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28th Floor, Southorn Centre,
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環境保護署總部
香港灣仔
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一百三十號
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22 December 2003

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

(Attn.: Mr. Colin Chui)

Dear Mr. Chui,

**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**

With reference to your letter of 12 December 2003, please find attached a memo dated 9 February 1998 with the draft minutes of the Environmental Impact Assessment Study Management Group held on 6 February 1998 and another memo dated 23 February 1998 confirming the minutes. Chinese translation of the document are also attached. The soft copies will be forwarded to you via email as requested.

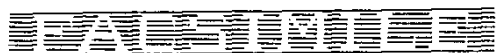
Yours faithfully,

(Robert J.S. Law)

Director of Environmental Protection

c.c. w/e Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works
Director of Territory Development
Director of Lands
Director of Audit

Internal – AD(EA)



Original copy NOT sent/to be sent separately

Total no. of pages including this page: 6

Environmental Protection Department

環境保護署

Distribution

TO: _____
(Attn.: _____)

YOUR REF.: () in _____

YOUR FAX NO.: _____

FROM: Matthew Chan

OUR REF.: () in EP _____

2/N1/29 V

TEL NO.: _____

2835 2163

DATE: 9.2.98

OUR FAX NO.: _____

2591 0558

**Trunk Road T7 in Ma On Shan
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study**

Further to the EIA SMG meeting for the captioned project on 6.2.98, please find attached the draft minutes of meeting for your comments. Please advise your comments, if any, 19.2.98.

(Matthew Chan)

Environmental Protection Officer
for Director of Environmental Protection

Distribution.

| | <u>Attention</u> | <u>Fax</u> |
|-------------|--|------------|
| PM/NTE, TDD | Mr. W. H. Kwan | 2721 8630 |
| SLA, HyD | Mr. Vincent Luk | 2714 5216 |
| DO/ST | Mr. Harvey Lau | 2695 4305 |
| NMPG/EPD | Mr. Alfred Lo | 2802 4511 |
| MCAL | Dickson Lo | 2375 6399 |
| ERM | Mr. Freeman Cheung & Mr. Richard Kwan | 2316 7919 |

C.C.

| | <u>Attention</u> | <u>Fax</u> |
|----------------|------------------|------------|
| Housing Bureau | Mr. C. W. Chan | 2509 9988 |
| GLA/HQ (LS&A) | Mr. Edmond Yiu | 2523 4973 |
| DAF | Mr. K. T. Chan | 2311 3731 |
| DRS | Mr. K. F. Tang | 2602 1480 |
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| CHE/NT, HyD | Mr. Y. W. Wong | 2715 3573 |
| DLO/ST | Mr. T. C. Cheung | 2602 4093 |
| DLO/TP | Mr. C. Y. Chow | 2652 1187 |
| DO/TP | Mr. K. F. Mak | 2650 9896 |
| DPO/STN | Mr. K. T. Ng | 2691 2806 |
| CE/MS, DSD | Mr. C. K. Chu | 2771 9640 |
| CE/MNE, WSD | Mr. H. C. Cheung | 2789 2149 |

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DRAFT

**Trunk Road T7 in Ma On Shan
Environmental Impact Assessment Study
Minutes of Study Management Group Meeting on 6 February 1998**

Date : 6 February 1998

Time : 2:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Venue : EPD's Meeting Room at Room 2501, Southorn Centre, Wanchai

Attendance :

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Department/Company</u> | <u>Telephone</u> | <u>Facsimile</u> |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Mr. Lawrence Ngo (Chairman) | TAG, EPD | 28351751 | 25910558 |
| Mr. W. H. Kwan | PM/NTE, TDD | 23011372 | 27218630 |
| Mr. Vincent Luk | Landscape Unit, HyD | 27623389 | 27145216 |
| Mr. Harvey Lau | STDO | 26048078 | 26954305 |
| Mr. Alfred Lo | NMPG, EPD | 25946573 | 28024511 |
| Mr. Dickson Lo | MCAL (Consultants) | 23754455 | 23756399 |
| Mr. Freeman Cheung | ERM-HK Ltd (Consultants) | 27229704 | 23167919 |
| Mr. Richard Kwan | ERM-HK Ltd (Consultants) | 27229791 | ditto |
| Mr. James Worthington | Hassell (Consultants) | 25529098 | |
| Mr. Matthew Chan (Secretary) | TAG, EPD | 28352163 | 25910558 |

