



40/F, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong
香港灣仔告士打道 5 號稅務大樓 40 樓

ACE Paper 15/2009

For advice on 14 September 2009

Report of the Environmental Impact Assessment Subcommittee

INTRODUCTION

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Subcommittee considered the EIA report on “Provision of a Poultry Slaughtering Centre in Sheung Shui” submitted by the Architectural Services Department by circulation (ACE-EIA Paper 8/2009 refers).

ADVICE SOUGHT

2. Members are requested to consider the views of the Subcommittee and advise on the EIA report.

THE PROJECT

Need for the project

3. The EIA report points out that following a series of outbreaks of avian influenza in Hong Kong from 1997 to 2002, the Administration briefed the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene of the Legislative Council on 2 April 2004 that for the protection of public health, the present mode of operation of the live poultry trade would have to be modified, with the policy to separate humans from live poultry to minimize contact between the public and live poultry. Immediately improvement measures have been put in place over the past few years, including

vaccination of local and Mainland chickens; improved biosecurity measures in farms; daily thorough cleaning and disinfection at poultry retail outlets and wholesale market; banning of backyard poultry keeping in Hong Kong and overnight poultry keeping at retail premises. Notwithstanding, the presence of live poultry at wholesale poultry market and retail outlets increases the risk of human infection. With the Poultry Slaughtering Centre (PSC) coming into operation, the sale of live poultry in the Cheung Sha Wan Temporary Wholesale Poultry Market and all retail outlets will no longer continue hence further minimizing contact between the public and live poultry. The PSC therefore forms part of Government's long-term efforts to reduce the risk of human infection of H5N1.

Description of the project

4. The site area for the proposed PSC covers an area of 12,791 m² and is located within a piece of formed land adjacent to Man Kam To Road, Sheung Shui as shown at the **Figure 1** attached. **Figure 2** attached shows the conceptual layout plan of the ground floor of the PSC. The PSC will have a daily maximum slaughtering capacity of 30,000 chickens plus 3,000 minor poultry (maximum capacity only operated during festival periods). Under normal circumstances, the daily throughput of the PSC will be about 20,000 chickens. Key elements of the project include –

- (i) a single-storey building with part of the supporting mechanical plant on the rooftop;
- (ii) two stalls each comprising of its own loading/unloading areas; holding, killing, scalding, evisceration, packing and storage areas; isolation and inspection areas; crate cleaning and storage areas; changing rooms and an administrative office;
- (iii) a shared truck disinfection passageway; and
- (iv) separate ancillary buildings including a government administrative building, wastewater treatment facilities and building services plant.

5. The project constitutes a designated project under item N.1, Schedule 2 of the EIA Ordinance: *an abattoir with a daily slaughtering capacity of more than 500 numbers of livestock.*

Consideration of alternative options

6. The EIA has considered various options for project locations. The current site location is considered suitable taking into consideration of various constraints including environmental considerations, availability of basic infrastructure and site availability within the development timeframe, and is the only option that meets all basic requirements.

VIEWS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE

7. Members noted that the public inspection period of the EIA report was from 22 July 2009 to 20 August 2009. No public comment was received by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) during the public inspection period. The written response of the project proponent to some Members' questions and comments was circulated to Subcommittee Members for information before the scheduled meeting date. Having considered the EIA report and information provided by the project proponent, the Subcommittee agreed that the EIA report could be considered by circulation and there was no need to invite the project proponent to attend the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE

8. Having regard to the findings and recommendations of the EIA report and information provided by the project proponent, the Subcommittee agreed by circulation to recommend to the full Council that the EIA report could be endorsed with the following proposed conditions –

- (a) the project proponent should conduct environmental monitoring and audit programme on odour nuisance at affected sensitive receivers throughout the first 12 months of the operation of the PSC and to conduct frequent audit inspection on odour emission in the site area during the operation phase subsequently;
- (b) the project proponent should strengthen the control of environmental impacts caused by the transportation of poultry waste, including minimizing storage time in the waste storage room and transportation of

the waste by fully-enclosed purpose-built refuse collection vehicles to the nearest landfill site; and

- (c) a designated hotline and a management committee should be set up by the Operator of the PSC to closely supervise the operation of the PSC and to follow-up on environmental complaints about the operation of the PSC.

EIA Subcommittee Secretariat
August 2009

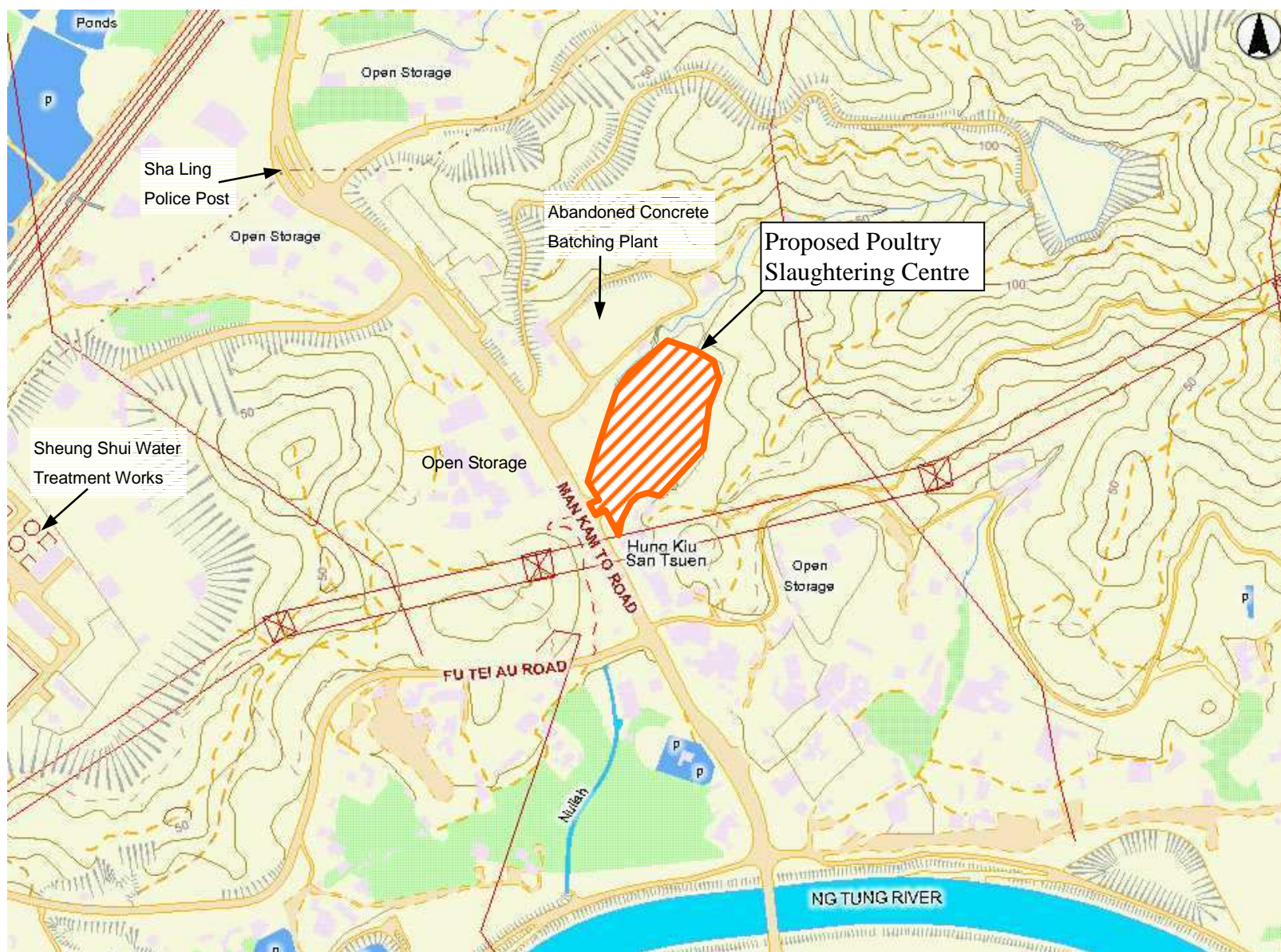
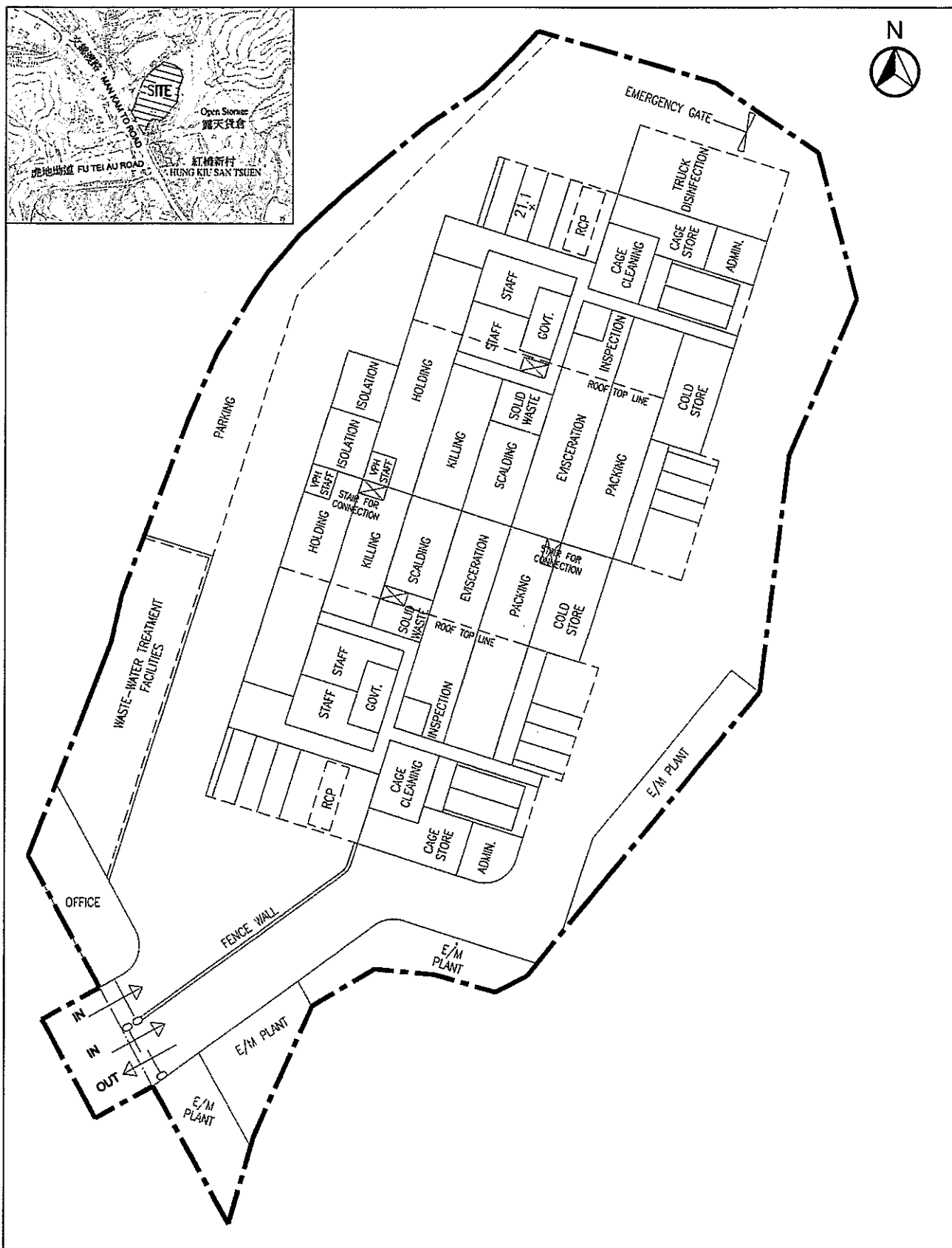


Figure 1 Provision of a Poultry Slaughtering Centre in Sheung Shui - Location Plan

Application No. EIA-170/2009





Provision of a Poultry Slaughtering Centre in Sheung Shui

Ground Level Conceptual Layout Plan

This figure was prepared based on Drawing no. Figure 1-1 of Executive Summary of the EIA Report
(No.: EIA-170/2009)

Figure 2

Application No.
EIA-170/2009

