

Friends of the Earth (HK)'s Response to the proposed construction of a Liquefied Natural Gas Receiving Terminal at Sokos Island

Friends of the Earth (HK) objects to the proposed construction of a Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) receiving Terminal in Hong Kong. Our arguments are as follows:

1. HKSAR government has not taken up its responsibility to examine the necessity for building a LNG receiving terminal in Hong Kong.

A. CLP has pointed out that the Yacheng gas field, which is its current supply of natural gas, will be depleted "early in the next decade."¹ However, the public know nothing about the exact capacity of the gas field located in Hainan Island. In case the reality is no longer be the scenario CLP set, Hong Kong does not need, or at least, not scurry to have a LNG terminal built.

B. The government has failed to protect public interest as no independent survey was conducted to assure whether location outside Hong Kong's territory, for example the Huang Mao Dao near Zhuhai, is potentially viable to be another supply of natural gas to Hong Kong. If the location is able to supply LNG to Hong Kong, there is no urgency in building a LNG terminal, which, in effect, environment deterioration and raised tariff of electricity can be avoided.

2. Friend of the Earth (HK) opposes the CLP proposed site selection of the LNG terminal at South Soko Island. The Country and Marine Parks Board had decided to protect the island as one of the Marine Parks back in 2002. If the government approve to the construction of the LNG terminal near or within the boundary of the proposed Marine Park, a baffling message that the

¹ Please refer to the CLP's webpage: (<http://www.clpgroup.com/environment/LNG/index.asp?lang=eng>)



government is sacrificing the valuable conservation area because of the LNG terminal will be delivered to the public. For those visitors of the island, significant visual impact will be experienced and they will be under psychological threat as they are near to the LNG terminal, a potential hazardous industrial facility.

3. The habitats of Chinese White Dolphin are mainly located near the west side of Lantau Island, including the South Soko. We have to emphasize that the habitats of the Chinese White Dolphin have been under threat in recent years due to the development of different infrastructures. If we don't reject the proposed LNG terminal but support it, with a series of construction work of the infrastructures, including the Container Terminal 10, Logistics Park and Hong Kong- Zhuhai-Macau Bridge which may proceed in the future, we worry that the development of the infrastructures would be a grievous blow to the habitats of Chinese White Dolphin.

As the argument presented above, we disagree that South Soko Island as the suitable site for the LNG terminal.

End