

Your ref.

Our ref 5207869/18.30/OC341/WL/DL/SW/JC/fl

Date 21 March 2023 Telephone (852) 2972 1000 Facsimile (852) 2890 6343

www.atkinsglobal.com

香港九龍尖沙咀海港城 九倉電訊中心十三樓

13/F Wharf T&T Centre Harbour City Tsim Sha Tsui Kowloon Hong Kong

阿特金斯 **ATKINS** 

#### By Post and Email

**Environmental Protection Department Environmental Assessment Division** Strategic Assessment Group Sheung Shui, Fanling, Tai Po Section (6) 27th floor, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Attn: Ms. FUNG Hoi Ying, Ada

Env Protection Offr (Strategic Assessment) 62

Dear Madam,

Agreement No. CE 32/2021 (CE) Improvement Works at Lai Chi Wo Pier and Tung Ping Chau Public Pier Design and Construction Environmental Permit No. EP-587/2021 Submission of Coral Translocation Plan for Tung Ping Chau Public Pier (Rev. 1)

Pursuant to Condition 2.13 of the Environmental Permit No. EP-587/2021, we hereby submit the Coral Translocation Plan (Rev. 1) for the pier improvement works at Tung Ping Chau Public Pier.

The aforesaid submission has been certified by the Environmental Team (ET) and verified by the Independent Environmental Checker (IEC). The ET certification and the IEC verification letters have been enclosed for your record.

Should you have any queries regarding the above, please feel free to contact our Ms. Grace Yang (Email: Grace.Yang@atkinsglobal.com) at 2972 1173 or Mr. Joe Chiu (Email: Joe.Chiu@atkinsglobal.com) at 2972 1119.

Yours faithfully, For and on behalf of Atkins China Ltd

Dickson LAW **Project Manager** 

Response required Due date

No. N/A

Attachment

(1) Coral Translocation Plan for Tung Ping Chau Public Pier (Rev. 1)

(3 x hard copies + 1 x CD)

(2) ET Certification and IEC Verification Letters

CEDD/CEO - Mr. CHIK Kan To (Project Coordinator /Projects 3 A) (w/o) CC Wilson Acoustic limited - Mr. Morgan Cheng (IEC) (w/o)



Our ref 5207869/18.30/OC341/WL/DL/SW/JC/fl

Title Submission of Coral Translocation Plan for Tung Ping Chau Public Pier

(Rev.1)

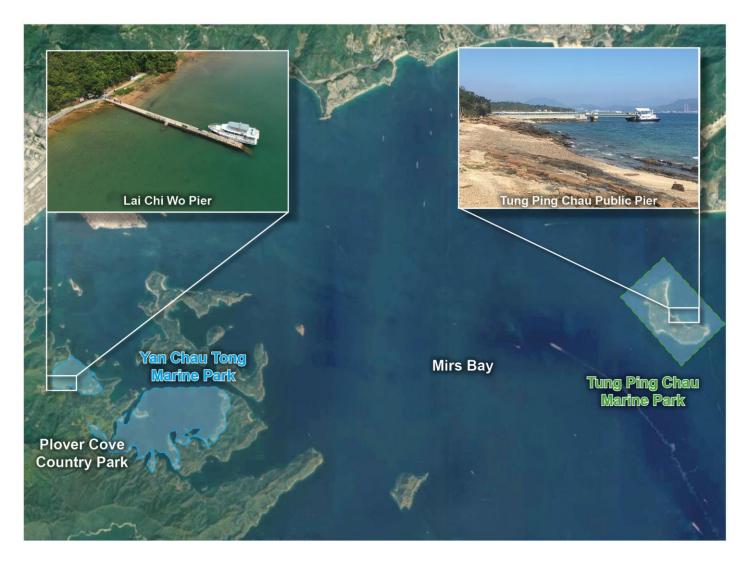
**Date** 21 March 2023

# **Attachment 1**

\_

Coral Translocation Plan for Tung Ping Chau Public Pier (Rev. 1)





Agreement No. CE 32/2021 (CE)
Improvement Works at Lai Chi Wo Pier and
Tung Ping Chau Public Pier
-Design and Construction

Coral Translocation Plan at Tung Ping Chau Public Pier (Rev.1)
(5207869-OR017B-01)

21 March 2023







#### **Notice**

This document and its contents have been prepared and are intended solely as information for Civil Engineering and Development Department and use in relation to this Assignment.

阿特金斯顧問有限公司 Atkins China Limited assumes no responsibility to any other party in respect of or arising out of or in connection with this document and/or its contents.

### **Document History**

Revision	Purpose description	Originated	Checked	Reviewed	Authorised	Date
Rev 0	First Issue	Keith KEI	Grace YANG	Wing WONG	Dickson LAW	29 November 2022
Rev 1	Second Issue	Keith KEI	Grace YANG	Wing WONG	Dickson LAW	21 March 2023
					U	

#### Issue Record

Client	Civil Engineering and Development Department		
Project	Agreement No. CE 32/2021(CE) Improvement Works at Lai Chi Wo Pier and Tung Ping Chau Public Pier – Design and Construction		
Document Title	Coral Translocation Plan at Tung Ping Chau Public Pier (Rev.1)		
Job number	5207869		
Copy No.	01-02 Distribution List	02	ACL (Office copy)
Document Reference	5207869/18.30/OC341/WL/DL/SW/JC/fl		





### **Table of contents**

Cha	pter	Page
1.	Introduction	1
1.1	Background	1
1.2	Project Description	2
1.3	EP Requirements and Relevant Licenses	2
1.4	Objective of the Report	2
2.	Introduction	4
2.1	Methodology	4
2.2	Survey Findings	8
2.3	Conclusion	18
3.	Coral Translocation	19
3.1	Coral Translocation Procedures	19
3.2	Post-translocation Monitoring	20
3.3	Reporting	21
4.	Reference	22

# **Figures**

Figure 1	Layout of the Project Area
Figure 2	Locations of Coral Colonies Recorded inside the Proposed Pier extension and Temporary Pier
Figure 3	Suggested Recipient Sites
Figure 4	Location of Spot Check and REA Survey

## **Photo Plates**

Photo Plate A	Coral Colonies Recorded inside the Proposed Pier Extension
Photo Plate B	Photos of the Suggested Recipient Sites

# **Appendix**

Appendix A Event and Action Plan for Post-Translocation Monitoring





Not Used





#### 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 Hong Kong is an international metropolis and comprises many natural scenic spots, rare geological features, attractions with traditional culture and heritage, and hiking trails with rich biological diversity. The famous Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark (Geopark), Marine Parks, old temples, eco-tourism sites and beautiful beaches in coastal areas are some examples. Many attractions are located at remote rural areas without land access and rely on marine transport. In recent years, number of local and non-local visitors attracted to these remote destinations has been constantly increasing.
- 1.1.2 Public piers play an important role in accessing these remote destinations. There are about 120 public piers in Hong Kong. Majority of these piers are built, maintained and managed by the Government.
- 1.1.3 Although regular inspections and maintenance for the remote public piers are carried out by the Government to ensure its structural integrity, some public piers at remote rural areas have been in place for many years and cannot cope with the current needs / usages, such as:
  - a) small or primitive piers leading to safety concerns during berthing and unsatisfactory boarding conditions especially for kids and elderly;
  - b) inadequate depth of water for berthing during low tide;
  - c) limited berthing space or narrow accesses which cannot cater for the fluctuating utilization during festive times or weekends; and
  - d) aged pier structures with a need for improvement works.
- 1.1.4 Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) commissioned an Investigation Study (IS), "Study for Pier Improvement at Lai Chi Wo and Tung Ping Chau Investigation" (Agreement No. CE 2/2018 (CE)), in June 2018 to verify the technical feasibility of improving two potential pier items located within Yan Chau Tong Marine Park and Tung Ping Chau Marine Park in the northeast region of Hong Kong. The improvement of these two piers are designated project under Item Q.1, Part 1 of Schedule 2 of the EIAO.
- 1.1.5 EIA study has been carried out in accordance with the requirement of the EIA Study Briefs including assessment of the potential environmental impacts, in particular water quality impact and ecological impact, and specified environmental monitoring and audit requirements to ensure the effective implementation of the recommended environmental protection and mitigation measures. The EIA Reports of the two piers were approved by DEP under the EIAO on 29 December 2020 and Environmental Permits (EPs) for construction and operation of the improvement works were granted on 19 February 2021. The EIA study made recommendations on the scope of improvement to the Lai Chi Wo Pier and Tung Ping Chau Public Pier with preliminary engineering studies for individual pier taking into account public aspiration and other constraints, prepared preliminary engineering layouts, and evaluated the feasibility of adopting innovative design elements for the piers.





1.1.6 Atkins China Ltd. was commissioned by the Civil Engineering and Development Department of the Hong Kong Government Special Administrative Region on 16 September 2021 to provide consultancy services for Agreement No. CE 32/2021 (CE) Design Consultancy for Improvement Works at Lai Chi Wo Pier and Tung Ping Chau Public Pier - Design and Construction (hereinafter called "the Assignment").

## 1.2 Project Description

- 1.2.1 Pier Improvement at Tung Ping Chau (the Project) is governed by the Environmental Permit, EP-587/2021, under the EIAO. The scale and scope of the Project includes:
  - Modification of the existing pier and construction of new pier structures. The improved pier would be of approximately 124m long and 6m wide, and further increased to a gross width of 15m, including the floating pontoon, at the pier head;
  - Construction and removal of a temporary pier of approximately 20m long and 5.5m wide;
  - Site investigation works for detailed design; and
  - Associated facilities (e.g. barrier-free access, canopy, seats) and landscaping works, etc under the Project.
- 1.2.2 The Project Site is located in the vicinity of Tung Ping Chau Public Pier, which falls within the Tung Ping Chau Marine Park. Its location is shown in **Figure 1**.
- 1.2.3 The site investigation (SI) works for detailed design will be commenced on early 2024 to collate necessary engineering and sediment quality information for the study for pier improvement at Tung Ping Chau.

