

THE HONG KONG INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS

By Post and By Fax at 2869 6794

13 December 2004

Clerk to the Panel on Planning, Lands and Works Legislative Council Secretariat 3/F Citibank Tower 3 Garden Road Central

Dear Sirs

Re: Panel on Panning, Lands and Works - Special meeting on 16 December 2004

Thank you for your letter dated 24 November 2004 inviting the Institution for submission of views on the development of the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) project and to attend the captioned meeting to make oral presentation.

The HKIE considers that the WKCD project is one of the most important urban development projects to be implemented by the Government which will bring benefits to the community as a whole. The HKIE understands that discussion forum and guided tours with presentations from the Proponents, being organised by the Government, are in the pipelines. It is in the opinion of the HKIE that we should be in a better position to give our views after gaining a more comprehensive understanding of the development through the process.

With the information available at the present stage, the HKIE, representing the majority of the stakeholders in the industry, is in principle supportive of the development of the WKCD project. As far as the technical aspect of the canopy is concerned, the initial view of the HKIE is that the professional engineers in Hong Kong are capable of producing an elegant technical solution so that the signature design feature could be put in place. The other issues related to the glass canopy and the single developer issue will be discussed by members when more information is available.

In addition, the HKIE would like to urge the Administration to increase the extent of participation of local engineering companies in the development of the WKCD project and the execution of which should be expedited for the benefit of the community as a whole.

Yours sincerely

Ir Dr Greg C Y WONG

Vice President