



HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT

5TH FLOOR, HO MAN TIN GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
88 CHUNG HAU STREET, HOMANTIN, KOWLOON, HONG KONG

路政署

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27 January 2004

By fax and post

Clerk to Public Accounts Committee
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong

(Attn : Mr. Colin CHUI)

Dear Sir,

**Re: The Director of Audit's Report on the
results of value for money audits (Report No. 41)**

Chapter 5: Provision of noise barriers for mitigating road traffic noise

Thank you for your letter dated 15 January 2004 relaying the request of the Public Accounts Committee for additional information in respect of the cost of removal and trimming down of installed noise barriers built for Tai Po Area 39, and the installation cost involved as stated in paragraph 2.37 of the Audit Report.

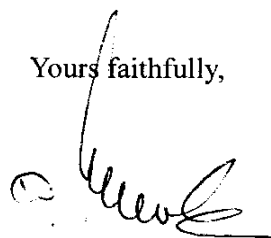
The cost of \$8 million was for the removal of 1 920m of noise barriers and trimming down of 1 460m of noise barriers at Tai Po Area 39, i.e. involving a total of 3 380m of noise barriers. The works involved implementing temporary traffic management, removal of noise panels & steel posts, trimming of steel posts, re-erection of the shortened steel posts, re-installation of noise panels, and delivery of surplus steel posts and noise panels off site.

The cost of \$5 million was the total installation cost for 3 380m of noise barriers less the total material costs. The installation works involved implementing temporary traffic arrangement, erection of steel posts and installation of noise panels.

/As

As the erection and removal processes are similar and both would require similar traffic management, the cost for trimming of the steel posts and the re-erection cost are therefore extra costs, and hence the cost of removal and trimming down was higher than that of installation.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mak Chai-kwong', written over a faint circular stamp.

(MAK Chai-kwong)
Director of Highways

c.c. SETW (Attn.: DS(T)1
DS(E)2)
Director of Audit