



forestry, fisheries  
& the environment

Department:  
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

FORESTRY WESTERN CAPE: Private Bag X 12, Knysna 6570

Reference: EIA-WC-GR-0019-2023-24

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## RE: COMMENTS ON BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AND ASSOCIATED APPENDICES - FOR THE UPGRADING OF AND MAINTENANCE TO THE STORM WATER SYSTEM IN BOLAND PARK, MOSSEL BAY

Date: 15 September 2023

Hiland Environmental Consultants on behalf of Mossel Bay Municipality  
166 Mount Victor Height  
P.O. Box 590, George, 6530  
Western Cape, South Africa

PER E-MAIL: Stefan Delpert (environmental@hilland.co.za)

Dear Mr Stefan Delpert

The e-mail notification of 14 June 2023 and Draft Scoping Report (due date for comments 18 September 2023), refers. Thank you for notifying the Forestry Branch in the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE) of the proposed development(s).

**The mandate of the Forestry Branch in the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), as an EIA commenting authority, is to ensure control over developments that affect State forests, natural forests, forest nature reserves and protected trees.**

1. Section 15(1) of the NFA stated that no person may cut, disturb, damage or destroy any protected tree; or possess, collect, remove, transport, export, purchase, sell, donate or in any other manner acquire or dispose of any protected tree, or any forest product derived from a protected tree, except under a licence granted by the Minister; or in terms of an exemption published by the Minister.
2. The prohibition on protected trees applies to all trees, alive and dead. It also applies to all size classes of the species listed as protected.

### Basic Assessment Report (DSR) (Comments):

3. DFFE has studied the supporting documents and conducted a site inspection for the above mentioned and following points related to DFFE mandate i.e., the implementation of the National Forest ACT, ACT 84 OF 1998 as amended (NFA) is applicable.
4. Two cluster of protected trees were confirmed on the site, the tree species are positioned outside the footprint. The protected trees must be retained and demarcated prior to the development.

DFFA reserve the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any additional information that may be received.

Yours Faithfully  
*I Mapokgole*

PP. AREA MANAGER FORESTRY: WESTERN CAPE  
22/09/23

