

27c

*Rec'd late*

Fax 0865132141

C.A. Bruwer  
Enviro AfricaM.L. Cloete  
218 10<sup>th</sup> Street Hermanus  
Hermanus tel 0283140011  
Postal Address : Berghof 44a Hof Street, Gardens 8001  
Tel 021 4247294 Cell 0731550318

CONTINUATION OF FAX DATED 2/5/2013

Re Specific concerns of proposed upgrading of Piet se Bos

There seem to be 2 issues with regard to the Grotto Beach upgrading project, the one hinging on the other. In the plan to construct an amphitheatre the contents of the wetland that is previous rubble would have to be utilized to form the basis for the stage and the seating. But because the main aim of this whole project is the re-establishment of the wetland these two issues should be viewed separately. Plan A would be the removal of the rubble so that work on the wetland can be started. Plan B - the erecting of an amphitheatre is the lesser of the two plans and it is this part of the proposal which seems to be contentious. If the amphitheatre plan is scrapped or shelved, the fill intended for the stage and seating would have to be disposed of elsewhere.

If and when Plan B goes into operation, the basis for the stage and seating would have to be sourced elsewhere. Ideally of course Plans A and B should be done concurrently. If this is not feasible, Plan A should be seen as paramount and the plans for this should go ahead as soon as possible, together with work on the grottos, the flora and the new restaurant. The contents of the fill could be used to improve or enlarge the parking area near the lagoon which would ease the parking problem and also give dog-walking beach goers parking opposite a section of the beach where dogs are allowed instead of walking their pets through the "no dogs allowed" section of the beach near the restaurants.

The building of a new restaurant on the Nautilus slab makes sense but not at the expense of the existing indoor/outdoor restaurant called Duchies which gives its patrons an excellent view of the beach and sea from its out of doors section which has a large iconic tree as its focus. I have no business or financial interests in the coffee bar but common sense sees it as an attractive spot and the philosophy of the old adage "if it aint broke don't fix it" applies here. So in my opinion the existing coffee bar/restaurant should co-exist with the proposed new one.

In encouraging endemic flora and fauna in the part of Piet se Bos behind the grottos and bordering 10<sup>th</sup> street I feel I should mention that I have personally seen two small boddies in that area, one of which was actually in the road at night. I am not sure if they

have survived but if so could hedging of sorts be planned for the street's periphery to keep them, porcupines and meerkats etc safe from being run over ?  
The chacma baboons are another matter entirely. It would be wise in choosing plant species for Piet se Bos to avoid bushes and fruits favoured by them. Although people are often charmed by baboons, especially tourists and children, it would be advisable to avoid human and baboon confrontation at all costs. All stakeholders in the project – beachgoers, restaurant staff, workers of any description need to be educated to assist in making sure that they are kept out of the area. Methods of disposing of food remains and other rubbish in bins also need to be addressed.

Once Plan A is under way a decision would have to be made regarding Plan B – the Amphitheatre. It is a major concern that it may be used for noisy musical events which would disturb residents in neighbouring dwellings, particularly, but not exclusively at night. Nature's music of the white water waves crashing onto the sand banks and the gentle lapping of the smaller waves as they reach the shore stand no chance against the cacophony of metal steel bands and the incessant rhythm of marimbas. I am not assuming that all music is noisy or that there are not performances such as plays, dance productions, poetry readings and lectures as well. But realistically speaking – and forgive me if I generalise – young people and noise seem to go together.  
If the project gets the green light it must be remembered that apart from the performances there are also rehearsals, "sound checks", the inevitable microphones and their placement and "after show parties". Then there are the lighting arrangements. The good news is that they are silent. The bad news is that theatre lighting will cost the municipality a mint.

I know that outdoor venues at Maynardville, Kirstenbosch, Spier and The Oude Libertas at Stellenbosch have certain criteria which need to be met, as I am sure the outdoor venues at the old harbour and Fernkloof have too. But what guarantee do the residents and others in the Grotto beach area have that this would also apply to the Piet se Bos project?

Once built the amphitheatre would be subject to possible vandalism so security is very important at all times.

I am not a Mother Grundy. I love music and the performing arts. Quite a few of my children and grandchildren play musical instruments and perform regularly in indoor and outdoor events.

Hermanus as a whole seems to be Matric Students' town of choice when celebrating the end of the year exams in November and early December. Grotto Beach has long been a Mecca at New Year when crowds congregate to see the New Year in. The amphitheatre will no doubt be an added attraction but what concerns me is that these occasions could attract undesirable elements as tends to happen in South African cities. We would need to be realistic and be prepared for a possible influx of drug pushers and even mobile shebeens.  
Heaven forbid !

I am not totally against the idea of a Grotto Beach amphitheatre. Our young people need encouragement and opportunities to express themselves. Workshopping a play or musical

item for eventual public performance could be an important step in somebody's burgeoning career.

However, I do not believe that the amphitheatre should simply be seen as a cash cow to be let out to anybody. The people who run the amphitheatres at other Cape venues are themselves the impresarios and in control. They decide what they want. They draw up a programme. They choose their performance dates. They invite the artists whom they would like to see on the stage but they are also open to other artists who might ask if there is a slot for them. They have their own management, their own technical team, their own front of house arrangements. If Hermanus is not quite in this league yet the municipality could appoint a Manager/official who should interact with a small advisory committee to keep a check on the criteria right from the beginning. Ideally they would also be pro-active in promoting the use of the theatre by worthy performance groups, school concerts etc. Exclusivity should be guarded against and applications from across a wide spectrum of demographics- culture, age, interest groups should be welcomed and considered by the committee. No section of the community should feel excluded..

If the amphitheatre meets with general approval and before Plan B is put into effect further research needs to be done. Other amphitheatres and outdoor venues should be approached for guidelines and even unsuccessful ones could give valuable insights as to why they failed. People likely to use the proposed venue should be approached as to what ideally they would like to be considered, for example: dressing room facilities, lighting, sound, storage of instruments not being played on stage and most importantly, the type of stage floor. A number of these needs could be met by the use of existing buildings or by hiring mobile caravans or containers. Ultimately the approximate costs-including Management and staffing needs to be calculated and factored into whether Plan B is feasible or not.

