

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BRIEF

Country Parks Ordinance
(Chapter 208)

COUNTRY PARKS (DESIGNATION) (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 2010

INTRODUCTION

At the meeting of the Executive Council on 25 May 2010, the Council ADVISED and the Chief Executive ORDERED that the Country Parks (Designation) (Consolidation) (Amendment) Order 2010, at **Annex A**, should be made under section 14 of the Country Parks Ordinance.

2. The Country Parks (Designation) (Consolidation) (Amendment) Order 2010 (the Order) amends the Country Parks (Designation) (Consolidation) Order to replace the original approved map in respect of the Clear Water Bay Country Park (CWBCP) with a new approved map, for the purpose of excising the area affected by the proposed South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill Extension from the original approved map of the CWBCP.

JUSTIFICATIONS

The Proposal

3. The SENT Landfill will be full by around 2013/14. In view of an imminent waste disposal problem, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has proposed to extend the lifespan of the SENT Landfill by another six years by expanding the SENT Landfill by 50 hectares (ha). The 50 ha extension covers 30 ha of piggy-backing over the existing landfill, 15 ha of the adjoining Tseung Kwan O (TKO) Area 137, and an encroachment of about 5 ha of land of the CWBCP. EPD consulted the Country and Marine Parks Board (the CMPB) several times since December 2005 on the encroachment. The CMPB at its meeting on 22 May 2007 did not object to the encroachment proposal, subject to EPD providing more information after conclusion of the environmental impact assessment (EIA).

4. At CMPB's meeting on 11 September 2008, EPD presented the requisite additional information including the outcome of the EIA process to the CMPB. Then the Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (DAFC), as the Country and Marine Parks Authority (the Authority), consulted the CMPB on how to deal with the land involved. The CMPB considered two possible options – (a) retaining the 5 ha of land in the CWBCP as shown in the approved map of the CWBCP, but administratively providing this parcel of

land to EPD for landfilling purpose; or **(b)** excising the 5 ha of land from the approved map of the CWBCP. Considering that landfilling is not compatible with the use of country park land, the CMPB recommended the excision of the proposed encroached area from the approved map of the CWBCP, by invoking the statutory procedure under section 15 of the Country Parks Ordinance (the Ordinance).

5. Taking into account the advice of the CMPB, the Authority sought permission from the Chief Executive in Council to invoke section 15 of the Ordinance to refer the original approved map of the CWBCP to the Authority for replacement by a new map so as to excise from the original approved map the encroachment area.

6. In accordance with the Ordinance, a draft replacement map (the draft map) was prepared by the Authority and made available for public inspection for a period of 60 days with effect from 14 November 2008. Any person aggrieved by the draft map might raise objections within the inspection period (i.e. from 14 November 2008 to 12 January 2009).

Objections and the Authority's representations

7. During the 60-day period of public inspection, the Authority received 3,105 objections to the draft map, with the majority in standard format. The major views put forward by the objectors related to –

- (a) Excision of certain country park land for landfill purpose;
- (b) The Government policy on waste management and conservation; and
- (c) The SENT Landfill and the Proposed SENT Landfill Extension.

B The details of these major views, as well as the Authority's representations, are summarised at **Annex B**.

Decision of the Country and Marine Parks Board on Objections

8. Under section 11 of the Ordinance, the CMPB may hear objections to draft maps published under section 9(1) of the Ordinance. The hearing of objections to the draft map by the CMPB took place in six sessions in March 2009. After considering all the written objections, the opinions of those attending the hearing sessions, the Authority's representations and the explanations of the EPD as the project proponent, the CMPB was of the view that, compared with the option of retaining the land to be used for landfill extension purpose in the CWBCP, it would be more appropriate to excise it from the CWBCP by legislation. As the draft map seeks to reflect the position after such excision, the CMPB rejected all objections on 30 March 2009. The CMPB issued a position statement, at **Annex C**, to the objectors while notifying them in writing of its decision.

