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 Monitori	ing
	(Construction Phase)	

Monthly Inspection Report No. 17

(August 2009)

Prepared by

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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

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 –11th August 2009

3.1.1 <u>Matters Arising from Previous Inspections</u>

- Pruning of structurally defective side branch of tree T608 overhanging the footpath was outstanding. The Contractor was reminded to prune the damaged tree branch for safety and healthy growth of the tree.
- Further rectification of the tree ID numbers on site was not carried since the last inspection, with only 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

• No particular observation was made during this inspection.

3.1.3 Recommendations

- The Contractor was again reminded to rectify all remaining ineligible tree ID numbers for all remaining existing trees.
- The Contractor was again reminded d 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.

3.2 Summary of Inspection – 25th August 2009

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

- The Contractor had pruned the structurally cracked side branch of tree T608 that overhung the footpath.
- Further rectification of the tree ID numbers on site was not carried since the last inspection, with only 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 <u>Protection of Existing Trees</u>

• No particular observation was made during this inspection.

3.2.3 Recommendations

- 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 September 2009

The next audits are scheduled to be conducted on 8th and 22nd September 2009.