

**Tai Po District Council
Environment, Housing and Works Committee**

**PWP Item No. 9096WC –
Water supply to Pak Shek Kok reclamation area, Tai Po – stage 2**

Information Paper

1 Objective

- 1.1 This information paper is to provide the Environment, Housing and Works Committee (EHWC) of the Tai Po District Council with information of the project under PWP item no. 9096WC – Water supply to Pak Shek Kok reclamation area, Tai Po – stage 2. We would like to have the views and support of the Committee on the project.

2 Background

- 2.1 In 1998, the Committee on Planning and Land Development endorsed the proposal to develop the Pak Shek Kok reclamation area for a Science Park, residential developments and strategic recreation. In order to provide fresh water and salt water supply to the Pak Shek Kok reclamation area, Water Supplies Department (WSD) undertake to extend both fresh water and salt water supply system.
- 2.2 Stage 1 of the project had been completed in end of 2003 to meet the current demand of Pak Shek Kok reclamation area. However, with the full development of Pak Shek Kok reclamation area in near future, the water supply is inadequate to cope with the demand and there is a need to extend the fresh water supply system.
- 2.3 We consulted EHWC of Tai Po District Council on 14 July 2010 and are pleased to have their views on the proposal of laying water mains through Tai Po Market. We carried out a detailed study and had a further discussion with the Chairman and some of the members on the alignment options for the proposed water mains. A revised routing through Hon Ka Road and Pan Chung Road is now proposed for the members' comment.

3 Scope of Works

- 3.1 The proposed works comprises-
- (i) construction of Pak Shek Kok No.2 fresh water service reservoir with a capacity of 6,000 cubic metres; and
 - (ii) laying of about 2 kilometres of 600 millimetres diameter fresh water mains between Pun Chun Yuen and Ha Wong Yi Au.

- 3.2 The route of proposed water mains as well as location of the Pak Shek Kok No.2 fresh water service reservoir are shown on the drawings in Enclosure 1.

4 Programme

- 4.1 The project is scheduled to implement in end of December 2011 for completion in end of 2016. The proposed mainlaying works under this project may not commence before the second quarter of 2012.

5 Traffic Impacts

- 5.1 We have conducted a Traffic Impact Assessment for this project. The Traffic Impact Assessment report has been submitted to Transport Department, Hong Kong Police Force and Highways Department for comment and endorsement. The report reveals that traffic impacts arising from the works can be mitigated by implementation of appropriate temporary traffic management measures. Therefore, there will be no unacceptable traffic impacts due to this project during construction.
- 5.2 The contractor will be required to implement appropriate temporary traffic management measures to minimize traffic impacts.
- (i) Before the commencement of each section of works, our contractor will submit the construction details and the temporary traffic management measures to the Traffic Management Liaison Group which consists of representatives from relevant government departments (including Transport Department, Road Management Office of Hong Kong Police Force and Highways Department) and utilities undertakers for assessment and agreement. If there are other road opening works in the same area, the combined effect to the traffic in the area would also be taken into consideration in the assessment.
 - (ii) Works on roads will be carried out 'lane by lane' or 'street by street'. Length of each works area and distance from other projects will be determined according to the existing traffic conditions and the advice from the relevant government departments. We will agree with the relevant government departments prior to commencement of each section of works.
 - (iii) Works on the traffic sensitive roads will be implemented during off-peak hours as far as possible to suit the existing traffic conditions.
- 5.3 In construction stage, we will keep in close contact with Transport Department, Highways Department and the Hong Kong Police Force to monitor the traffic conditions in concerned areas.

6 Environmental Impacts

- 6.1 The proposed works is not a designated project under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499). We have completed the Preliminary Environmental Review (PER) for the project. The PER concluded and the Director of Environmental Protection agreed that the project would not have any long-term environmental impacts.
- 6.2 We will apply the following mitigation measures to minimize the impacts to the environment during construction:
- (i) Control of dust generated from excavation by water spraying;
 - (ii) Use of noise barrier and silencer near the Noise Sensitive Receivers (NSRs) such as residential blocks, hospitals, schools, church, temple and home for the elderly. Appropriate adjustment of working hours when working in the vicinity of school during the examination periods;
 - (iii) Avoid using several noisy plants simultaneously; locate the noisy plants as far from the NSRs as possible;
 - (iv) All construction waste generated from the site would be handled in accordance with EPD's requirements; and
 - (v) All wastewater generated from the site would be treated in accordance with the Water Pollution Control Ordinance prior to discharge.

7 Land Acquisition

- 7.1 Proposed water mains may affect two lands under licence or short term tenancy. Cancellation of the licence and short term tenancy are required for the proposed works. We will use appropriate techniques for laying of water mains so as to minimise the impact to the concerned tenants.

8 Heritage Implications

- 8.1 The project will not affect any heritage site, i.e. all declared monuments, proposed monuments, graded historic sites/buildings, sites of archaeological interest and Government historic sites identified by Antiquities and Monuments Office.

9 Projects Coordination

- 9.1 To minimize impacts to the public arising from the project, we have been coordinating on project interface with other government departments. We will consider the following solutions for interface issues with other projects:

- (i) Liaising closely with other relevant government departments and carrying out the works concurrently in common trench with other road opening works to avoid repeated road opening.
- (ii) Coordinating works programmes, and carrying out the mainlaying works in different period to other nearby projects.

10 Public Consultation

- 10.1 This project is to uprate the fresh water supply to Pak Shek Kok reclamation area. We take this opportunity to inform the Council about the project and seek the valuable views and supports of the Council. We will take into account all the views during the construction stage.

Water Supplies Department
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