*M.L. Cloete*

M.L. Cloete 4/5/2013

# EnviroAfrica

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants  
Omgewingsbeplanning en Impakbeoordeling Konsultante

(27d)

5 September 2013

Mr and Ms M&L Cloete  
Berghof  
44a Hof Street  
GARDENS  
8001

Dear Mr and Ms Cloete

**16/3/1/1/E2/14/2026/13: PROPOSED UPGRADE OF PIET SE BOS AND GROTTA BEACH AREA, HERMANUS**

Your letter fax received on 30 April 2013 with regard to the abovementioned project refers. We wish to inform you that, apart from our reply dated 30 April 2013, we have received the following answers from the municipality to the issues that you have raised.

The municipality reiterated that it must be noted that the Piet se Bos and Grotto Beach under jurisdiction of the Overstrand Municipality has been used as a recreational area for a very long time and is also indicated as such in the Spatial Development Framework. It is also a highly utilized area during the summer holidays, over weekends and public holidays when the weather is good and with this the associated noise, vehicular and pedestrian traffic is to be expected during such periods.

From information that we have obtained from the Overstrand Municipality, they have indicated that Hermanus has as its prime focus to be an excellent tourist destination. Thus with the increasing growth of tourism in the area, increased affluence among a large sector of the Overstrand community and a younger population who requires amenities and activities according to their needs, the public utilization of areas such as the Grotto area has increased and will continue to increase in future. It is also one of the few areas in Hermanus where visitors and patrons can access the beach and have the opportunity to enjoy the restaurant and bar facilities that go with such public places.

Question:

I have read under "Project Location & Description" what is intended in regard to the Upgrade of Wetlands. I would like to know what has motivated this Wetlands upgrade – what is wrong with what is there now and what is its budgeted cost?

Answer: Overstrand Municipality have an environmental management section that oversees the conservation in the municipal area and plan which areas need to be rehabilitated to improve biodiversity. The present state of the area was compromised many years ago when the original wetland area was filled in. The current system is dysfunctional and does not ensure proper filtering of the river that enters the Blue Flag beach, which is one of the requirements for the implementation and retention of a Blue Flag Programme. The Overstrand Municipality is currently

P O Box 4  
ONRUS RIVER 7201  
Tel: (028) 3162888  
Fax: 0865132141  
Cell: 0828050190

CK 2007043835/23  
VAT No 4380237094

Charel Bruwer Snr  
Jerry Avis  
Charel Bruwer Jnr  
Bernard de Witt

*EnviroAfrica*

busy with an Environmental Management Plan for Fernkloof Nature Reserve and the municipality is of the intention to include this area into the management plan and Environmental Framework for the municipality.

The upgrade is in the planning stage and once environmental authorization is obtained can the upgrade process be put out to tender and only then will the costs be known.

Question:

**What exactly is the idea behind the establishment of an Amphitheatre. I was under the impression that Hermanus has a site where such open air theatre functions can be held. Is that not so?**

Answer: There is an increase in the growth of tourism in Hermanus as well as a younger population who requires amenities and activities according to their needs. The Forest Theatre is situated in the Hemel-and-Aarde valley within a rural area which caters for specific events such as single performances.

Question:

**What were the reasons why the Municipality has decided to use this area so close to a Blue Flag Beach for use for an Amphitheatre? It seems that possibly a consideration was that it was a way to use the rubble and builders material that will be removed during the "upgrade" of the Wetland re-establishment. Is that correct?**

Answer: The existing rubble that was used to fill in the original wetland will be removed to restore the current function of the system and only suitable rubble will be used, where necessary, with the development of the amphitheatre. Unsuitable rubble will be removed to the most suitable landfill site. The removed material could also be used for a number of other fill applications in the area, for instance to rehabilitate the washed away banks of the Grotto car park at the Kleinrivier Lagoon. We are sure that there are other uses for the excavated material as well, but the Municipality has decided that to use it for an amphitheatre offers an enhanced use of the area from which income can be generated to offset the cost of registering a Blue Flag Beach. Note that the use is in keeping with the concept of the Blue Flag Beach.

Question:

**What alternative locations have been considered by the Municipality to cater for such events and what process was followed to proceed with the development in this location**

Answer: There are no suitable sites available with existing facilities. The municipality is not looking for an area where an amphitheatre can be constructed, but is looking at the upgrading and rehabilitation of the Piet se Bos area. A feasible option that the municipality has come up with is an amphitheatre that will meet the requirement under the Integrated Coastal Management Act, which requires that coastal areas be made more accessible to the general public.

Question:

**To what specific type of event has the Municipality in mind to be staged in this proposed Amphitheatre. This will give an idea of the additional facilities that have to be provided for such events.**

Answer: The municipality has in mind plays, classical performances or suitable musical events as per request, under strict conditions such as suitability, time limits and conditions of the temporary removable infrastructure that has to be put in place by the individual organisers

*EnviroAfrica*

Question:

**Who is the target market to which these events will be directed. What is the proposed entrance fee for a typical event.**

Answer: The broader community spectrum. The entrance fee will be determined by the individual organisers and dependent on the event.

Question

**What is the budgeted cost of the Amphitheatre and what is the anticipated income that is to be generated from the staging of events.**

Answer: The cost of the amphitheatre can only be determined when the tenders for the upgrading of the area have been finalised. The anticipated income to be generated will be dependent on the type of event and agreements reached between the municipality and individual organisers.

Question:

**How often is it intended to be put to use (no of uses per month over each month of the full year)**

Answer: This can only be determined once requests for use of the amphitheatre are submitted by individual organisers.

