

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)83/10-11

Ref. : CB1/SS/12/09

Subcommittee on Port Control (Public Cargo Working Area) Order 2010

Background brief

Purpose

This paper provides background information on the Administration's consultation with the Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways (the Subcommittee) under the Panel on Transport on the proposal to release a small portion of the Western District Public Cargo Working Area (PCWA) for setting up a temporary barging point as necessitated by the implementation of the West Island Line (WIL) project.

Background

2. WIL is an extension of the existing MTR Island Line, approximately 3 km in length, from Sheung Wan to Kennedy Town with two intermediate stations at Sai Ying Pun and Hong Kong University.

3. In October 2007, the Government first gazetted the WIL railway scheme. Amendments to the scheme were gazetted in September 2008 and corrections to the scheme were gazetted in January 2009.

4. Following receipt of objections, the Government and the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) studied the grounds of objection, met the objectors to explain the railway scheme to address their concerns. Hearing sessions were conducted by non-official members of Railway Objections Hearing Panels on those objections not withdrawn. The panels were satisfied that the handling of objections by the Government had been fair, open and transparent. All objections were submitted to the Executive Council for consideration. Changes to the WIL scheme have been made in response to public views and some of the objections.

5. The Chief Executive in Council authorized the scheme for WIL under the Railways Ordinance (Cap. 519) in March 2009. After consultation with the Subcommittee, the Administration obtained Public Works Subcommittee's endorsement on 10 June 2009 and Finance Committee's approval on 3 July 2009.

of providing funding support to MTRCL for the implementation of the WIL project. The construction of WIL commenced in July 2009, and is expected to complete in 2014.

The Port Control (Public Cargo Working Area) Order 2010 (the Order)

6. The Port Control (Public Cargo Working Area) Order 2010 (the Order) declares the new boundaries of the Western District PCWA by substituting the existing section 7 of the Port Control (Public Cargo Working Area) (Consolidation) Order (Cap. 81 sub. leg. B) with a new one (the plan at **Appendix I**) which sets out the revised boundaries of the Western District PCWA, and by repealing the Port Control (Public Cargo Working Area) (No. 5) Order 1998. With the revised boundaries, the Western District PCWA will occupy a total area of 32 700 square metres with a useable seafrontage of 880 metres. The Order is to commence on 13 November 2010.

7. At the meeting of the House Committee on 8 October 2010, Members decided to form a subcommittee to examine the Order.

Consultation with the Subcommittee on the Order

8. On 9 November 2007, the Administration briefed the Subcommittee on the proposal for providing funding support to cover the design phase expenditure of the proposed WIL project up to authorisation under the Railways Ordinance at an estimated cost of \$400 million in money-of-the-day prices. In the Legislative Council Brief on the subject, it was stated that "*WIL construction works will generate about 800,000 cu. m. of excavated materials. To minimise impact on the local road network due to transportation of such materials, a temporary barging point is necessary for the materials to be transported by sea to Government reception facilities in Tseung Kwan O or Tuen Mun as far as possible. A small portion of the Western District PCWA will be released for setting up this barging point.*" The Subcommittee did not raise any specific concerns on the proposal of setting up the temporary barging point.

9. The Administration briefed the Subcommittee on the latest progress of the construction of WIL on 9 February 2010.

Relevant papers

10. A list of relevant papers is in **Appendix II**.

Port Control (Public Cargo Working Area) Order 2010

Meeting date	Committee	Papers/Items
9 November 2007	Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways	Legislative Council Brief on the Mass Transit Railway West Island Line http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr07-08/english/panels/tp/tp_rdp/papers/tp_rdp1109-thbtr11101699-e.pdf
		Administration's paper on funding support for the design phase expenditure of the MTR West Island Line http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr07-08/english/panels/tp/tp_rdp/papers/tp_rdp1109cb1-176-3-e.pdf
		Background brief on West Island Line prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr07-08/english/panels/tp/tp_rdp/papers/tp_rdp1109cb1-177-e.pdf
		Minutes of the meeting http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr07-08/english/panels/tp/tp_rdp/minutes/rd071109.pdf
10 June 2009	Public Works Subcommittee	Administration's paper on West Island Line – funding support http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/fc/pwsc/papers/p09-50e.pdf
		Administration's paper on West Island Line – essential public infrastructure works http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/fc/pwsc/papers/p09-51e.pdf
		Minutes of the meeting http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/fc/pwsc/minutes/pwsc20090610.pdf
3 July 2009	Finance Committee	Minutes of the meeting http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/fc/fc/minutes/fc20090703.pdf

Meeting date	Committee	Papers/Items
9 February 2010	Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways	Administration's paper on West Island Line project http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr09-10/english/panels/tp/tp_rdp/papers/tp_rdp0209cb1-1018-3-e.pdf
		Background brief on West Island Line project prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr09-10/english/panels/tp/tp_rdp/papers/tp_rdp0209cb1-1050-e.pdf
		Minutes of the meeting http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr09-10/english/panels/tp/tp_rdp/minutes/rdp20100209.pdf

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18 October 2010