

INFORMATION NOTE

Sequence of events relating to the reclamation and transportation of fuels under the Airport Core Programme vis-à-vis the proposed Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities

1. Background

1.1 At the meeting of the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) of the Legislative Council held on 6 May 2009, members requested the Research and Library Services Division of the Secretariat to provide information on the sequence of events in taking forward projects involving reclamation and transportation of fuels under the Airport Core Programme vis-à-vis the proposed Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities in respect of the commencement and completion dates of some key steps, including the development of master layout plan, conducting feasibility studies as well as environmental impact assessment, consultation with the Advisory Council on the Environment, and funding submissions to both PSWC and the Finance Committee (FC). Tables 1 and 2 list the respective sequence of events relating to the reclamation and the construction of the aviation fuel receiving and related facilities (AFRF) of the new airport, while Table 3 lists the sequence of events on the proposed HZMB project.

Table 1 – Reclamation for the new airport at Chek Lap Kok

Event	Commencement date	Completion date
Studies of the Chek Lap Kok (CLK) site, including over 600 hectares of reclamation of foreshore and sea-bed.	1982	Not available
Port and Airport Development Strategy (PADS) study.	March 1988	1989
Submission of results of the PADS study to the Executive Council.	July 1989	

Table 1 – Reclamation for the new airport at Chek Lap Kok (cont'd)

Event	Commencement date	Completion date
The Governor announced the construction of a replacement airport at CLK and the provision of port facilities.	11 October 1989	
FC of the Legislative Council (LegCo) approved the scope and justification of the proposed consultancies/investigations costing HK\$5 million and above, while the Secretary for the Treasury approved those costing HK\$5 million and below.	5 January 1990	
The Government gazetted proposals for the reclamation of approximately 2 450 hectares of foreshore and sea-bed.	9 February 1990	
Phase I of the consultancy on the new airport.	1 April 1990	31 January 1992
FC approved HK\$90 million for Phase I of the consultancy on the new airport.	6 April 1990	
<p>(a) FC approved an advance of HK\$760 million to the Provisional Airport Authority (PAA) to commission a consultancy study on the Airport Master Plan and advance reclamation of a work site at CLK; and</p> <p>(b) FC approved an advance of HK\$500 million to PAA for the implementation of the advance works.</p>	13 July 1990	
PAA appointed consultants to produce an Airport Master Plan, an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and tender documentation for the site preparation contract of the airport.	July 1990	EIA completed in December 1991; Airport Master Plan completed on 2 March 1992.

Table 1 – Reclamation for the new airport at Chek Lap Kok (cont'd)

Event	Commencement date	Completion date
The Governor-in-Council authorized the reclamation of approximately 72 hectares of the proposed area to enable the initial contract for the advance works to commence on schedule.	18 September 1990	
Reclamation works in respect of the advance works area.	January 1991	July 1992
The Government gazetted proposals for the reclamation of approximately 497 hectares of sea-bed.	March 1991	
FC approved an additional advance of HK\$6,550 million to PAA to meet expenses relating to the planning and construction of the new airport.	19 July 1991	
The Governor-in-Council authorized the reclamation of approximately 1 906 hectares of foreshore and sea-bed in the vicinity of CLK.	23 July 1991	
The Governor-in-Council authorized the reclamation and dredging of approximately 497 hectares of sea-bed in the vicinity of CLK.	15 October 1991	
FC approved HK\$237 million for Phase II of the consultancy.	10 January 1992	
Phase II of the consultancy.	1 February 1992	31 January 1994
Publication of the EIA Supplement, assessing the changes in environmental impacts resulting from the modification of the airport layout.	October 1992	
FC approved HK\$6,699 million for the site preparation for the new airport.	27 November 1992	

Table 1 – Reclamation for the new airport at Chek Lap Kok (cont'd)

Event	Commencement date	Completion date
PAA awarded the HK\$9.04 billion site preparation contract, encompassing the formation of the 1 248-hectare platform.	30 November 1992	
Site reclamation of the CLK area.	1 December 1992	30 April 1996
EIA process continued throughout the detailed design phase of the new airport project.	1993	1995

Table 2 – Aviation fuel receiving and related facilities at Sha Chau for the new airport at Chek Lap Kok