Question:

**What are the proposed operating times and on which days of the week will such events be staged**

Answer: This will once again be dependent upon request, but all performances will end before 12:00 pm.

Question:

**What is the MAXIMUM no of visitors that are to be accommodated (seated and standing) in this Amphitheatre.**

Answer: An absolute maximum of 340 persons.

Question:

**How is it proposed that such visitors will arrive, park there**

Answer: The existing road network is deemed adequate and the current parking at the Grotto area makes provision for all types of vehicles.

Question :

**How will such additional persons be accommodated in the existing parking areas, when such**

available parking is currently there has already proven to be quite tight. During the high seasonal traffic officials will deal with the traffic flow.

Question:

**What considerations have been given to the existing road system being able to handle the additional traffic**

Answer: The existing road network is deemed adequate and the current parking at the Grotto area makes provision for all types of vehicles. The existing parking is deemed adequate and when necessary, Overstrand municipal traffic officials will deal with the traffic flow.

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Question:

**What loudspeaker and amplification system is envisaged – location, height and direction of loudspeakers and wattage**

Answer: This is not known at the moment as it will be dependent on the individual event and organiser requirements, but will be approved by the municipality for each event.

Question:

**What lighting system is envisaged – location, height and direction of all spot lights and their type and wattage**

Answer: The municipal lighting will be flood lighting. The individual lighting is not known at the moment as it will be dependent on the individual event and organiser requirements.

Question: \_

**How is it envisaged to attenuate the sound emanating for events being held in the amphitheatre and to what extent**

Answer: This will only be attended to in detail once the business plan for the amphitheatre is drawn up

Question:

**How will the sewerage be disposed – I hope not into the sea at Grotto beach!**

Answer: It will be linked to the existing sewage reticulation system in the Grotto area and in addition portable toilet facilities may also be a condition in individual instances for organisers of events, depending on the requirement.

Yours sincerely

Charel Bruwer

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(78)

11 de Laan 9  
 Veldkloof  
 Hermanus  
 7200

Enviro Africa  
 Overberg (Piet a Boo)  
 Postbus 4  
 Orms  
 7201

Verw. NO 16/3/1/1/E2/14/2026/13  
 Wie dit mag aaropen.

Hermanus registries ek

P. J. Lillie (markie) en S. J. Lillie & Suij  
 ID 460211 5006 081

Postbus 66

Wellinghof

7654

Tel: 021 - 8641220

Sel: 082 490 2690

as "interested and affected party" teropagte  
 van die voorgestelde ontwikkeling van Piet a Boo.

As inwoners van 11 de Laan 9, baie naby  
 aan Piet a Boo, maak ek ten sterkste  
 beswaar teen die genoemde opgraving, en  
 spesifiek teen die oprigting van 'n amfiteater.  
 1. Die geraas van erige musiek, harde geluide  
 en self die stamme van mense orke by  
 Grotto is soms onuitdraaibaar veral gedurende

1139

die fessiesers

2. Ons geniet die rustige en kalme omgewing met die geluid van die see op die agtergrond.
3. Dit sal 'n ekologiese versterking wees vir die blie, kewite ens. wat daar woon.
4. Hulle sal verjag word deur die geraas soos as die mense.
5. Ons kom hierheen om 'n rustige vakansie te geniet by die see en in die verlede het die werklore van die museum deur die grotte's onuithoubaar geword.
6. Die opreëting van 'n struktuur soos in die skrywe voorgestel sal die reservaat onomkeerbaar verander.
7. Ek neem graag my teukeriders na die grotte in "Piet se Bos" waar ek vir hulle baie stories vertel van die Dwergies & fietjies wat daar woon.
8. Dit, baie jammer dat die omgewing so bemas word met menslike afval.
9. So 'n onbetroude stuk grond soos Piet se Bos is skaars aan die kuslyn van ons land en behoort nie versterk te word nie.
10. Hou ergedagte dat dit 'n Blou slag strook is.
11. Die brief is nie duidelik oor die hoogte van die amfiteater nie, ook die aantal sitplekke.
12. Busse was altyd verbode, nou word daar eksensering gemaak vir bus parkeerplekke.
13. Busse kon nou enige tyd daar stelp.
14. Dit sal 'n verkeersdrukte veroorsaak.
15. Hoe goue gaan die amfiteater gebruik word.

16. Watter beligting gaan gebruik word?
17. Dit gaan 'n enorme erikbest op die omgewing en naby erikwessers lê.
18. Ek hoop van harte dat u hierdie saak baie ernstig sal aanpak.
19. Dit is die erikwessers se belastinggeld wat gaan gebruik word vir die oprigting en instandhouding van die gebied.
20. Daarom versoek ek u ernstig tog dringend om die saak te heraanpak.
- By voorbaat baie dankie.

Phyllis'

# EnviroAfrica

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants  
Omgewingsbeplanning en Impakbeoordeling Konsultante

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27 Augustus 2013

Mnr P J Cillié  
Posbus 66  
WELLINGTON  
7654

Beste Mnr Cillié

## 16/3/1/1/E2/14/13: VOORGESTELDE OPGRADERING VAN DIE PIET SE BOS EN GROTTOSTRAND AREA, HERMANUS

U brief van 29 April 2013 met betrekking tot bovermelde aangeleentheid verwys.

Ons bevestig hiermee dat u as Belanghebbende Party geregistreer is wat verder by die omgewingsinvloedbepalingsproses omtrent die opgradering betrek sal word.

Ons het u bekommernisse aangaande die vestiging van die beoogde amfiteater waar van toepassing na die Overstrand Munisipaliteit verwys vir kommentaar aangesien die idee vir die ontwikkeling van die munisipaliteit af kom. Die kommentaar soos van hulle af ontvang is aangeheg vir u inligting.

Op die spesifieke punte wat u noem kan ons as volg reageer.