C

9. In response to the CMPB's recommendation for enhancing the facilities of the CWBCP to provide better enjoyment for park visitors as compensatory measures for the loss of 5 ha of country park land, the Authority has suggested, and EPD has agreed, to implement the following enhancement measures –

- (a) ecological enhancement by inter-planting of native species in some 5 ha of exotic woodland in the CWBCP to support various forms of wildlife;
- (b) upgrading of educational displays in the CWBCP Visitor Centre;
- (c) setting up of interpretative signs at Tai Hang Tun to provide better education facilities for park visitors; and
- (d) provision of guided tours at the Visitor Centre for the public.

10. On 30 June 2009, the Chief Executive in Council approved the draft map of the CWBCP under section 13(1) of the Ordinance. According to section 13(4) of the Ordinance, the Authority had on 17 July 2009 deposited the new approved map (“the new approved map”)(at **Annex D**) in the Land Registry.

D

11. Section 14 of the Ordinance provides that where the Chief Executive in Council has approved a draft map and it has been deposited in the Land Registry, the Chief Executive shall, by order in the Gazette, designate the area shown in the approved map to be a country park.

THE ORDER

12. The Order amends the Country Parks (Designation) (Consolidation) Order (Cap. 208 sub. leg. B) to replace the original approved map in respect of the CWBCP with the new approved map.

LEGISLATIVE TIMETABLE

13. The legislative timetable is as follows -

Publication in Gazette	4 June 2010
Tabling at the Legislative Council	9 June 2010
Commencement of the Order	1 November 2010

IMPLICATIONS OF MAKING THE ORDER

14. The making of the Order is in conformity with the Basic Law, including the provisions concerning human rights. It will not affect the current binding effect of the Ordinance. It has no financial, civil service or

economic implications. As regards environmental implications, the EIA for the proposed SENT Landfill Extension concluded that the area to be excised from the CWBCP for landfill purpose comprised scrubland and grassland habitats of low to moderate ecological value. The potential impacts on the natural habitats within the CWBCP were considered to be low to moderate. With the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures and environmental monitoring and audit programme, no unacceptable adverse residual environmental impact was expected. The sustainability implications of making the Order are as set out at **Annex E**.

E

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

15. During the EIA process of the proposed SENT Landfill Extension project, EPD has adopted a “Continuous Public Involvement” approach. Close liaison with Sai Kung District Council (SKDC) members, community organisations and rural committee/village representatives were maintained and their suggestions have been incorporated into the scope of the assessment. The Advisory Council on the Environment was also consulted on the EIA report of proposed SENT Landfill Extension and it endorsed the report in April 2008. The SKDC has been consulted on the proposed SENT Landfill Extension project on a number of occasions since April 2004. Upon being consulted, the SKDC has expressed their main concern on odour, traffic and environmental problems associated with the existing SENT Landfill, and on this basis objected to the Landfill Extension. The SKDC has since set up a dedicated working group to work closely with the EPD on odour control at the existing SENT Landfill.

16. The CMPB has been consulted on the proposed encroachment of 5 ha of land of the CWBCP since December 2005. At its meeting on 11 September 2008, the CMPB advised that the area affected by the proposed SENT Landfill Extension should be excised from the CWBCP by invoking section 15(1) of the Ordinance. After publishing in the Gazette a notice inviting inspection by the public of the draft map of the CWBCP on 14 November 2008, EPD consulted SKDC again on 18 November 2008. The SKDC has expressed concerns over the odour, traffic and environmental hygiene problems arising from the operation of the existing SENT Landfill. To alleviate their concerns, the EPD has supported the SKDC in conducting an independent consultancy study on odour complaints in TKO with a view to identifying all possible sources of odour and to suggest further mitigation measures. The EPD would also implement additional odour containment measures at the existing SENT Landfill and assist the district inter-departmental working group convened by the District Officer (Sai Kung), with a view to enhancing joint efforts in odour abatements. EPD also attended SKDC’s Housing and Environmental Hygiene Committee meeting on 18 March 2010, and briefed members on the latest additional odour control enhancement measures at the SENT Landfill including the progress of installation of the electronic odour detection device. EPD also informed

SKDC that the Administration will take forward the statutory procedures for excising the 5 ha of land in CWBCP for the extension of the SENT Landfill.

