

Investigation

Monthly EM&A Report for Contaminated Mud Pits to the East of Sha Chau – September 2023

October 2023

Mott MacDonald 3/F Manulife Place 348 Kwun Tong Road Kwun Tong Kowloon Hong Kong

T +852 2828 5757 mottmac.hk

Civil Engineering and Development Department Fill Management Division 5/F, Civil Engineering and Development Building 101 Princess Margaret Road Homantin, Kowloon

# Agreement No. CE 59/2020 (EP) Environmental Monitoring and Audit for Disposal Facility to the East of Sha Chau (2021-2026) – Investigation

Monthly EM&A Report for Contaminated Mud Pits to the East of Sha Chau – September 2023

October 2023





### Dredging, Management and Capping of Contaminated Sediment Disposal

### Facility at Sha Chau

#### **Environmental Certification Sheet**

### Environmental Permit No. EP-312/2008/A

#### Reference Document /Plan

Document/Plan to be Certified/ Verified:

Monthly EM&A Report for Contaminated Mud Pits to the

East of Sha Chau - September 2023

Date of Report:

9 October 2023

Date prepared by ET:

9 October 2023

Date received by IA:

9 October 2023

#### Reference EP Condition

Environmental Permit Condition:

Condition 3.4 of EP-312/2008/A:

4 hard copies and 1 electronic copy of monthly EM&A Report shall be submitted to the Director within 10 working days after the end of the reporting month. The EM&A Reports shall include a summary of all non-compliance (exceedances) of the environmental quality performance limits (Action and Limit Levels). The submissions shall be verified by the Independent Auditor. Additional copies of the submission shall be provided to the Director upon request by the Director.

#### **ET Certification**

I hereby certify that the above referenced document/plan complies with the above referenced condition of EP-312/2008/A.

Ir Thomas Chan,

Environmental Team Leader (ETL): ,

Date: 9 October 2023

#### **IA Verification**

I hereby verify that the above referenced document/plan complies with the above referenced condition of EP-312/2008/A.

Them Clan

Dr Wang Wen Xiong,

Independent Auditor (IA)

Date: 9 October 2023

#### i

### **Issue and Revision Record**

Revision	Date	Originator	Checker	Approver	Description
A	Oct 2023	Various	Liz Lo	Thomas Chan	Revision A of Submission

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### 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Background

The Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) is managing a number of marine disposal facilities in Hong Kong waters, including the Contaminated Mud Pits (CMPs) to the East of Sha Chau (ESC) for the disposal of contaminated sediment, and various open-sea disposal grounds located to the South of Cheung Chau (SCC), East of Tung Lung Chau (ETLC) and East of Ninepins (ENP) for the disposal of uncontaminated sediment.

Environmental Permits (EPs) (Ref. No. EP-312/2008/A) was issued by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) to the CEDD, the Permit Holder, on 28 November 2008 for the Project - Disposal of Contaminated Sediment – Dredging, Management and Capping of Sediment Disposal Facility at Sha Chau.

Under the requirements of the EP, EM&A programmes which encompass water and sediment chemistry, fisheries assessment, tissue and whole body analysis, sediment toxicity and benthic recolonisation studies as set out in the EM&A Manuals are required to be implemented. EM&A programmes have been continuously carried out during the operation of the CMPs at ESC. A review of the collection and analysis of such environmental data from the monitoring programme demonstrated that there had not been any adverse environmental impacts resulting from disposal activities. The current programme will assess the impacts resulting from dredging, disposal and capping operations of CMP V.

A proposal on the change of number of sample replication of water quality and sediment monitoring as well as combination of routine water quality monitoring and water quality monitoring during capping operation was submitted to EPD and agreed by EPD on 3 December 2020. The proposed changes have been effective for the EM&A activities since December 2020. In early 2022, after implementing the Phase 1 optimisation for at least one year, a further data review was conducted. The monitoring data has been reviewed and demonstrated that the data robustness and representativeness are maintained. Therefore, a technical note presenting the data review results served as a supplementary information was submitted to EPD and presented that Phase 2 optimization of sample replication of water quality and sediment monitoring for the Project will be implemented in 2022. EPD expressed no comment on the review and note the implementation of Phase 2 optimization of sample replication on 18 May 2022, and thus this optimization has been effective for the EM&A activities since July 2022.

