequately addressed in accordance with the ECO recommendations as listed above penalties will be issued to the site manager and/or EA Holder in accordance with the EMP requirements.</b></p> <p><b>Refer to the map below.</b></p>
D3 (Finding since October 2024)	Stormwater Management and Services Infrastructure Proposed within No-go Areas	<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. 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.</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 black ink, appearing to read 'JP Pienaar', is enclosed in a light gray rectangular box.

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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 ECO stated that no machinery clearance are allowed within the dense stands of Milkwood Trees as identified within Phase 2 and Phase 3 areas. The EA holder however continued to clear vegetation within Phase 2 development area with machinery and this has lead to damage to dense Milkwood trees. **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:** Lime stone stockpiles within no-go area still to be removed (photo taken 6 December 2024).



**Photo 2:** Rehabilitation progress of impacted no-go area (photo taken 6 December 2024).



**Photo 3:** Phase 1 civil services construction progress (photo taken 6 December 2024).