PUBLICITY

17. A press release will be issued before gazettal. A spokesman will be arranged to handle media enquiries.

BACKGROUND

18. The Ordinance provides a legal framework for the designation, development and management of country parks and special areas. At present, there are 24 country parks and 17 special areas covering some 44,000 ha, accounting for about 40% of Hong Kong's land area.

ENQUIRIES

19. Any enquiries on this brief may be addressed to Mr Vincent Tang, Assistant Director (Nature Conservation and Infrastructure Planning) of the Environmental Protection Department at telephone number 2594 6036.

Environmental Protection Department
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
June 2010

**COUNTRY PARKS (DESIGNATION)
(CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 2010**

(Made by the Chief Executive under section 14 of the Country Parks Ordinance (Cap. 208) after consultation with the Executive Council)

1. Commencement

This Order comes into operation on 1 November 2010.

2. Schedule amended

Item 21 of the Schedule to the Country Parks (Designation) (Consolidation) Order (Cap. 208 sub. leg. B) is amended by repealing “plan CP/CWB^B approved on 18 September 1979 by the Governor in Council” and substituting “map CP/CWB^D approved on 30 June 2009 by the Chief Executive in Council”.

Chief Executive

2010

Explanatory Note

This Order amends the Country Parks (Designation) (Consolidation) Order (Cap. 208 sub. leg. B) to replace the original approved map in respect of the Clear Water Bay Country Park with a new approved map. The areas covered under the new approved map are approximately 5 hectares less than those shown in the replaced approved map.

**Summary of major views put forward by objectors and
The Authority's Representation**

Major views put forward by the Objectors	The Authority's Representation
<p><u>Related to excision of certain country park land for landfill purpose</u></p> <p>(a) The duty of the Country and Marine Parks Authority (the Authority) under the Country Parks Ordinance (the Ordinance) is to protect and conserve country parks. To allow landfilling in country parks is not acceptable and would reduce public enjoyment and amenities of country parks.</p> <p>(b) The Country and Marine Parks Board (CMPB) should uphold its function to protect and conserve country parks.</p> <p>(c) Country park land, once used as landfill, could not be restored to its original state even with re-creation of different habitats to support various types of wildlife.</p> <p>(d) Compensation for the loss of 5 ha of country park land should be considered. The Government should adopt the "no-net-loss" principle for compensation. Excising country park land for landfill purpose without compensation would create a bad precedent and undermine the objects and intent of the Ordinance.</p> <p><u>Related to the Government policy on waste management and conservation</u></p>	<p>(a) The Authority has sought to consult the CMPB at an early stage on the Environmental Protection Department's (EPD) proposal. It was only after full and long deliberations, with additional information and justifications provided by EPD, that the CMPB, at its meeting on 22 May 2007, did not object to the proposal.</p> <p>(b) During consultation with the CMPB, EPD has explained to the CMPB the policy framework and progress of the various waste management measures. EPD has pointed out that even with effective reduction and recycling measures as well as the timely development and commissioning of the waste treatment facilities including the Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF), extensions to the existing three landfills would still be needed as the final repositories for inert, non-recyclable and residual waste after treatment.</p> <p>(c) The Authority has noted the relatively low ecological value of the site at present, and that the proposed SENT Landfill Extension would be restored according to the restoration and ecological enhancement plan in the EIA Report. Under this</p>

