

政府總部
運輸及房屋局

運輸科
香港花園道美利大廈



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Transport and
Housing Bureau
Government Secretariat

Transport Branch
Murray Building, Garden Road,
Hong Kong

本局檔號 Our Ref.

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25 August 2011

Ms Debbie Yau
Clerk to Panel on Economic Development
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road,
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Yau,

Panel on Economic Development

Follow-up to meeting on 19 July 2011

Hong Kong International Airport Master Plan 2030

I refer to your letter of August 10 which enclosed a letter from the Friends of the Earth (HK) to the Chairman of the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs. Our reply is as follows.

As Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK) is consulting the public on the Hong Kong International Airport Master Plan 2030 (HKIA Master Plan 2030), we have conveyed the views of the Friends of the Earth (HK) to AAHK. AAHK will consider these views and other views received during the consultation together, and aims to submit a recommendation to the Government in late 2011 on the future airport development strategy.

I wish to point out that AAHK's consultation at this stage is based on the outcome of preliminary studies carried out at a master planning stage. They are no substitute for the more detailed studies to be conducted at the next stage of work, particularly when it comes to environmental impact assessment which will be carried out in accordance with the prevailing statutory process and in a more comprehensive and detailed manner.

The Government will carefully consider AAHK's recommendation, with a view to firming up on the next stage of work, which mainly includes the funding arrangements, detailed engineering design and statutory environmental impact assessment. In taking forward such work, the Government and AAHK will liaise with stakeholders and carry out appropriate consultation. The stakeholders include the Legislative Council, relevant District Councils, the aviation and related sectors, the business sector, environmental groups, fishermen's representatives, residents' representatives, labour groups, professional bodies and youth groups. The position of the Environment Bureau/Environmental Protection Department on airport development is set out in the Environmental Protection Department's letter of 15 July 2011 to you (copy attached).

Yours sincerely,



(Esmond Lee)
for Secretary for Transport and Housing

Encl.

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15 July 2011

Clerk to Panel
Panel on Economic Development
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Hong Kong

By Fax and Mail: 2869 6794

(Attn: Ms Debbie YAU)


Dear Ms YAU,

**Panel on Economic Development
Hong Kong International Airport Master Plan 2030
Meeting on 19 July 2011**

I refer to the letter of 15 June 2011 from the Clerk to Panel to the Secretary for the Environment, inviting the Administration to attend the coming Panel meeting on 19 July 2011 to discuss the subject on the Hong Kong International Airport Master Plan 2030. The Secretary has asked me to provide you with the reply.

Any expansion of the Airport will be subject to the statutory environmental impact assessment (EIA) process. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will be required by law to scrutinize any airport expansion proposal in accordance with the requirements in the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance. In order not to jeopardize this department's position and to maintain impartiality in the EIA process, it would not be appropriate for EPD to make any public comments on the Airport Master Plan 2030 at this stage. Therefore, please kindly accept our apology that the Environment Bureau and Environmental Protection Department would not send representatives to the meeting on 19 July 2011. We trust that the Hong Kong Airport Authority will be able to help the committee to understand and discuss the related potential environmental issues covered in the consultation documents prepared by the Airport Authority.

Yours sincerely,


(TSE Chin-wan)
Assistant Director (Environmental Assessment)
for Director of Environmental Protection



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