ITEM FOR PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

HEAD 709 – WATERWORKS Water Supplies – Combined fresh/salt water supply 182WC – Replacement and rehabilitation of water mains, stage 2

Members are invited to recommend to Finance Committee –

- (a) the upgrading of part of **182WC**, entitled "Replacement and rehabilitation of water mains, stage 2 investigation and detailed design", to Category A at an estimated cost of \$52.9 million in money-of-the-day prices;
- (b) the retention of the remainder of **182WC** in Category B.

PROBLEM

Ageing fresh and salt water mains throughout the territory are prone to frequent bursts and leaks, disrupting water supplies and traffic flow and causing inconvenience to the public. We need to replace and rehabilitate water mains approaching the end of their service life to improve the condition of the water supply network and to maintain an acceptable level of service to consumers.

PROPOSAL

2. The Director of Water Supplies (DWS), with the support of the Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works, proposes to upgrade part of **182WC** to Category A at an estimated cost of \$52.9 million in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices for engaging consultants to carry out investigation and detailed design for the works under **182WC**.

PROJECT SCOPE AND NATURE

- 3. **182WC** is the stage 2 works under the Water Supplies Department's territory-wide water mains replacement and rehabilitation programme. The full scope of works under **182WC** comprises the replacement and rehabilitation of approximately 670 kilometres (km) of fresh water mains, 80 km of salt water mains and 3 km of raw water mains. Due to insufficient in-house resources, we plan to investigate the site, design and supervise the replacement and rehabilitation of water mains under **182WC** partly by consultants and partly by in-house resources.
- 4. The part of **182WC** we now propose to upgrade to Category A comprises
 - (a) consultancies for the traffic impact assessment, drainage impact assessment, environmental review and detailed design of the replacement and rehabilitation of
 - (i) about 580 km of fresh water mains ranging from 15 millimetres (mm) to 1 500 mm in diameter;
 - (ii) about 70 km of salt water mains ranging from 25 mm to 800 mm in diameter; and
 - (iii) about 3 km of raw water mains ranging from 1 400 mm to 2 300 mm in diameter; and
 - (b) site investigation for all the works under **182WC**.

5.	We pla	an to s	start th	e pi	ropos	sed cons	sultanci	es and	site inves	tiga	tion
works in	June 2005	for co	ompleti	on i	n Ma	ay 2007.	Plan	s showi	ng the site	s of	the
proposed	l works un	der 18	2WC a	and '	the p	roposed	consul	ltancies	in paragra	ıph ·	4(a)
are at I	Enclosure	1. D	Details	of	the	typical	water	mains	replaceme	ent	and
rehabilitation works proposed are shown in Enclosure 2.											

/JUSTIFICATION

JUSTIFICATION

- 6. Hong Kong's fresh water and salt water supplies are provided through a network of about 7 200 km of water mains. Most of these water mains are underground. About 45% of the water mains were laid more than 30 years ago. They are approaching the end of their service life and have become increasingly difficult and costly to maintain.
- 7. Due to the considerable length of water mains approaching the end of their service life, we are experiencing an increasing number of main bursts causing more and more inconvenience to the public. As the previous way of carrying out piecemeal and small scale replacement works was considered not effective, we engaged consultants in February 1996 to carry out an Underground Asset Management Study (the Study) to develop a comprehensive and cost-effective management plan for the water supply network. The Study recommended the replacement and rehabilitation of some 3 000 km of aged water mains in stages to prevent further deterioration of the water supply network.
- 8. Construction of the stage 1 works¹ commenced in December 2000, and stage 1 phase 1 will be completed by end 2008. To bring about earlier improvement to the supply system and minimise inconvenience to the public due to frequent main bursts, WSD will actively review the whole replacement and rehabilitation programme on the basis of the proposed consultancies and site investigation works and explore whether the programme can be further compressed and completed before 2015.
- 9. To meet the compressed programme of replacement and rehabilitation of the ageing water mains, we need to commence site investigation and detailed design of the stage 2 works in June 2005. As there are insufficient in-house staffing resources to carry out all the proposed works under **182WC** in view of the scale and complexity, we propose to engage consultants to carry out the proposed design and supervise site investigations so as to enable the construction works to proceed as scheduled. In-house staffing resources would be used to investigate, design and supervise the replacement and rehabilitation of the remaining ageing water mains under the stage 2 works (about 90 km of fresh water mains ranging from 20 mm to 450 mm in diameter and about 10 km of salt water mains ranging from 25 mm to 150 mm in diameter).

/FINANCIAL

The stage 1 works includes replacement and rehabilitation of the most critical water mains to bring about early benefits, i.e. the works under **90WC** "Replacement and rehabilitation of water mains, stage 1 phase 1" and **174WC** "Replacement and rehabilitation of water mains, stage 1 phase 2".