The latest sampling schedule is provided in **Appendix A**.

The present EM&A programme under Agreement No. CE 59/2020 (EP) covers the dredging, disposal and capping operations of the ESC CMP V (see **Appendix A** for the EM&A programme.) Detailed works schedule for ESC CMP V is shown in **Table 1.1**. In September 2023, the following works were undertaken:

- · Disposal of contaminated mud at ESC CMP Vb; and
- Capping operations at ESC CMP Vd.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ERM (2013) Final Report. Submitted under Agreement No. CE 4/2009 (EP) Environmental Monitoring and Audit for Contaminated Mud Pit at East Sha Chau. For CEDD.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ERM (2017) Final Report. Submitted under Agreement No. CE 23/2012 (EP) Environmental Monitoring and Audit for Contaminated Mud Pits to the South of The Brothers and at East Sha Chau (2012 - 2017). For CEDD.

#### Table 1.1: Works Schedule for ESC CMP V



### 1.2 Reporting Period

This Monthly EM&A Report for Contaminated Mud Pits to the East of Sha Chau – September 2023 covers the EM&A activities for the reporting period of September 2023 (from 1 to 30 September 2023).

### 1.3 Details of Sampling and Laboratory Testing Activities

The following monitoring activities were undertaken for ESC CMP V during the reporting period:

- Water Column Profiling of ESC CMP Vb;
- Routine Water Quality Monitoring of ESC CMPs;
- Pit Specific Sediment Chemistry of ESC CMP Vb;
- Sediment Chemistry after a Major Storm of ESC CMP V;

### 1.4 Details of Outstanding Sampling or Analysis

No outstanding sampling remained for the reporting month (September 2023).

# 2 Brief Discussion of Monitoring Results for ESC CMP V

#### 2.1 Introduction

This section presents a brief discussion of the results obtained from the following monitoring activities for ESC CMP V during the reporting period:

- Water Column Profiling of ESC CMP Vb;
- Routine Water Quality Monitoring of ESC CMPs;
- Pit Specific Sediment Chemistry of ESC CMP Vb; and
- Sediment Chemistry after a Major Storm of ESC CMP V.

### 2.2 Water Column Profiling of ESC CMP Vb – in September 2023

Water Column Profiling was undertaken at a total of two sampling stations (Upstream and Downstream stations) on 5 September 2023. The monitoring results have been assessed for compliance with the Water Quality Objectives (WQOs) set by Environmental Protection Department (EPD). This consists of a review of the EPD routine water quality monitoring data for the wet season period (April to October) of 2012 – 2021 from stations in the North Western Water Control Zone (WCZ), where the ESC CMPs are located. For Salinity, the averaged value obtained from the Reference (Upstream) station was used for the basis as the WQO. Levels of Dissolved Oxygen (DO) and Turbidity were also assessed for compliance with the Action and Limit Levels (see **Table B1** of **Appendix B** for details).

### 2.2.1 In-situ Measurements

Analyses of results for September 2023 indicated that levels of Salinity, pH and DO complied with the WQOs at both Downstream and Upstream stations (**Table B2** of **Appendix B**). Levels of DO and Turbidity at all stations complied with the Action and Limit Levels (**Tables B1 and B2** of **Appendix B**).

### 2.2.2 Laboratory Measurements for Suspended Solids (SS)

Analyses of results for September 2023 indicated that the SS level at both Upstream and Downstream stations complied with the WQO and the Action and Limit Levels (**Tables B1 and B2** of **Appendix B**).

Overall, the monitoring results indicated that the mud disposal operation at ESC CMP Vb did not appear to cause any deterioration in water quality during this reporting period.