Event	Commencement date	Completion date
The Government studied 12 potential sites and shortlisted three locations for the permanent AFRF, namely Tsing Yi, Bluff Point and Guishan Island in the Mainland.	1992	Early 1994
PAA, in consultation with relevant government agencies, conducted a site selection process within a 5 km radius of the new airport to evaluate sites for an interim AFRF.	March 1994	July 1994
PAA commissioned a consultant to conduct an initial environmental assessment for the two potential sites, namely Sha Chau and north of the new airport. The results were presented in an Initial Assessment Report (IAR) in the same month, and the Sha Chau Area was recommended.	May 1994	
<p>PAA commissioned the consultant to undertake a two-stage detailed dolphin study:</p> <p>(a) Site Selection Study, comprising a one-month intensive field survey and an international literature survey from which a site was selected for further study; and</p> <p>(b) Impact assessment of the construction, operation and maintenance of the facility on Chinese White Dolphins.</p>	June 1994	August 1994
The site was gazetted under the Foreshore and Sea-bed (Reclamations) Ordinance (Chapter 127).	26 August 1994	

Table 2 – Aviation fuel receiving and related facilities at Sha Chau for the new airport at Chek Lap Kok (cont'd)

Event	Commencement date	Completion date
The Government endorsed the IAR, and Sha Chau was chosen for AFRF.	August 1994	
The Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE) identified key issues for detailed assessment. The results would be included in the <i>Proposed Aviation Fuel Receiving Facility at Sha Chau: Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA Report)</i> .	12 September 1994	
PAA briefed the Subcommittee on the Airport and Related Land Development Projects of the Airport Consultative Committee (ACC) on the proposed use of Sha Chau as a temporary fuel receiving facility.	14 September 1994	
The scope and nature of the proposed facility were presented to the relevant LegCo panels.	September 1994	
The Islands and Tuen Mun District Boards were briefed on the proposed facility. While the former had no comments, the latter had reservations.	October 1994	
PAA conducted a second presentation to the Tuen Mun District Board which had a site visit to the proposed facility. No objection was raised due to better understanding of the proposed facility.	December 1994	
Commencement of the Marine benthic surveys, with the results being reported on a bi-monthly basis to the Agricultural and Fishery Department and the international cetacean expert.	January 1995	Not available
PAA further briefed the Subcommittee on the Airport and Related Land Development Projects of ACC on the proposed facility.	13 February 1995	

Table 2 – Aviation fuel receiving and related facilities at Sha Chau for the new airport at Chek Lap Kok (cont'd)

Event	Commencement date	Completion date
The Panel on Environmental Affairs of LegCo was further briefed on the proposed facility.	14 February 1995	
<p>ACE did not endorse the <i>EIA Report</i> and concluded that the following steps be taken in parallel:</p> <p>(a) construction of a permanent pipeline should be expedited;</p> <p>(b) proposal to locate the temporary facility at Sha Chau should be re-examined; and</p> <p>(c) ACE should recommend to the Executive Council environmental mitigation measures for the Sha Chau facility.</p>	20 February 1995	
PAA submitted supplementary information on Environmental Impact Assessment to ACE.	13 March 1995	
<p>ACE held a meeting to consider PAA's supplementary information, including:</p> <p>(a) timing of a permanent facility; and</p> <p>(b) effects of the Sha Chau AFRF on Chinese White Dolphins.</p>	15 March 1995	
ACE endorsed the <i>EIA Report</i> based on the new proposal.	20 March 1995	
The Governor-in-Council authorized the reclamation for dredging purpose of an area of approximately 319.5 hectares of foreshore and sea-bed near Sha Chau for the construction of the facility.	4 April 1995	
A notice of authorization on the facility was published in the Gazette and a press released was issued.	13 April 1995	

Table 2 – Aviation fuel receiving and related facilities at Sha Chau for the new airport at Chek Lap Kok (cont'd)

Event	Commencement date	Completion date
(a) Commencement of the construction works; (b) development of procedures for dolphin monitoring and worker training programmes, in consultation with international cetacean experts; (c) propeller and construction noise studies in progress; and (d) feasibility study and Initial Environmental Assessment for a permanent aviation fuel pipeline.	Mid-1995	
The aviation fuel system was ready for airport trials.	17 December 1997	