Punte 1&2:-Daar moet kennis van geneem word dat die area onder bespreking 'n openbare munisipale area is wat reeds geweldig deur die inwoners van die area asook besoekers benut word. Daar is nie enige ander soortgelyke area in die Hermanus omgewing nie en dus is dit vanselfsprekend dat die gebruiksdruk op hierdie area reeds geweldig toegeneem het en nog in die toekoms verder sal toeneem, veral gesien in die lig van die afgelope tyd se beperkings op die voertuigtoegang tot die kuslyn. Vervolgens met die ekonomiese opheffing van die histories agtergeblewe groepeerings van die Suid Afrikaanse bevolking, neem die druk op toegang tot ontspanningsgebiede soos die Piet se Bos en Grottostrand area ook deur hierdie gemeenskappe toe.

Punte 3&4:-Daar is 'n baie groot area van Piet se Bos na die oostekant van die beoogde amfiteater wat baie min tot geen menslike toegang het nie waar sulke diere 'n heenkomme kan vind

Punte 5&6:-Sien munisipale kommentaar.

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Posbus 4  
ONRUS 7201  
Tel: (028) 3162888  
Faks: 0865132141  
Sel: 0828050190

CK 2007043835/23  
BTW No 4380237091

Charel Bruwer  
Jerry Avis  
Charel Bruwer Jnr  
Bernard de Witt

*EnviroAfrica*

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Punte 7&8:-U toegang met die kleinkinders na die grotte sal steeds moontlik wees en met die voorgestelde rehabilitasie van die gedeelte van die vleiland sal die bemorsing deur menslike afval grotendeels verminder as gevolg van die vergrote vlak water area.

Punte 9&10:- Sien munisipale kommentaar.

Punt 11:-Die maksimum hoogte van die amfiteater bo die bestaande grondvlak sal ~5 meter wees en daar sal 'n maksimum van 340 persone kan sit en staan in die amfiteater.

Punte 12,13,14, 15,16&17:- Sien munisipale kommentaar.

Punte 18,19&20:-Neem kennis en sal dit so aan die munisipaliteit deurgee.

Beste groete



Charel Bruwer

# EnviroAfrica

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants  
Omgewingsbeplanning en Impakbeoordeling Konsultante

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19 August 2013

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

### 16/3/1/1/E2/14/2026/13: PROPOSED UPGRADE OF PIET SE BOS AND GROTTO BEACH AREA, HERMANUS

There were a number of questions that were raised by Interested and Affected Parties during the public participation process that we had to refer to the relevant officials in the Overstrand Municipality with regard to the proposed upgrading of Piet se Bos and Grotto beach area. These are the responses that were obtained for your information.

#### Question 1:

I have read under "Project Location & Description" what is intended in regard to the Upgrade of Wetlands. I would like to know what has motivated this Wetlands upgrade – what is wrong with what is there now and what is its budgeted cost?

Answer: Overstrand Municipality have an environmental management section that oversees the conservation in the municipal area and plan which areas need to be rehabilitated to improve biodiversity. The present state of the area was compromised many years ago when the original wetland area was filled in. The current system is dysfunctional and does not ensure proper filtering of the river that enters the Blue Flag beach, which is one of the requirements for the implementation and retention of a Blue Flag Programme. The Overstrand Municipality is currently busy with an Environmental Management Plan for Fernkloof Nature Reserve and the municipality is of the intention to include this area into the management plan and Environmental Framework for the municipality.

The upgrade is in the planning stage and once environmental authorization is obtained can the upgrade process be put out to tender and only then will the costs be known.

#### Question 2:

What exactly is the idea behind the establishment of an Amphitheatre. I was under the impression that Hermanus has a site where such open-air theatre functions can be held. Is that not so?

Answer: There is an increase in the growth of tourism in Hermanus as well as a younger population who requires amenities and activities according to their needs. The Forest Theatre is situated in the Hemel-and-Aarde valley within a rural area which caters for specific events such as single performances.

#### Question 3:

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P O Box 4  
ONRUS RIVER 7201  
Tel: (028) 3162888  
Fax: 0865132141  
Cell: 0828050190

CK 2007043835/23  
VAT No 4380237091

Charel Bruwer Snr  
Jerry Avis  
Charel Bruwer Jnr  
Bernard de Witt

**What were the reasons why the Municipality has decided to use this area so close to a Blue Flag Beach for use for an Amphitheatre? It seems that possibly a consideration was that it was a way to use the rubble and builders material that will be removed during the "upgrade" of the Wetland re-establishment. Is that correct?**

Answer: The existing rubble that was used to fill in the original wetland will be removed to restore the current function of the system and only suitable rubble will be used, where necessary, with the development of the amphitheatre. Unsuitable rubble will be removed to the most suitable landfill site. The removed material could also be used for a number of other fill applications in the area, for instance to rehabilitate the washed away banks of the Grotto car park at the Kleinrivier Lagoon. We are sure that there are other uses for the excavated material as well, but the Municipality has decided that to use it for an amphitheatre offers an enhanced use of the area from which income can be generated to offset the cost of registering a Blue Flag Beach. Note that the use is in keeping with the concept of the Blue Flag Beach.

Question 4:

**What alternative locations have been considered by the Municipality to cater for such events and what process was followed to proceed with the development in this location**

Answer: There are no suitable sites available with existing facilities. The municipality is not looking for an area where an amphitheatre can be constructed, but is looking at the upgrading and rehabilitation of the Piet se Bos area. A feasible option that the municipality has come up with is an amphitheatre that will meet the requirement under the Integrated Coastal Management Act, which requires that coastal areas be made more accessible to the general public.

Question 5:

**To what specific type of event has the Municipality in mind to be staged in this proposed Amphitheatre. This will give an idea of the additional facilities that have to be provided for such events.**

Answer: The municipality has in mind plays, classical performances or suitable musical events as per request, under strict conditions such as suitability, time limits and conditions of the temporary removable infrastructure that has to be put in place by the individual organisers

Question 6

**Who is the target market to which these events will be directed. What is the proposed entrance fee for a typical event.**

Answer: The broader community spectrum. The entrance fee will be determined by the individual organisers and dependent on the event.