#### 2.3 Routine Water Quality Monitoring of ESC CMPs – in September 2023

Routine Water Quality Monitoring of ESC CMPs was undertaken on 6 September 2023. The monitoring results have been assessed for compliance with the WQOs (see **Section 2.2** above for details). The monitoring results are shown in **Tables B3**, **B4 and B5** of **Appendix B** and **Figures 1 to 11** of **Appendix C**. A total of ten (10) monitoring stations were sampled in September 2023 as shown in **Figure 2.1**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> http://epic.epd.gov.hk/EPICRIVER/marine/?lang=en

#### 2.3.1 In-situ Measurements

Graphical presentation of the monitoring results (Temperature, DO, pH, Salinity and Turbidity) is shown in **Figures 1 to 6** of **Appendix C**. Analyses of results indicated that the levels of pH and DO complied with the WQOs at all stations in September 2023, except for higher levels of Salinity were recorded at Ma Wan station. The higher Salinities recorded at Ma Wan station are likely to be caused by the larger separation distance to Pearl River Delta mouth, which releases a large amount of freshwater runoff in the area during wet season, when compared to the Reference stations.

The levels of DO and Turbidity complied with the Action and Limit Levels at all stations (**Table B3** of **Appendix B**; **Figures 3 and 6** of **Appendix C**).

Overall, *in-situ* measurement results of the Routine Water Quality Monitoring indicated that the disposal and capping operation at ESC CMPs did not appear to cause any unacceptable impacts in water quality in September 2023.

#### 2.3.2 Laboratory Measurements

Laboratory analysis of samples obtained during the reporting period indicated that the concentrations of Arsenic, Cadmium, Chromium, Copper, Lead, Mercury, Nickel and Zinc were detected in the samples at some/ all stations and their concentrations were generally similar across stations; except the concentrations of Mercury were slightly higher at Reference (RFF) station. The concentrations of Lead were only detected at Reference (RFF) station. (Table B4 of Appendix B; Figure 7 and 8 of Appendix C).

For nutrients, concentrations of Total Inorganic Nitrogen (TIN) were higher than the WQO (0.5 mg/L) at Reference (RFF), Impact (IPF) and Intermediate (INF) stations. (**Table B5** of **Appendix B**; **Figure 9** of **Appendix C**). It should be noted that due to the effect of the Pearl River, the North Western WCZ has historically experienced higher levels of TIN.<sup>4</sup> Therefore, the exceedances of TIN WQO at these stations are unlikely to be caused by the disposal operation at ESC CMPs. The concentration of Ammonia Nitrogen (NH<sub>3</sub>-N) were generally similar across all stations. (**Table B5** of **Appendix B**; **Figure 9** of **Appendix C**). The concentrations of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD<sub>5</sub>) were below limit of reporting at all stations. (**Table B5** of **Appendix B**).

Analyses of results for the reporting period indicated that the SS levels complied with the wet season WQO (11.7 mg/L)and Action and Limit Levels at all stations. (**Tables B1 and B5** of **Appendix B**; **Figure 10** of **Appendix C**).

Based on the available results of the Routine Water Quality Monitoring which indicated that the disposal and capping operation at ESC CMPs did not appear to cause any unacceptable deterioration in water quality during the reporting period. Detailed statistical analysis will be presented in the Quarterly EM&A Report to investigate any spatial and temporal trends of potential concern.

#### 2.4 Pit Specific Sediment Chemistry of ESC CMP Vb – in September 2023

Monitoring locations for Pit Specific Sediment Chemistry for ESC CMP Vb are shown in **Figure 2.2**. A total of six (6) monitoring stations were sampled on 4 September 2023.

The concentrations of most inorganic contaminants were lower than the Lower Chemical Exceedance Levels (LCELs) at all stations, except for Arsenic. The concentrations of Arsenic were higher than the LCEL at Near-Pit station ESC-NNCA and Pit-Edge station ESC-NECA. (Figures 11 and 12 of Appendix C).

 $<sup>^4\</sup> https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/misc/marine\_quality/1986-2005/eng/08\_western\_content.htm$ 

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Whilst the average concentration of Arsenic in the Earth's crust is generally ~2mg/kg, significantly higher Arsenic concentrations (median = 14 mg/kg) have been recorded in Hong Kong's onshore sediments.<sup>5</sup> It is presumed that the natural concentrations of Arsenic are similar in onshore and offshore sediments,<sup>6</sup> and relatively high Arsenic levels may thus occur throughout Hong Kong. Therefore, the LCEL exceedances of Arsenic are unlikely to be caused by the disposal operations at ESC CMP Vb but rather as a result of naturally occurring deposits.