## 1.3 EP Requirements and Relevant Licenses

- 1.3.1 Pursuant to Condition 3.4 of EP-587/2021, the Permit Holder shall, no later than 1 month before the commencement of construction of the Project, submit 3 hard copies and 1 electronic copy of Coral Translocation Plan (CTP) to the DEP for approval. The CTP shall include the following information:
  - Pre-translocation coral survey/baseline survey;
  - Coral translocation methodology, including the stabilization of the translocated corals, identification of coral recipient site; and
  - Post- translocation monitoring methodology and programme.

## 1.4 Objective of the Report

1.4.1 The objectives of the Report are to record the species, number, locations and the sizes of coral colonies on the existing TPC Public Pier (**Figure 2**) identified during the pre-construction dive survey conducted by the Qualified Ecologist, Mr. Keith L W Kei; to present the coral translocation methodology, including the stabilization of





the translocated corals and identification of coral recipient site for all translocatable coral colonies; and, to propose post-translocation monitoring methodology. The Report will also verify the results of the previously conducted coral survey(s) by comparing the species and number of corals recorded during the pre-construction dive survey.





#### 2. Introduction

## 2.1 Methodology

2.1.1 Coral colonies were recorded at the proposed pier extension and temporary pier (73 colonies on seabed beneath the proposed pier extension, 12 colonies on the existing pier head to be modified and 5 colonies on seabed beneath the proposed temporary pier) during the EIA. In order to identify all affected coral colonies, a detail coral survey at the direct impact site and suggested recipient sites will be conducted before starting any coral translocation work.

# Coral Mapping Survey at Direct Impact Site (Donor Site) – Proposed Pier Extension and Temporary Pier of TPC

- 2.1.2 A coral mapping will be conducted at the donor site (TPC Public Pier) as part of the detailed coral survey to locate all translocatable.
- 2.1.3 Any translocatable corals will be identified to species level as far as practicable and their locations will be recorded. A specific code will be assigned to each recorded coral colony.
- 2.1.4 The results will be presented as a map showing the approximate locations of all translocatable coral colonies along the proposed pier extension and temporary pier. The total number of coral colonies, their sizes and species will be provided according to their assigned codes. The health condition (including percentage cover of bleaching, mortality, degree of sedimentation) of the corals will also be recorded and the feasibility of translocation of corals of conservation value will be assessed.
- 2.1.5 Upon completion of the surveys, the requirement for translocation and the required dimensions of the recipient site will be identified. Size will be the key criteria to determine whether a coral or encrusting coral colonies are suitable for translocation. Based on the results of the donor site (including the Proposed Pier Extension, Temporary Pier and the existing Pier), all corals with suitable size (coral colonies with size more than 9 cm, Shek Kwu Chau Coral Translocation 2017, EP/SP/66/12) and are still alive will be considered feasible for translocation.

#### **Detailed Coral Survey at Potential Recipient Sites**

#### Spot Check Dive

A spot-check dive survey covering the potential recipient sites (**Figure 3**) will be conducted. The survey is to check the presence of coral species similar to the donor site and the presence of suitable substratum to allow the translocated boulders/rocks to be permanently stabilized. The spot-check dive survey requires suitably trained and qualified SCUBA divers and marine ecologists swimming in a search pattern, at random depths within the spot-check dive area. Subtidal substrata (hard substratum seabed) within the proposed spot-check dive area will be surveyed for the presence of coral communities, including hard coral (order Scleractinia), octocorals (sub-class Octocorallia) and black-corals (order Antipatharia). Surface parameters such as water temperature, salinity and pH will be recorded. Target species parameters including estimated number of species,





coral cover, partial mortality and the presence of any rare corals will also be recorded during the spot-check dive. The divers will also pay attention to the presence of non-typical reef structures, unusual coral species associations, unique or peculiar assemblages of the local reef formations, and reefs that are almost completely dominated by one particular species. Data will be recorded during the dives on water proof paper in preparation for a later consolidation and analysis.

2.1.7 During the spot-check dive, the general environmental conditions of the potential recipient site will also be observed (e.g. presence of healthy coral community with similar coral species as the donor site, presence of suitable substratum to allow the translocated boulders/rocks to be permanently stabilized, sufficient space to receive the newly translocated coral colonies, etc.). If the preliminary survey findings reveal that the potential recipient site is not suitable, alternative recipient site(s) (**Figure 3**) will be searched.

#### Rapid Ecological Assessment (REA)

- 2.1.8 If corals are recorded during the spot-check dives and the potential recipient site is found suitable during the preliminary screening, a more detailed Rapid Ecological Assessment (REA) will be carried out with reference to DeVantier *et al.* (1998). The substrate type and taxonomic composition of the recipient site will be assessed.
- 2.1.9 The REA survey will be conducted along 100 m transect(s) parallel to the coastline (based on the preliminary results from the spot-check dives). The substrate type along the length of the transect(s) will be recorded at 1 m intervals. The benthic cover, taxon abundance, and ecological attributes along the transects will also be recorded in a swathe of 2 m wide, 1 m either side of the transect.
- 2.1.10 The locations of the REA transects will be recorded on-site using a portable GPS unit. The number of colonies, sizes and types of corals, their coverage, abundance, depth, health status of coral species will also be recorded. Photographs of representative taxa along the transects will also be taken during the surveys.
- 2.1.11 Health status of coral will be assessed by the following criteria and recommendation of the translocation plan would be provided in reference with the PER report:
  - Gorgonian coral: Percentage of branches exhibiting partial mortality and secretion of mucus; and
  - Hard coral: Percentage of surface area exhibiting partial mortality and blanched/bleached.

#### Tier I – Categorization of Benthic Cover

2.1.12 Upon the completion of each transect, ecological and substratum attributes (refer to **Table 2.1**) will be assigned to standard ranked ordinal categories (refer to **Table 2.2**).

Table 2.1 - Tier I Benthic Attribute Categories

rabio Eli Tiol i Dollano / tanbato datogorio	
Ecological Attributes	Substratum Attributes
Hard Coral	Hard substrata
Dead Coral	Bedrock / continuous pavement





Ecological Attributes	Substratum Attributes
Octocoral (Soft corals and Gorgonains)	Boulders blocks (diam. >50 cm)
Black Coral	Cobble
Anemone beds	Rubble
Dead Standing corals	Other
Other benthos (sponges, zoanthids, ascidians and bryozoans)	Soft substrata
Macro-algae	Sand
-	Mud / Silt
-	Mud

Table 2.2 - Tier II Ordinal Ranks of Percentage Cover of Benthic Attributes

Table 212 The Horaman Families of Forest and Section of Political Parish		
Rank	Percentage Cover	
0	None Recorded	
0.5	1-5 %	
1	6-10 %	
2	11-30 %	
3	31-50 %	
4	51-75 %	
5	76-100 %	

2.1.13 For substratum attributes, it is preferable to record actual estimates of coverage. The percentage of hard substrata vs. soft substrata can be provided (e.g. 80% and 20% respectively). The percentage cover of the types of hard or soft substrata could also then be presented (e.g. bedrock pavement 60%, rubble 20%, sand 15%, mud/silt 5%). Similarly, recording and presenting actual estimates of, for instance, hard and soft coral cover may be more informative (e.g. <1%)

#### Tier II – Taxonomic Inventories to Define Types of Benthic Communities

- 2.1.14 An inventory of benthic taxa along each transect will be compiled during the survey. Taxa will be identified in situ to the following levels:
  - Corals to species, where possible;
  - Soft corals, anemones and conspicuous macroalgae to genus level, where possible;
  - Other benthos (including sponges, zoanthids, ascidians ,and bryozoans) to genus level, where possible.





2.1.15 For each transect, each taxon in the inventory will be ranked in terms of abundance in the community (refer to **Table 2.3**). The taxon categories will be ranked in terms of relative abundance of individuals, rather than the contribution to benthic cover along each transect. The ranks are visual assessments of abundance, rather than quantitative counts of each taxon. Representative photos of organisms will be taken.

Table 2.3 - Ordinal Ranks of Taxon Abundance

Rank	Percentage Cover
0	Absent
1	Rare
2	Uncommon
3	Common
4	Abundant
5	Dominant

- 2.1.16 To verify the suitability of the coral recipient site, data collected including environmental conditions, bathymetry, benthic composition at the coral recipient site will be compared with the donor site. It is preferable to select the recipient site with the following characteristics:
  - Presence of a healthy coral community of the similar coral species as the donor site:
  - Similar environmental conditions, or better than the donor site, such as bathymetry, water depth, benthic composition, etc.;
  - Presence of suitable substratum to allow the translocated boulders/rocks to be permanently stabilized;
  - In the vicinity of the original coral colony;
  - Sufficient space to receive the newly translocated coral colonies; and
  - Presence of protection from storm/typhoon damage.
- 2.1.17 In addition, the survey will be confirmed if the proposed recipient site had the space requirements to accommodate the number of corals to be translocated, and the absence of identified constraints to their future growth and proliferation.





