

**Written Presentation to Panel on Development, Legislative Council
on
Enhancing land supply strategy: reclamation outside Victoria Harbour and
rock cavern development -- Stage 2 public engagement**

1 June 2013

Background

- 1 On 10 March 2012, the Institution of Civil Engineers Hong Kong Association (ICEHKA) made a presentation to the Panel on the Stage 1 consultation regarding the Land Supply Strategy (LSS).
- 2 ICEHKA considers that the recommendations made by the association in the above presentation are still valid. The salient points are recapped as follows:

“The LSS should include, inter-alia, the following elements:

- a. Full coverage of land production/revitalization processes, both private and public and the agencies/organizations involved;*
- b. A 10-year land supply programme;*
- c. A 10-year demand projection;*
- d. Quantifiable indicators affecting land use¹”*

A long term programme for implementation of the various projects which will enhance land supply should be prepared by the Government, and this should be updated annually. Flexibility is required within the programme to allow land supply targets to be met even if individual schemes encounter delays.

The Government has stipulated that there will be an increase of population by 25% to 8.9 million and number of households to 3.1 million by 2039. The Government should provide more information on the basis of these projections and how they are related to the population policy.”

¹ e.g. For a period of time, the Government has overlooked the land development potential held up in land assigned for industrial use due to economic restructuring. Devising quantifiable indicators can help early identification of potential change in land use requirements.



On the current consultation on enhancing land supply through reclamation outside Victoria Harbour and rock cavern development

- 3 ICEHKA endorses both reclamation and rock cavern development as viable options for enhancing land supply in Hong Kong. There are not considered to be any insuperable technical barriers to these options provided that a suitable site selection process is implemented.
- 4 ICEHKA endorses the proposed pilot schemes for rock cavern development. ICEHKA considers that there is great potential in developing underground space in Hong Kong.
- 5 ICEHKA agrees that Hong Kong needs to develop land reserve. However the level of reserve needs to be established with reference to some quantifiable indicators like population, economic activities.
- 6 ICEHKA supports the reclamation at Ma Liu Shui of which detailed land use has been identified. ICEHKA agrees that there is synergy effect of the reclamation with the land released by relocating Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works to rock cavern.
- 7 On other sites, ICEHKA supports further studies which deem to include comprehensive social cost benefit analysis.

NOTE:

The Institution of Civil Engineers Hong Kong Association is an organization representing some 4,900 professional civil engineers in Hong Kong. It is part of the UK based Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE). The ICE is a global membership organisation that promotes and advances civil engineering around the world. It is a leading source of professional expertise in transport, water supply and treatment, flood risk management, waste and resource management and energy. Established in 1818, it has over 80,000 members throughout the World. ICE's vision is to place civil engineers at the heart of society, delivering sustainable development through knowledge, skills and professional expertise.

