

**Legislative Council
Panel on Transport**

**Issues relating to the steel works
at diaphragm wall and platform slab of Hung Hom Station Extension
under the Shatin to Central Link project**

This paper provides information to Panel members in relation to recent concerns about the steel works in the diaphragm wall and platform slab of the Hung Hom Station Extension (“HUH”) under the Shatin to Central Link (“SCL”) project.

Background

Report

2. A number of construction issues on the SCL have been raised over the steel works in the diaphragm wall and the East West Corridor platform slab of HUH Station. The Corporation is fully aware of public concerns over the matter which we take very seriously. The Corporation conducted a detailed investigation and submitted the detailed findings in a report to the Government (“the Report”) on 15 June 2018, which was also made public. The full report (English version only) can be found at the Shatin to Central Link project website (www.mtr-shatincentrallink.hk). The Corporation also attended the meeting of the LegCo Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways under the Panel on Transport on 13 July 2018 to address Members’ concerns.

3. Recently during the formulation of the methodology of the aforementioned safety test, the Corporation found out there were inaccuracies in the Report submitted. The Corporation is investigating this issue and will provide updated information to the Government and to the Commission of Inquiry in due course.

Latest development

Review of project management systems and procedures

4. The Corporation attaches top priority to the safety and quality of all its railway projects. The Corporation has successfully delivered many railway projects which are now providing efficient and safe services to the Hong Kong public every day. This has been achieved on the basis of the Corporation's well tested project management system with the concerted efforts of all MTR colleagues. Nevertheless, in light of the recent incidents, including some in which the Corporation should have performed better in site supervision and/or the provision of timely notification to Government on certain non-conforming works, we are conscious of the need for improvement.

5. To provide assurance and confidence to the public, the Capital Works Committee under the MTR Board of Directors is conducting a review, with the support of an external consultant, on the processes and procedures for SCL within PIMS to seek further improvement. The scope of the review includes the processes and procedures for the detection, recording and reporting (both internally and externally) of non-compliant works and the oversight of related remedial action. The Corporation's management has also strengthened its monitoring and supervision over all SCL contracts.

Safety test

6. The Corporation fully understands the public's expectation on the quality of railway projects. To give assurance to the public to allay these concerns, an independent consultant has been appointed to conduct a safety test to affirm the structural integrity of the East West Corridor platform slab at the Hung Hom Station Extension.

Restructuring the Projects Division

7. While the Commission of Inquiry will examine the case in detail, the Board considered that there should be accountability for the inaccuracies in the preparation of the Report and the inadequacies in complying with proper procedures. The decision to restructure the management team for the SCL project was approved and announced on 7 August 2018.

Conclusion

8. The Corporation will continue to take forward the SCL project, and we will work closely with Government. In the process, the Corporation will also lend its full support to the Commission in its investigation work. Safety and the quality of railway projects remain as our top priorities which will never be compromised.

MTR Corporation Limited

August 2018