## 2.2 Survey Findings

Coral Mapping Survey at Direct Impact Site (Donor Site) – Proposed Pier Extension and Temporary Pier of TPC

2.2.1 Coral mapping surveys were conducted on 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> October 2022 along Tung Ping Chau existing pier (**Figure 2**) and the weather condition on **Table 2.4**.

Table 2.4 - Weather Condition for Coral Mapping on 6th and 7th December 2021

Date	Condition	Average Underwater Visibility
6 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	Northeast force 4 to 5, Sunny	2-3 m
8 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	8 <sup>th</sup> October 2022 Northeast force 4 to 5, Sunny	
9 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	East force 4 to 5, Sunny	1-2 m

2.2.2 During the mapping survey, a total of sixty-one coral colonies (**Figure 2** and **Photo Plate A** with selected coral colonies photos) were found inside the proposed pier extension and temporary pier and their species name, size and health condition were shown in **Table 2.5**.

Table 2.5 - Species, Health Condition, Size and Abundance in Hong Kong of the Recorded Coral Colonies

Coral #	Coral species	Health Condition	Size (Diameter)	Abundance in Hong Kong
1	Porites lutea	Good	13	Abundant
2	Platygyra yaeyamaensis	Good	32	Uncommon
3	Platygyra yaeyamaensis	Good	25	Uncommon
4	Plesiastrea versipora	Good	15	Common
5	Platygyra yaeyamaensis	Good	30	Uncommon
6	Platygyra carnosa	Good	18	Dominant
7	Platygyra yaeyamaensis	Good	16	Uncommon
8	Platygyra acuta	Good	15	Dominant
9	Dipsastraea rotumana	Good	8	Abundant
10	Dipsastraea helianthoides	Good	10	Uncommon
11	Dipsastraea rotumana	Good	8	Abundant
12	Platygyra carnosa	Good	6	Dominant
13	Platygyra yaeyamaensis	Good	13	Uncommon
14	Dipsastraea speciosa	Good	6	Abundant





			0.	
Coral #	Coral species	Health Condition	Size (Diameter)	Abundance in Hong Kong
15	Dipsastraea speciosa	Good	11	Abundant
16	Porites lutea	Good	4	Abundant
17	Cyphastrea serailia	Good	10	Common
18	Cyphastrea serailia	Fair	9	Common
19	Cyphastrea serailia	Good	10	Common
20	Porites lutea	Good	4	Abundant
21	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	3	Abundant
22	Dipsastraea veroni	Good	18	Common
23	Plesiastrea versipora	Good	12	Abundant
24	Plesiastrea versipora	Good	8	Abundant
25	Cyphastrea japonica	Good	21	Abundant
26	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	5	Abundant
27	Dipsastraea speciosa	Good	8	Abundant
28	Psammocora profundacella	Good	10	Abundant
29	Dipsastraea rotumana	Good	9	Abundant
30	Porites lutea	Good	5	Abundant
31	Favites flexuosa	Good	8	Uncommon
32	Cyphastrea serailia	Good	18	Common
33	Porites lutea	Good	14	Abundant
34	Porites lutea	Good	16	Abundant
35	Psammocora profundacella	Good	11	Abundant
36	Porites lutea	Good	12	Abundant
37	Porites lutea	Good	13	Abundant
38	Psammocora profundacella	Good	8	Abundant
39	Dipsastraea veroni	Good	8	Common
40	Pavonna descussata	Good	5	Abundant
41	Porites lutea	Good	11	Abundant
42	Cyphastrea serailia	Good	15	Common
43	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	12	Abundant
44	Duncanopsammia peltata	Good	9	Common





Coral #	Coral species	Health Condition	Size (Diameter)	Abundance in Hong Kong
45	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	34	Abundant
46	Dipsastraea speciosa	Good	18	Abundant
47	Dipsastraea rotumana	Good	14	Abundant
48	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	6	Abundant
49	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	13	Abundant
50	Leptastrea purpurea	Fair	7	Abundant
51	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	9	Abundant
52	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	8	Abundant
53	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	9	Abundant
54	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	15	Abundant
55	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	45	Abundant
56	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	16	Abundant
57	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	8	Abundant
58	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	8	Abundant
59	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	26	Abundant
60	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	19	Abundant
61	Leptastrea purpurea	Good	18	Abundant

2.2.3 Among the 61 mapped coral colonies, 2 were recorded inside the temporary pier, 14 were recorded on the existing pier and 45 were recorded at the proposed pier extension. Except coral number 18 and 50, other recorded translocatable coral colonies showed good in health condition

#### **Detailed Coral Survey at Potential Recipient Sites**

#### Spot Check Dive

2.2.4 The spot-check dive was carried out on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> October 2022 and the weather conditions were summarized in **Table 2.6**.

Table 2.6 - Weather Condition for the Spot-Check Dive on 8th and 9th October 2022

Date	Condition	Average Underwater Visibility
8 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	Northeast force 4 to 5, Sunny	1-2 m
9th October 2022	East force 4 to 5, Sunny	1-2 m





2.2.5 Spot check dive was carried out at the suggested recipient sites A Ma Wan and A Ye Wan (**Figure 3**). The GPS coordinates, route distance, maximum depth, bottom substrate and bottom visibility each surveyed sites were summarized in **Table 2.7**.

Table 2.7 - GPS Coordinates, Route Distance, Maximum Depth, Minimum Depth, Bottom Substrate and Bottom Visibility of Spot-Check Dive Site A Ma Wan and A Ye Wan

Site	Location (GPS) (Starting Point)	Route Distance (m)	Min. Depth (m)	Max. Depth (m)	Bottom Substrate	Visibility (m)
A Ma Wan	E 114°26'17.42" N 22°32'34.44"	200	1.5	2.5	Natural Bedrock and Sand	1.5-2.5
A Ye Wan	E 114°25'52.82" N 22°32'55.17"	200	1.5	2.5	Natural Bedrock and Sand	1.5-2.5

A Ma Wan

- 2.2.6 The spot check site was mainly composed of natural bedrock and sand. Substrates beyond the maximum depth are all sandy with scattered boulders and rocks with visibility around 1.5 m to 2.5 m. Sponges, bryozoans, *Diadema* sea urchin and tubeworms *Sabelastarte japonica* were the dominant animal species in the surveyed site in which they are commonly found in Hong Kong waters.
- 2.2.7 A total of 32 (**Table 2.8**) coral species were recorded along the suggested recipient site during the spot check survey. Most of the recorded coral species are common in Hong Kong. REA transect was laid along the coral area.

Table 2.8 - Coral species and their Abundance in Hong Kong in A Ma Wan

Coral Species	Abundance in Hong Kong
Acropora digitifera	Uncommon
Acropora tumida	Uncommon
Coelastrea aspera	Common
Cyphastrea chalcidicum	Uncommon
Cyphastrea japonica	Abundant
Cyphastrea serailia	Common
Dipsastraea helianthoides	Uncommon
Dipsastraea lizardensis	Common
Dipsastraea matthaii	Uncommon
Dipsastraea rotumana	Abundant
Dipsastraea speciosa	Abundant
Dipsastraea veroni	Common
Duncanopsammia peltata	Common





Coral Species	Abundance in Hong Kong
Echinophyllia aspera	Common
Favites abdita	Dominant
Favites chinensis	Dominant
Favites flexuosa	Uncommon
Favites pentagona	Dominant
Goniopora columna	Abundant
Hydnophora exesa	Abundant
Oulastrea crispata	Abundant
Leptastrea purpurea	Abundant
Montipora peliformis	Common
Pavonna descussata	Abundant
Platygyra acuta	Dominant
Platygyra carnosa	Dominant
Platygyra verweyi	Uncommon
Platygyra yaeyamaensis	Uncommon
Plesiastrea versipora	Abundant
Porites areanetai	Uncommon
Porites lutea	Abundant
Psammocora profundacella	Abundant

#### A Ye Wan

- 2.2.8 The spot check site was mainly composed of natural bedrock and sand. Substrates beyond the maximum depth are all sandy with scattered boulders and rocks with visibility around 1.5 m to 2.5 m. Sponges, bryozoans, *Diadema* sea urchin and tubeworms *Sabelastarte japonica* were the dominant animal species in the surveyed site in which they are commonly found in Hong Kong waters.
- 2.2.9 A total of 24 (**Table 2.9**) coral species were recorded along the suggested alternate recipient site during the spot check survey. Most of the recorded coral species are common in Hong Kong. REA transect was laid along the coral area.

Table 2.9 - Coral species and their Abundance in Hong Kong in A Ye Wan

Coral Species	Abundance in Hong Kong
Acropora digitifera	Uncommon
Cyphastrea japonica	Abundant
Cyphastrea serailia	Common
Dipsastraea danae	Uncommon





Coral Species	Abundance in Hong Kong
Dipsastraea favus	Abundant
Dipsastraea lizardensis	Common
Dipsastraea rotumana	Abundant
Dipsastraea speciosa	Abundant
Duncanopsammia peltata	Common
Echinophyllia aspera	Common
Favites chinensis	Dominant
Favites flexuosa	Uncommon
Goniopora columna	Abundant
Goniopora lobata	Common
Hydnophora exesa	Abundant
Lithophyllon undulatum	Common
Montipora peliformis	Common
Pavona decussata	Abundant
Platygyra acuta	Dominant
Platygyra carnosa	Dominant
Platygyra yaeyamaensis	Uncommon
Porites lobata	Common
Porites lutea	Abundant
Psammocora profundacella	Abundant

#### **Rapid Ecological Assessment Survey**

2.2.10 The REA survey was performed on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> October 2022 right after the spot check survey. One 100 m transects were laid parallel to the coastline along spot check site of A Ma Wan and A Ye Wan (**Figure 4**). The GPS coordinates, maximum depth, bottom substrate and bottom visibility were shown in **Table 2.10**.