Question 7

**What is the budgeted cost of the Amphitheatre and what is the anticipated income that is to be generated from the staging of events.**

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*EnviroAfrica*

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Answer: The cost of the amphitheatre can only be determined when the tenders for the upgrading of the area have been finalised. The anticipated income to be generated will be dependent on the type of event and agreements reached between the municipality and individual organisers.

## Question 8

**How often is it intended to be put to use (no of uses per month over each month of the full year)**

Answer: This can only be determined once requests for use of the amphitheatre are submitted by individual organisers.

## Question 9:

**What are the proposed operating times and on which days of the week will such events be staged**

Answer: This will once again be dependent upon request, but all performances will end before 12:00 pm.

## Question 10

**What is the MAXIMUM no of visitors that are to be accommodated (seated and standing) in this Amphitheatre.**

Answer: An absolute maximum of 340 persons.

## Question 11:

**How is it proposed that such visitors will arrive, park there**

Answer: The existing road network is deemed adequate and the current parking at the Grotto area makes provision for all types of vehicles.

## Question 12:

**How will such additional persons be accommodated in the existing parking areas, when such available parking as is currently there has already proven to be quite tight during the high season**

Answer: The existing parking is deemed adequate and when necessary, Overstrand municipal traffic officials will deal with the traffic flow.

## Question 13:

**What considerations have been given to the existing road system being able to handle the additional traffic**

Answer: The existing road network is deemed adequate and the current parking at the Grotto area makes provision for all types of vehicles. The existing parking is deemed adequate and when necessary, Overstrand municipal traffic officials will deal with the traffic flow.

## Question 14:

**What loudspeaker and amplification system is envisaged – location, height and direction of loudspeakers and wattage**

Answer: This is not known at the moment as it will be dependent on the individual event and organiser requirements, but will be approved by the municipality for each event.

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Question 15:

**What lighting system is envisaged – location, height and direction of all spot lights and their type and wattage**

Answer: The municipal lighting will be flood lighting. The individual lighting is not known at the moment as it will be dependent on the individual event and organiser requirements.

Question 16:

**How is it envisaged to attenuate the sound emanating for events being held in the amphitheatre and to what extent**

Answer: This will only be attended to in detail once the business plan for the amphitheatre is drawn up

Question 17:

**How will the sewerage be disposed – I hope not into the sea at Grotto beach!**

Answer: It will be linked to the existing sewage reticulation system in the Grotto area and in addition portable toilet facilities may also be a condition in individual instances for organisers of events, depending on the requirement.

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PO Box 1142  
HERMANUS  
7200

30 April 2013

Enviro Africa  
PO Box 4  
Onrus River 7201

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

**Re: REF: 16/3/1/1/E2/14/2026/13 PROPOSED UPGRADE OF THE  
PIET SE BOS AND GROTTA BEACH AREA.**

- I wish to register as an interested and affected party. I am a trustee of the 215 TIENDE STRAAT TRUST, owner of plot 3259, the property directly above the PIET SE BOS AREA and the cliffs above GROTTA STRAND.
- My details: EH NEETHLING, PO Box 1142, Hermanus, 7200
- Residence; 310 Main Road, Hermanus
- Tel.: 028 3131841. Mobile: 0826530245
- Email: eneet@absamail.co.za

**HISTORY:**

My father bought the property, 215 Tenth Street, Voëlklip, in 1971. Our family have been using the property as a holiday residence ever since.

**ON THE POSITIVE SIDE:**

We are impressed with the architect's plans for the proposed project and think that upgrading and developing the area will aesthetically and ecologically be to the advantage of the area and to the public utilizing the said area. The idea of having a good restaurant there is also a wonderful prospect. We still fondly remember the era when the Nautilus was a great place to spend some time.

**CONCERNS:**

However, we can also remember staying in the house many years ago, when the picnic area at Grotto Beach was a very noisy place at certain times of the year, specifically during holiday periods. Loud music and late night partying was a regular occurrence much to our annoyance. We had to call upon the assistance of the SA

Police on more than one occasion.

We lived in the residence on a permanent basis for a few years from 2007 to 2010 and were very relieved when we discovered that the problem of late night noise pollution seemed to have been addressed successfully.

Thus you can understand that we are worried that our property may once again be subjected to unacceptable noise levels. We therefore want to register our concern that the development includes an amphitheatre just below our property.

Has any research been done on the need and desirability of the facility? If so, we would like to be privy to the information that led to the decision to include an amphitheatre on this site. If no such opinion pole has been done we would suggest that this market research should be a prerequisite before erecting a structure that may well be an irritant to the residents in the vicinity or turn out to be a white elephant like certain other structures in our town.

Lastly, assuming the project is found desirable by the citizenry of Hermanus and is given the go ahead as per the proposal, we would also like to know who would be controlling the nature of the events and more importantly, the operating hours at the venue.

We are looking forward to your response and trust we will be kept informed of future developments.

Yours faithfully



EH Neethling Trustee

# EnviroAfrica

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants  
Omgewingsbeplanning en Impakbeoordeling Konsultante

29A

27 August 2013

Mr E H Neethling  
P O Box 1142  
HERMANUS  
7200

Dear Mr Neethling

**16/3/1/1/E2/14/2026/13: PROPOSED UPGRADE OF PIET SE BOS AND GROTTA BEACH AREA, HERMANUS**

Your letter received on 2 May 2013 with regard to the abovementioned project refers.

We herewith wish to confirm your registration as Interested and Affected Party and can respond to the issues, concerns and impacts raised in your letter as follows.

It must be noted that the Piet se Bos and Grotto Beach under jurisdiction of the Overstrand Municipality has been used as a recreational area for a very long time and is also indicated as such in the Spatial Development Framework. It is also a highly utilized area during the summer holidays, over weekends and public holidays when the weather is good with the associated noise, vehicular and pedestrian traffic that is to be expected during such periods.

