

Appeal to Applicant: Milnerton Lagoon Bed Reshaping | DEA&DP Ref 16/3/3/1/A1/18/3048/25

From Rudi Wagenaar <rudsw@icloud.com>

Date Fri 5/22/2026 2:37 PM

To Julia.Wood@capetown.gov.za <Julia.Wood@capetown.gov.za>; Chandre.Rhoda@capetown.gov.za <Chandre.Rhoda@capetown.gov.za>

Cc Marius Venter <Marius.Venter@westerncape.gov.za>; DEADP Appeals <DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za>

 1 attachment (4 MB)

CCT RW Appeal Signed Rudi_Wagenaar_Milnerton_Lagoon_Appeal_Form_Completed.pdf;

Dear Ms Wood and Ms Rhoda,

Please find attached my appeal against the Environmental Authorisation granted on 15 May 2026 for the proposed Milnerton Lagoon intervention, which I understand is not limited to the dredging of years' worth of polluted lagoon sediment, but also authorises the placement and shaping of that material within the lagoon system itself, effectively reshaping parts of the lagoon bed, side slopes and exposed banks directly in front of residential homes.

This is of particular concern because those homes form part of a long-established island community, surrounded by the ocean and lagoon, with only one vehicle access road and one bridge connecting residents to the mainland.

DEA&DP Reference: 16/3/3/1/A1/18/3048/25.

I am submitting this appeal directly to the City of Cape Town as the applicant and holder of the Environmental Authorisation, as required in terms of the appeal process.

The appeal has also been submitted to the DEADP Appeal Administrator.

Please kindly acknowledge receipt.

Kind regards,
Rudi Wagenaar
082 416 7278

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO BE READ PRIOR TO COMPLETING THIS APPEAL FORM:

1. This appeal form must be submitted –
 - a. within **20 calendar days** from the date that the decision is sent by the decision-maker, or, where applicable, by the applicant to registered interested and affected parties; or
 - b. within **30 calendar days** from the date that the decision is received, where an appeal is submitted against a Directive in terms of section 43(8) of the *National Environmental Management Act, 1998*.
2. The appellant must submit the appeal –
 - a. to the appeal administrator;
 - b. to the applicant, where the appellant is not the applicant; and
 - c. where applicable, to any registered interested and affected party where the appellant is the applicant.
3. An appeal submitted must –
 - a. be in writing;
 - b. be on this form;
 - c. include supporting documentation, which is referred to in the appeal; and
 - d. include proof of payment of a non-refundable appeal fee, if prescribed.
4. An applicant must –
 - a. notify, and make a copy of the appeal available to, registered interested and affected parties where applicable, and to affected organs of state, within 5 calendar days of the expiry of the 20-day appeal period; and
 - b. submit proof of the notification to the appeal administrator within 5 calendar days of sending the last notification.
5. The applicant, where applicable, the decision maker and the registered interested and affected party or affected organs of state may within 20 calendar days from the date of receipt of the appeal, submit, in the form obtainable from the Department's website a statement responding to an appeal, to the appeal administrator and to the appellant/s.
6. This form is current as of **APRIL 2026**.
7. The required information must be inserted within the spaces provided in the form. The sizes of the spaces provided are not necessarily indicative of the amount of information to be provided. The spaces may be expanded where necessary.
8. Unless protected by law, all information contained in, and attached to this form, will become public information on receipt by the Department.
9. A digital copy of this form may be obtained from the Department's website at <https://www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp/environmental-governance>, or <https://www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp/service/processing-environmental-and-planning-appeals>.

10. The Appeal Form must be duly dated and originally signed (electronic signature is also accepted) by the Appellant and must be submitted to the Appeal Administrator at the details provided below.

Decision being appealed:

1. 1. Reference Number of the Decision being appealed: 16/3/3/1/A1/18/3048/25
2. Type of Decision being appealed:

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Authorisation | <input type="checkbox"/> 24G Administrative Fine | <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment of Environmental Authorisation | <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment of Environmental Management Programme | <input type="checkbox"/> Waste Management Licence | <input type="checkbox"/> Variation of a Waste Management Licence | <input type="checkbox"/> Atmospheric Emission Licence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exemption Notice | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Conservation Act: Outeniqua Sensitive Coastal Areas Permit | <input type="checkbox"/> Directive | <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Protection Notice | <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Removal Notice | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | |

3. 3. Brief description of the Decision: Environmental Authorisation issued for the proposed dredging of the Milnerton Lagoon, including dredging and placement/spreading of dredged material within the lagoon system.
4. 4. Date of the Decision: 15 May 2026
5. 5. Date of the Notification of the Decision: 18 May 2026

Please note: The appellant in terms of the *National Appeal Regulations, 2025* must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, to the applicant (where the appellant is not the applicant) and, where applicable, to all registered interested and affected party where the appellant is the applicant.