Minutes of Meeting

Introduction

1. As the EIA Study for the proposed Trunk Road T7 project is approaching the completion stage, with draft EIA Final Report, Environmental Monitoring & Audit (EM&A) Manual and Executive Summary (English version) were produced and distributed to each of the EIA SMG members, the Chairman advised that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the reports and to consider for the endorsement of the EIA report.
2. Prior to the discussion, the Consultants provided a brief of the project and the key findings of the EIA study.

Action

Construction Impact

3. The EIA study concluded that, with implementation of the recommended mitigation measures, the construction air quality, noise, water quality and waste impacts could be controlled to within established standards.

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| 4. | On ecological impact, the EIA study concluded that the Ma On Shan Country Park and the nearby Sites of Specific Science Interest (SSSI) would not be affected. Although some secondary woodland and plantation woodland would be affected, the EIA study recommended mitigation measures to minimise the impact. The measures included minimisation of the woodland encroachment, avoidance of unnecessary tree felling and on-site compensatory woodland replanting. | <u>Action</u> |
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Operational Impact

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| 5. | The EIA study concluded that the operational air quality and water quality impacts would be minimal. | |
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Traffic Noise

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| 6. | The Consultants presented figures (attached) showing the revised traffic noise mitigation measures package. With the proposed noise mitigation measures, it was found that :- | |
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| Area 86B | - | Based on the current layout of the proposed Sandwich Class Housing, traffic noise levels of the dwellings facing the Road T7 will comply HKPSG standard; |
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| | | |
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| Kam Ying Court | - | Traffic noise levels of the dwellings facing the Road T7 will comply HKPSG standard; no indirect technical remedy in form of acoustic insulation is required. |
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| 7. | For the STTL 446 site, it was understood that the developer would install a 5m noise barrier within their site boundary to mitigate the traffic noise impact from Road T7. However, based on the visual and noise reduction effectiveness consideration, the EIA recommended to provide 5m roadside noise barrier continuously at the road section fronting the STTL 446 site. With such mitigation measures at the road, it was considered that the noise barrier within the site itself would no longer be necessary for traffic noise mitigation purpose. EPD would write to DLO/ST informing such recommendation for them to pass the message to the developer for necessary action. For land premium implication, if any, PM/NTE will follow up with DLO/ST later. | EPD TDD |
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| 8. | For the proposed rail depot and residential development at Lee On, with the recommended direct noise mitigation measures, there might be marginal exceedance at one particular floor (20th floor). The Chairman suggested and the Consultants agreed to re-check the prediction to see if the exceedance really existed. | MCAL |
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| 9. | After discussion, all attending parties agreed the recommended package of traffic noise mitigation measures. The Consultants would discuss and agree with NMPG/EPD about the text of traffic noise. | Action MCAL |
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Visual and Landscape

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| 10. | The Consultants briefed the recommended mitigation measures for the potential landscape and visual impacts of the project. Mitigation measures included replanting along slope of the road alignment and the interchange area. It was estimated that area of about 6.5 ha would be available for woodland replanting and landscaping works. In addition, tunnel option would be used at the interchange to avoid excessive slope cut-back and hence minimise the visual impact. Transparent noise barriers would be suitably designed to harmonise with the surrounding environment so as to minimise the visual impact of the noise barriers. | |
| 11. | LU/HyD agreed with the assessment and mitigation measures of the landscape and visual impacts. LU/HyD advised some comments on the figures showing the recommended mitigation measures for landscape and visual impacts and the Consultants would revise accordingly. | MCAL |
| 12. | TDD would make submissions to ACABUS in due course. | TDD |

Access to Ma On Shan Country Park

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| 13. | Before the meeting, AFD raised a concern over phone to EPD about the potential blockage of access to the Ma On Shan Country Park. To address it, the Consultants assured and TDD undertook that access road to Ma On Shan Country Park would be maintained during construction and operational phases of the project. In the project, a subway was proposed to provide access to the Country Park. | TDD |
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Maintenance Responsibility of Replanted Woodland