Major views put forward by the Objectors	The Authority's Representation
<p>(e) The Government should formulate concrete waste management policy, and work towards the waste reduction pledged in the policy document. EPD has failed to achieve the target as pledged in the policy document, in particular the reduction of waste generation by 1% each year.</p> <p>(f) Taking the dual policy roles on environmental protection and conservation, EPD might have inclined to place more emphasis on the former than the latter. Excision of country park land for landfill purpose is a good example.</p> <p><u>Related to the SENT Landfill and the Proposed SENT Landfill Extension</u></p> <p>(g) The proposed SENT Landfill Extension would cause air quality (including odour), ecological, noise, water quality, waste management, visual and landscape impacts as well as landfill gas hazard to the environment in TKO and nearby areas.</p> <p>(h) The proposed SENT Landfill Extension should not be considered if persistent odour nuisance from the existing SENT Landfill has yet to be resolved.</p> <p>(i) Instead of extending the lifespan of the SENT Landfill, alternative landfill sites outside TKO should</p>	<p>plan, the landfill extension, after restoration, would achieve a higher amenity value. The EIA has recommended 6 ha of mixed woodland planting in the CWBCP and provision of a mosaic of grassland, shrubland and mixed woodland in the extension site. This would help diversify the habitats to support various forms of wildlife, in particular butterflies, birds and herpetofauna and blend into the existing natural environment. The Authority will, in consultation with the CMPB, consider the case for incorporating the restored land into the CWBCP when the restoration is complete.</p> <p>(d) The EIA report concluded that with the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures, the potential air quality (including odour), ecological, noise, water quality, waste management, visual and landscape impacts as well as landfill gas hazard would be acceptable and would meet the relevant requirements under the EIA Ordinance and its Technical Memorandum.</p> <p>(e) The Authority will continue to be on the lookout for suitable sites for designation as country parks and consult the CMPB on this in accordance with the established principles and criteria. However, designation should be based on merits and should not be viewed as area for area</p>

Major views put forward by the Objectors	The Authority's Representation
<p>be identified as a landfill site located inside a growing residential community such as TKO is absolutely undesirable. In addition, TKO residents have been affected by landfilling for a long time and the landfilling activities should be discontinued when the existing landfill site is full.</p> <p>(j) TKO will come under insurmountable traffic pressure if more heavy waste collection and dump trucks travel in and out of the district as a result of the proposed SENT Landfill Extension. The road leading to the landfill site, in particular TKO Tunnel, is not designed to cope with such traffic pressure.</p>	<p>“compensation” on a project by project basis.</p> <p>(f) The area covered by country parks in Hong Kong has, in fact, increased significantly over the decades. Over the past 30 years or so, the coverage of country parks and special areas has increased almost 10 times from some 4,500 ha in 1977 to some 44,000 ha in 2009, accounting for some 40% of Hong Kong's land area. In November 2008, the Lantau North (Extension) Country Park, covering a total of 2,360 ha, was designated as the 24th Country Park in Hong Kong. The commitment to designating suitable areas as country parks is clear.</p>

Country and Marine Parks Board

**Hearing of Objections to the Draft Map of
the Clear Water Bay Country Park**

1. The South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill will be full by around 2012. As such, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has proposed to expand the existing landfill by about 50 hectares so that its lifespan may be extended for another six years. The proposed landfill extension option would involve encroaching on about 5 hectares of land of the Clear Water Bay Country Park (CWBCP). The Country and Marine Parks Board (the Board) was first consulted on the option in December 2005 and considerable discussions have been held since.
2. The EPD has explained that if the SENT Landfill is not extended, some 1 400 refuse collection vehicles within the collection area of the Landfill would have to commute to the remoter North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill in Ta Kwu Ling and the West New Territories (WENT) Landfill in Nim Wan. The refuse collection vehicles would have to travel hundreds of thousands of kilometres more everyday. This would not only aggravate the environmental impacts, such as increasing vehicle emission (3 200 tonnes of carbon dioxide and 120 tonnes of nitrogen oxide annually), but also cause traffic and noise nuisances along the routes. The resulting environmental impact would be substantial.
3. The EPD explained to the Board that, of the various options for expanding the SENT Landfill by 50 hectares, the one involving the 5-hectare encroachment into the CWBCP was the most feasible. It would achieve maximum landfill space, the greatest efficiency of usable land and the highest cost effectiveness. In addition, the option would enable a better integration of the site with the existing landscape. Other options not involving the encroachment upon the country park would not only incur a higher annual operating cost, but also, in terms of landscape and visual impacts, leave a narrow deep valley adjacent to the hillside near the CWBCP, making it difficult to integrate with the existing landscape.
4. The EPD also pointed out that even if the option of encroaching on country park land was not adopted, the SENT Landfill Extension would still have to be pursued but *there would be a two-year gap between the closure of the existing*