Appellant's Information:

Name: Rudi Wagenaar

Address: [Insert full residential address], Woodbridge Island, Milnerton, Cape Town

[Insert suburb/postal code if required]

South Africa

Telephone number: [Insert landline, if applicable]

Cell phone number: 082 416 7278



Grounds of Appeal (to be completed on this document)

1. Introduction, direct interest and resident awareness

I submit this appeal as a directly affected resident and stakeholder living immediately alongside the Milnerton Lagoon at Woodbridge Island. I do so not as an environmental expert, but as a Capetonian, a resident, and a person whose home, safety, daily life and lived environment are directly affected by the condition of this lagoon and by any intervention that changes its shape, level, behaviour or character.

For many years, residents have lived with the consequences of pollution, sediment build-up and water-quality failure in the Milnerton Lagoon. What now sits in front of our homes is not simply sand or sediment in the ordinary sense. From the lived experience of residents, it is dark, foul-smelling, polluted material that has accumulated over many years while the surrounding city has continued to expand. Residents should not be expected to carry the environmental, health, visual and property consequences of infrastructure systems that have not kept pace with development.

My understanding as a resident was that the lagoon would be dredged and that polluted material would be removed. My concern is that the authorised proposal appears to involve dredging and placing or spreading material within the lagoon system, including along the sides of the dredged channel, rather than removing all dredged material off-site. This is not a minor technical distinction. It changes how affected residents understand the project.

Woodbridge Island is not an ordinary suburb. It is an island community surrounded by water, with the ocean on one side and the lagoon on the other. There are approximately 349 homes on the island, with residents, families, pets, elderly people and visitors dependent on limited vehicle access. In a flood or emergency scenario, evacuation and emergency access are real practical concerns, not theoretical concerns.

During the recent severe Cape Town storm in May 2026, the lagoon rose significantly and water came close to affected homes and lawn areas. This was frightening for residents living directly on the lagoon edge and demonstrated how sensitive this environment is. Against that background, an intervention that may reshape and raise areas of the lagoon bed or banks in front of homes requires the highest level of public explanation, technical certainty, flood-risk assessment and accountability.

I am not appealing because I oppose the cleaning or rehabilitation of the lagoon. On the contrary, I believe the lagoon urgently needs proper remediation. But remediation should mean addressing the cause of the pollution, removing polluted material where necessary, upgrading infrastructure, protecting residents, and restoring dignity to this water body. It should not mean reshaping and relocating the consequences of pollution in front of homes without adequate public participation, clear visual disclosure, updated technical assessment and proper accountability.

Since becoming aware of the Environmental Authorisation and the appeal deadline, I have started contacting other residents who live directly along the lagoon edge on Woodbridge Island. From one single message, I was able to gather 27 impacted residents who expressed concern about the proposed intervention and/or wished to be kept informed regarding the appeal process. In my view, this is highly relevant to the question of public participation.

The fact that 27 directly affected residents could be reached so quickly through one resident-led message suggests that the formal public participation process may not have meaningfully reached, informed or engaged the very people living immediately alongside the affected lagoon edge. Several residents I have spoken to were either unaware of the Environmental Authorisation, unaware of the appeal deadline, or did not fully understand that the authorised intervention may involve the placement or spreading of dredged material within the lagoon system rather than the full removal of material off-site.

This is not a petition, and I understand that each affected person who wishes to appeal must do so in their own name and in accordance with the prescribed appeal process. However, the rapid response from directly affected residents reinforces my concern that silence should not be interpreted as consent, and that the absence of earlier objections from some residents may reflect lack of meaningful awareness rather than support for the project.

2. Procedural ground: inadequate public participation and late circulation of material information

I appeal on the basis that the public participation process did not adequately reach, inform or meaningfully engage all directly affected residents, occupiers and stakeholders, particularly those living immediately alongside the lagoon at Woodbridge Island.