For organic contaminants, the concentrations of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) were higher at Active-Pit station ESC-NPCB. (**Figure 13** of **Appendix C**). The concentrations of Low Molecular Weight Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) were higher at Active-Pit station ESC-NPCB. (**Figures 14** of **Appendix C**).

For High Molecular Weight Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs), the concentrations were higher than LCEL at Active-Pit station ESC-NPCB. (**Figures 14** of **Appendix C**). The concentrations of Tributyltin (TBT) was higher at Active Pit station ESC-NPCB (**Figure 15** of **Appendix C**).

The concentrations of Total Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), Total dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane (DDT) and 4,4'-dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene (DDE) were below the limit of reporting at all stations during the reporting period.

Considering that the higher levels (i.e. concentrations higher than LCEL) of High Molecular Weight PAHs are only occurred within Active-Pit station ESC-NPCB only, there is no evidence indicating any unacceptable environmental impacts to sediment quality outside the pit area as a result of the contaminated mud disposal operations at ESC CMP Vb during the reporting period.

Statistical analysis will be undertaken and presented in the corresponding Quarterly EM&A Report to investigate whether there are any unacceptable impacts in the area caused by the contaminated mud disposal.

### 2.5 Sediment Chemistry after a Major Storm of ESC CMP V – in September 2023

Sampling for Sediment Chemistry after a Major Storm Event was conducted at nine (9) monitoring stations (see **Figure 2.3** for the locations of the monitoring stations) on 5 September 2023 after the visit of tropical cyclones Saola, which led to the issue of No. 8 Storm Signal on 1 September 2023. The tracks of Saola are shown in **Figure 2.4**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Sewell RJ (1999) Geochemical Atlas of Hong Kong. Geotechnical Engineering Office, Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Whiteside PGD (2000) Natural geochemistry and contamination of marine sediments in Hong Kong. In: The Urban Geology of Hong Kong (ed. Page A & Reels SJ). Geological Society of Hong Kong Bulletin No. 6, p109-121

55 30 N 08H 05/09 08H 05/09 08H 05/09 08H 05/09 08H 05/09 08H 05/09

熱帶風暴 Tropical Storm

Severe Typhoon

強颱風

**今** 熱帶低氣壓 Tropical Depression

● 低壓區 / 溫帶氣旋 Low Pressure Area / Extratropical Low

Typhoon

Figure 2.4: Track of Tropical Cyclone Saola (Source: Hong Kong Observatory)

Analyses of results for the Sediment Chemistry after a Major Storm indicated that the concentrations of all inorganic contaminants were below the LCEL in September 2023, except for Arsenic. The concentrations of Arsenic were higher than the LCEL at Near-field station ESC-RNB1, Mid-field stations ESC-RMA and Far-field station ESC-RFB. (Figures 16 and 17 of Appendix C).

強烈熱帶風暴 Severe Tropical Storm

超強颱風

香港 Hong Kong

Super Typhoon

As discussed in **Section 2.4**, the LCEL exceedances of Arsenic are unlikely to be caused by the disposal operations at ESC CMP Vb but rather as a result of naturally occurring deposits.

Overall, there appeared to be no evidence showing the failure of ESC CMP V in retaining disposed mud or causing contamination of sediments after the major storm event in September 2023.