*Landfill and the commencement of operation of its extension*¹, resulting in an increased burden on the NENT and WENT Landfills.

5. All Board members attach great importance to protecting the country parks, and totally agree that the integrity of country parks should be maintained as far as possible. The Board was, and continues to be, of the view that, in principle, country park area should not be used for landfill purpose and that the option of encroaching on country park area for landfill purpose should only be considered when there is no other alternative. When first approached on EPD's proposal, therefore, the Board requested the EPD to provide more information and justifications. In May 2007, after thorough deliberations, the Board accepted in principle that there would be no better alternative for solving the imminent waste problem in Hong Kong. In the light of public interest, the Board did not object to the EPD's proposed option of including 5 hectares of CWBCP land into the extension of 50 hectares of the SENT Landfill. However, the Board requested the EPD to report to members when the environmental impact assessment (EIA) of the proposed landfill extension was completed and the government's long-term waste management policy.
6. The EPD subsequently informed the Board that the EIA report of the proposed landfill extension had been completed. It was pointed out in the report that, with the implementation of the mitigation measures recommended by the EIA report, the ecological, landscape and visual impacts would be acceptable and meet the relevant requirements under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance and its Technical Memorandum. The report also provided assessment and mitigation measures in relation to other issues such as potential air quality (including odour), noise, water quality, waste management and landfill gas hazard. The Board noted that the EIA report was approved by the Advisory Council on the Environment in April 2008. In addition, the EPD briefed the Board on the government's long-term waste management strategy.
7. In September 2008, after the Board had been briefed by the EPD as referred to in paragraph 6 above, the Country and Marine Parks Authority (the Authority) consulted the Board on how best to deal with the proposed encroachment of about 5 hectares. Given that landfilling is not compatible with the use of country park land, the Board was left with no alternative and recommended the excision

¹ It was later clarified at the 42nd Board meeting that the part in italics should read "there would be a two-year gap between the closure of the extended Landfill and the commencement of operation of the succession waste management facilities".