The public participation process appears to have relied, at least in part, on formal ownership structures, estate or body corporate channels and registered interested and affected party lists. This approach was inadequate in the circumstances because Woodbridge Island includes not only registered owners, but also residents, occupiers, tenants, family members, financially interested parties and other people whose homes, safety and daily lives are directly affected by the lagoon.

I am myself a direct stakeholder in a lagoon-facing property. Although the property is not registered in my name, I have a direct financial and residential interest in it, including agreed contributions toward bond, levy, electricity, transfer and related costs. I live with the consequences of this lagoon daily. The public participation process should have made



proper provision for directly affected residents and stakeholders beyond formal title deed ownership.

I also have correspondence relating to lagoon-related communication failures shortly before the Environmental Authorisation was issued. Residents had raised concerns about receiving inadequate notice of a Milnerton Lagoon Update Public Meeting, and there appears to have been acknowledgement of an internal administrative error relating to omitted email addresses or communication failures. Where communication failures had already been identified in relation to lagoon matters, the competent authority should have carefully scrutinised whether all directly affected residents had in fact received adequate notice, understood the proposal, understood the implications, and understood their rights.

On 15 May 2026 at 12:47, interested and affected parties were informed that DEA&DP was still currently considering the City of Cape Town's application and that the 2023 Water Quality Remediation Plan for the Milnerton Lagoon was being made available for information purposes only. The same notice stated that this was not a request for further comment. I have subsequently been informed that the Environmental Authorisation was issued later that same day, on 15 May 2026. This sequence is procedurally concerning. A material document relating to water quality and remediation was circulated on the very same day that the decision was issued, without providing affected residents and stakeholders a meaningful opportunity to consider it, obtain advice, understand its implications or comment on whether it affected the assessment.

For these reasons, I submit that the authorisation was granted following an inadequate and procedurally unfair public participation process.

3. Substantive ground: inadequate plain-language and visual disclosure of the authorised intervention

I appeal on the basis that the nature of the preferred alternative was not adequately explained to directly affected residents in plain language and with adequate visual material.

Many residents understood the project as a dredging and removal exercise. However, my understanding of the authorised proposal is that it involves dredging material and placing or spreading material within the lagoon system, including along the sides of the dredged channel, with material shaped so that no mound exceeds a specified level. This is a material difference. The ordinary resident understands dredging as the removal of material from the lagoon. If the authorised intervention involves relocating, placing, spreading or reshaping dredged material within the lagoon, this should have been explained clearly, repeatedly and visually to those most affected.

Affected residents should have been shown official before-and-after visual simulations from key residential viewpoints, including from Woodbridge Island lagoon-facing homes, the public walkways, the bridge area, Lagoon Beach and other public viewpoints. A small schematic plan or technical drawing is not sufficient to convey the lived visual, amenity and property-specific consequences of the intervention.

Cape Town is globally recognised for its natural beauty. The Milnerton Lagoon, Woodbridge Island, the palm trees and Table Mountain backdrop form part of one of the city's iconic coastal views. This landscape is important to residents and also forms part of the broader public identity of Cape Town and the Blouberg/Milnerton coastal precinct. It is seen by residents, visitors, kite surfers, tourists, commuters and hospitality businesses every day.

The Lagoon Beach Hotel and other local businesses face and trade on this environment. Tourism, hospitality and local employment rely in part on the character and attractiveness of this precinct. If the intervention results in exposed polluted banks, odour, visual degradation or a perception of environmental neglect, the consequences may extend beyond residents to jobs, businesses and Cape Town's public image. For this reason, I am copying the General Manager of the Lagoon Beach Hotel so that the hotel is aware of the appeal and may consider whether it wishes to make its own representations or submit its own appeal.

For these reasons, I submit that the decision was granted without adequate plain-language and visual disclosure of the true nature and consequences of the authorised intervention.

4. Substantive ground: flood risk, changed lagoon conditions, emergency access and residential exposure

I appeal on the basis that the authorisation appears to have been granted without adequate consideration of the most recent real-world lagoon behaviour following the severe Cape Town storm and lagoon flushing event in May 2026.

During the storm, the lagoon level rose significantly near Woodbridge Island and water came close to affected homes and lawn areas. This evidence is directly relevant to flood risk, lagoon behaviour, stormwater inflow, tidal exchange, sediment movement and residential vulnerability. The recent storm event materially changed what residents could observe about the lagoon system. It showed how dynamic and sensitive the lagoon edge is and how quickly water levels can become a direct concern for homes on the island.

