

## 1.0 Background

1.1 An Environmental Permit for the works was issued in May 2002 and placed in the EIA Ordinance Register, based on the approved EIA documents.

- (1) Sha Tin New Town II – Trunk Road T3
- Environmental Impact Assessment Report (March 1998) [hereinafter referred to as the “1998 EIA Report”]
  - Environmental Monitoring & Audit Manual (March 1998) [hereinafter referred to as the “1998 EM&A Manual”]
  - Environmental Review Report Final Report (March 2002) Revised [hereinafter referred to as the “2002 ER Report”]

## 2.0 Conditions of Environmental Permit

2.1 Clause 2.6 of the Part C (Permit Conditions) of the Environmental Permit requires that :

*The Permit Holder shall, within one month after the commencement of construction of the Project, deposit with the Director 3 sets of landscape proposal to mitigate the potential landscape and visual impacts arising from the construction and operation of the Project. The landscape proposal shall include an explanatory statement, design drawings and layout plans at a scale 1 to 1000 or other scale as agreed by the Director. The submission shall include an implementation programme with clear indication of the responsibility for funding, implementation, management and maintenance of the landscape and visual mitigation measures as recommended in the EIA Report, and the Environmental Review. The submission shall be certified by the ET leader and verified by the IEC as conforming to the information and recommendations contained in the EIA report, and the Environmental Review. The Permit Holder shall make available additional copies to the Director upon his request.*

## 3.0 Landscape Mitigation Measures

3.1 Where possible all existing vegetation will be preserved and supplementary hydroseeding and planting will be undertaken for all amenity areas and slope protection. All existing trees have been surveyed and full detailed compensatory planting are outlined. Sensitive soft and hard landscaping will be provided where the opportunity arises to redesign the landscape and townscape. Where the Trunk Road T3 affects passive recreational facilities, such as existing playground facilities, a fundamental reassessment was undertaken to assess the opportunities and constraints available and full re-provisioning of the facilities provided. Sensitive architectural design of retaining structures, elevated road structures and noise barriers have been discussed and approved by ACABAS on 6 November 1998 and 18 March 2002 via 2 memos both ref. HYDT 4/1/287 (M) VII (copy enclosed).

3.2 In summary, the landscape and visual mitigation measures for impacts caused during the operational stage have been stipulated in the construction works and are summarized as follows :

- Sensitive design of retaining walls with screen planting at their base and landscape treatment around underpass portals, steep cut slopes. For details refer to drawings no. PR/63494/2000H, 2001G, 2002F, 2003F, 2004G, 2005F, 2006 and 63494/2301-2304, 2305A-2307A, 2308-2310 and 2313A.

- Sensitive architectural treatment of elevated road structures, including parapets, columns and underside of road decks in accordance with ACABAS approved designs. Climbing plants have been included at the base of columns whenever possible. For details refer to drawings no. PR/63494/2001G, 2002F, 2003F, 2004G, 2005F and 63494/2301-2304, 2305A-2307A, 2308-2310, 2313A, 3501 and 3502.
- Sensitive architectural design of noise barriers in accordance with ACABAS approved designs. For details refer to drawings no. 63494/1451-1456, 1471-1480 and 1481A.
- Reprovision and high quality contemporary design of Tai Po Road 7½ Mile-stone Rest Garden (OM1, Figure 6-2a of ERR). For details refer to drawings no. PR/63494/2201A-2204A.
- Reprovision of Chik Wan Street Rest Garden (OM2, Figure 6-2a of ERR). For details refer to drawings no. PR/63494/2101A-2105A.
- Provision of amenity shrub and tree planting adjacent to footpath and cycle track between Slip Road 'J', T3 mainline and Mei Tin Road (OM3, Figure 6-2b of ERR). For details refer to drawing no. PR/63494/2001G.
- Provision of flowering tree and shrub planting within proposed car park and surrounding amenity areas (OM4, Figure 6-2b of ERR). For details refer to drawing no. PR/63494/2001G.
- Provision of fast growing tree species within amenity areas between the northern boundary of Sha Tin Public School and the elevated slip roads (OM5, Figure 6-2b of ERR). For details refer to drawing no. PR/63494/2003F.
- Provision of tree species to reflect existing plant palette within Mei Tin Road roundabout and loop road embankments set within lawn area (OM6, Figure 6-2b of ERR). For details refer to drawing no. PR/63494/2003F.
- Provision of landscaped areas throughout the entire Tai Po Road – Tai Wai to Lion Rock Tunnel Road corridor including areas beneath viaducts (OM7, Figures 6-2b-d of ERR). For details refer to drawings no. PR/63494/2001G, 2003F, 2004G and 2005F.
- Provision of shrub and tree planting between the Shing Mun River Channel and the western end of Shing Wan Road (OM8, Figure 6-2c of ERR). For details refer to drawing no. PR/63494/2004G.
- Provision of Tung Lo Wan Playground facilities and associated sitting out areas (OM9, Figures 6-2c-d of ERR). For details refer to drawing no. PR/63494/2031A.