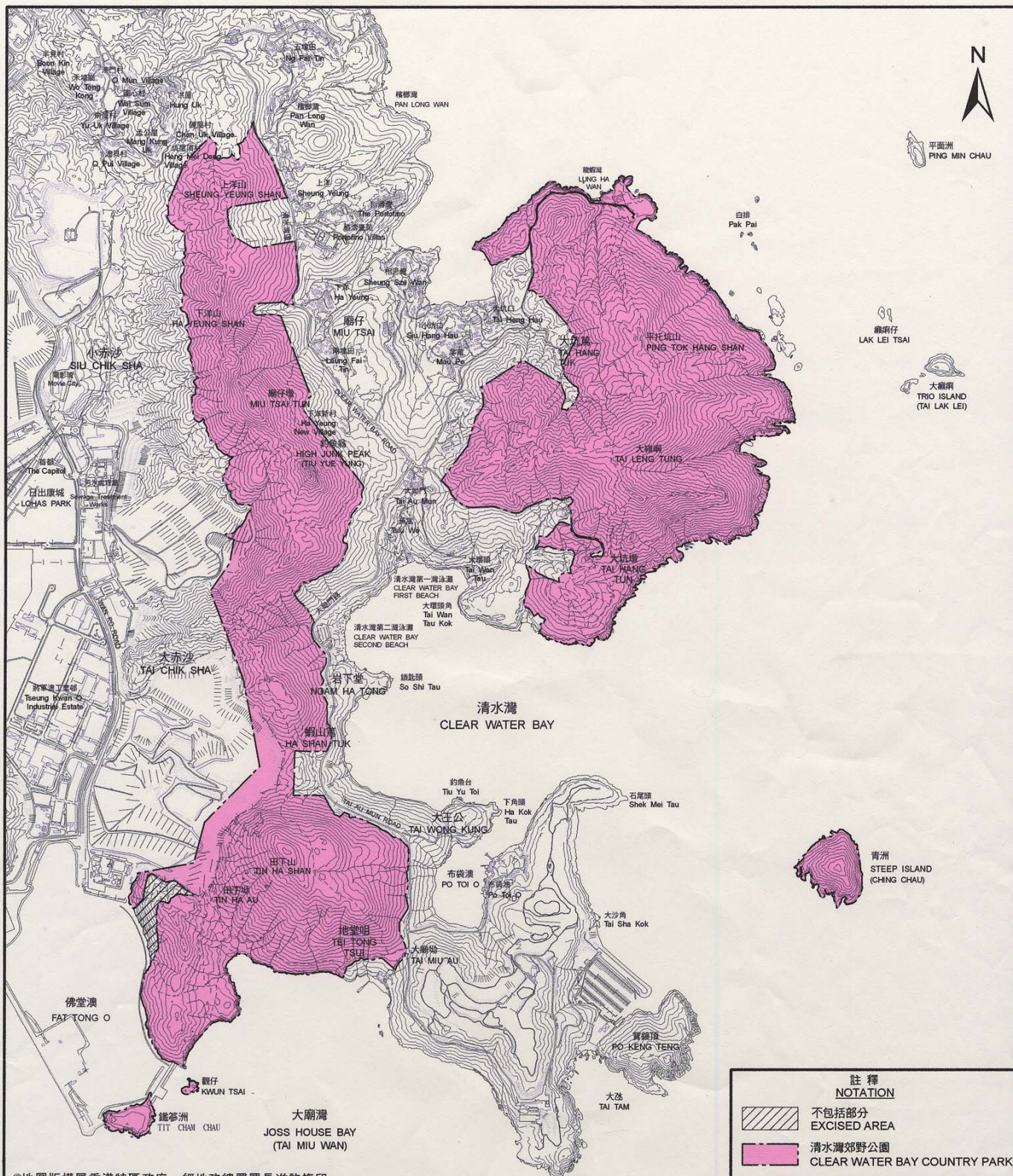
of the proposed encroached area from the approved map of the CWBCP by invoking the Country Parks Ordinance (CPO). The Authority subsequently published the draft map of the CWBCP on 14 November 2008 in accordance with the procedures under the CPO.

8. In accordance with the CPO, any person aggrieved by a draft map may, within the inspection period of 60 days, raise objections. The statutory 60-day period expired on 12 January 2009.
9. In accordance with the CPO, the Board must hear the objections and may reject an objection in whole or in part or direct the Authority to make amendments to the draft map to meet such objection in whole or in part.
10. In March 2009, the Board arranged special sessions for the hearing of objections to the draft map of the CWBCP. The hearing commenced in early March and ended on 30 March, during which the Board carefully considered all the written objections, the opinions of those attending the hearing sessions, representations of the Authority and the explanations of the EPD as the project proponent.
11. The Board's decision is by no means an easy one. Nonetheless, after carefully considering all relevant viewpoints, the Board is of the view that, compared with the option of retaining the land intended for landfill purpose in the country park, it would be more appropriate to excise it from the country park. As the draft map of the CWBCP seeks to reflect the position after such excision, the Board has decided to reject all the objections.²
12. However, the Board has requested the Administration to implement compensatory or remedial measures to improve the facilities of the CWBCP to enhance visitors' enjoyment. In response, the EPD has pledged to provide resources to the Authority to carry out the following enhancement measures:
 - i. ecological enhancement by inter-planting of native species in some 5 hectares of exotic woodland in the CWBCP to support various forms of wildlife;
 - ii. upgrading of educational displays in the Clear Water Bay Country Park Visitor Centre;
 - iii. setting up of interpretive signs at Tai Hang Tun to provide better education

