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Date 20 May 2025

Sillito Environmental Consulting

Via email: chantel@environmentalconsultants.co.za

Attention: Chantel Müller

Dear Chantel

RE: THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF APROXIMATELY 324 LOW INCOME HOMES IN VREDENBURG, SALDANHA BAY, SALDANHA BAY MUNICIPALITY, WESTERN CAPE

1. Based on the botanical, terrestrial biodiversity and faunal compliance statements it is clear that the development site has been transformed and no longer contains representative Saldanha Flats Strandveld.

The terrestrial biodiversity specialist indication of CBA objectives on the site is partially correct. The CBA and ESA mapped on site is associated with protection of Saldanha Flats Strandveld and watercourse protection. As demonstrated in the botanical, faunal, and terrestrial biodiversity compliance statements the site is essentially highly degraded to transformed indicating that the management objectives for CBA and ESA on site have already been undermined.

The botanical specialist has given an indication of the ecological condition of the site but has not indicated the existing vegetation on site. Other than the afore and abovementioned the botanical, faunal and terrestrial biodiversity compliance statements are supported.

- 1.1 The EAP is requested to complete and submit the attached forms to cba@capenature.co.za for CapeNature to keep record of potential discrepancies in CBA mapping. The relevant specialist assessments should also be attached with submission of the form.
2. The freshwater specialist has identified a wetland feature about 120m from the site but not on the development site. The specialist should indicate the potential indirect impacts of the development on the wetland features and any required mitigation actions.

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

Kind regards,

Land-Use Scientist: Landscape West
Conservation Operations