Table 2.10 - GPS of Transect Starting and Ending, Maximum Depth, Bottom Substrate and Bottom Visibility of the Two REA Transects

Transect	Location (GPS) (Starting Point)	Location (GPS) (End Point)	Max. Depth (m)	Bottom Substrate	Visibility (m)
A Ma Wan	E 114°26'21.11" N 22°32'33.67"	E 114°26'24.32" N 22°32'32.40"	3	Natural Bedrock and Sand	1.5
A Ye Wan	E 114°25'53.11" N 22°32'52.11"	E 114°25'53.16" N 22°32'48.89"	2.5	Natural Bedrock and Sand	1.5





A Ma Wan

- 2.2.11 A 100 m transect was laid down along the coastline which covered part of spot check site A Ma Wan (Figure 4). The average depth for the transect was about 3 m and visibility around 1.5 m
- 2.2.12 The substrate along the transect line is mainly composed of natural bedrocks (**Table 2.12**). Common marine life such as common sponges, bryozoans, rock oyster *Saccostrea cucullata*, common green mussel *Perna viridis*, *Diadema* sea urchin and tubeworm *Sabelastarte japonica* were found on survey area.

Table 2.11 - Ecological Attributes on AMW REA Transect

Ecological Attributes	Rank
Hard Coral	4
Dead Coral	0
Octocoral (Soft corals and gorgonians)	0
Black Coral	0
Anemone Beds	0
Dead Standing Corals	0
Other Benthos (sponges, zoanthids, ascidinas and bryozoans)	0.5
Macro-algae	0

<sup>\*</sup> Rank of percentage cover: 0 = None recorded; 0.5 = 1-5%; 1 = 6-10%; 2 = 11-30 %; 3 = 31-50%; 4= 51-75 %; 5 = 76-100%.

Table 2.12 - Substratum Attributes on AMW REA Transect

Hard Substrata	Rank
Bedrock/continuous pavement	3
Boulder Blocks (diam.>50cm)	2
Boulder Blocks (diam.<50cm)	1
Rubble	0
Other	0

Soft Substrata	Rank
Sand	1
Mud/Silt	0
Mud	0

<sup>\*</sup> Rank of percentage cover: 0 = None recorded; 0.5 = 1-5%; 1 = 6-10%; 2 = 11-30 %; 3 = 31-50%; 4= 51-75 %; 5 = 76-100%.





Table 2.13 - Ranks of Taxon Abundance along the AMW REA Transect

Benthic Taxa	Rank
Acropora digitifera	2
Acropora tumida	2
Coelastrea aspera	3
Cyphastrea japonica	3
Cyphastrea serailia	3
Dipsastraea rotumana	3
Dipsastraea speciosa	3
Dipsastraea veroni	3
Duncanopsammia peltata	2
Echinophyllia aspera	2
Favites abdita	3
Favites chinensis	3
Favites pentagona	2
Goniopora columna	3
Hydnophora exesa	2
Leptastrea purpurea	3
Montipora peliformis	2
Oulastrea crispata	4
Pavonna descussata	3
Platygyra acuta	4
Platygyra carnosa	4
Platygyra verweyi	2
Plesiastrea versipora	2
Porites lutea	4
Psammocora profundacella	3
Sponges	3
Bryozoan	3
Saccostrea cucullata	3
Perna viridis	3
Common Black Sea Cucumber	2

<sup>\*</sup> Rank of Abundance: 0 = Absent; 1 = Rare; 2 = Uncommon; 3 = Common; 4= Abundant; 5 = Dominant.





2.2.13 This site supported high percentage (51-75%) of hard coral. A total of 24 coral species (**Table 2.13**) were recorded during the REA survey. They were of medium to large size (about 15 to 100 cm in diameter) and in high coverage. All the coral colonies were in good condition.

A Ye Wan

- 2.2.14 A 100 m transect was laid down along the coastline which covered part of spot check site A Ye Wan (**Figure 4**). The average depth for the transect was about 2.5 m and visibility around 1.5 m
- 2.2.15 The substrate along the transect line is mainly composed of natural bedrocks (**Table 2.15**). Common marine life such as common sponges, bryozoans, rock oyster *Saccostrea cucullata*, common green mussel *Perna viridis*, *Diadema* sea urchin and tubeworm *Sabelastarte japonica* were found on survey area.

Table 2.14 - Ecological Attributes on AYW REA Transect

Ecological Attributes	Rank
Hard Coral	3
Dead Coral	0
Octocoral (Soft corals and gorgonians)	0
Black Coral	0
Anemone Beds	0
Dead Standing Corals	0
Other Benthos (sponges, zoanthids, ascidinas and bryozoans)	0.5
Macro-algae	0

<sup>\*</sup> Rank of percentage cover: 0 = None recorded; 0.5 = 1-5%; 1 = 6-10%; 2 = 11-30 %; 3 = 31-50%; 4= 51-75 %; 5 = 76-100%

Table 2.15 - Substratum Attributes on AYW REA Transect

Hard Substrata	Rank
Bedrock/continuous pavement	0
Boulder Blocks (diam.>50cm)	5
Boulder Blocks (diam.<50cm)	1
Rubble	0
Other	0

Soft Substrata	Rank
Sand	0





Hard Substrata	Rank
Mud/Silt	0
Mud	0

<sup>\*</sup> Rank of percentage cover: 0 = None recorded; 0.5 = 1-5%; 1 = 6-10%; 2 = 11-30 %; 3 = 31-50%; 4= 51-75 %; 5 = 76-100%.

Table 2.16 - Ranks of Taxon Abundance along the AYW REA Transect

Benthic Taxa	Rank
Acropora digitifera	2
Cyphastrea japonica	3
Cyphastrea serailia	3
Dipsastraea danae	2
Dipsastraea favus	2
Dipsastraea rotumana	3
Dipsastraea speciosa	3
Duncanopsammia peltata	2
Echinophyllia aspera	2
Favites chinensis	3
Favites flexuosa	2
Goniopora columna	2
Goniopora lobata	2
Montipora peliformis	3
Pavona decussata	3
Platygyra acuta	4
Platygyra carnosa	4
Platygyra yaeyamaensis	2
Porites lobata	2
Porites lutea	3
Psammocora profundacella	3
Sponges	3
Bryozoan	3
Saccostrea cucullata	3
Perna viridis	3
Common Black Sea Cucumber	2
	The state of the s

<sup>\*</sup> Rank of Abundance: 0 = Absent; 1 = Rare; 2 = Uncommon; 3 = Common; 4= Abundant; 5 = Dominant.





2.2.16 This site supported medium percentage (31 to 50%) of hard coral. A total of 21 coral species (**Table 2.16**) were recorded during the REA survey. They were of medium to large size (about 15 to 100 cm in diameter) and in high coverage. All the coral colonies were in good condition.

#### 2.3 Conclusion

- 2.3.1 The pre-translocation surveys were conducted in October 2022. A total of 61 coral colonies were recorded inside the proposed pier extension and temporary pier.
- 2.3.2 The size of the recorded 61 coral colonies were ranging from 3 cm to 45 cm in diameter with 16 species and most of them were in good health condition. According to the translocation requirement for (2.1.5), only 36 coral colonies (size more than 9 cm) are suitable for translocation.
- 2.3.3 The suggested recipient is one of the Reef Check sites (A Ma Wan Reef Check Site) in Hong Kong with higher percentage of coral coverage (>50%). A total of 24 coral species were recorded during the REA survey. Also another Reef Check Site A Ye Wan showed medium percentage of coral coverage (31 50%) with 21 coral species recorded. All the 16 coral species recorded inside the proposed pier extension and temporary pier were also recorded in these two suggested recipient sites (AMW and AYW).
- 2.3.4 As AMW has a higher species diversity and higher coral coverage, it is concluded that AMW will be a suitable site to adopt the 36 coral colonies recorded at the proposed pier extension and temporary pier as well as the existing pier. AYW will be the alternative recipient site for coral translocation.
- 2.3.5 The proposed schedule for coral translocation work will be in October to November 2023, following 4 times quarterly post-translocation monitoring till October 2024.





#### 3. Coral Translocation

#### 3.1 Coral Translocation Procedures

- 3.1.1 Translocation of all identified translocatable coral colonies in the direct impact site will be needed in order to minimize the impact to existing coral communities. All coral colonies recorded inside the proposed pier extension and temporary pier will be translocated.
- 3.1.2 The translocatable coral colonies identified during the Pre-translocation Survey will be translocated before any construction works.
- 3.1.3 During the coral translocation, divers will carefully remove coral colonies from the existing pier by using hammer and chisel. Each coral colonies will be marked, and photographs of each colony will be taken and additional information for each of the coral colonies will also be collected (water depth, orientation and size).
- 3.1.4 The coral colony will be moved and lifted from the sea bottom and loaded to ship/boat with lifting bag immediately.
- 3.1.5 The translocated coral colonies transferred onto the vessel will be submerged in seawater tanks (e.g. 80 cm x 100 cm x 40 cm in dimension and 32 liters in volume each) with continuous aeration onboard. Each seawater tank will hold no more than 4 coral colonies to avoid overcrowding.
- 3.1.6 Ambient water quality parameters of sea surface temperature and dissolved oxygen will be measured once (with at least triplicate sampling) at the coral donor site on the day of coral translocation.
- 3.1.7 Corals will be transported to the suitable recipient site as soon as possible following the removal. The vessel will progress at a slow and steady speed (<5 knots) to the recipient site.
- 3.1.8 When arriving at the suggested coral recipient site, scuba divers, with the supervision of the marine ecologist, will carefully place the coral colonies one by one to the seabed in order to minimize disturbance to the seabed and/or sediment. The coral colonies will then be attached to suitable boulders by using underwater epoxy and positioned to similar water depths with orientations as their previous location at the donor site as much as possible.
- 3.1.9 Divers will tag translocated colonies at the recipient site by using plastic tags with colony number (~3.5 cm diameter), which will be glued onto boulders by just adjacent to the coral colonies. All tags will be anchored in the vicinity of the coral colonies but not so near as to interfere with potential growth. This would allow the revisit of the coral colonies during the post-translocation monitoring. Ten natural coral colonies with the same species of the translocated coral colonies at the recipient site will also be tagged for post-monitoring and their size, health conditions (percentage of mortality and bleaching), the percentage of sediment cover will be monitored.
- 3.1.10 Divers will keep records of size, location, health conditions (percentage of mortality and bleaching), the percentage of sediment cover of each translocated coral colony





after the completion of translocation works. Photographs of each translocated coral upon completion of translocation will be taken and used as a baseline for future monitoring.

