

NOTE FOR PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Supplementary information on 64CD - Rural Drainage Rehabilitation Scheme

INTRODUCTION

In considering paper PWSC(1999-2000)75 on **64CD** “Rural Drainage Rehabilitation Scheme” at the Public Works Subcommittee meeting held on 8 December 1999, Members asked for the following supplementary information –

- (a) details of the environmental protection measures to mitigate the long term and short term impacts of the project and a breakdown of the \$1.7 million allocated for environmental mitigation measures; and
- (b) whether the allocation of an area for waste segregation will incur additional project cost and if so, whether the cost has been included in the cost for environmental mitigation measures.

THE ADMINISTRATION’S RESPONSE

Details on environmental protection measures

2. The environmental mitigation works covered by **64CD** comprise measures during the construction stage, environmental monitoring and audit programme, and landscape works, as recommended in the Environmental Impact Assessment study.

3. In order to minimise the *short term* impacts during the construction stage, we will implement the following environmental protection measures -

(a) Noise

We will specify the use of silenced equipment and noise barriers during the construction stage to reduce noise nuisance to the public.

(b) Air

For better control of air quality against dust and odour, we will require the contractor to promptly remove the excavated materials off site using covered trucks and to provide wheel washing facilities on site. To further reduce the generation of dust, there will be a speed limit for vehicles moving within the site.

(c) Water

We will require the contractor to remove suspended solids from the site construction runoff before discharging into the existing local channels.

In addition, we will formulate an environmental monitoring and audit programme to ensure the above measures are effectively implemented.

4. Visual and landscape impacts are the major *long term* environmental issues arising from the project. We will plant trees, shrubs and grasses along the verges of the road and footpaths to provide a natural and pleasant view of the surroundings.

5. We estimate the cost of the environmental mitigation works to be \$1.7 million at December 1998 prices, made up as follows -

	\$ million
(a) Environmental protection measures during the construction stage	0.7

/(b)

		\$ million
(b)	Environmental monitoring and audit programme	0.3
(c)	Landscape works	0.7
Total		<hr style="width: 50px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> 1.7 (at December <hr style="width: 50px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> 1998 prices)

Waste segregation

6. Since the amount of construction and demolition materials generated during construction is relatively small, no additional areas will be allocated for waste segregation activities for this project. The contractor will carry out waste segregation activities within the available working areas on site and the cost involved is about \$80,000. This has been included in the cost for environmental protection measures at 5(a) above.

7. In addition to the above, it should be noted that the design of the project is environmentally friendly in that the land take has been minimized by the incorporation of the access road on top of the box culvert and this will be a valuable amenity for the residents.

Works Bureau
 December 1999
 (W0056REV/WIN2)