

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. 16

(July 2009)

Prepared by

URBIS LIMITED

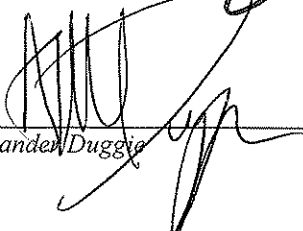
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3rd August 2009

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3rd August 2009

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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

Identify 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

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3.0 INSPECTIONS

3.1 Summary of Inspection – 14th July 2009

3.1.1 Matters Arising from Previous Inspections

- The Contractor had backfilled and compacted the soil into the pit previously left exposed by the removal of the boulder to stabilize the existing tree above.
- Protection to the existing tree previously found with its trunk enclosed within the make-shift conveyor system was outstanding. The Contractor was requested to rectify the edge board to ensure that conveying of materials would not damage the tree trunk.
- The Contractor had further rectified the tree ID numbers on site, with approximately 80% completed. The Contractor was reminded to finish the rectification of missing tree ID numbers works for 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.

3.1.2 Protection of Existing Trees

- It was found that a couple of rubber air hoses had been rubbed against a tree trunk leaving black marks. The Contractor was requested to relocate the hoses away from the tree.

3.1.3 Recommendations

- The Contractor was reminded to provide protection to the existing tree located within the conveyor system to prevent damage to the tree trunk.
- The Contractor was requested to remove the air hoses away from the tree trunk to prevent abrasion.
- The Contractor was again reminded to rectify all remaining ineligible tree ID numbers for all remaining existing trees.
- The Contractor was again reminded to clarify the status of missing trees as soon as possible.
- The Contractor was again reminded to seek Engineer's agreement on the replacement planting for dead tree.

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3.2 Summary of Inspection – 28th July 2009

3.2.1 Matters Arising from Previous Inspections

- The Contractor had provided protection to the existing tree previously found with its trunk enclosed within the make-shift conveyor system.
- The Contractor had removed the rubber air hoses away from the tree trunk previously found abraded.
- The Contractor had further rectified the tree ID numbers on site, with approximately 80% completed. The Contractor was reminded to finish the rectification of missing tree ID numbers works for 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 Protection of Existing Trees

- It was observed a side branch of tree T608 overhanging the footpath was structurally cracked. The Contractor was requested to prune and remove the damaged tree branch for safety and healthy growth of the tree.
- It was noted several trees were broken by recent strong winds and Typhoon Molave. The Contractor was reminded to report damaged trees to the Engineer for record.

3.2.3 Recommendations

- The Contractor was recommended to prune the damaged tree branch of existing tree T608 for safety and healthy growth of the tree.
- The Contractor was reminded to rectify all remaining ineligible / missing tree ID numbers for all remaining existing trees.
- The Contractor was again reminded to clarify the status of missing trees as soon as possible.
- The Contractor was again reminded to seek Engineer's agreement on the replacement planting for dead trees.

4.0 AUDIT SCHEULE

4.1 Audit Schedule for August 2009

The next audits are scheduled to be conduct on 11th and 25th August 2009.