## 3.2 Post-translocation Monitoring

- 3.2.1 In order to monitoring the health of all translocated coral colonies, post-translocation monitor will be conducted right after the all translocation work has been done. All or minimum of twenty translocated colonies will be monitored during the monitoring period.
- 3.2.2 The post-translocation monitoring will be proposed to Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for agreement. Following coral translocation in the recipient site, the translocated coral colonies as well as the tagged natural coral colonies at the recipient site will be monitored quarterly for one year (i.e. a total of four post-translocation monitoring as suggested in previous translocation plan, e.g. Shek Kwu Chau Coral Translocation Plan). Monitoring will record the following parameters; the size, presence, survival, health conditions (percentage of mortality/bleaching) and percentage of sediment of each translocated coral colony and each tagged natural colony. The general environmental conditions including weather, sea, and tidal conditions of the coral recipient site will also be monitored.
- 3.2.3 Photographic records of the translocated and natural coral colonies will be taken as far as possible maintaining the same aspect and orientation as photographs taken for the pre-translocation surveys. All the tags for marking the translocated and natural coral colonies will be removed / retrieved once the monitoring programme is completed.
- 3.2.4 The results of the post-translocation monitoring surveys should be reviewed with reference to findings of the baseline survey and the data from original colonies at the recipient site.
- 3.2.5 If observations of any die-off / abnormal conditions of the translocated corals are made during the post-translocation monitoring, the Environmental Team (ET) should inform the Contractor, Independent Environmental Checker (IEC), EPD and AFCD, and liaise with AFCD to investigate any mitigation measures needed.
- 3.2.6 Post-translocation monitoring results will be evaluated against Action and Limit Levels. Evaluation will be based on recorded changes in percentage of partial mortality of the corals. Action and Limit Levels are defined in **Table 3.1**.





Table 3.1 - Action and Limit Levels for Post-Translocation Coral Monitoring

Parameter	Action Level Definition	Limit Level Definition
Mortality	If during Impact Monitoring a 15% increase in the percentage of partial mortality on the corals occurs at more than 20% of the translocated coral colonies that are not recorded on the original corals at the receptor site, then the Action Level is exceeded.	If during Impact Monitoring a 25% increase in the percentage of partial mortality on the corals occurs at more than 20% of the translocated coral colonies that are not recorded on the original corals at the receptor site, then the Limit Level is exceeded.

<sup>\*</sup>If the defined Action Level or Limit Level for coral monitoring as listed in **Table3.1** is exceeded, the actions as set out in **Appendix A** will be implemented.

## 3.3 Reporting

- 3.3.1 Findings from Post-Translocation Monitoring will be presented in the Monitoring Results Section under monthly EM&A Report of the respective reporting month and submitted to EPD and AFCD after completion of each Post-Translocation Monitoring. The results of the post-translocation monitoring surveys should be reviewed with reference to the pre-translocation survey results and findings.
- 3.3.2 In addition to reporting the findings of the post-translocation monitoring, the performance/ result of the actual coral translocation work should be reported in the corresponding EM&A Report as well.





#### 4. Reference

Brian Morton and John Morton. 1983. The Sea Shore Ecology of Hong Kong. Hong Kong University Press.

Binnie Consultants Limited. 1995. Marine Ecology of Hong Kong: Report on Underwater Dive Surveys. Volume I. Civil Engineering Department Geotechnical Engineering Office

Katharina Fabricius and Philip Alderslade 2001. Soft Corals and Sea Fans: A comprehensive guide to the tropical shallow-water genera of the Central-West Pacific, the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea. AIMS.

Chan A.L.K., Choi, C.L.S., McCorry D., Chan K.K., Lee, M.W., and Put, A. Jr. 2005. Field Guide to Hard Corals of Hong Kong. AFCD.





# **Figures**





Figure 1 Layout of the Project Area

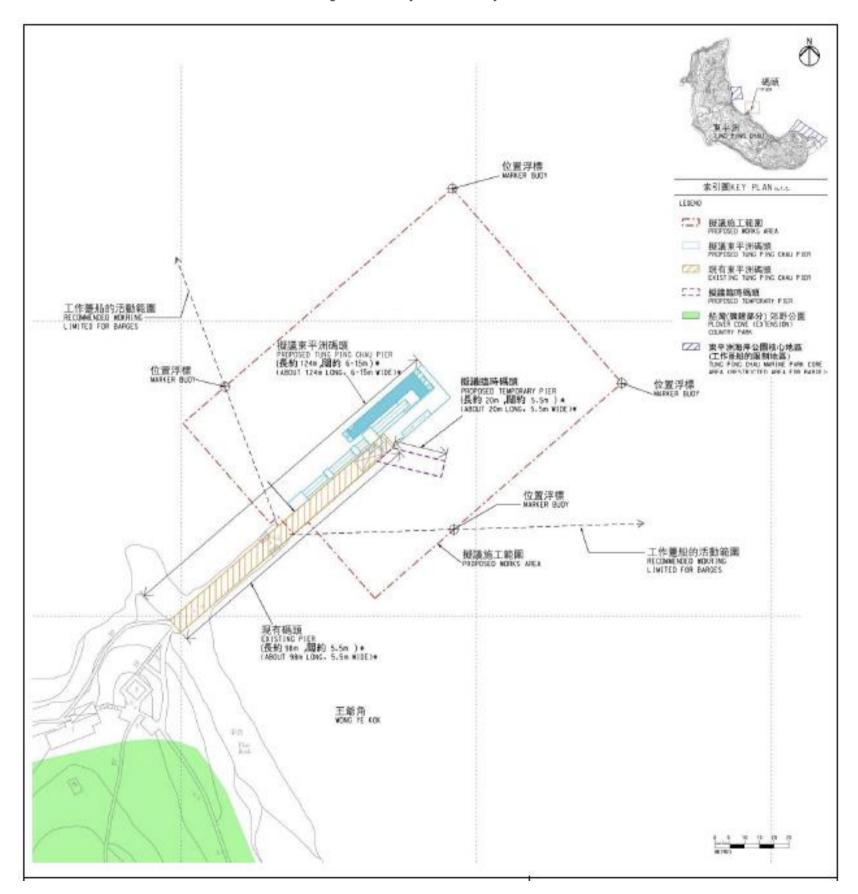
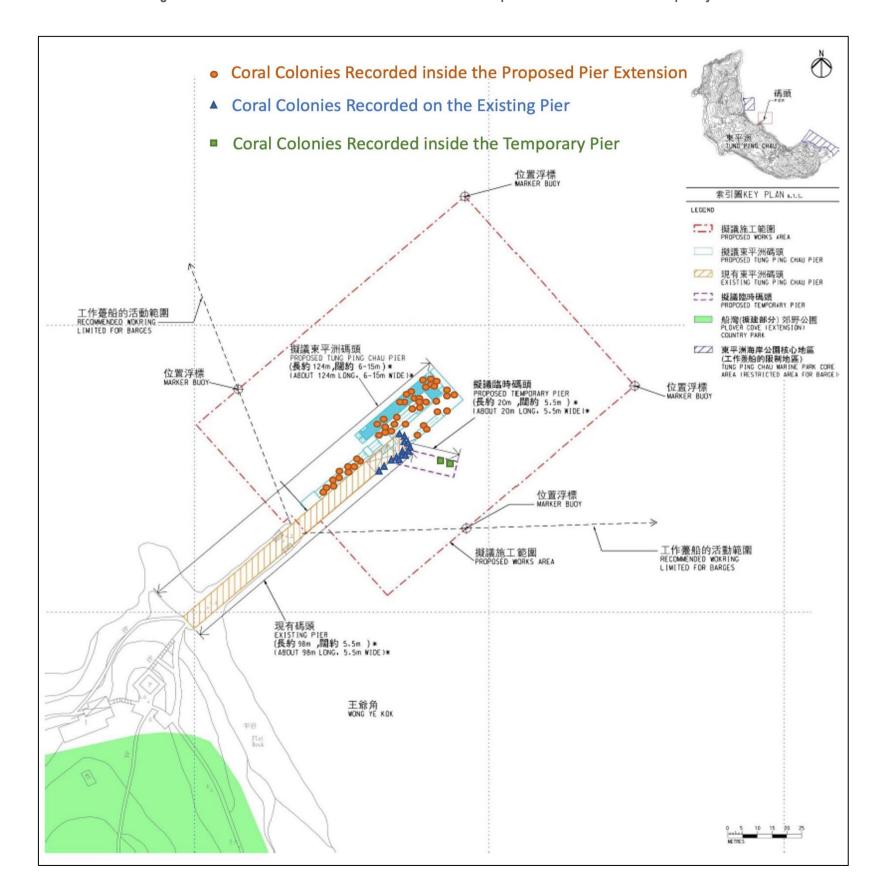