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. We estimate the cost of the proposed consultancies and site investigation works to be \$52.9 million in MOD prices (see paragraph 11 below), made up as follows –

		nillion		
(a)	Consultants' fees		30.8	
	(i) design, tender documentation and assessment	22.7		
	(ii) traffic impact assessment	1.9		
	(iii) drainage impact assessment	0.4		
	(iv) environmental review	1.2		
	(v) supervision of site investigation works	4.6		
(b)	Site investigation works		17.8	
(c)	Contingencies		4.9	
	Sub-total		53.5	(in September 2004 prices)
(d)	Provision for price adjustment	_	(0.6)	_
	Total		52.9	(in MOD price)

A breakdown of the estimates for the consultant's fees by man-months is at Enclosure 3.

11. Subject to approval, we will phase the expenditure as for

Year	\$ million (Sept 2004)	Price adjustment factor	\$ million (MOD)
2005 – 06	15.0	0.99000	14.9
2006 - 07	29.0	0.98753	28.6
2007 - 08	9.5	0.99123	9.4
	53.5		52.9

- 12. We have derived the MOD estimate on the basis of the Government's latest forecast of trend rate of change in the prices of public sector building and construction output for the period from 2005 to 2008. We will tender the proposed consultancies for the site investigations, impact assessments, environmental review and detailed design on a lump sum basis. We will provide for price adjustment in the consultancy agreements as the consultancy period of each agreement exceeds 12 months. The consultants will arrange contractors through competitive tendering process for the site investigations on a re-measurement basis as they cannot determine in advance the exact extent of site investigations.
- 13. There will be no additional recurrent expenditure arising from the part of **182WC** we now propose to upgrade to Category A as it entails consultancy services and site investigation works only.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

14. We consulted the LegCo Panel on Planning, Lands and Works on the proposed works under **182WC** on 25 January 2005. Members had no objection to the proposal. In response to some Members' concern in the implementation programme, we undertook to make continual efforts to explore the feasibility to complete the whole replacement and rehabilitation programme within a shorter time frame.

15. We will consult the relevant District Councils and take their views into consideration at the design stage of **182WC**. We previously consulted all relevant District Councils on **90WC** – "Replacement and rehabilitation of water mains, stage 1 phase 1" and **174WC** – "Replacement and rehabilitation of water mains, stage 1 phase 2". All of them supported the projects.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 16. The proposed consultancies themselves will not have adverse environmental implications. We will look into the environmental implications of the project. If there is any designated project under the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Ordinance (Cap. 499) identified in the consultancies, we undertake to comply with the statutory process under the EIA Ordinance.
- 17. We will implement environmental pollution control measures to control the environmental impacts of the associated site investigation works. The site investigation works will only generate a minimal amount of construction and demolition (C&D) materials. We will require the consultants to plan and design the works in such a way to minimise, reuse and recycle C&D materials as much as possible at the construction stage.

LAND ACQUISITION

18. The proposed consultancies and site investigation works do not require any land acquisition.

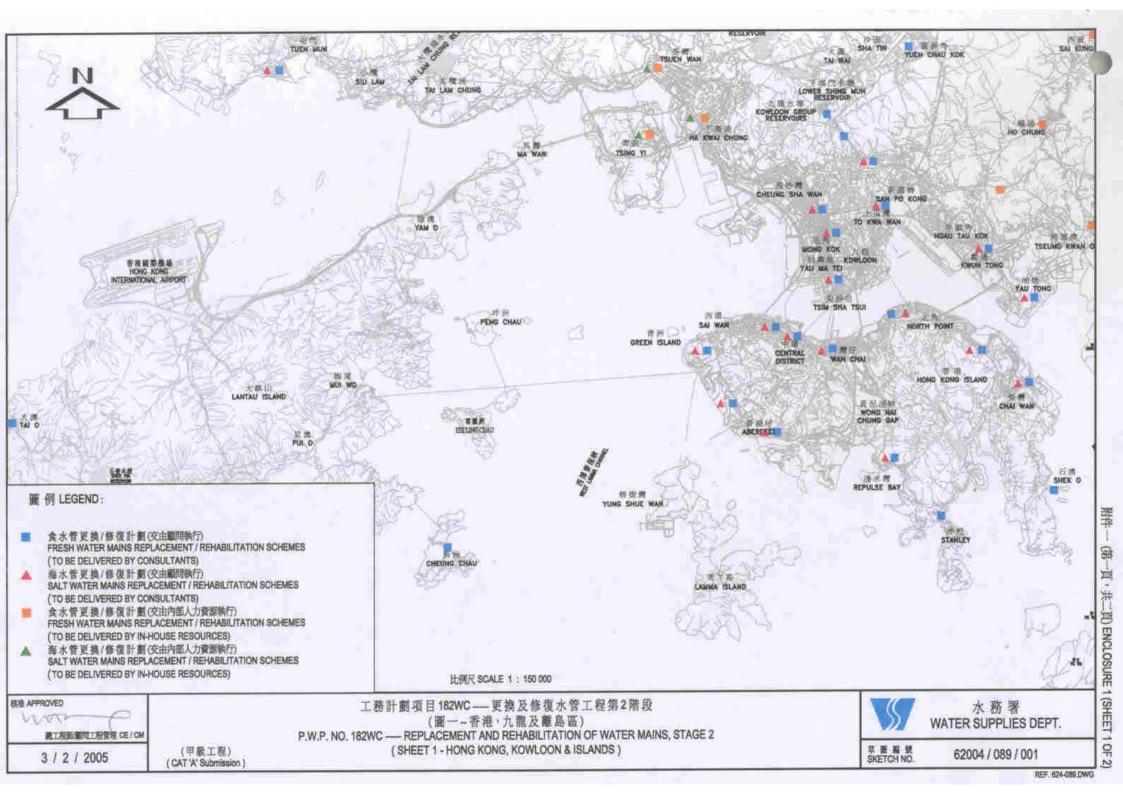
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

