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8 December 2015

Secretary General  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong  
(Attn.: Ms Sharon Chung)

**By Email and Fax**  
**(Fax. No.: 2978 7569)**

Dear Ms Chung,

**Legislative Council Public Works Subcommittee under  
the Finance Committee  
Meeting on 1 December 2015  
845TH – Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge  
Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities  
Reclamation and Superstructures**

**Supplementary Information**

At the meeting of the Legislative Council Public Works Subcommittee under the Finance Committee held on 1 December 2015, a member requested the Government to provide supplementary information about the captioned project. Our reply is as follows.

**Latest Programme Assessment**

2. The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) was targeted for completion by end 2016 when it was planned. The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Authority (HZMBA) as well as the three

governments have been implementing the projects against this target. However, as the HZMB project is huge and complicated, there are many technical challenges during both the design and construction stages. Regardless of whether it is the HZMB Main Bridge or the related projects of the three sides, difficulties of the construction and pressure in meeting the programme schedule are encountered. With safety and quality assurance as the major premises, the HZMBA and the three governments have been reviewing the progress of the various projects as well as overcoming and handling the concerned difficulties.

3. In accordance with the latest situation of the HZMB Main Bridge and the related projects of the three sides, the three governments and the HZMBA further compiled and assessed the works programme this year. The preliminary assessment has been completed with the conclusion that it would not be feasible for the HZMB project (including the Main Bridge project) to be completed for commissioning in 2016. This has been earlier reported to the Task Force of the HZMB. The Task Force attached great importance to the completion date of the HZMB and requested the Joint Works Committee of the Three Governments to, with premises on the works quality and safety as well as resolving the difficulties and risks encountered during construction, conduct a final assessment with a view to reporting the consolidated revised target commissioning date of the entire HZMB project to the Central Government.

4. As for the HZMB local projects in Hong Kong, according to the current progress, the Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities (HKBCF) and the Hong Kong Link Road projects cannot be completed by end 2016. In view of the construction difficulties and challenges such as the unstable supply of materials, shortage of labour, restriction in airport height, constraints in environmental protection requirement and the slower than expected consolidation performance of reclamation works, etc., the Highways Department anticipated that the local projects can only be completed by end 2017. As mentioned above, the Main Bridge and the related projects of the three sides faced various difficulties and challenges, and the Hong Kong side has not caused encumbrance to the overall progress of the HZMB.

#### **Latest Situation of Contracts Awarded**

5. The latest progress of the ten major works contracts under the HKBCF project is at **Annex**. Of the ten HKBCF works contracts, eight have commenced and the remaining two will be awarded shortly.



## **Application to the LegCo on the Increase in Approved Project Estimate**

6. According to the established practice of calculation on the provision for price adjustment for public works projects, the price adjustment is assessed based on the price adjustment factors derived from the Government's latest set of assumptions on the trend rate of change in the prices of public sector building and construction output, together with the cash flow estimated based on the latest construction programme of the project. Based on the latest price adjustment factors promulgated in October 2015 and the latest estimated cash flow, the provision for price adjustment will be increased by \$190.1 million from \$8,351.4 million (as in paragraph 21 of the discussion paper no. PWSC(2015-16)14) to \$8,541.5 million to date. At the same time, we reduced the contingencies (by \$190.1 million from \$1,584.4 million (as in paragraph 23 of the discussion paper) to \$1,394.3 million (in September 2011 prices)) to compensate the afore-mentioned increase in provision for price adjustment. At present, most of the works contracts have commenced and part of the foundation works have completed. After careful review, we consider that we can reduce the contingencies under the original approved project estimate to cover the required increase in provision for price adjustment. Therefore, the overall project estimate is maintained at \$35,895.0 million, i.e. the application to the LegCo on the increase in approved project estimate remains at \$5,461.1 million.

Yours sincerely,



( Jessica LEE )

for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.

Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

(Fax: 2147 5240)

(Attn: Miss Karen SHING)

Director of Highways (Attn: Mr Albert LEE)

(Fax: 3188 6614)

## List of works contracts under 845TH

| Contract No. | Contract Title   | Scope of Main Works   | Contract Award Date | Status                |
|--------------|--|---|---------------------|-----------------------|
| HY/2010/02   | HZMB HKBCF - Reclamation Works   | Reclamation to provide land for the development of the HKBCF and TM-CLKL southern landfall  | November 2011       | In progress           |
| HY/2011/03   | HZMB HKLR - Section between Scenic Hill and HKBCF  | Construction of vehicular bridges, at-grade roads and underpasses at the airport island entrusted to the HKLR project   | May 2012            | In progress           |
| HY/2013/05   | HZMB HKBCF and HKLR, and TM-CLKL Southern Connection - Traffic Control and Surveillance System | Construction of traffic control and surveillance system for the HKBCF, HKLR and TM-CLKL Southern Connection   | January 2014        | In progress           |
| HY/2013/01   | HZMB HKBCF - Passenger Clearance Building  | Construction of passenger clearance building, drop-off deck and area, and associated infrastructure works for the HKBCF.                                      | April 2014          | In progress           |
| HY/2013/02   | HZMB HKBCF - Infrastructure Works Stage I (Western Portion)                                    | Construction of infrastructure works including vehicular bridges and at-grade roads at the western portion of the HKBCF                                       | July 2014           | In progress           |
| HY/2013/03   | HZMB HKBCF - Vehicle Clearance Plazas and Ancillary Buildings and Facilities                   | Construction of vehicle clearance plazas, public transport interchanges, ancillary buildings and facilities and associated infrastructure works for the HKBCF | March 2015          | In progress           |
| HY/2013/04   | HZMB HKBCF - Infrastructure Works Stage II (Southern Portion)                                  | Construction of infrastructure works including vehicular bridges and at-grade roads at the southern portion of the HKBCF                                      | February 2015       | In progress           |
| HY/2013/06   | HZMB HKBCF - Automatic Vehicle Clearance Support System  | Construction of Automatic Vehicle Clearance Support System for the HKBCF  | July 2015           | In progress           |
| HY/2014/04   | HZMB HKBCF - Gantry Type X-ray Vehicle Inspection System                                       | Construction of gantry type X-ray vehicle inspection system for the HKBCF   | Not yet awarded     | To be awarded shortly |
| HY/2014/05   | HZMB HKBCF - Remaining Ancillary Buildings and Facilities                                      | Construction of remaining ancillary buildings and facilities at the HKBCF   | Not yet awarded     | To be awarded shortly |

Note: Information updated further to April 2015 is shaded in grey.