### 3 Future Key Issues

### 3.1 Activities Scheduled for the Next Reporting Period

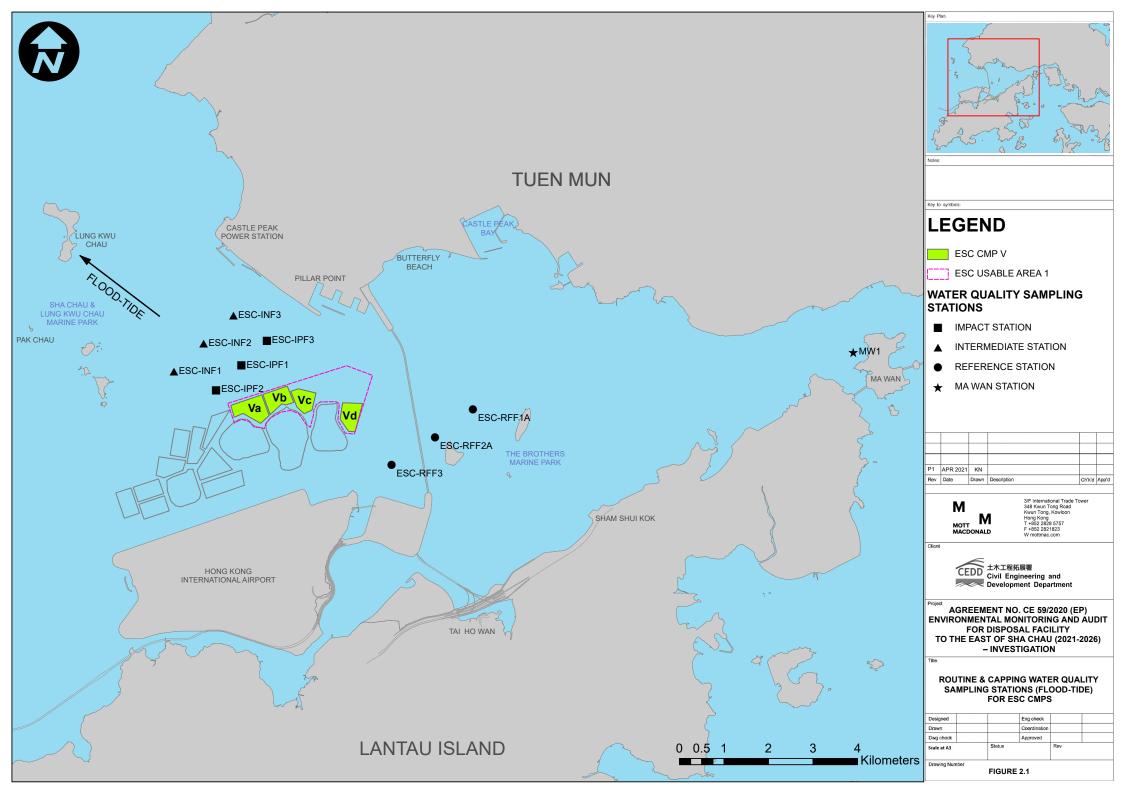
The following monitoring activities will be conducted in the next reporting period of October 2023 for ESC CMP V (see **Appendix A** for the sampling schedule):

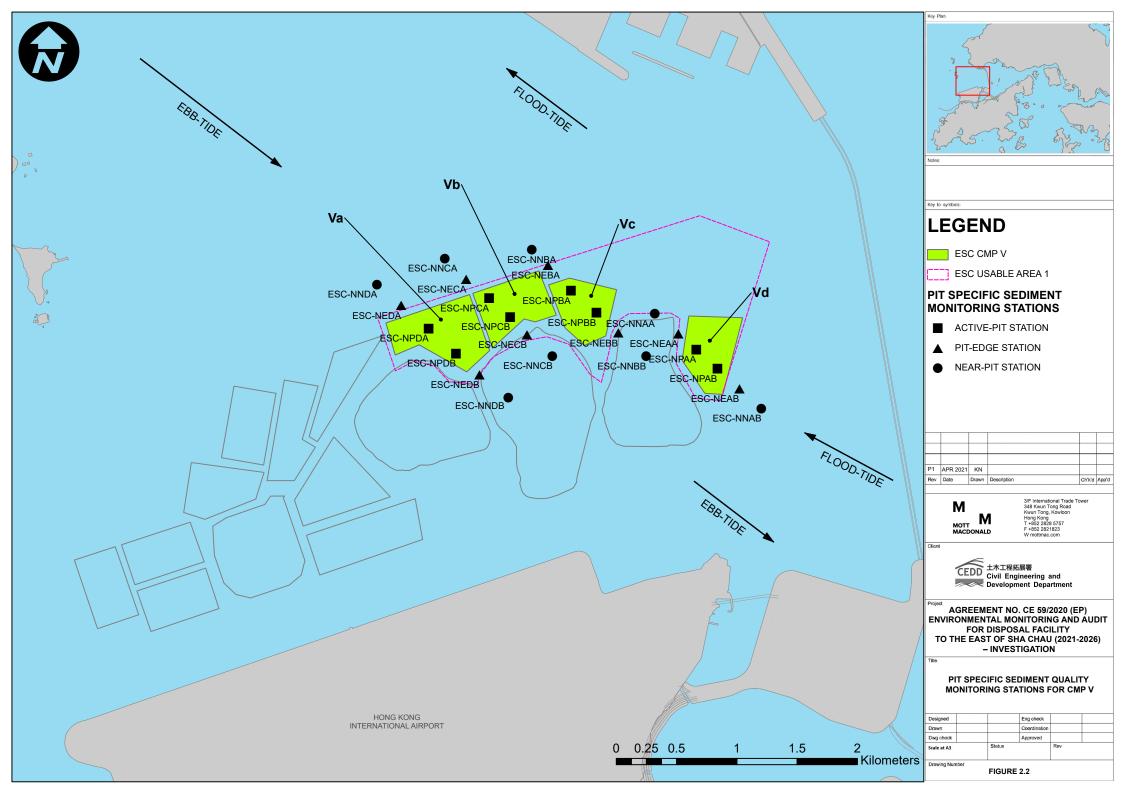
- Water Column Profiling of ESC CMP Vb;
- Routine Water Quality Monitoring of ESC CMPs; and
- Pit Specific Sediment Chemistry of ESC CMP Vb.