3.3 The landscape proposal has been designed based on the following legislation, technical circulars, standards and guidelines :

- Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap.499 S.16) and the Technical Memorandum on EIA Process (EIAO TM), particularly Annexes 10 and 18;
- Sha Tin Outline Zoning Plan No. S/ST/15 dated 25 September 2001;
- Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines;
- WBTC No. 25/92 – Allocation of Urban Street Trees;
- WBTC No. 25/93 – Control of Visual Impact of Slopes;
- WBTC No. 19/98 – Advisory Committee on the Appearance of Bridges and Associated Structures (ACABAS);
- WBTC No. 17/2000 – Improvement to the Appearance of Slopes;
- WBTC No. 7/2002 – Tree Planting in Public Works;
- WBTC No. 14/2002 – Management and Maintenance of Natural Vegetation and Landscape Works and Tree Preservation;
- HyDTC No. 10/2001 – Visibility of Directional Signs;

- GEO Publication No. 1/2000 – Technical Guidelines on Landscape Treatment and Bio-engineering for Man-made Slopes and Retaining Walls;
- EIAO Guidance Note No. 8/2002 – Preparation of Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment.

3.4 The following drawings are submitted herewith :

Item	Drg. No.
Planting Plan	PR/63494/2000H, 2001G, 2002F, 2003F, 2004G, 2005F and 2006
Tai Po Road 7½ Mile-stone Rest Garden, Chik Wan Street Rest Garden, ½ Basketball Court and Tung Lo Wan Playground	PR/63494/2031A, 2101A-2105A, 2201-2204A and 2211A
Architectural Finishes Layout Plan and Details	63494/2301-2304, 2305A-2307A, 2308-2310 and 2313A
Maintenance Responsibility of Landscaping Works	63494/SK/1201A-1207A
Noise Barrier Layout Plan and Elevation	63494/1451-1456, 1471-1480 and 1481A

#### 4.0 Compensation Tree Planting

4.1 The following numbers of tree and palm specimens to be felled/transplanted are based on the Tree Identification Report and Tree Felling Proposal approved by DLO/ST via memo ref: (30) in L/M(2) to LND/ST 71/117 dated 25 July 2002.

Total number of tree and palm specimens to be felled	Total number of tree and palm specimens to be transplanted
602 individual tree and palm specimens, and approx. 1300 tree and palm specimens within groups	143 individual trees and palm specimens, and 7 palm specimens within groups

4.2 In respect to the compensation required the following numbers of tree and palm specimens will be provided :

Compensation planting for total lost	
Type	Number
Whip Tree	2416
Standard Tree	406
Heavy Standard	567
Palm	3197
<b>Total</b>	<b>6586</b>

Based on the 1902 (602+1300) tree and palm specimens felled the compensation planting of 6586 tree and palm specimens represents a compensation ratio 1:3.46.

#### 5.0 Implementation Programme

5.1 The proposed landscape mitigation measures will be implemented by the Territory Development Department under one construction contract with the contract period from the end 2002 to early 2007. In addition, the landscape softworks above the T3 Underpass (part of the scope of Route 9 Project as identified in the Environmental Permit No. EP-104/2001) will be implemented under TDD Contract No. ST 79/02.