The appeal authority should require an updated assessment of whether the assumptions in the BAR remain current and reliable after the recent storm and flushing event. The authorisation should not be implemented on the basis of information that may no longer reflect current lagoon conditions, especially where the intervention involves reshaping or placing material in a flood-sensitive water body in front of homes.

Woodbridge Island is an island community with limited vehicle access and limited emergency access. If flooding or a major emergency occurs, the practical consequences for evacuation and emergency response are significant. The authorised intervention may alter the lagoon bed, channel, banks, slopes and sediment distribution. These changes may affect how water behaves during high rainfall, storm surge, wind-driven events, high tide conditions, stormwater discharge and future sediment accumulation.

The flood-risk analysis should not only consider general lagoon hydraulics. It should specifically assess the effect of the intervention on lagoon-facing homes, Woodbridge Island access, evacuation routes, emergency services access and residential exposure. Affected residents also require clarity on whether flood-related insurance is available or limited, and who would bear responsibility if the authorised works contribute to flooding, damp, erosion, structural damage, loss of amenity or loss of property value.

I submit that updated specialist assessment is required before implementation, including updated consideration of stormwater, tidal exchange, wind, rainfall, sediment placement,

future maintenance dredging, emergency access and property-specific residential exposure.

5. Substantive ground: sediment, pollution, health and safety, long-term effectiveness, cumulative impacts and requested relief

I appeal on the basis that further sediment, pollution, odour and health-and-safety assessment is required before the authorised works proceed.

Residents experience the existing sediment as foul-smelling, polluted and potentially unhealthy material. If dredged or disturbed material is to be placed, spread, reshaped or exposed within the lagoon system near homes, public walkways, hotels or recreational areas, this requires careful assessment and clear public explanation.

The appeal authority should require further testing and disclosure on the nature of the sediment, including pollution levels, odour risk, health and safety implications, handling protocols, exposure risk, and long-term management of exposed or reshaped banks. This is particularly important because the lagoon is adjacent to homes, public areas, tourism businesses and recreational users.

I also appeal on the basis that the authorisation does not adequately address whether future storm events may undo, rearrange or materially alter the new channel or sediment placement. If the BAR or supporting reports acknowledge that flood events could rearrange the channel or return the lagoon to its previous condition, then this raises serious concerns about long-term effectiveness, maintenance burden and responsible use of public money. The appeal authority should require a modelling exercise to determine what level of storm event could alter, damage, rearrange or undo the authorised intervention.

The authorisation also does not adequately address the cumulative impact of ongoing development, infrastructure pressure, sewer and stormwater loading, future sediment accumulation and long-term lagoon management. Residents are concerned that the proposed intervention may simply move or reshape the visible consequences of pollution, while the underlying causes continue. If more polluted sediment will continue arriving in future, then the long-term effect may be repeated dredging, repeated placement or reshaping of material, and further alteration of the lagoon edge in front of homes.

Residents and taxpayers should not be expected to carry the risk of a costly intervention that may fail, require repeated maintenance, or need ongoing reshaping of polluted material in front of homes.

For the reasons set out above, I respectfully request that the appeal authority uphold this appeal and set aside the Environmental Authorisation issued on 15 May 2026, alternatively suspend or vary the authorisation pending further required studies and public participation.

I request that no implementation proceed until the appeal has been finally decided and until the following have been completed: renewed public participation targeted specifically at Woodbridge Island residents, lagoon-facing residents, occupiers, affected businesses, the Lagoon Beach Hotel, recreational users and civic bodies; plain-language explanatory material showing exactly what is proposed, including what material will be removed, what material will remain, what material will be placed or spread, and what the final lagoon edge will look like; official before-and-after visual simulations from key viewpoints; updated flood-risk modelling using recent May 2026 storm and flushing conditions; modelling of storm events that could rearrange, damage or undo the channel and sediment placement; updated sediment, pollution, odour and health-and-safety testing; assessment of emergency access and evacuation risk for Woodbridge Island; a clear liability and recourse framework for any property damage, flooding, damp, erosion, loss of amenity or loss of value linked to the intervention; a long-term maintenance and funding plan; and a clear explanation of how the intervention addresses the source of pollution rather than only relocating or reshaping its visible consequences.