From information that we have obtained from the Overstrand Municipality, they have indicated that Hermanus has as its prime focus to be an excellent tourist destination. Thus with the increasing growth of tourism in the area, increased affluence among a large sector of the Overstrand community and a younger population who requires amenities and activities according to their needs, the public utilization of areas such as the Grotto area has increased and will continue to increase in future. The municipality have also indicated that the amphitheatre is to be used for plays, classical performances and suitable musical events as per request, under strict conditions such as time limits. They have indicated that the intention is not for it to be used for shows by rock bands that make music into the early hours of the morning. More specific answers to your questions from the municipality are as follows.

Question:

**What alternative locations have been considered by the Municipality to cater for such events and what process was followed to proceed with the development in this location**

Answer: There are no suitable sites available with existing facilities. The municipality is not looking for an area where an amphitheatre can be constructed, but is looking at the upgrading and rehabilitation of the Piet se Bos area. A feasible option that the municipality has come up with is an amphitheatre that will meet the requirement under

P O Box 4  
ONRUS RIVER 7201  
Tel: (028) 3162888  
Fax: 0865132141  
Cell: 0828050190

CK 2007043835/23  
VAT No-4380237091

Charel Bruwer Snr  
Jerry Avis  
Charel Bruwer Jnr  
Bernard de Witt

*EnviroAfrica*

---

the Integrated Coastal Management Act, which requires that coastal areas be made more accessible to the general public.

Question:

**How often is it intended to be put to use (no of uses per month over each month of the full year)**

Answer: This can only be determined once requests for use of the amphitheatre are submitted by individual organisers.

Question:

**What are the proposed operating times and on which days of the week will such events be staged**

Answer: This will once again be dependent upon request, but all performances will end before 12:00 pm.

Question:

**How is it proposed that such visitors will arrive, park there**

Answer: The existing road network is deemed adequate and the current parking at the Grotto area makes provision for all types of vehicles. Overstrand municipal traffic officials will deal with the traffic flow when required.

Question:

**What loudspeaker and amplification system is envisaged – location, height and direction of loudspeakers and wattage**

Answer: This is not known at the moment as it will be dependent on the individual event and organiser requirements, but will be approved by the municipality for each event.

Question:

**What lighting system is envisaged – location, height and direction of all spot lights and their type and wattage**

Answer: The municipal lighting will be flood lighting. The individual lighting is not known at the moment as it will be dependent on the individual event and organiser requirements.

We trust that the matter is clear to you

Yours sincerely



Charel Bruwer SM



30

Cor Van Der Walt  
 LandUse Management  
 Email: LandUse.Elsenburg@elsenburg.com  
 tel: +27 21 808 5099 fax: +27 21 808 5092

OUR REFERENCE : 20/9/2/4/2/699  
 YOUR REFERENCE : -  
 DEA&DP REFERENCE : 16/3/1/1/E2/14/2026/13  
 ENQUIRIES : Cor van der Walt

Enviro Africa  
 PO Box 4  
 Onrus rivier  
 7201

Att: CA Bruwer

**PROPOSED UPGRADE OF THE PIET SE BOS AND GROTTO BEACH AREA: DIVISION CALEDON  
 ERF NO 4771, HERMANUS**

Your application of 15 March 2013 has reference.

The Western Cape Department of Agriculture has no objection:

Please take note:

- Kindly quote the above-mentioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.
- The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on the information received.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AS ROUX'.

AS ROUX Pr Eng

**DIRECTOR: SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

2013-03-26

Copies:	
Department of Environmental Affairs & Development Planning 1 Dorp Street CAPE TOWN 8001	Overstrand Municipality PO Box 26 GANSBAAI 7220

R'ceid 30/4

Lucien Johann le Roux & Maretha le Roux,  
Posbus 1514,  
Hermanus, 7200  
Tel./ Faks 028-3140362  
29 April 2013

EnviroAfrica Overberg (Piet se Bos)  
Posbus 4,  
Onrus, 7201  
Verwysing Nr. 16/3/1/1/E2/14/2026/13

Aangetekende pos.

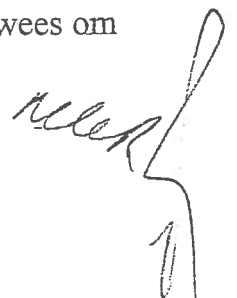
Geagte Mre.,

Ons is eggenote wat sedert 2000 permanent woonagtig is te Agstestraat 205, Voelklip, Hermanus. Ons huis is gelee tussen Elfdelaan en Twaalfdelaan en ongeveer twee straatblokke in 'n Noordelike rigting vanaf die terrein waarop die voorgestelde aktiwiteite beplan word.

Ons versoek om te registreer as belanghebbende en geaffekteerde partye in die identifikasie van strydvræ, besorgdhede en aanslagte met betrekking tot die voorgestelde aktiwiteite.

Na ons beskeie mening:

1. Word die voorgestelde aktiwiteite voorgehou as 'n "opgradering" van die Piet se Bos en Grottostrand gebiede. Dit is egter hoegenaamd nie die geval nie, maar inderdaad 'n volskaalse ontwikkeling van en aanslag op 'n uitsonderlike en uiters sensitiewe ekologiese gebied.
2. Word op die betrokke "Site Development Plan" "DRG. NO. 0.2" groot areas van die natuurlike plantegroei op die terrein, aangedui as synde "gerehabiliteer", wat nie noodwendig die geval is nie. Sommige van sodanige areas is in die proses om gerehabiliteer te word terwyl ander bloot in hul natuurlike staat bestaan. Dit sal 'n saak van onmoontlikheid wees om



2.

groot getalle van die publiek uit sodanige areas te hou en beskadiging te voorkom.

