Letterhead of Route 3 (CPS) Company Limited

CB(1)144/01-02(01)

Our Ref: R3/A220/010/VY/sk/L011038

23rd October 2001

The Honourable Mrs Miriam LAU Kin-yee, JP

The Chairman

Panel on Transport, Legislative Council

Legislative Council Building

Hong Kong

Dear Mrs Lau

Re: Deep Bay Link

We refer to our letter to you dated 19th October 2001. We are pleased to enclose herewith a plan showing the more northerly alignment proposed by us for the Deep Bay Link

connecting to the Shenzhen Western Corridor.

The Government's projection is that this Shenzhen Western Corridor will have a design

capacity of 200,000 vehicles per day and that initially the daily traffic is expected to be

44,000 vehicles. The purpose of this fourth boundary crossing is to divert traffic from Lok

Ma Chau Crossing, which has been the main source of cross boundary traffic using R3CPS

to travel between Shenzhen and Hong Kong's container terminals.

The present southerly alignment of the Deep Bay Link will discharge traffic onto the

already saturated Tuen Mun Road and will exacerbate the current problems associated with

traffic congestion and high accident rates on Tuen Mun Road. This is widely recognized as

one of the most serious traffic problems in the whole of the New Territories.

We urge your Panel to consider providing such cross boundary traffic an alternative routing

with a more northerly alignment to give a more direct connection between the Deep Bay

Link and Yuen Long Highway, and between Yuen Long Highway and R3CPS so as to

encourage such traffic to make use of the presently under-utilised R3CPS instead of over-

burdening Tuen Mun Road.

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The advantages of this proposal are:-

- 1. Relieve Tuen Mun Road from over-saturation.
- 2. Utilize the huge spare capacity of R3CPS.
- 3. Provide goods vehicles a more direct connection from Shenzhen Western Corridor to Hong Kong's Container Port.
- 4. If there is any unexpected obstruction of Tuen Mun Road, there will be a convenient alternative route for the new cross boundary traffic.

We understand that there is already a programme for widening Yuen Long Highway and that this project will be completed in time for the opening of the Shenzhen Western Corridor.

We also understand that there is a conceptual proposal by the Government to connect the north-western part and eastern part of the New Territories and that there is a plan for an East-West Link which provides a connection between Yuen Long Highway and Tolo Highway. Such proposal was in fact mentioned in the Third Comprehensive Transport Study ("CTS-3"). What we are proposing therefore accords with Government's thinking and is in line with the long-term traffic planning by Government.

To conclude, our proposals as shown on the attached plan are as follows:

- (a) A more northerly alignment of Deep Bay Link to connect directly with Yuen Long Highway;
- (b) Widening of Yuen Long Highway forthwith; and
- (c) A more direct connection between Yuen Long Highway and R3CPS as part of the proposed East-West Link.

We hope that your Panel will agree with our above proposals as the end result will offer overall benefit to both Hong Kong and Shenzhen. The whole traffic system of the North West New Territories and Lantau Island will have an alternative routing and will become more efficient, comprehensive and safer.

Our traffic consultants have conducted a preliminary study and have confirmed that the above proposals are feasible. The enclosed plan illustrates these proposals.

However, we are advised that these proposals should be taken into account at an early stage

of planning otherwise the implementation will become more difficult and expensive.

Finally we wish to state that our above proposals are made not only in the interest of our

Company but also in the overall interest of the Hong Kong community.

We shall be grateful for an early opportunity to present the preliminary findings of our

consultants' study to the members of the Panel and to explain the advantages of this

alignment over the more southerly alignment now proposed by the Government.

Yours sincerely

ROUTE 3 (CPS) COMPANY LIMITED

Raymond Kwok

for Thomas Kwok

Chairman

Encl

c.c. Legco Panel on Transport Members

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