Table 3 – Proposed Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities

Event	Commencement date	Completion date
The third meeting of the Mainland/Hong Kong Conference on the Co-ordination of Major Infrastructure Projects agreed that a joint study should be conducted on the transport linkage between Hong Kong and Pearl River West.	20 September 2002	
The National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) and the Hong Kong Government jointly commissioned the Institute of Comprehensive Transportation to conduct a study entitled "Transport Linkage between Hong Kong and Pearl River West". The study confirmed the strategic significance of and urgent need for the construction of a land transport link between Hong Kong and the Pearl River West.	January 2003	July 2003
The State Council gave approval for the governments of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao to proceed with the preparatory work for the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB).	4 August 2003	
HZMB Advance Work Coordination Group (AWCG) was formed to commence the preparatory work of HZMB.	August 2003	
AWCG commissioned the China Highway Planning and Design Institute (HPDI) to conduct a feasibility study for HZMB, covering a wide range of topics including navigation clearance, hydrology, environment, traffic, economic benefits and financial viability.	February 2004	2005

Table 3 – Proposed Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities (cont'd)

Event	Commencement date	Completion date
NDRC organized an Expert Panel Meeting on HZMB Alignment in Zhuhai. The Expert Panel recommended the Northern bridge-cum-tunnel alignment option with landings at San Shek Wan of Hong Kong, Gongbei of Zhuhai, and A Pérola of Macao.	1 April 2005	2 April 2005
HZMB Task Force was formed to push forward the NZMB project. The Task Force was led by NDRC, with representatives from the Ministry of Transport, the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office, and the governments of Hong Kong, Guangdong and Macao as members.	January 2007	
At its first meeting, HZMB Task Force recommended that the boundary crossing facilities of each government should be set up within their respective territories.	7 January 2007	
Development of the master layout plan of the Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities (HKBCF).	No master layout plan has been devised for the HKBCF project so far.	
The Transport and Housing Bureau engaged a consultant to undertake the HZMB HKBCF Site Selection Study – Feasibility Study to identify a suitable location for HKBCF. The study recommended the preferred location to be reclaimed at the waters off the northeastern part of the Airport Island.	May 2007	March 2008

Table 3 – Proposed Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities (cont'd)

Event	Commencement date	Completion date
At the Eighth meeting of AWCG, it was agreed that the three governments would be responsible for the construction, operation and maintenance of their own boundary crossing facilities in their respective territories.	28 February 2008	
FC approved HK\$86.9 million for the site investigation and preliminary design for the HKBCF project.	6 June 2008	
The Transport and Housing Bureau engaged a consultant to undertake the site investigation and preliminary design for the HKBCF project. The consultant has reaffirmed the recommendation of locating the preferred location at the waters off the northeastern part of the Airport Island.	July 2008	September 2009
The consultant undertaking the investigation and preliminary design for the HKBCF project conducted EIA and other impact assessments.	July 2008	The consultant has completed substantially the EIA and other impact assessment. The EIA report will be submitted soon.
Submission of HPDI's feasibility study report to the Central People's Government for consideration.	31 December 2008	

Table 3 – Proposed Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities (cont'd)

Event	Commencement date	Completion date
Consultation with the Advisory Council on the Environment.	The Transport and Housing Bureau will make the EIA report available for comment by the Advisory Council on the Environment after submitting the EIA report to the Director of Environment Protection.	
Detailed design and site investigation for HKBCF as planned by the Transport and Housing Bureau.	September 2009	June 2012
Funding submissions to PWSC/FC for the construction works of HKBCF.	The HKBCF project is still going through the proposed detailed design and associated site investigation stage, and thus no funding submissions to PWSC/FC yet.	
Construction works of HKBCF.	The HZMB Main Bridge is planned to be completed by 2015/2016. As part of the facilities serving HZMB, HKBCF is expected to be completed at that time.	

Prepared by Vicky LEE and Yuki HUEN
20 May 2009
Tel: 2869 9602

Information notes are compiled for Members and Committees of the Legislative Council. They are not legal or other professional advice and shall not be relied on as such. Information notes are subject to copyright owned by the Legislative Council Commission (the Commission). The Commission permits accurate reproduction of the information notes for non-commercial use in a manner not adversely affecting the Legislative Council, provided that acknowledgement is made stating the Research and Library Services Division of the Legislative Council Secretariat as the source and one copy of the reproduction is sent to the Legislative Council Library.

