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26 February 2015

Secretary General
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn: Miss Katherine CHAN)

Dear Miss CHAN,

**Legislative Council Panel on Transport
Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways (“RSC”)**

**Hong Kong section of the
Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (“XRL”)
Matters to be Followed Up**

Regarding the matters to be followed up on the Hong Kong section of the XRL project raised by Members at the RSC meeting on 2 January 2015, our reply is as follows -

Item (a)

Relevant information on the work by the Highways Department (“HyD”) in monitoring the progress of the construction of Hong Kong section of the XRL project in the past few years has been set out in the Administration’s paper provided to the Legislative Council in May 2014 (LC Paper No.: CB(1)1328/13-14(03)).

Item (b)

For the three critical civil works contracts (i.e. Contract 810A, 823A and 826) mentioned by MTR Corporation Limited (“MTRCL”) in the report submitted by the Administration to the RSC on the progress and financial situation of the construction of the Hong Kong section of the XRL as at 30 September 2014 (LC Paper No.: CB(1)260/14-15(04)), their planned progress as at end September 2014 were as follows:

Contract for West Kowloon Terminus

Contract No.	Concrete structural works (End September 2014)		Terminus excavation works (End September 2014)	
	Planned Progress	Actual Progress	Planned Progress	Actual Progress
810A	30%	27%	70%	73%

Contracts for Tunnel Sections

Contract No.	Tunnel excavation works			
	Northbound (End September 2014)		Southbound (End September 2014)	
	Planned Progress	Actual Progress	Planned Progress	Actual Progress
823A	4%	0%	95%	100%
826	26%	24%	47%	24%

The planned progress of the above critical contracts as at end December 2014 will be reported in the next report on the progress and financial situation of the construction of the Hong Kong section of the XRL.

Item (c)

MTRCL announced on 11 August 2014 that the Cost to Complete (“CTC”) of the XRL would be \$71.52 billion. It is about \$6.5 billion more than the Entrustment Cost of \$65 billion, and also exceeds the Approved Project Estimate (“APE”). The proportion for the estimated increase for railway works and non-railway works is roughly 8:2, which is about the same as that of the APE in 2010. HyD has urged MTRCL to review again the CTC in view of the reports of the MTRCL Independent

Board Committee and HyD's review findings. MTRCL is currently conducting the relevant review work.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. SIN', written in a cursive style.

(Jackson SIN)

for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.

Highways Department (Attn: Mr Alex CHAN) (Fax: 2714 5297)

MTR Corporation Limited (Attn: Ms Gloria WOO) (Fax: 2208 3208)