Figure 2 Locations of Coral Colonies Recorded inside the Proposed Pier extension and Temporary Pier







**Figure 3 Suggested Recipient Sites** 

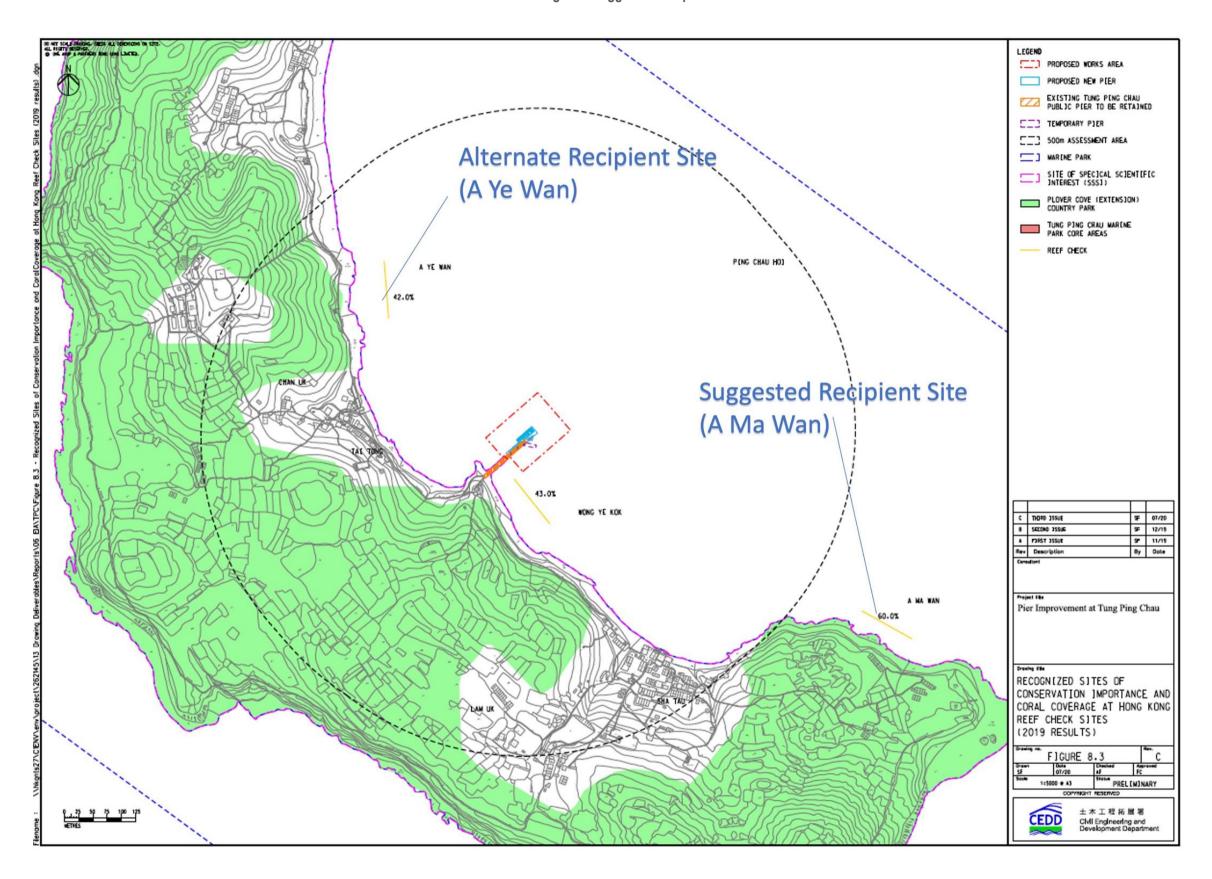






Figure 4 Location of Spot Check and REA Survey







## **Photo Plates**



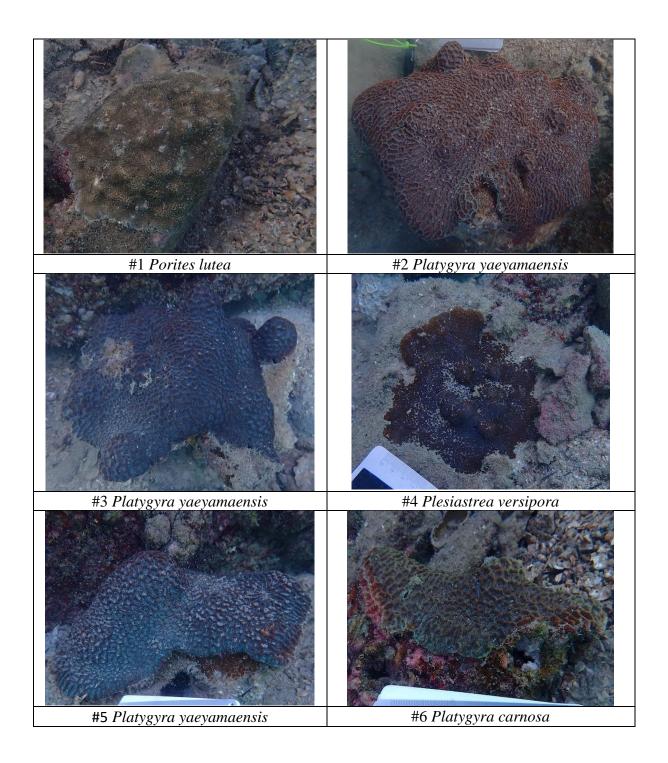


## Photo Plate A

# Coral Colonies Recorded inside the Proposed Pier Extension

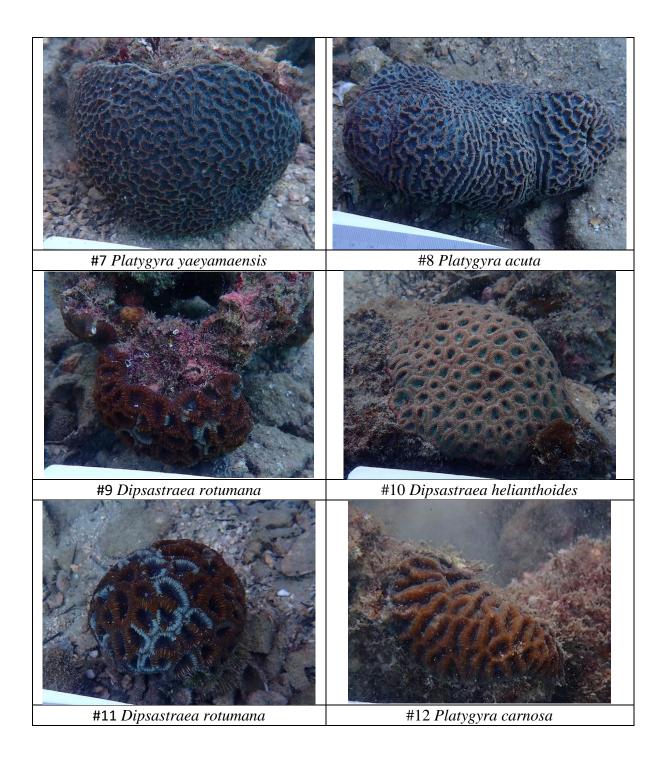






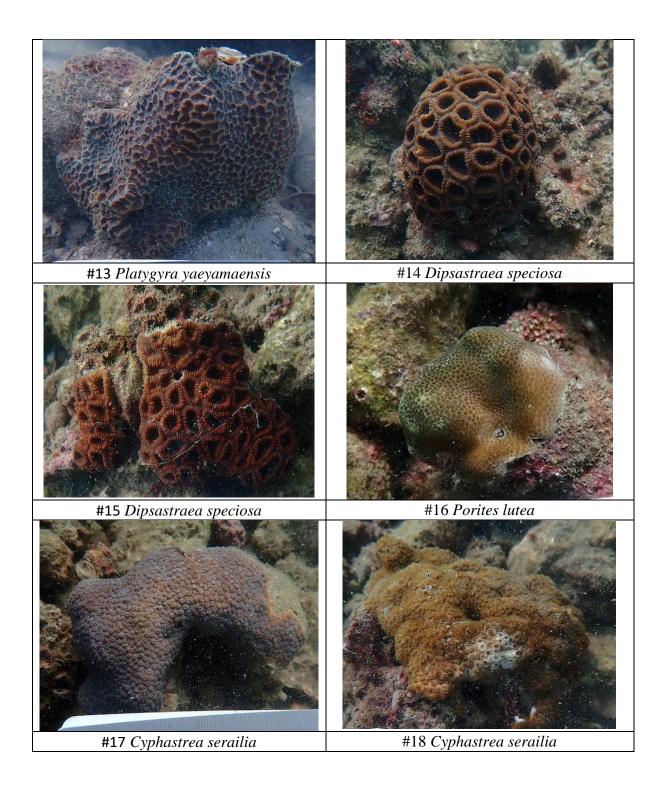






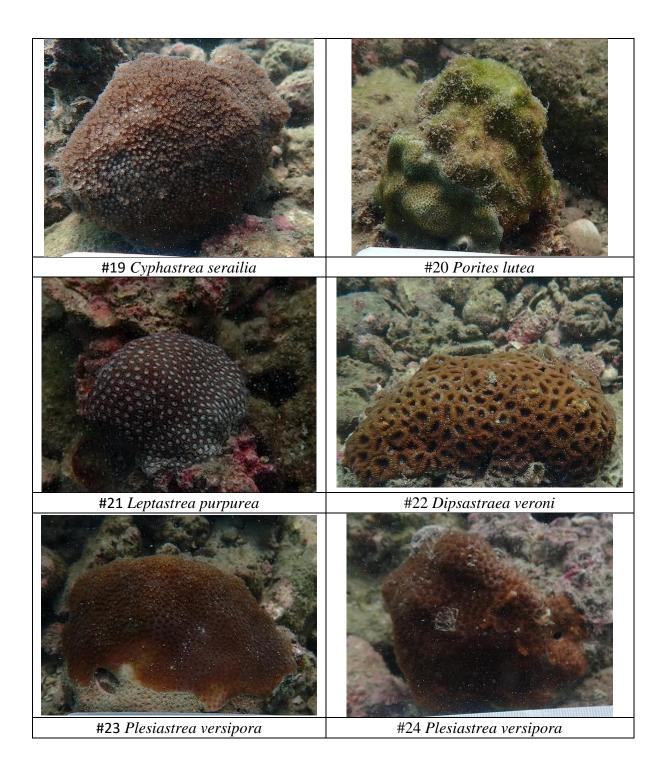






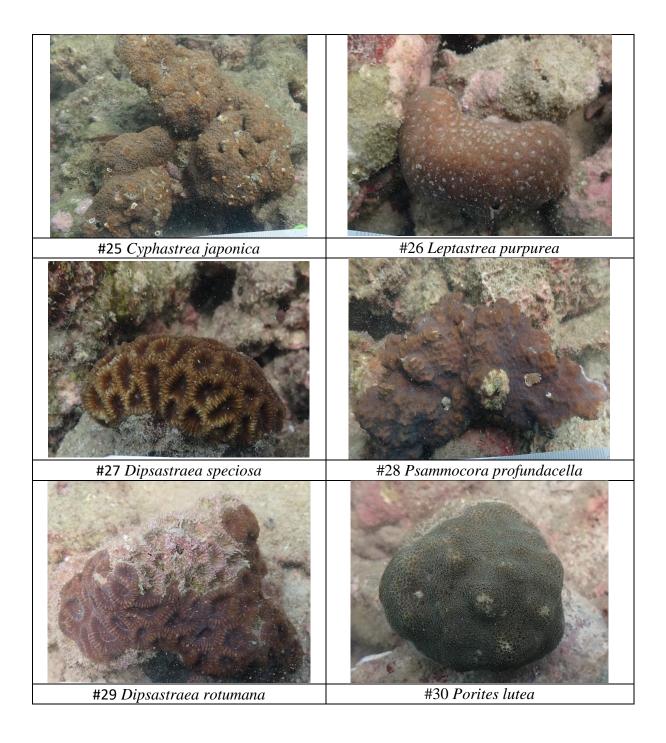






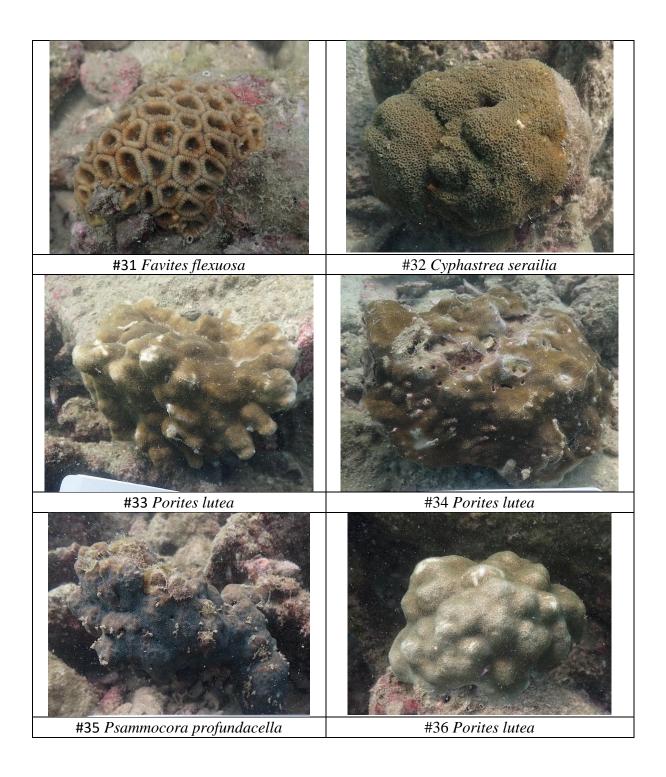






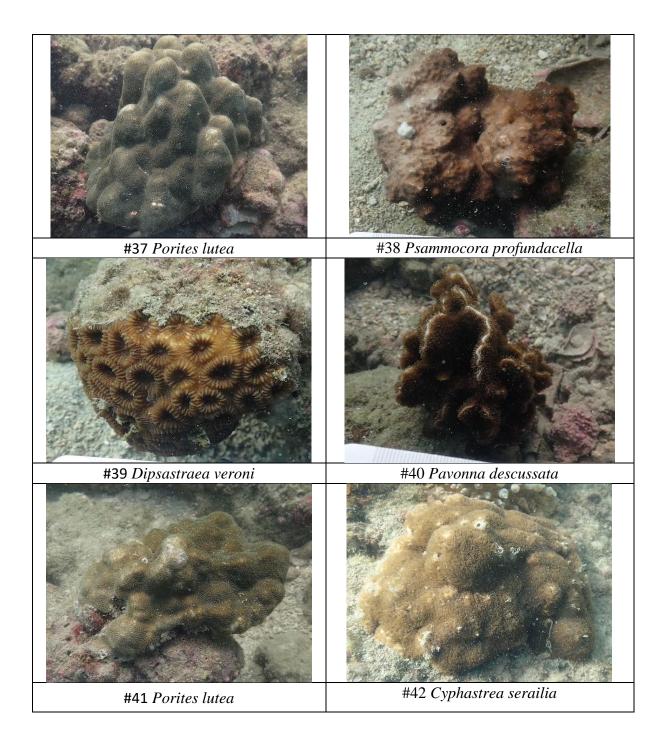






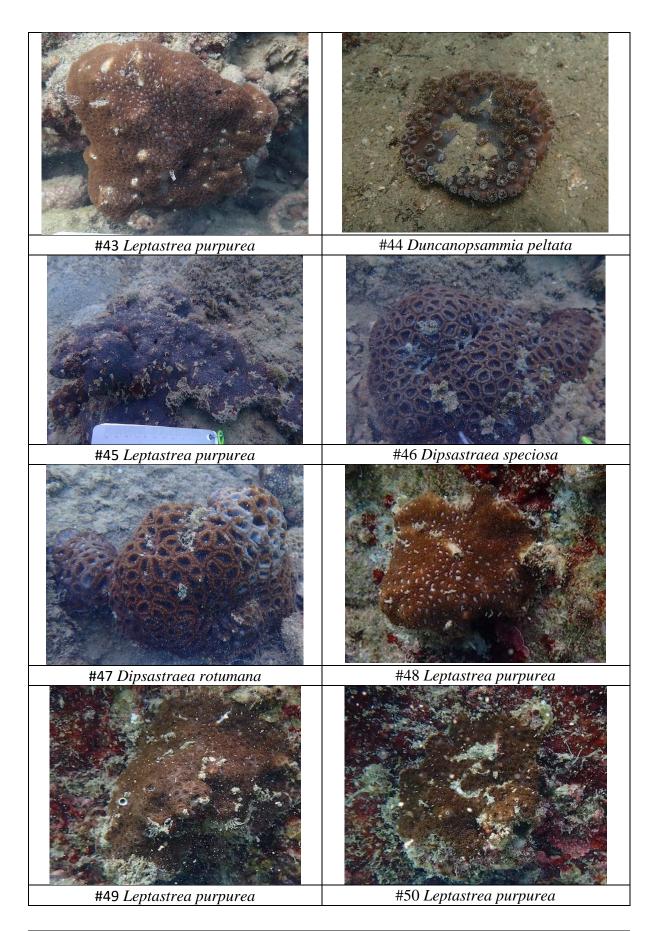






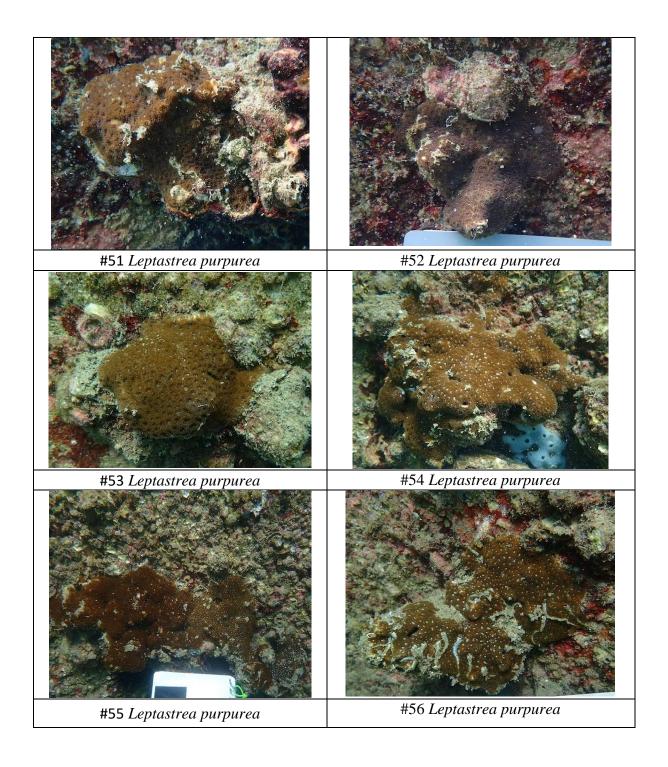






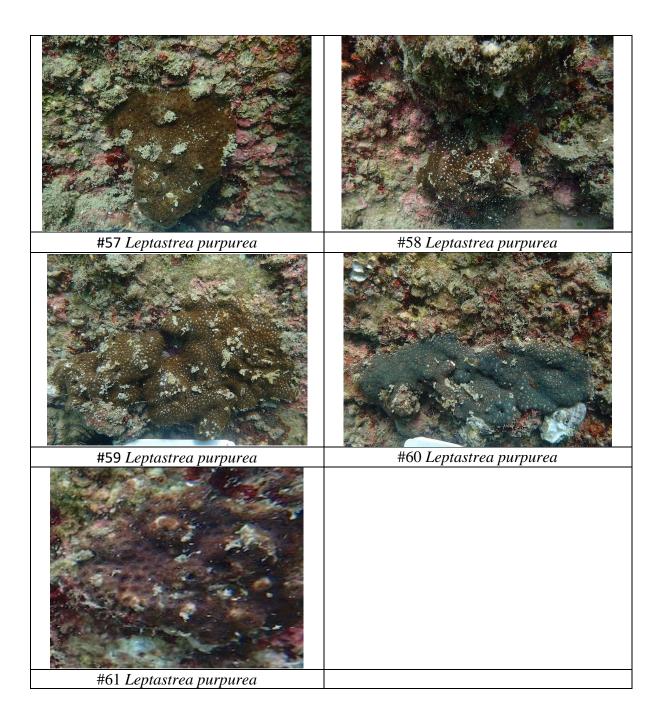














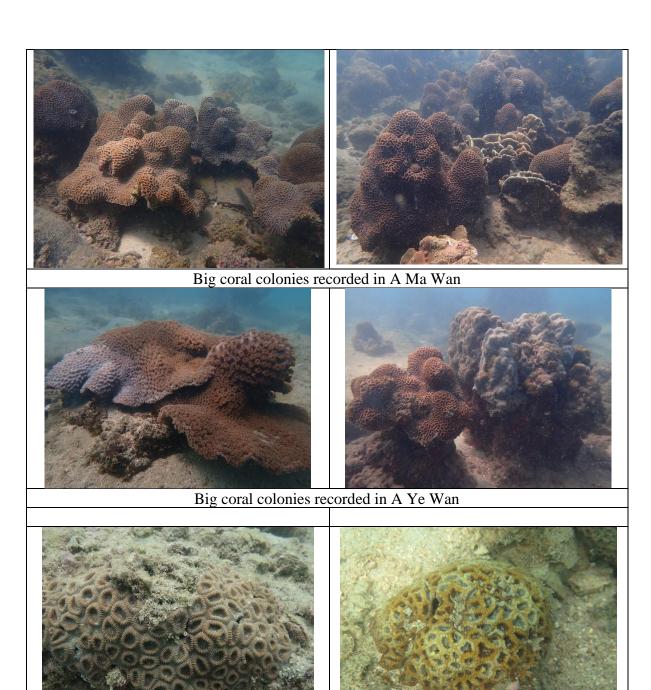


## Photo Plate B

# Photos of the Suggested Recipient Sites





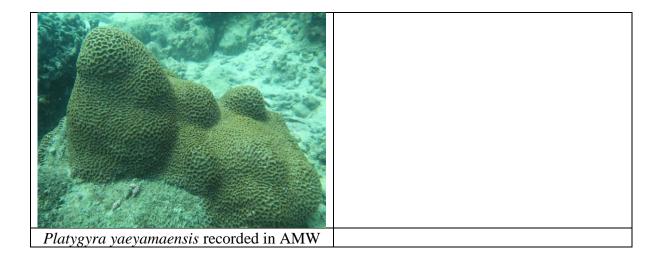


Dipsastraea helianthoides recorded in AMW

Favites flexuosa recorded in AMW











## Appendix A

## Event and Action Plan for Post-Translocation Monitoring





#### Appendix A Event and Action Plan for Post-Translocation Monitoring

	Action					
Event	ET Leader	IEC	Resident Engineer (RE)	Contractor		
Action Level Exceedance	<ol> <li>Check monitoring data</li> <li>Inform the IEC, RE, and Contractor of the findings;</li> <li>Increase the monitoring to at least once a month to confirm findings;</li> <li>Propose mitigation measures for consideration</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Discuss         monitoring with         the ET and the         Contractor;</li> <li>Review proposals         for additional         monitoring and         any other         measures         submitted by the         Contractor and         advise the RE         accordingly.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Discuss with the IEC additional monitoring requirements and any other measures proposed by the ET;</li> <li>Make the agreement on the measures to be implemented.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Inform the RE and confirm notification of the non-compliance in writing;</li> <li>Discuss with the ET and the IEC and propose measures to the IEC and the RE;</li> <li>Implement the agreed measures.</li> </ol>		
