# Agreement No. CE 28/2004 (GE) Landslide Preventive Works at Po Shan, Mid-Levels Design and Construction (Natural Terrain Risk Mitigation Works)

Landscape & Visual Audit and Monitoring (Construction Phase)

**Monthly Inspection Report No. 13** 

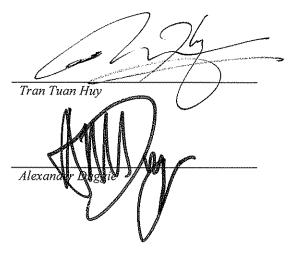
(April 2009)

Prepared by

URBIS LIMITED

Prepared by :

Approved by :



30<sup>th</sup> April 2009

30th April 2009

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The Landscape and Visual Audit & Monitoring are conducted to fulfill the requirements of the EIA Report during the Construction and Operational Phases of the project, and are based on the procedures and requirements as set out in the Agreement No. CE 28/2004 (GE) Landslide Preventive Works at Po Shan, Mid-Levels – Design and Construction (Natural Terrain Risk Mitigation Works) - Environmental Monitoring and Audit Manual.

As stated in section 3.5 and 3.6 of the EM&A Manual, all landscape and visual mitigation measures undertaken by the Contractor during the construction phase and the first 12 months of the operational phase shall be audited on a bi-weekly and monthly basis respectively to ensure compliance with the intended aims of the mitigation measures.

# 2.0 SCOPE OF AUDIT and MONITORING

The broad scope of landscape and visual monitoring and audit on mitigation measures is as detailed below:

#### 2.1 Construction Phase

Indentify any potential conflicts between the proposed landscape measures and any other project works or operation requirements, and recorded for the contractor to resolve in early stage, without compromising the intention of the mitigation measures. Also, the followings shall be monitored:

- designation of 'no-intrusion zones', and to record any trespass by the contractor, including damage to existing vegetation;
- allowance for adjustment of soil nails on site for the avoidance of tree trunks and tree roots;
- dust and erosion control for exposed soil;
- tree planting operations, checking method statement against specification requirements;
- all retained trees within the working boundary shall be regularly checked and reported to the engineer, including damage to the tree canopy edge.

Considerations shall also be made to address the appearance and view by public through:

- control over the appearance of construction workers, hoarding, construction plants / machines
- careful selection of security floodlights to avoid light pollution

## 2.2 **Operation Phase**

Ensure the compensatory planting and horticultural maintenance operations are properly carried out during the 12 months establishment period, including:

- Inspection for fungal / viral attacks and pest infestations
- Litter collection
- Watering
- Weeding removal
- Replacement of defective planting material
- Grass cutting / groundcover trimming and removal of arisings
- Fertilizing application as required in specification
- Aeration / mulching application

## 3.0 INSPECTIONS

#### 3.1 Summary of Inspection – 7<sup>th</sup> April 2009

#### 3.1.1 Matters Arising from Previous Inspections

- The Contractor had cleared away the soil bags and small boulder previously found stockpiled against existing tree.
- It was still observed that the termite infected dead tree T511 at the corner of footpath stair was still not removed. The Resident Engineer advised that instruction will be given to the Contractor to urgently remove the infected dead tree for consideration of safety of the workers and the public in future.
- It was still observed that the Contractor had not removed the dead trees, including a tree with rotten trunk at the base located near existing tree T534. The Resident Engineer requested RLA to prepare a separate letter recommendation for the removal of the tree which is in poor condition for his follow up actions.
- It was observed that Contractor had commenced the rectification of many of the tree identification numbers for the existing retained trees at the lower portion. The Contractor further advised that rectification of the tree numbers on the remaining existing trees shall be completed as soon as possible.
- It was noted that compensatory planting proposal for the replacement of dead tree T611 was outstanding. The Contractor was recommended to seek Engineer's agreement on the replacement planting as soon as possible.
- It was noted that the Contractor's clarification of the status of existing trees T516, T517, T666, and T698 located immediately outside of the works boundary was outstanding. The Contractor was reminded to provide necessary information as soon as possible.

#### 3.1.2 Protection of Existing Trees

• It was again observed that construction materials were stock piled against the trunks of 2 existing trees. The Contractor was requested to clear the material away from the tree as soon as possible.

#### 3.1.3 <u>Recommendations</u>

- The Contractor was recommended to remove dead / rotten trees from site for safety, especially T511 which was now found infected by termite. The Contractor was also reminded to record and report all dead trees as found on site to the Engineer for record.
- The Contractor was reminded to rectify all remaining ineligible tree ID numbers for all existing trees.
- The Contractor was recommended to clarify the status of missing trees as soon as possible.
- The Contractor was recommended to seek Engineer's agreement on the replacement planting for dead tree.
- The Contractor was recommended to clear the construction materials away from existing trees and not to stockpile materials against trees in future.

## **3.2** Summary of Inspection – 21<sup>st</sup> April 2009

#### 3.2.1 <u>Matters Arising from Previous Inspections</u>

- The Contractor had removed the termite infected dead tree T511 at the corner of footpath stair. The Contractor had also removed the tree with rotten trunk base located near existing tree T534. However, removal of dead tree T534 itself was outstanding, which was also infected by termites. The Contractor was also reminded to remove the dead tree T534 which had leaned against existing tree T538.
- The Contractor had cleared the construction materials previously observed stock piled against the trunks of 2 existing trees.
- It was observed that no further rectification of tree ID numbers was carried out since the last inspection. The Contractor was reminded to rectify the missing tree ID numbers on the remaining existing trees as soon as possible.
- It was noted that compensatory planting proposal for the replacement of dead tree T611 was outstanding. The Contractor was recommended to seek Engineer's agreement on the replacement planting as soon as possible.
- It was noted that the Contractor's clarification of the status of existing trees T516, T517, T666, and T698 located immediately outside of the works boundary was outstanding. The Contractor was reminded to provide necessary information as soon as possible.

# 3.2.2 <u>Protection of Existing Trees</u>

• It was noted that no particular new observations regarding the protection of existing trees was made during this inspection.

#### 3.2.3 <u>Recommendations</u>

- The Contractor was recommended to remove the dead tree T534 from site for safety considerations, especially the tree was found infected by termite. The Contractor was also reminded to record and report all dead trees as found on site to the Engineer for record.
- The Contractor was reminded to rectify all remaining ineligible / missing tree ID numbers for all existing trees.
- The Contractor was recommended to clarify the status of missing trees as soon as possible.
- The Contractor was recommended to seek Engineer's agreement on the replacement planting for dead trees.

## 4.0 AUDIT SCHEULE

#### 4.1 Audit Schedule for May 2009

The next audits are scheduled to be conduct on 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May 2009.