NOTE FOR PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Supplementary Information on 465CL – South East Kowloon development – waterfront facilities and Kai Tak Nullah/Kwun Tong typhoon shelter reclamation

INTRODUCTION

When considering PWSC(2002-03)55 on **465CL** at the Public Works Subcommittee meeting held on 26 June 2002, Members requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on the following –

- (a) cost estimates for the treatment of contaminated sediments arising from the South East Kowloon development (SEKD) project; and
- (b) impact of the proposed reclamation on water space in typhoon shelter.

THE ADMINISTRATION'S RESPONSE

Cost estimates for treatment of contaminated sediments

2. There are three main areas in SEKD that require sediment treatment, namely the Kai Tak Approach Channel (KTAC), Kwun Tong Typhoon Shelter (KTTS) and Kowloon Bay (KB). A location plan is at Enclosure. The total sediment volume requiring treatment is estimated to be 1 370 000 m³.

- 3. The two principal sediment treatment methods are in-situ treatment and ex-situ treatment. In-situ treatment method injects chemicals into the sediments to accelerate degradation process and stabilise heavy metals. The major advantage of this method is that it does not require large-scale sediment dredging and would therefore avoid odour emission. Ex-situ treatment method dredges the contaminated sediments by means of suction and treat them on adjacent vacant land with chemicals. During the suction-dredge operation, chemicals would be fed into the dredge pipeline to control odour emission. The treated sediments may be re-used as fill materials in the reclamation afterwards. The primary advantage of this method is that post-treatment monitoring of methane gas generation would not be necessary, and that development on top of the reclamation could proceed promptly.
- 4. Whilst both methods have been used overseas, we will conduct pilot tests (comprising laboratory test and field trial) to evaluate their applicability and effectiveness under local conditions. On the basis of overseas experience, the estimated cost of in-situ treatment method ranges from \$300 to \$500 per cubic metre of sediment. The estimated cost of ex-situ treatment method ranges from \$470 to \$2,340 per cubic metre. The exact treatment cost will vary with a number of site-specific factors, including the nature and level of contaminants; extent of chemical treatment required and total volume of sediment to be treated.
- 5. When results of the pilot tests for sediment treatment in KTAC, KTTS and KB are known, we will exhibit them for public comment. We will also consult the relevant District Councils and the Advisory Council on the Environment on the recommended method for full-scale treatment.

Impact of the proposed reclamation on water space in typhoon shelter

6. There are two typhoon shelters in the SEKD area – Kwun Tong Typhoon Shelter and To Kwa Wan Typhoon Shelter. At present, the two typhoon shelters are mostly used by cargo-handling vessels such as cargo lighters and river trade cargo vessels as well as marine works barges. Their usage on normal days is rather low.

- 7. To make way for the infrastructural works in SEKD, the Public Cargo Working Areas (PCWAs) in the Kwun Tong and Cha Kwo Ling typhoon shelters will be closed by around 2005 and 2010 respectively. The Government will study how to consolidate the affected operations into other PCWAs. A clearer picture will emerge in February 2004 when the next PCWA berth licence agreements renewal exercise is due.
- 8. After the PCWAs in Kwun Tong and Cha Kwo Ling typhoon shelters cease to operate, the demand for water space in the typhoon shelter in SEKD area will reduce significantly. We estimate that the remaining water space of 23.5 hectares (after the proposed reclamation) in the Kwun Tong typhoon shelter will be adequate to serve the remaining vessels such as work craft, ferries and launches. The Government will continue to keep under review the overall demand and supply of typhoon shelters in the longer term to ensure that there is adequate provision.

Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau July 2002

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