3. Word die oppervlakte, dimensies en kapasiteit van die voorgestelde amfiteater nie vermeld nie en ook nie die toepaslike ablusiegeriewe en parkering wat noodsaaklikerwys benodig sal word nie. Vir 'n lang tydperk reeds laat die Munisipaliteit met goeie rede, geen busse, die speel van musiek of die gebruik van drank in die gebied toe nie.
4. Weens die gebrek aan tyd sedert die voorgenome aansoek toevallig tot ons kennis gekom het, behou ons die reg voor om ons besorgdhede/besware aan te vul of op uit te brei.
5. Ons het nie 'n beswaar wat betref die voorgenome oprigting van 'n dubbelverdieping houtgebou om te dien as 'n restaurant op die ou Nautilus perseel nie.

Die uwe,

L J le Roux

M le Roux



1154

# EnviroAfrica

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants  
Omgewingsbeplanning en Impakbeoordeling Konsultante

7 Junie 2013

L&M le Roux  
Posbus 1514  
HERMANUS  
7200

Beste Mnr en Mev le Roux

## 16/3/1/1/E2/14/13: VOORGESTELDE OPGRADERING VAN DIE PIET SE BOS EN GROTTOSTRAND AREA, HERMANUS

U brief van 29 April 2013 met betrekking tot bovermelde aangeleentheid verwys.

Ons bevestig hiermee dat u as Belanghebbende Party geregistreer is wat verder by die omgewingsinvloedbepalingsproses omtrent die opgradering betrek sal word.

1. Piet se Bos en Grottostrand is gebiede met bestaande infrastruktuur wat aangevul en verbeter sal word om aan die breë publiek 'n verbeterde gebruik van die publieke area te lewer. U spesifiseer nie die redes waarom u die gebied as 'n "uiters sensitiewe ekologiese gebied" beskou nie. Daar word nêrens met die beoogde opgradering aan enige natuurlike plantegroei geraak nie. Die plan is juis om die funksionering van die ou vleiland te verbeter deur gedeeltelike rehabilitasie van die huidige piekniekarea.
2. Die areas wat op die vermelde terreinontwikkelingsplan aangedui word as gerehabiliteer is die areas wat sodanig verander gaan word sodat dit aansluiting vind by die reeds bestaande natuurlike areas. Hierdie plan dra ook die goedkeuring van die omgewingsafdeling van die Overstrand Munisipaliteit weg en die uiteindelijke idee is om die hele Piet se Bos gedeelte by die Fernkloof Natuurreservaat in te lyf. Die skep van die uitbreiding van die vleiland met die verhewe hout loopvlak word juis aangewend om die publiek op hierdie loopvlak te hou en weerskante daarvan sal 'n vleiland wees waar mense gaan nat word as hulle daar wil loop.
3. Volgens die munisipaliteit is die bestaande parkeergeriewe voldoende en maak voorsiening vir alle tipes voertuie. Die maksimum kapasiteit van die amfiteater is ~340 persone en die bestaande ablusiegeriewe asook verwyderbare toilette sal voorsien in die ablusie behoeftes. Die amfiteater sal fisies ~1500m<sup>2</sup> beslaan terwyl die hele area wat beïnvloed gaan word, insluitende die restaurant ~7000m<sup>2</sup> sal beslaan.

Beste groete



Charel Bruwer

Posbus 4  
ONRUS 7201  
Tel: (028) 3162888  
Faks: 0865132141  
Sel: 0828050190

CK 2007043835/23  
BTW No 4380237091

Charel Bruwer  
Jerry Avis  
Charel Bruwer Jnr  
Bernard de Witt

1155

327 R'cord 2/5

ANNEXURE D 262/551

# STEHAN GROBLER TRUST

P O Box 6425  
Uniedal  
7612

Tel: +27 (21) 808 0750  
Fax: +27 (21) 808 0794  
Cell: +27 083 251 7846  
e-mail: [stehan@hoffmaninc.co.za](mailto:stehan@hoffmaninc.co.za)

EnviroAfrica  
P O Box 4  
Onrus River  
7201

Attention: CA Bruwer

Fax No: 0865132141

30 April 2013

Dear Sirs

## OBJECTION TO PROPOSED UPGRADE OF AREAS KNOWN AS PIET SE BOS AND GROTTO BEACH, HERMANUS

In my capacity as a trustee and authorised representative of the Stehan Grobler Trust, purchaser of the property situate at 245 Tenth Street, Voëklip, Hermanus, I herewith register, on behalf of the Trust, as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) in relation to the proposed upgrade and development of the areas known as Piet se Bos and Grotto Beach, Hermanus by the installation of a sloped amphitheatre on a portion thereof, and lodge an objection thereto. The objection is based, *inter alia*, on the anticipated increase in pedestrian and vehicle traffic as well as raised noise levels which will no doubt result from such a development, thus causing irreparable damage to the peaceful haven that is Voëklip.

Yours faithfully

  
STEHAN GROBLER TRUST  
Per: SJ GROBLER  
Trustee

cc:

Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning  
Attention: Directorate: Integrated Environmental Management (Region B)  
Private Bag X9086  
CAPE TOWN  
8000

Fax 021-483 4372

1156

# EnviroAfrica

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants  
Omgewingsbeplanning en Impakbeoordeling Konsultante

7 June 2013

Mr SJ Grobler  
P O Box 6425  
UNIEDAL  
7612

Dear Mr Grobler

**16/3/1/1/E2/14/2026/13: PROPOSED UPGRADE OF PIET SE BOS AND GROTTO BEACH AREA,  
HERMANUS**

Your letter fax received on 2 May 2013 with regard to the abovementioned project refers.

We herewith wish to confirm your registration as Interested and Affected Party and can respond to the issues, concerns and impacts raised in your letter as follows

It must be noted that the Piet se Bos and Grotto Beach areas belong to the Overstrand Municipality and has been used as a recreational area for a very long time and is also indicated as such in the Spatial Development Framework. It is also a highly utilized area during the summer holidays, over weekends and public holidays when the weather is good with the associated noise, vehicular and pedestrian traffic that is to be expected during such periods. Please also note further that under the Integrated Coastal Management Act the municipality is required to ensure access to the coastal public property and to provide facilities that will ensure and enhance the use of this land by the public at large.

