



Terry Xu <terry@theonlinecitizen.com>

Inquiry Regarding Earthworks Permits for 26 Ridout Road in 2018 and Recent Operations

Terry Xu <terry@theonlinecitizen.com>

Wed, Feb 12, 2025 at 2:41 PM

To: SLA_QSM@sla.gov.sg, ura_siu@ura.gov.sg

Cc: ng_siau_yong@sla.gov.sg, mike_lim@sla.gov.sg, han_yong_hoe@ura.gov.sg

To whom it may concern,

I am following up on my previous inquiry regarding the earthworks conducted at 26 Ridout Road, for which there appears to be no publicly available record of the necessary permits on the OneMap portal.

In addition to the initial works in 2018 related to the construction of a swimming pool, we have now observed, including through satellite images, significant new earthworks at the estate. Given that the current lease reportedly has less than three years remaining, these developments raise several questions:

1. **Lease Extension:** Has the lease for 26 Ridout Road been extended beyond its current expiration date? If so, could you provide details on the extension period and the rationale for granting it?
2. **Earthworks Approval:** Have approvals been granted for the recent earthworks at the property? If so, could you confirm under what conditions they were approved and why they do not appear in the URA public registry?
3. **Regulatory Compliance:** Given the extent of the modifications, could you clarify if there were any special exemptions granted for these works, or if there has been an oversight in the documentation process?

The scale of these earthworks, particularly with a limited lease duration remaining, suggests long-term planning for the estate. Therefore, we seek clarity on the regulatory oversight and decision-making involved.

I appreciate your time and look forward to your response.

Best regards,

Terry Xu

The Online Citizen

On Mon, Sep 23, 2024 at 11:03 AM Terry Xu <terry@theonlinecitizen.com> wrote:

Dear Sir/Madam,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing in as Terry Xu from The Online Citizen to inquire about the earthworks conducted at 26 Ridout Road, for which there seems to be no available record of the necessary permits on the OneMap portal.

My concerns pertain to both the initial works carried out in 2018 for a swimming pool and the more recent operations observed at the same location.

As stipulated by regulations, earthworks operations or works that result in substantial modifications to the existing ground terrain, land form, or slope require careful oversight and adherence to guidelines.

These activities often necessitate rigorous documentation to ensure compliance with local regulations and minimal impact on the surrounding area.

To my understanding, significant earthworks must be reported to the Building and Construction Authority concerning the source of the earth-fill or the deposition of cut materials prior to commencement.

It is concerning that there appears to be no record of such permits or notifications for the activities at 26 Ridout Road, especially given the scale of the operations required to construct a swimming pool and the subsequent works.

Could you please provide clarification on the following points:

1. Were the necessary permits issued for the earthworks conducted in 2018 related to the swimming pool construction at 26 Ridout Road?
2. Have there been recent earthworks at the same location, and if so, were the appropriate permits obtained for these operations?
3. Can you confirm if there is a discrepancy in the records, or if there were oversight issues that led to the absence of these details from the public registry?

The scale of these earthworks and their potential impact on the surrounding terrain and community necessitate thorough documentation and regulation.

Your assistance in providing clarity on this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your prompt response.

Warm regards,

Terry Xu
The Online Citizen