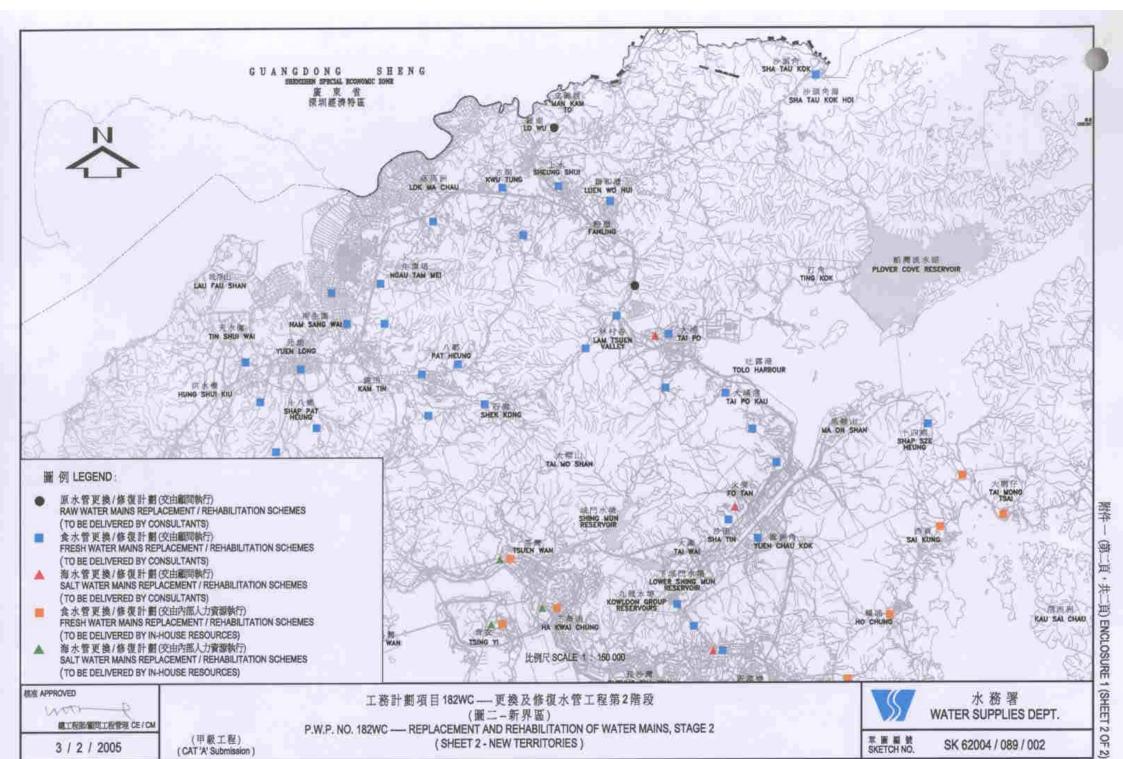
- 19. We upgraded **182WC** to Category B in September 2004.
- 20. The estimated value of works under **182WC** is \$2.6 billion in September 2004 prices. We plan to commence the investigation and detailed design consultancies in June 2005 for completion by phases in May 2007 with a view to commencing the construction works in January 2007 for completion in 2011.
- 21. We will continue planning the remaining stages 3 and 4 of the improvement works with a view to completing the entire replacement and rehabilitation programme before 2015 making reference to the experience gained in the first two stages.