I refer to and/or attach the following supporting documents and evidence: Environmental Authorisation dated 15 May 2026, if available; reasons for the decision, if provided separately; notification of Environmental Authorisation dated 18 May 2026; appeal process correspondence from DEADP Appeals dated 20 May 2026; email from Infinity Environmental dated 15 May 2026 circulating the 2023 Water Quality Remediation Plan for information purposes only; my correspondence dated 16 May 2026 raising public participation and procedural fairness concerns; my correspondence dated 20 May 2026 raising flood-risk, public participation, resident-notification and liability concerns; screen grabs and correspondence relating to previous lagoon communication failures, omitted email addresses, database concerns or notification issues; photograph taken on 13 May 2026 showing lagoon water levels near homes after the Cape Town storm; video evidence or stills showing how close the lagoon water came to affected homes during the recent storm; resident communication evidence showing that 27 impacted Woodbridge Island residents responded to one direct resident-led message; any correspondence showing that directly affected residents were unaware of the Environmental Authorisation, appeal deadline or full implications of the authorised intervention; any correspondence from the Woodbridge Island Body Corporate or trustees regarding the appeal; any correspondence from the Milnerton Ratepayers Association, if available; and any further supporting photographs, screen grabs, maps or resident statements.

This appeal is not brought to prevent the proper rehabilitation of the Milnerton Lagoon. It is brought because the authorised intervention affects a flood-sensitive, polluted and highly visible lagoon edge directly in front of homes, public spaces and local businesses. Residents deserve a proper solution. Cape Town deserves a proper solution. The lagoon deserves a proper solution. A proper solution must be transparent, evidence-based, safe, visually understood, publicly explained, technically current, accountable and fair to the people who live with the consequences.

Note:

- You are also requested to submit an electronic copy (Microsoft Word format) of the appeal and any supporting documents.
- The grounds of appeal and the facts upon which they rest must be clearly set out. The grounds of appeal must be formulated as averments and not as questions about the project (refrain from material or remarks which do not contribute towards the merits of the appeal).

- Make a particular issue the subject of a separate ground of appeal, avoiding overlaps as far as possible. Issues should be grouped logically and in a chronological order to provide the Provincial Minister with clear timelines of the events or facts in dispute.
- A recommended way of arranging issues is to divide the grounds of appeal into procedural grounds, (for example inadequate public participation) and substantive grounds (why the decision is seen as wrong).
- Before submitting the appeal, it is recommended that appellants familiarise themselves with the mandate of the department to avoid raising matters falling outside the competence of the Provincial Minister on appeal.

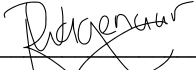
Please include any supporting documentation which is referred to in the appeal.

Submission address: 41 Chandos Close, Woodbridge Island, Cape Town, 7441

This appeal must be submitted to the Appeal Administrator at either of the addresses listed below:

By hand: Attention: Mr Marius Venter (Tel: 021-483 3721)
Room 809, 8th floor Utilitas Building
1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8000; or

By e-mail: DEADP.Appeals@westerncape.gov.za



Appellant's signature

22 May 2026

Date

Visual Overview of Appeal Concerns: Proposed Milnerton Lagoon Bed Reshaping and Resident Risk

Illustrative visual summary prepared to support my appeal, showing key resident concerns regarding lagoon bed reshaping, flood risk, polluted sediment, odour, visual impact, emergency access and long-term maintenance.

Milnerton Lagoon Appeal

Key resident concerns about the authorised intervention

1. LAGOON BED RESHAPING

Authorised works appear to go beyond dredging by placing and shaping dredged material within the lagoon system.

2. REDUCED WATER-HOLDING CAPACITY

Raising parts of the lagoon bed and side slopes may alter water behaviour and flood dynamics.

3. FLOOD & STORMWATER RISK

Residents are concerned that reshaping the lagoon could worsen flood risk during severe storms and high inflows.

6. ODOUR & HEALTH CONCERNS

Exposed sediment, litter and poor water quality may negatively affect air quality, health and quality of life.

8. ONGOING LITTER & MAINTENANCE BURDEN

Residents fear the intervention may not solve the underlying pollution and litter problem.



5. POLLUTED SEDIMENT

Years of foul-smelling, polluted sediment have built up in the lagoon and remain a major concern.