² In the special sessions for the hearing of objections, one member asked to put on record that he agreed to all the objections received.

facilities for park visitors; and

- iv. provision of guided tours at the Visitor Centre for the public.
13. The Board has also requested the EPD to update the Board regularly on the restoration works on the landfill near the country park.
14. Some objectors held the view that the Administration should “compensate” for the loss of 5 hectares of land in the CWBCP. Indeed, many Board members also believed that it would be helpful if an area similar in size could be identified for addition to the CWBCP. The Board noted that the Administration does not have a policy of area for area “compensation” at present. Nevertheless, the Board has requested the Administration to actively identify suitable sites in the vicinity of the CWBCP for designation as country parks and to consult the Board according to established principles and criteria, while keeping the Board informed of the progress regularly.
15. The Board also notes that the Authority will initiate the process to designate 4 groups of islands (Bluff Island, Basalt Island, Wang Chau and Ninepin Islands), covering some 220 hectares, as special areas in the coming months, and about 600 hectares of land at Robin’s Nest as a country park after the boundary of the frontier closed area has been revised. The Authority has undertaken to brief the Board regularly as requested.
16. The Board appreciates the feelings of residents living near the landfill and the public’s concern on waste treatment. While these issues are outside its terms of reference, the Board has requested the EPD to minimise the impact of the landfill on nearby residents and to explore the feasibility of implementing compensatory measures for them. In this regard, the EPD has explained that no sewage sludge will be disposed of at the SENT Landfill Extension, which should help alleviate the odour problem in the area.
17. Individual members have expressed disappointment at the progress in the implementation of the waste reduction policy in Hong Kong. The Board considers that the Administration should press ahead with the series of waste management strategies to effectively manage municipal solid waste in the long run, including the completion of the integrated waste management facilities by 2014 as scheduled.



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200 100 0 200 400 600 800 Meters

註釋 NOTATION

不包括部分 EXCISED AREA

清水灣郊野公園 CLEAR WATER BAY COUNTRY PARK

本圖據地政總署 1:5,000 圖則組別 HP5C 編號 12-NW-C, D & 12-SW-A, B, C, D 繪製。
 COMPILED FROM SHEET No. 12-NW-C, D & 12-SW-A, B, C, D OF THE 1:5,000 MAP SERIES HP5C LANDS DEPARTMENT MAPS.

本圖則已於二零零九年六月三十日經由行政長官會同行政會議根據郊野公園條例第十三條批准。
 THIS PLAN WAS APPROVED ON 30 JUNE 2009 BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE IN COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 13 OF THE COUNTRY PARKS ORDINANCE.

郊野公園及海岸公園管理局總監
 COUNTRY AND MARINE PARKS AUTHORITY
 日期：二零零九年七月三日
 DATE: 3 JULY 2009

清水灣郊野公園
 CLEAR WATER BAY COUNTRY PARK

檔案編號 FILE REF.	73/85/09/14	圖則編號 PLAN No.	
比例 SCALE	1:20 000		
製圖日期 COMPILED	10.2008		
漁農自然護理署 AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT			

DRAFT MAP FOR REPLACEMENT OF
THE APPROVED MAP OF THE CLEAR WATER BAY COUNTRY PARK
Explanatory Statement

1. AUTHORITY

This statement forms part of the draft map (Plan No. CP/CWB^D) for replacement of the map (Plan no. CP/CWB^B) of the Clear Water Bay Country Park (the Country Park) approved on 18 September 1979 by the then Governor-in-Council and deposited in the Land Registry. The draft map was prepared by the Country and Marine Parks Authority (the Authority) in accordance with sections 8 & 15(1) of the Country Parks Ordinance (Cap. 208).

2. LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES

2.1 It is proposed that about 5 hectares of land which are to be used for extending the South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill, are to be excised from the area of the Country Park. The land to be excised is a piece of scrubland and grassland. No recreation facilities are located within the area.