- 22. The proposed site investigation and consultancies will not involve any tree removal or planting proposals.
- 23. We estimate that the proposed consultancies and site investigation works will create about 62 jobs (15 for labourers and another 47 for professional/technical staff) providing a total employment of 890 man-months.

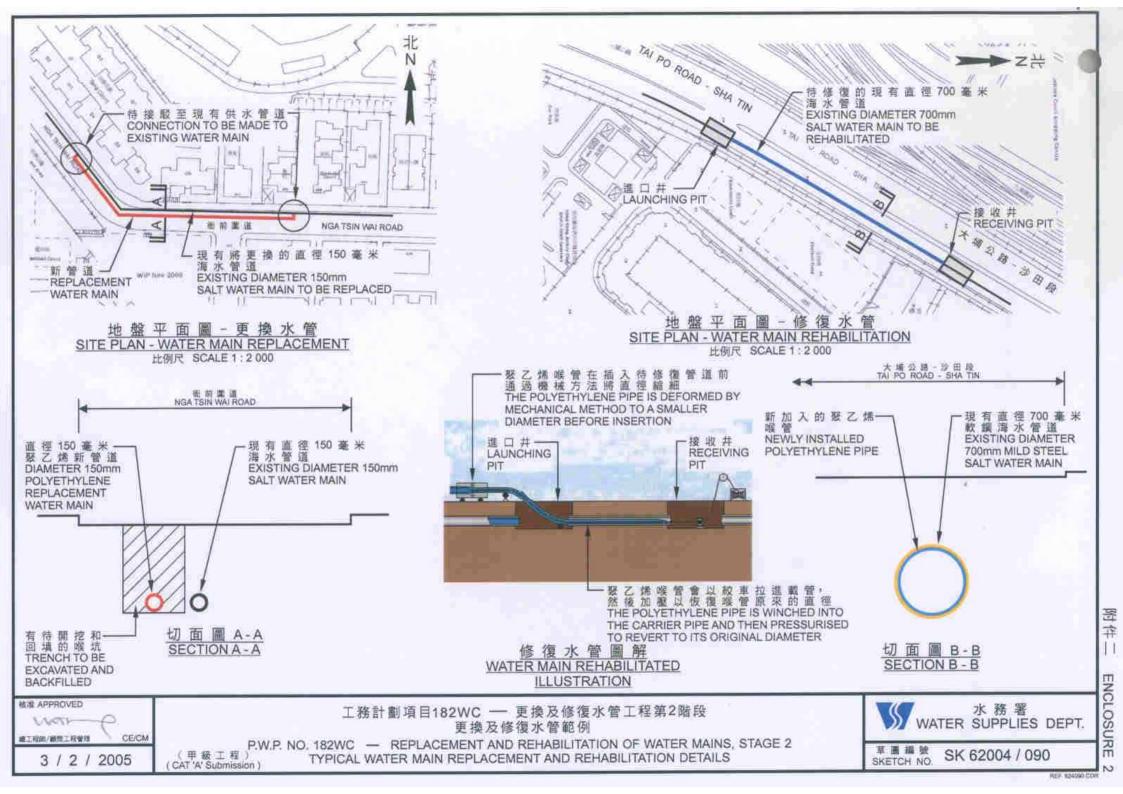
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Environment, Transport and Works Bureau February 2005





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182WC - Replacement and rehabilitation of water mains, stage 2

Breakdown of estimates for consultant's fees:

Consultant's staff cost	Estimated man months	Average MPS* salary point	Multiplier (Note 1)	Estimated fee (\$ million)	
(a) Design, tender	Professional	150	38	2.0	16.3
documentation and assessments	Technical	177	14	2.0	6.4
(b) Traffic impact	Professional	9	38	2.0	1.0
assessments	Technical	25	14	2.0	0.9
(c) Drainage impact	Professional	2	38	2.0	0.2
assessments	Technical	5	14	2.0	0.2
(d) Environmental reviews	Professional	6	38	2.0	0.7
	Technical	14	14	2.0	0.5
(e) Supervision of site	Professional	24	38	2.0	2.6
investigation works	Technical	56	14	2.0	2.0
	- -	30.8			

^{*} MPS = Master Pay Scale

Notes

- 1. A multiplier factor of 2.0 is applied to the average MPS point to arrive at the full staff costs including the consultant's office overhead and profit, as the staff will be employed in the consultant's office. (As at 1 January 2005, MPS pt 38 = \$54,255 per month and MPS pt 14 = \$18,010 per month)
- 2. We will only know the actual man-months and actual fees after we have selected the consultant through the usual competitive lump sum fee bidding system.