7. VISUAL & TOURISM IMPACT

The iconic lagoon and Table Mountain setting is part of Cape Town's public image and local tourism appeal.

Riddgen



Late circulation of a material document



The public participation portal shows that the '2023 Milnerton Lagoon Rehabilitation Plan' was uploaded on 15 May 2026.

Interested and affected parties were only notified of this document on **15 May 2026**, the same day the Environmental Authorisation was granted.

The document was provided for information purposes only, with no meaningful opportunity for further comment before the decision.

[← Back to Public Participation details](#)

[Download selected](#)

2026-01 final BAR Milnerton Dredging

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 00 Milnerton Dredging Final BAR (pdf, 6.68 MB) | 02 Feb 2026 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 2023 Milnerton Lagoon Rehabilitation Plan (pdf, 27.43 MB) | 15 May 2026 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Appendix A1: Locality (pdf, 5.88 MB) | 02 Feb 2026 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Appendix A2: Locality (pdf, 1.13 MB) | 02 Feb 2026 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Appendix B: SensitivitiesMap (pdf, 2.11 MB) | 02 Feb 2026 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Appendix C: SitePhotos (pdf, 3.55 MB) | 02 Feb 2026 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Appendix E21: Zoning Map (pdf, 4.88 MB) | 02 Feb 2026 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Appendix E3: DWS Confirm (pdf, 238 KB) | 02 Feb 2026 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Appendix E5-1: DFFConfirm1 (pdf, 1.77 MB) | 02 Feb 2026 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Appendix E5-2: DFFE Confirm 2 (pdf, 270 KB) | 02 Feb 2026 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Appendix F: PPPReport (pdf, 4.91 MB) | 02 Feb 2026 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Appendix G1: Estuary Impact Assessment (pdf, 6.21 MB) | 02 Feb 2026 |

Material document only
uploaded / notified on
15 May 2026

Same day as
notification

Addendum to Appeal: Late Circulation of 2023 Milnerton Lagoon Water Quality Remediation Plan

I wish to place on record a further concern regarding the timing and relevance of the 2023 Water Quality Remediation Plan for the Milnerton Lagoon.

As shown in the supporting image to the left, the public participation portal indicates that the 2023 Milnerton Lagoon Rehabilitation Plan was uploaded on 15 May 2026, the same day on which the Environmental Authorisation was granted. Interested and affected parties were also notified of this document on 15 May 2026, expressly “for information purposes only” and not as an opportunity for further comment.

This is material because the report directly addresses the long-standing pollution, sediment build-up, odour, water-quality failure and remediation context of the lagoon. It confirms that the lagoon has suffered significant water-quality decline, sulphurous odours, health-risk related closures, fish kills, ecological harm, and impacts on residents and tourism-related businesses.

Importantly, the report describes dredging as the removal of organic sediment from the system for dewatering and offsite disposal. This is directly relevant to my appeal concern that the authorised intervention now appears to go beyond dredging and removal by allowing the placement and shaping of dredged material within the lagoon system itself, effectively reshaping parts of the lagoon bed, side slopes and exposed banks.

The report also states that dredging would provide only short-lived improvements at high cost if the discharge into the lagoon of effluent with elevated nutrients and solids is not mitigated, and that other pollution sources must be addressed to avoid repeated dredging.

I respectfully submit that this document should not have been circulated to interested and affected parties only on the day the Environmental Authorisation was issued, and without a meaningful opportunity for comment. I request that this addendum and the supporting image on the left be placed with my appeal and considered by the appeal authority.

Photograph taken on 13 May 2026 during the recent Cape Town storm, showing the lagoon rising high enough to submerge the original lagoon wall conditions at Woodbridge Island. This image provides an important present-day benchmark of actual flood behaviour in an island community originally developed with the 50-year flood line in mind. It shows that flood-risk assessment should now be tested against current real-world conditions, not only historic design assumptions.