Limit Level Exceedance	1. Undertake Steps 1-4 as in the Action Level Exceedance. If further exceedance of Limit Level, propose enhancement measures for consideration.	1. Discuss monitoring with the ET and the Contractor;  2. Review proposals for additional monitoring and any other measures submitted by the Contractor and advise the RE accordingly.	Discuss with the IEC additional monitoring requirements and any other measures proposed by the ET;      Make the agreement on the measures to be implemented.	<ol> <li>Inform the RE and confirm notification of the non-compliance in writing;</li> <li>Discuss with the ET and the IEC and propose measures to the IEC and the RE;</li> <li>Implement the agreed measures.</li> </ol>		



Sean WONG 阿特金斯顧問有限公司 Atkins China Limited 13/F Wharf T&T Centre Harbour City Tsim Sha Tsui Kowloon Hong Kong

Tel: +852 2972 1000 Fax: +852 2890 6343

Sean.Wong@atkinsglobal.com

© 阿特金斯顧問有限公司 Atkins China Limited except where stated otherwise



Our ref 5207869/18.30/OC341/WL/DL/SW/JC/fl

Title Submission of Coral Translocation Plan for Tung Ping Chau Public Pier

(Rev.1)

Date 21 March 2023

#### **Attachment 2**

\_

### **ET Certification and IEC Verification Letters**



Your ref.

Our ref

5207869/18.30/OC340/WL/DL/SW/AL/fl

阿特金斯 ATKINS

Facsimile

香港九龍尖沙咀海港城

Telephone (852) 2972 1000

www.atkinsglobal.com

(852) 2890 6343

九倉電訊中心十三樓 13/F Wharf T&T Centre Harbour City Tsim Sha Tsui Kowloon Hong Kong

Date

21 March 2023

#### By Post and By Email

Civil Engineering and Development Department Civil Engineering Office Pier Improvement Unit **Projects Section 3** 4/F, Civil Engineering and Development Building 101 Princess Margaret Road Homantin, Kowloon

Attn: Mr. LEE Man Chow, Francis

**Project Team Leader** 

Dear Sir,