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| 14. | TDD advised that, within the establishment period (usually 12 - 24 months) after the completion of the project construction, the contractors would be responsible for the maintenance of the woodland replanted. After that period, the guidelines as stated in the WBTC 24/94 "Tree Felling" would be followed. Therefore, within 30m of the road alignment, RSD would be responsible for the tree maintenance. There might be some grey area of maintenance responsibility of the area outside 30m of the road alignment. The Consultants advised that low maintenance species would be planted. The Consultants would check the area boundary of replanting in this project. If there were some areas outside the RSD's remit, TDD would start the discussion with relevant parties to sort out the responsibility issue. | MCAL TDD |
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General Comments on EIA Report

Action

15. In addition to text amendments as requested and suggested by SMG members, the Chairman requested and the Consultants would take the following actions on the EIA report :-
 - i. double-side printing for all EIA documents;
 - ii. detach the summary of Comments and Responses from the forthcoming EIA Final Report; and
 - iii. add the Environmental Mitigation Measures Implementation Schedule in the EIA Final Report.

EM&A Manual

16. LU/HyD commented that there should be clear procedures stated in the Manual to monitor the proper implementation of mitigation works for landscape and visual impacts, to define the responsibility party and to protect the existing tree from unnecessary felling.
17. The Consultants responded that TDD and the Environmental Manager would be responsible for the proper implementation of mitigation measures. Anyway, the Consultants would revise the Implementation Schedule of the Manual to emphasize the protection of existing tree from unnecessary felling. In addition, TDD undertook to update the EM&A Manual in due course.
18. Based on the revised traffic noise mitigation package, the Consultants would revise the EM&A Manual accordingly. The Consultant would also revise the Manual as per EPD's comments given vide the fax dated 6.2.98.

TDD
MCAL

MCAL

Executive Summary (ES)

19. The Consultants would revise the ES as if necessary as per the latest version of the EIA Final Report.

MCAL

District Board Consultation

20. TDD would submit the proposed T7 project to the Development and Housing Committee of the Shatin District Board (STDB) for consultation on 24.2.98. Based on the experience in the previous STDB consultation in March 97, the members would likely to raise concerns on the traffic noise impact. TDD, with the assistance by STDO, would consider for a pre-meeting to lobby support from some STDB members.

TDD

Delivery of Final EIA Documents to PELB

Action

21. TDD would deliver 15 copies of EIA Final Report and EM&A Manual, and 50 copies of ES to PELB by 11.2.98 for the ACE Consultation on 2.3.98.

TDD

Undertaking of Implementation of Mitigation Measures

22. TDD undertook to implement all environmental mitigation measures recommended in the EIA study.

TDD

Endorsement of the EIA Report

23. Having considered the views of SMG members, the Chairman concluded that the EIA report was considered as endorsed by the SMG, subject to the incorporation of comments as discussed above.

- end -

MEMO

| | |
|--|---|
| From Director of Environmental Protection | To PM/NTE, TDD (Attn : CE/ST) |
| Ref. () in EP2/N1/29 V | |
| Tel No. 2835 1751 (Fax No. 2591 0558) | Your Ref. |
| Date 23 February 1998 | Dated |

**Trunk Road T7 in Ma On Shan
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study**

Further to our fax dated 9.2.98 enclosing the draft minutes of the EIA Study Management Group (SMG) meeting held on 6.2.98 for the captioned project, please be informed that no comments were received on the draft minutes up to date.

2. As such, please treat the minutes as a confirmed minutes, and the captioned EIA Study is considered as endorsed by the EIA SMG.

3. By copy of this memo, would DLO/ST please draw attention on paragraph 7 of the minutes. Grateful if you can inform the developer of STTL 446 about recommended noise barrier at the Trunk Road T7 in front of his/her site so that the developer may take appropriate action as if necessary.



(Matthew CHAN)
Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Atg.)
for Director of Environmental Protection

| c.c | <u>Attention</u> | <u>Fax</u> |
|----------------|------------------|------------|
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