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## Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (Pty) Ltd

Reg. No. 2008/004627/07

17 Progress Street, George  
PO Box 2070, George 6530

### **MOLEN CLOSE RIVER REHABILITATION** **Environmental Control (ECO) Report – May / June 2023**

- Environmental site inspection was undertaken on:
- 30 May 2023 (ECO site visit – before commencement).
- 15 June 2023 (ECO site visit – clearing the eastern embankment and demarcation of trees & site entrance).
- 19 June 2023 (ECO site visit & meeting).
- 23 June 2023 (ECO site visit – access road & installation of silt fences).
- 28 June 2023 (ECO site visit – commencement of the first section).

#### **Environmental Observation / Action Required:**

##### **Site inspection before commencement (30 May 2023)**

###### Site Access

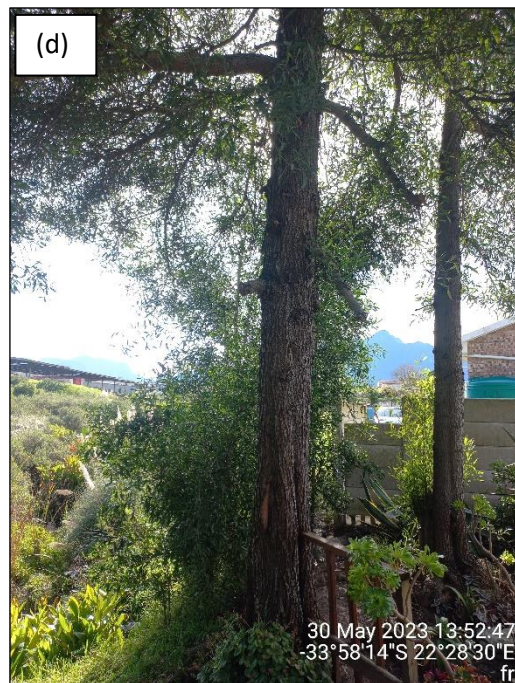
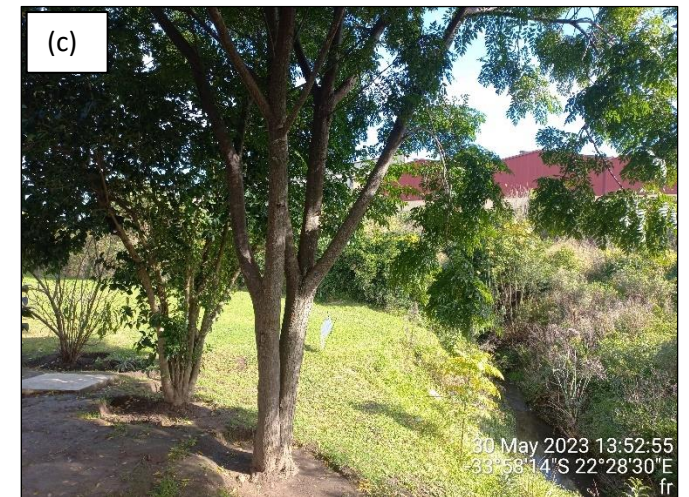
The contractor has drawn up a Method Statement (13 June 2023) for another site access alternative (not via Grens Street):

- Site access via Molen Close Street through erven 21150 & 21151. Main access will be through erf 21151 by breaking a portion of the wall near the entrance gate (*photograph a*).
- Further access to the eastern embankment as well as the stockpile area would require breaking another portion of the wall between erven 21150 & 21151.
- Permission was obtained from both landowners (erven 21150 & 21151).
- A temporary access route will be constructed with G7 material which will be rehabilitated to its original state.
- Certain alien trees will have to be removed to access the eastern river embankment. All tree biomass and spoil material will be transported to the municipal dump. Indigenous trees with the access route will be rescued and transplanted on the open lawn area north of the site. Landowner consent has been received.

###### ECO site visit before approving the Method Statement.

- Marked the trees that they should try to keep (indigenous trees) (*photograph e*). The rest of the trees on/next to erven 21151 & 21150 can be removed if the landowners give consent (alien trees) (*photographs b – f*).
- Site observation: There is also a lot of water coming down Meul River, especially when it rains. Requested that the contractor provide another method statement explaining how they intent to divert the stream during construction.







**ECO site visit on 5 June 2023 – site access**

## Site observations:

- Demarcation of access road (*photograph a*).
- Cutting vegetation along a portion of the eastern embankment (*photograph b*).
- Noted a lot of storm water running into Erf 21151, making the access road very muddy (*photograph c*). Recommended that sandbags be placed on walkway outside the erf to divert the stormwater on the road and into the existing municipal road stormwater system.

**ECO Site Visit & Meeting on 19 June 2023**

The contractor has drawn up another Method Statement on how they intend to divert the stream during construction:

- Downstream silt control measures (silt fences) will be installed within the watercourse (*photographs a & b*).
- The construction area will be divided into three sections.
- Each section will be channelled through the stormwater pipes and flow diverted with sandbags. The first-row gabion baskets will be packed separately before moving on to the next section.

## Site observations:

- Considerable plastic litter noted flowing down river and becoming trapped by vegetation on the western & eastern embankments. Told the contractor that while it is their site, it is their responsibility to remove any waste noted in the site (river).
- An overflowing sewer manhole was noted downstream of the site adjacent to Grens Street (opposite Margo Swiss). This was reported to both the Environmental & Civil Department of the George Municipality for remediation (*photograph c*).





### ECO site visit & meeting on 23 June 2023 – installation of silt fences

- The contractors' team were busy installing silt fences within the watercourse (*photograph a*).
- The alien trees are cut down (*photograph b & d*).
- The temporary site access has been established (*photograph c*).
- The excavator & truck is on-site to deliver material (*photograph e*).
- The site is demarcated (*photograph f*).
- The garden plants of Erf 21150 are rescued and planted elsewhere.







- The contractor asked if they could start removing vegetation and excavate a portion of the eastern embankment (27 June 2023). The ECO recommended that they wait until the following day because a lot of rain is predicted for the entire day that could possibly destabilise the embankment. The contractor confirmed that they will not work in the river and that they will continue working on the access road.

#### **ECO site visit & induction on 28 June 2023**

- Silt fences are in place (*photographs a & b*).
- One toilet & bin are on-site (*photograph c*).
- The contractor has commenced with Section 1 (*photograph d - g*).
- A lot of storm water still enters Erf 21151. Reminded the contractor to place sandbags on the sidewalk to direct storm water into the municipal system (*photograph h*).
- A portion of the demarcation is not closed properly (*photograph i*). Asked the contractor to close the demarcation.
- First induction with the contractor's team working within the watercourse. The contractor told the ECO that a few local workers from rosemoor will also help with the gabions. He will inform the ECO once they are on-site so that the ECO can do an induction with them as well.