Agreement No. CE 32/2021 (CE) Improvement Works at Lai Chi Wo Pier and Tung Ping Chau Public Pier - Design and Construction Certification of Coral Translocation Plan for Tung Ping Chau Public Pier (Rev. 1)

Pursuant to Condition 2.13 of the Environmental Permit No. EP-587/2021, I hereby certify the Coral Translocation Plan (Rev. 1) for the pier improvement works at Tung Ping Chau Public Pier.

Should you have any queries regarding the above, please feel free to contact us by telephone number 2972 1173.

Yours faithfully, For and on behalf of **Atkins China Ltd** 

**Grace YANG** 

**Environmental Team Leader** 

EPD - Ms. FUNG Hoi Ying, Ada (Env Protection Offr (Strategic Assessment) 62) CC Wilson Acoustic limited - Mr. Morgan Cheng (IEC)



Unit 601, Block A, Shatin Industrial Centre, 5 - 7 Yuen Shun Circuit, Shatin, NT Tel: (852) 3188-1170, Fax: (852) 3422-8117 E-mail: who@wal.hk

Web: www.wal.hk

Our Ref: 21411-61

By Email

21 March 2023

Civil Engineering and Development Department Civil Engineering and Development Building, 101 Princess Margaret Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Attention: Mr. LEE Man-chow

Subject: Agreement No. PI 2/2021 Independent Environmental Checker Services for

Improvement Works at Lai Chi Wo Pier and Improvement Works at Tung

**Ping Chau Public Pier** 

**Verification of TPC Coral Translocation Plan (Rev 1)** 

Dear Mr Lee,

We refer to the email on 21 March 2023 from Atkins China Limited about Coral Translocation Plan at Tung Ping Chau Public Pier.

We have no comment and hereby verify Environmental Permit (EP) Submission Schedule as required under Condition 2.13 of the Environmental Permit (EP-587/2021).

Should you have any queries, please feel free to contact us by telephone number 2637-0623 or fax 3422-8117.

Yours sincerely

Morgan Cheng

Independent Environmental Checker, Wilson Acoustics Limited

MC

Encl.

c.c. Civil Engineering and Development Department (Attn.: Mr. YUNG Chung Bun, Thomas)

Environmental Protection Department (Attn.: Ms. FUNG Hoi Ying, Ada)

Atkins China Limited (Attn.: Mr. Sean Wong)