2.2 Except for the proposed excision area, the area as delineated in the draft map is the same as such area shown in the approved map of the Country Park. It includes the undulating mountain ridge of High Junk Peak and Tin Ha Shan and a hill country of Tai Leng Tung lying to the northeast of Clear Water Bay Peninsula. Tit Cham Chau, and the islands of Kwun Tsai and Steep Island (Ching Chau) are also included. The total area covered by the draft map is about 606 hectares. It predominantly comprises grassy hills, wooded valleys and sea cliffs. Its boundary is shown on the draft map and follows recognizable features such as roadsides, the ridgelines, footpaths, etc. as far as possible. Existing villages have not been included in the draft map.

3. OBJECTIVES

3.1 Management of the Country Park (after replacement of the approved map by the draft map) will continue to aim primarily at the provision of facilities for barbecuing, picnicking and hiking activities for the public. Vegetation and wildlife are to be protected, and special attention will be paid to

conserve the unspoiled landscape and scenic values of the area.

4. ACCESS

4.1 The roads within the Country Park will not be affected by the replacement of the approved map by the draft map. The Clear Water Bay Road gives access to the main recreation areas of the Country Park at Tai Hang Tun. There is public transport to the Country Park to meet the needs of both visitors and villagers. Access to the heart of the Country Park is possible from the network of footpaths in the area.

5. ZONING

5.1 The zoning of the Country Park will remain the same after replacement of the approved map by the draft map. It is sub-divided into zones appropriate to different uses.

- a) Recreation Zones are concentrated on the lower slopes and more accessible coastal areas at Tai Hang Tun and Lung Ha Wan. Barbecue facilities are provided in these zones in suitable locations where the fire risk can be contained. Barbecue sites are clearly identified with signs, and the lighting of fires elsewhere in the Country Park is prohibited by regulations. The barbecue sites are provided with picnic facilities, tables and benches, and shelters. The facilities are designed to cater for both large and small groups of visitors.
- b) Wilderness Zones are hilly and less accessible areas along the mountain ridge of High Junk Peak, Tin Ha Shan and Tai Leng Tung, which provide an essential scenic background to the recreation zones, giving opportunities for quiet walking along foot-paths. Landscape conservation is the primary management objective of these zones.

5.2 The zoning will be reviewed and adjusted from time to time to meet future requirements.

6. VISITOR FACILITIES

6.1 The visitor facilities of the Country Park will not be affected by the replacement of the approved map by the draft map. Picnic tables, barbecue pits, benches, and litter bins are provided in addition to shelters, refreshment kiosks and toilets in Tai Hang Tun. Information boards, view compasses and displays indicating the location of facilities and describing features of the Country Park are also erected at entry points, look-outs and

other strategic locations. The Clear Water Bay Visitor Centre is located at the most popular recreational site at Tai Hang Tun introducing coastal features, scenic areas, recreational opportunities and vegetation around the Clear Water Bay Peninsula to the public.

6.2 High Junk Peak Country Trail, a 6.6 km long distance hiking trail, running in a north-south direction from Man Kung Uk to Tai Miu Au, provides scenic walk for hikers. The 2.3 km long Lung Ha Wan Country Trail connects the barbecue sites in Tai Hang Tun and Lung Ha Wan. Tree Walk has also been established at Tai Hang Tun barbecue site for introduction of different tree species and provision of opportunities for education about nature.

COUNTRY AND MARINE PARKS AUTHORITY
AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

October 2008

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

According to the sustainability assessment on SENT Landfill Extension, the option to make additional encroachment upon the CWBCP would maximise void capacity and achieve the highest cost effectiveness. An alternative landfill space would lead to increased waste transportation cost and additional environmental impacts such as increased vehicle emissions. With proper mitigation measures and restoration works, the potential adverse impact to rural landscape and natural habitats should be minimized. The differing concerns and views from the affected stakeholders should be handled with care.