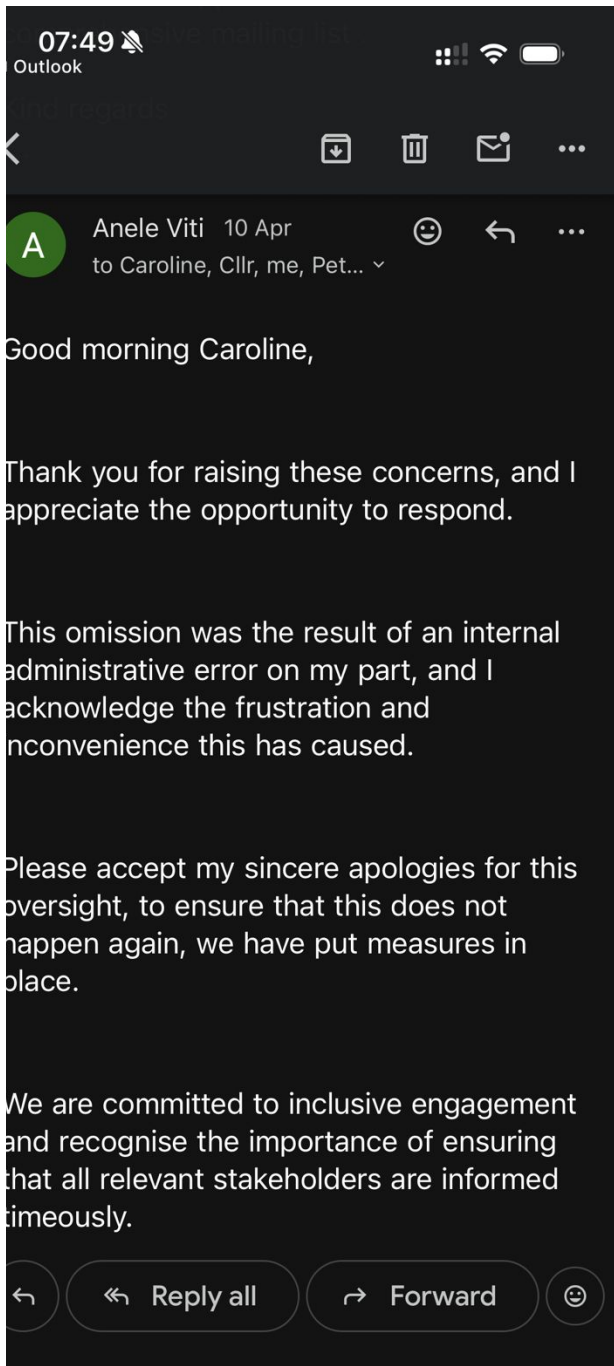


Rodriguez

Same location and water level today 22 May where the city now wants to raise the lagoon floor **HERE**



Redmond



Screenshot of City correspondence dated 10 April 2026, in which a City official acknowledges that an omission in lagoon-related communications was the result of an internal administrative error and confirms that measures were put in place to prevent this from happening again. This supports the appeal concern that known communication failures had already occurred shortly before the Environmental Authorisation was granted, and that the public participation and stakeholder notification record should therefore be carefully scrutinised.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. D. ...'.



woodbridge island bridge real view

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Within 400m

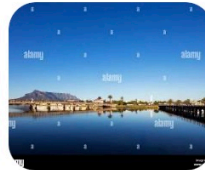
Open now

Top rated

Woodbridge Island, Cape Town · Choose area

AI Overview

The real view from Woodbridge Island Bridge offers a stunning, postcard-perfect panorama of the Milnerton Lagoon, the iconic Milnerton Lighthouse, and the majestic Table Mountain in the background. The iconic perspective from this bridge is widely considered one of the most photographed scenes in South Africa.



Here is the real view layout and breakdown of what you can experience:

The Bridge and Lagoon

- The Historic Wooden Bridge: A 1901 heritage structure built by the British Royal Engineers during the South African War. It is primarily a pedestrian walkway.
The Modern Bridge: Located just a few meters away, this is the functional road bridge that vehicles and commuters use to cross over to the Woodbridge Island residential and golf estate area.
Table Bay Nature Reserve: The waters spanning the bridge belong to the Diep...

Ask anything



Screenshot from a Google search result for "Woodbridge Island bridge real view", highlighting the recognised visual significance of the Woodbridge Island / Milnerton Lagoon / Table Mountain view corridor. The result describes the area as a "stunning, postcard-perfect panorama" of the Milnerton Lagoon, Milnerton Lighthouse and Table Mountain, and notes that this iconic perspective is widely considered one of the most photographed scenes in South Africa. This supports the appeal concern that the authorised intervention may affect not only residents, but also one of Cape Town's most recognisable public views, with potential visual, amenity, tourism and local economic implications.

Redoerster