References

1. Buildings and Lands Department. (1990) *Legislative Council Brief: Foreshore and Sea-bed (Reclamations) Ordinance (Chapter 127) – Proposed Reclamation for the New Airport at Chek Lap Kok.*
2. Buildings and Lands Department. (1991) *Legislative Council Brief: Foreshore and Sea-bed (Reclamations) Ordinance (Chapter 127) – Additional Areas of Sea-bed Required for Formation of New Airport at Chek Lap Kok and Related Developments.*
3. Environment, Transport and Works Bureau. (2003a) *The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge*. Paper submitted to the Panel on Transport of the Legislative Council for information on 29 September 2003. LC Paper No. CB(1)2346/02-03(01).
4. Environment, Transport and Works Bureau. (2003b) *The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge*. Paper submitted to the Panel on Transport of the Legislative Council for discussion on 29 September 2003. LC Paper No. CB(1)2492/02-03(01).
5. Environment, Transport and Works Bureau. (2005) *Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and North Lantau Highway Connection*. Paper submitted to the Panel on Transport of the Legislative Council for discussion on 27 May 2005. LC Paper No. CB(1)1605/04-05(03).
6. Hong Kong International Airport. (2008) *Key Dates and Events*. Available from: <http://www.hongkongairport.com/eng/media/key-dates-events.html> [Accessed May 2009].
7. Legislative Council Secretariat. (2008a) *Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge*. Background brief submitted to the Panel on Transport of the Legislative Council on 25 April 2008. LC Paper No. CB(1)1348/07-08.
8. Legislative Council Secretariat. (2008b) *Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge*. Updated background brief submitted to the Panel on Transport of the Legislative Council on 19 December 2008. LC Paper No. CB(1)407/08-09.
9. *New Airport Master Plan – Environmental Impact Assessment Update*. (1998)
10. Planning, Environment and Lands Branch. (1991) *Legislative Council Brief: Foreshore and Sea-bed (Reclamations) Ordinance (Chapter 127) – Reclamation for the New Airport at Chek Lap Kok.*

11. Planning, Environment and Lands Branch. (1995) *Legislative Council Brief: Foreshore and Sea-bed (Reclamations) Ordinance (Chapter 127) – Proposed Aviation Fuel Receiving and Related Facilities at Sha Chau for New Airport at Chek Lap Kok.*
12. Provisional Airport Authority. (1995a) *Presentation to the Advisory Council on the Environment: Progress Report on Environmental Protection Measures of ACP Projects – New Airport at Chek Lap Kok.*
13. Provisional Airport Authority. (1995b) *Proposed Aviation Fuel Receiving Facility at Sha Chau: Environmental Impact Assessment Report.* Vol. 1.
14. *Reports of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council.* (1989-1992) Hong Kong, Government Printer.
15. *Report of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council.* (1993-1994) Hong Kong, Government Printer.
16. *Report of the Legislative Council Select Committee to inquire into the circumstances leading to the problems surrounding the commencement of the operation of the new Hong Kong International Airport at Chek Lap Kok since 6 July 1998 and related issues.* (1998) Available from: <http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr98-99/english/sc/sc01/papers/chapter5.pdf> [Accessed May 2009].
17. *Report of the Public Works Subcommittee of Finance Committee of the Legislative Council.* (1995-1996) Hong Kong, Government Printer.
18. Study Management Group. (1995) *Aviation Fuel Receiving Facility (AFRF) at Sha Chau Environmental Impact Assessment Study: Supplementary Information Submitted by Provisional Airport Authority.* Available from: http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/textonly/english/boards/advisory_council/files/ace_paper9511.pdf [Accessed May 2009].
19. Transport and Housing Bureau. (2009a) *Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge – funding support for Main Bridge.* Paper submitted to the Public Works Subcommittee of Finance Committee of the Legislative Council for discussion on 21 January 2009. LC Paper No. PWSC(2008-09)62.
20. Transport and Housing Bureau. (2009b) *Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities.* Paper submitted to the Public Works Subcommittee of Finance Committee of the Legislative Council for discussion on 6 May 2009. LC Paper No. PWSC(2009-10)18.