



嘉道理農場暨植物園公司
Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden Corporation

Clerk to Panel on Environmental Affairs
Legislative Council Secretariat
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn: Miss Mandy POON)
(email: mpoon@legco.gov.hk)

30 May 2013

By email only

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Environmental Infrastructure Projects

- (i) **5163DR: NENT landfill extension**
- (ii) **5164DR: SENT landfill extension**
- (iii) **5165DR: WENT landfill extension**

We refer to your document (Ref.: CB(1)1079/12-13(01)) and would like to express our concern regarding the captioned projects.

Potential Ecological Impacts

Although we are aware that the EIAs for the NENT landfill extension and the WENT landfill extension have been approved, we still wish to express our concerns regarding the potential ecological impacts that would be caused by these projects.

The NENT landfill extension is very close to the catchment area of the Lin Ma Hang Stream. This stream is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and is one of the only two habitats which exist in Hong Kong for the rare fish - Chinese Rasbora *Rasbora steineri*. We are concerned that the construction and operation of the extension would affect the hydrology of the Lin Ma Hang Stream. We urge that the relevant Government departments closely monitor the hydrology (including water level and water quality) and the ecology of this stream during the construction and operation of the NENT land fill extension project. The EIA for this project (EIA-133/2007) also reported that a freshwater crab, *Somanniathelphusa zanklon*, was found within the project area (mentioned in Section 10.6.7 of the EIA report). This endemic species is now considered to be Globally Endangered (www.iucnredlist.org). We urge that,



before the commencement of the project works, the relevant authorities and the project proponent should carry out a search for this species within the project area, and collected individuals, if any, should be relocated to suitable habitats, by qualified ecologist(s).

The WENT landfill extension area covers several natural streams. We consider that this is not acceptable, from an ecological perspective, as the impact on the streams would be direct and permanent – they will simply disappear forever. The EIA report (EIA-171/2009) for this project also documented that a rare fish species, the Thick-lipped Barb *Acrossocheilus parallens*, was discovered in a nearby stream. We urge that the project proponent and relevant authorities carry out a verification survey to make sure that this rare fish species does not appear in the streams within the project area.

Also, we would like to point out that The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was extended to Hong Kong in 2011. The underlying spirit of this international convention is the understanding that Governments will respect, protect and appropriately manage the natural heritage. We urge the Hong Kong SAR Government to respect this convention and any future infra-structure projects and developments should make reference to the requirements of this convention.

Waste Management Policy

The main objective of these projects is to cater to the future need of waste management. However, we would urge the Government to investigate, as widely as possible, wise and perhaps ambitious ways to better recycle waste and reduce waste at source. We do not feel that expanding the landfills and building incinerator(s) should be considered as the key solution to managing waste. The most sustainable solutions would involve reducing the waste volume produced and also providing more support for the recycling industry as well as more facilities to facilitate recycling.

Yours faithfully,
Ecological Advisory Programme
Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden