Facts and Statistics of Applications under the EIA Ordinance
The Statutory EIA Process in Action

Types of Applications Received

From 1 April 1998 to the end of December 2001, a total of 464 applications were received by the Environmental Protection Department for over 190 projects in Hong Kong in relation to various steps within the EIA process. The distribution of these applications is shown in the following Figure 3A:

![Figure 3A: Distribution of Applications](image)

Development Pressures

Hong Kong is a dynamic and fast-moving city, with growth creating enormous developmental pressures. Among the 464 EIA Ordinance applications received within the past two years, projects involved:

* highway/bridge construction
* housing developments
* drainage/sewerage projects
* power stations/overhead power lines/felling of stacks
* railway construction
* reclamation of land/dredging of seabed
* waste incinerator/transfer stations
* land contamination work
* planning and feasibility studies.

Types of Designated Projects

Of these 464 applications, the majority of designated projects were for roads, railways and depots, which represented 39% of all applications. Other key project types included reclamation work (15%), drainage (9%), sewage disposal and miscellaneous small projects in environmentally sensitive areas (7% each respectively).

Please see Appendix II for a full breakdown of project types.

The distribution of designated project types amongst different categories of applications are shown in Figure 3B:
Figure 3B: Applications by Designated Project Types

- A- Roads, Railways and Depots
- B- Airports and Port Facilities
- C- Reclamation, Hydraulic and Marine Facilities Dredging and Pumping
- D- Energy Supply
- E- Water Extraction and Water Supply
- F- Sewage Collection, Treatment, Disposal and Reuse
- G- Waste Storage, Transfer and Disposal Facilities
- H- Utility Pipelines, Transmission Pipelines and Substractions
- I- Waterways and Drainage Works
- J- Mineral Extraction
- K- Industrial Activities
- L- Storage, Transfer and Trans-shipment of Fuels
- M- Agriculture and Fisheries Activities
- N- Community Facilities
- O- Tourist and Recreational Developments
- P- Residential and Other Developments
- PT2- Decommissioning projects
- Q- Miscellaneous
- S3- Schedule 3 projects
A summary of the cost and physical dimensions of designated projects are shown in Figure 3C:

Projects with a total estimated cost of over HK$326 billion covering

- Over 93 km road of works;
- Over 25 km of drainage works and related facility plants;
- Over 24 km of power lines and 1 power station;
- Over 355 ha of reclamation/dredging;
- Engineering feasibility studies with a total study area of over 355 ha; and
- Over 75 km of railways;

Figure 3C: Type and Scale of Projects Covered by Applications under the EIA Ordinance
Processing Time of Applications

The EIA Ordinance stipulates a set of comprehensive timeline requirements for all key applications. Records of the first 3-1/2 years of operation indicate 100% compliance with the processing time stipulated in the EIA Ordinance.

Decisions Made Regarding Applications

From a total of 464 applications, the Environmental Protection Department has already processed 398 cases. Processing of the remaining cases is still in progress. Twenty-three cases were withdrawal and eleven cases rejected. The distribution for each type of application is shown in Figure 3D:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applications under EIAO</th>
<th>No of Cases Received</th>
<th>Cases Issued / Approved</th>
<th>Cases Withdrawn / Case Rejected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EIA Study Brief</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>86 briefs issued</td>
<td>4 cases withdrawn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permission to Directly Apply for Environmental Permit</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>55 permissions given</td>
<td>5 cases withdrawn, 2 rejected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approval of EIA Report</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>47 reports approved</td>
<td>7 cases withdrawn, 5 cases not suitable for public inspection, 1 case rejected after public consultation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Permit (including Further Permits)</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>150 permits issued</td>
<td>4 cases withdrawn, 3 cases rejected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Variations of Environmental Permit</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>49 permits issued</td>
<td>3 cases withdrawn, 5 cases rejected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surrender of Environmental Permit</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11 cases received</td>
<td>0/0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>398</td>
<td>23/11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 3D: Decisions Made Concerning Applications Under the EIA Ordinance from 1 April 1998 to 31 December 2001

Please see Appendix III for a full listing of all applications submitted for consideration by the Environmental Protection Department.

Consultation with the Public and the Advisory Council on the Environment

In compliance with the requirements of the Ordinance, the Director has facilitated the placement of 420 newspaper advertisements by applicants informing the public on the inspection period for a total of 157 project profiles and 53 EIA reports.

Apart from forwarding all project profiles received to the Advisory Council on the Environment for their comment, the Director also informed the Council on all EIA reports that were suitable for public inspection.

The project titles of EIA reports made available for public to comment are as follows:
1. Pak Shek Kok Development
2. Tsuen Wan Bay Further Reclamation, Area 30, Tsuen Wan - Engineering Planning and Environmental Investigation
3. Kai Tak Airport Decommissioning
4. Yuen Long By Pass Floodway
5. Planning and Engineering Feasibility Study for Development at Anderson Road
6. Dredging an Area of Kellett Bank for Reprovisioning of Six Government Mooring Buoys
7. Footbridge and Improvement to Ap Lei Chau Drive
8. Planning and Engineering Feasibility Study for Development Near Choi Wan Road and Jordan Valley
9. 1800 MW Gas-fired Power Station at Lamma Extension
10. Infrastructure Works for Housing Development at Telegraph Bay - Engineering Feasibility Study
11. Tang Lung Chau Dangerous Goods Anchorage
12. Main Drainage Channels and Poldered Village Protection Scheme for San Tin, North West New Territories
13. Planning and Development Study of Potential Housing Site in Area 54 Tuen Mun, New Territories
14. EIA for Salisbury Road Underpass and Associated Road Improvement Works (including Middle Road Circulation System)
15. Essential Public Infrastructure Works Associated with West Rail Stations in Yuen Long, Tin Shui Wai and Tuen Mun Centre
16. Sai Sha Road Widening between Kam Ying Road and proposed Road T7 Junction
17. Route 16 Investigation Assignment from West Kowloon to Sha Tin - Alternative Alignment
18. Feasibility Study on the Alternative Alignment for the Western Coast Road, Tseung Kwan O
19. Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works, Stage II Extension - Environmental Impact Assessment
20. Tseung Kwan O Development - Contract F : Grade Separated Interchange T1/P1/P2
21. Widening of Tai Po Road (Sha Tin Section)
22. Route 9 between Tsing Yi and Cheung Sha Wan * (two applications were made)
23. Essential Public Infrastructure Works Yuen Long, Tin Shui Wai, Tuen Mun Centre and the Eastern Access Road
24. East Rail Extensions - Tai Wai to Ma On Shan
25. Hebe Haven Yacht Club Development - Phase 2
26. 132kV Overhead Pole Line and Underground Cable from the Existing Po Lam Substation to the Existing Tui Min Hoi - Circuit No. 2
27. Tin Shui Wai Phase 4 Rail Extension
28. Light Rail Transit (LRT) Extension in Tin Shui Wai Reserve Zone and Grade Separation of the LRT with Pui To Road and Tsing Lung Road in Tuen Mun
29. Route 10 North Lantau to Yuen Long Highway Investigation and Preliminary Design (Southern Section)
30. New World First Bus Permanent Depot at Chai Wan
31. East Rail Extension - Hung Hom to Tsim Sha Tsui
32. Northshore Lantau Development Feasibility Study
33. Construction of an International Theme Park in Penny’s Bay of North Lantau together with its Essential Associated Infrastructures
34. Shenzhen River Regulation Project Stage III
35. Tuen Mun Sewerage - Eastern Coastal Sewerage Extension
36. Tai O Sheltered Boat Anchorage - Environmental & Drainage Impact Assessment
37. Agreement No. CE 73/98 Investigation Assignment for Widening of Tolo Highway/Fanling Highway between Island House Interchange and Fanling
38. Sheung Shui to Lok Ma Chau Spur Line
39. Proposed RMC Concrete Batching Plant at Telegraph Bay for Cyber-Port Development
40. West Kowloon Reclamation Contract No. WK30-Remaining Roadworks Stage 4, Link Roads G & L
41. Modifications to MTRC Tsim Sha Tsui Station
42. Improvement to Castle Peak Road between Ka Loon Tsuen and Siu Lam
43. Central Reclamation Phase III - Studies, Site Investigation, Design and Construction
44. Lei Yue Mun Road Underpass, Modification at Junction with Yau Tong Road and Associated Improvement Works - Feasibility Study
45. Central - Wan Chai Bypass and Island Eastern Corridor Link
46. Wanchai Development Phase II
47. Comprehensive Feasibility Study for the Revised Scheme of South East Kowloon Development
48. Proposed Headquarters and Bus Maintenance Depot in Chai Wan
49. Tseung Kwan O Roads D1,D8 and D10
50. Demolition of Kwai Chung Incineration Plant
51. Replacement of Cremators at Fu Shan Crematorium
52. Demolition of Buildings and Structures in the Proposed Kennedy Town Comprehensive Development Area Site
53. The Decommissioning of Underground Fuel Tanks at Tsuen Wan No.1 Pumping Station

As a result, the Director has received 1687 sets of public comments during the valid public inspection period for various applications. An analysis of these comments have shown that 94.1% were submitted from individual or local residents, 0.2% from academics, 3.6% from green groups and 2% from others such as corporate bodies. The distribution of public comments is shown in Figure 3E:

![Figure 3E: Contributors of Comments Received on Applications from 1 April 1998 to 31 December 2001](image)
In addition to the above, the Director has advised the Council regularly, all study briefs and environmental permits issued for EIA reports that had been submitted for consultation with the council (including those approved prior to 1.4.1998).

Other than the EIA reports indicated, a number of additional projects have also had environment permits issued to allow the commencement of construction, operation or decommissioning as at 31 December 2001. They are as follows:

1. Main Drainage Channel for Ngau Tam Mei Phase I
2. West Rail Phase I
3. Hiram’s Highway Improvement - between Nam Wai and Ho Chung and Upgrading of Local Access Roads
4. MTR Tseung Kwan O Extension - Phase I and II
5. Widening of Tolo Highway between Island House and Ma Liu Shui Interchange
6. Main Drainage Channels for Yuen Long and Kam Tin, Remainder Phase I
7. Highway between Shap Pat Heung Interchange and Pok Oi Interchange - Remaining Works
8. Outlying Islands Transfer Facilities at Sok Kwu Wan
9. Improvement to Kam Tin Road, Stage I
10. Tin Shui Wai Development Engineering Investigations for Development of Areas 3, 30 and 31 of the Development Zone and the Reserve Zone (District Distributor Road D3)
11. Outlying Islands Sewerage - Stage 1, Phase 1 Cheung Chau Outfall Replacement
12. Widening of Fo Tan Road and Related Improvement Measures in Fo Tan
13. Rural Drainage Rehabilitation Scheme, Stage 2, Phase 3 - Mo Fa Heung Stream Rehabilitation
14. Improvement Works and Road Reconstruction Work at Sham Mong Road - Construction and Widening of Road P1
15. Road and Drainage Works for Tiu Keng Leng
16. Construction of Roads and Drains to Serve the Housing Development in Area 56, Tuen Mun
17. Improvements to Island Eastern Corridor Section between North Point Interchange and Sai Wan Ho
18. Pond Fish Wholesale Market in Yuen Long
19. Karting Mail at Kai Tak
20. Replacement of Cremators at the Kwai Chung Crematorium
21. East Asian Crossing (EAC) Cable System (TKO)
22. Proposed Temporary Bus Depot at Tseung Kwan O (TKO) Area 85
23. Upgrading of Siu Ho Wan Sewage Treatment Plant
24. Installation of Radio Base Station at Kei Ling Ha (Sai Sha Road), Sai Kung
25. Submarine Cable Landing Installation in Tong Fuk Lantau for Asia Pacific Cable Network 2 (APCN2) Fibre Optic Submarine Cable System
26. Proposed Installation of Integrated Mobile Phone Base Stations at Shing Mun Country Park
27. Telecommunication Installation at Lot 591SA in DD328, Tong Fuk, South Lantau Coast and the Associated Cable Landing Work in Tong Fuk, South Lantau for the North Asia Cable (NAC) Fibre Optic Submarine Cable System
28. Proposed Pontoon System Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club at Shelter Cove Lot No.341 DD212 Sai Kung
29. Trunk Road T7 in Ma On Shan
30. Asbestos Abatement Work in Cheoy Lee Shipyard at Penny's Bay
31. Submarine Cable Landing Installation at Tuen Mun for HGC Optical Fibre Submarine Cable System between Tuen Mun and Chek Lap Kok
32. 10 Year Extended Landslip Preventive Measures Project, Phase 2, Package A - Lantau Island, Investigation, Design and Supervision of Landslip Preventive Works on Government Slopes
33. Proposal to establish one temporary wind monitoring station on Lamma Island for evaluating wind power as a renewable energy source
34. Installation of Mobile Phone Station at Bride's Pool Road within Pat Sin Leng Country Park
35. FLAG North Asian Loop
36. Site Formation Works for a Temporary Vegetable Market at Nam Sang Wai Road, Au Tau, Yuen Long
37. Shatin New Town Stage II - Road D15 Linking Lok Shun Path and Tai Po Road
38. Artificial Reef Deployment in Outer Port Shelter
39. C2C Cable Network - Hong Kong Section : Chung Hom Kok
40. New T&T Hong Kong Limited Domestic Cable Route
41. Main Drainage Channel for Ngau Tam Mei, Yuen Long and Kam Tin

Appeal Cases

Only one appeal case was heard by the Appeal Board during the first 3-1/2 years of operation of the Ordinance.

The precedent case was Sheung Shui to Lok Ma Chau Spur Line lodged by Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation in November 2000. The case was subsequently dismissed on 31 July 2001.