From information that we have obtained from the Overstrand Municipality, the amphitheatre will not be used for shows by rock bands that make music into the early hours of the morning, but rather for stage productions and more classic and chamber music performances that will not last later than midnight. It is also expected that most performances will last only about two hours.

According to the municipality the existing parking at Grotto Beach will be sufficient and caters for all types of vehicles. If required traffic will be regulated by the municipal traffic services. As far as your concern about pedestrian traffic, this will obviously be in relation to the restaurant and amphitheatre and will be localized at the Grotto Beach area.

Yours sincerely



Charel Bruwer Snr

P O Box 4  
ONRUS RIVER 7201  
Tel: (028) 3162888  
Fax: 0865132141  
Cell: 0828050190

CK 2007043835/23  
VAT No 4380237091

Charel Bruwer Snr  
Jerry Avis  
Charel Bruwer Jnr  
Bernard de Witt

337

Rec'd 2/5

P.O. Box 38  
Prince Alfred's Hamlet  
6840  
Telephone 023 313 3051  
Fax 023 313 3510  
Cell 082 4929 004  
02 May 2013

EnviroAfrica Overberg  
(Piet se Bos)  
Fax 086 513 2141

Re: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS – PIET SE BOS  
DEA&DP REF NO 16/3/1/1/E2/14/2026/13

I, ADRIAN PETRUS WOLFAARDT, ID 520808 5109 084, wish to register as a interested party in the matter mentioned above. I am the part owner of No 240, 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Hermanus.

I am a South African male who uses the above property as a weekend and holiday residence. The property has belonged to my family since October 1982. We are tax payers in good standing as can be ascertained at Overstrand Municipality. All other information required appears above.

Sincerely

A. WOLFAARDT



330

Rec'd 2/5

P.O. Box 38  
Prince Alfred's Hamlet  
6840  
Telephone 023 313 3051  
Fax 023 313 3510  
Cell 082 4929 004  
02 May 2013

EnviroAfrica Overberg  
(Piet se Bos)  
Fax 086 513 2141

Re: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS – PIET SE BOS  
DEA&DP REF NO 16/3/1/1/E2/14/2026/13

Regarding planned development shortly the following:

1. I have no objection to the rebuilding of the Restaurant subject to the normal requirements.
2. The ultimate purpose and proposed use of the amphitheatre seems unclear and my concern is that once established it may be used for pop concerts and other large scale and noisy events.
3. My experience is that once construction has occurred little heed is paid to residents objections eg. Cape Town Stadium, Kirstenbosch and others.
4. I have no objection to the usage of Grotto Beach being extended to the broader population of South-Africa after all South Africa belongs to all of us.
5. However our holiday house was bought and paid for to act as a place of rest and respite and I believe I have the right to maintain it as such.
6. I object to the construction of the amphitheatre.

Sincerely



A. WOLFAARDT

PS. I include a letter from my sister who is co-owner of the property.

*R'AD 2/4*

**Mev Wolfaardt**

---

**From:** Catherine Friedlander <cmfriedlander@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** 01 May 2013 18:21  
**To:** Mev Wolfaardt  
**Subject:** grotto beach development

Hi Les thanks for sending the info. My feelings are as follows:

What sort of structure will it be - how durable, concrete monstrosity, or not?( If it fails as a business venture, how will it be taken down?)

But I think the most important issue is the intended usage, and since that will be seasonal it will have to be the most lucrative, and that will mean (surely) entertainment of youngsters and that must mean loud concerts/entertainment. They may have the odd classical thing but let's face it that won't bring in the money. I hardly think serious theatre will do it either. one doesn't want to be a killjoy but I think we must be realistic. I wonder if the blue flag beach accreditation which bans loud music only holds for daytime?

I can hardly bear to think of every Saturday night being ruined in this way. I also know what a long and protracted legal battle the Kirstenbosch neighbours had before they managed to enforce a time limit on the summer time concerts in the garden, and they were more numerous and permanent residents!

Parking and/or increased traffic as a direct result would also have an impact even being as relatively far away as we are, but the noise thing is the worst.

We should send a joint objection I should think.

love  
C

33a

# EnviroAfrica

Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment Consultants  
Omgewingsbeplanning en Impakbeoordeling Konsultante

---

7 June 2013

Mr A Wolfaardt  
P O Box 38  
PRINCE ALFRED'S HAMLET  
6840

Dear Mr Wolfaardt

**16/3/1/1/E2/14/2026/13: PROPOSED UPGRADE OF PIET SE BOS AND GROTTO BEACH AREA,  
HERMANUS**

Your letter fax received on 2 May 2013 with regard to the abovementioned project refers.

We herewith wish to confirm your registration as Interested and Affected Party and can respond to the issues, concerns and impacts raised in your letter as follows

It must be noted that the Piet se Bos and Grotto Beach areas belong to the Overstrand Municipality and has been used as a recreational area for a very long time and is also indicated as such in the Spatial Development Framework. It is also a highly utilized area during the summer holidays, over weekends and public holidays when the weather is good with the associated noise, vehicular and pedestrian traffic that is to be expected during such periods.

From information that we have obtained from the Overstrand Municipality, they have indicated that Hermanus has as its prime focus to be an excellent tourist destination. Thus with the increasing growth of tourism in the area and a younger population who requires amenities and activities according to their needs. The municipality have also indicated that the amphitheatre is to be used for plays, classical performances and suitable musical events as per request, under strict conditions such as time limits. They have indicated that the intention is not for it to be used for shows by rock bands that make music into the early hours of the morning.

According to the municipality the existing parking at Grotto Beach will be sufficient and caters for all types of vehicles. If required traffic will be regulated by the municipal traffic services. Thank you for the interest that you take in the environment/

Yours sincerely



Charel Bruwer Sr