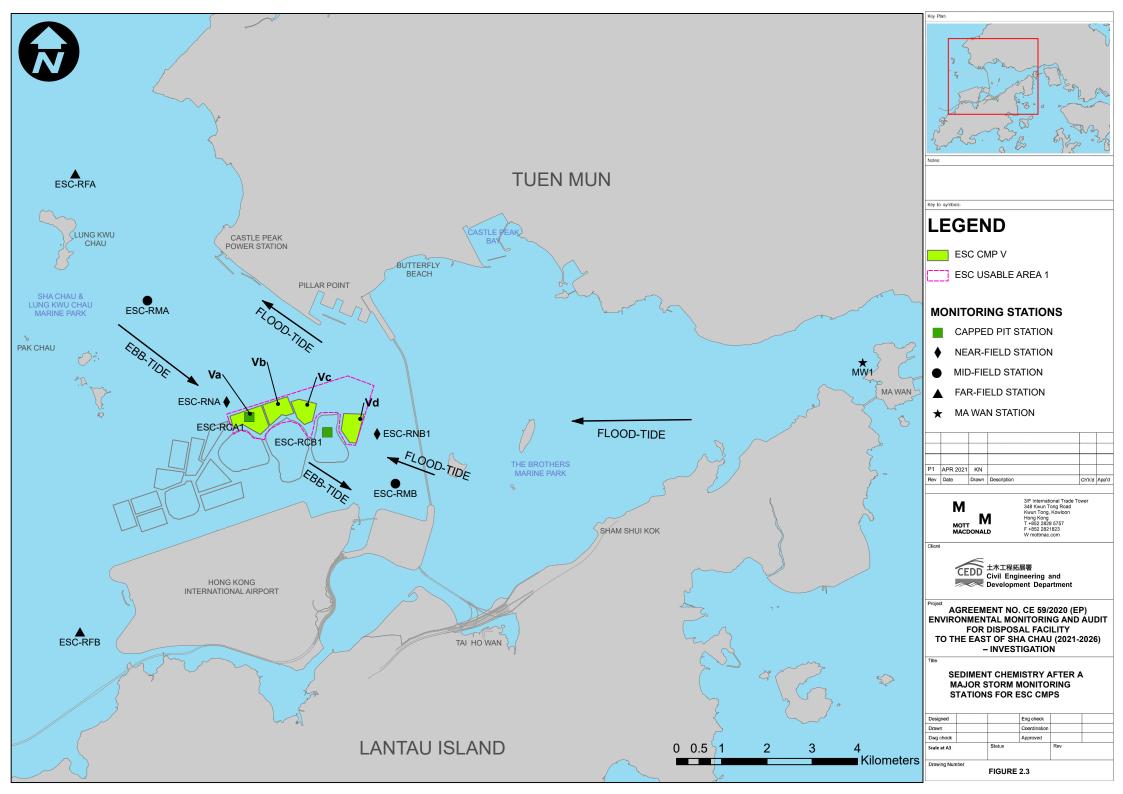
### 3.2 Study Programme

A summary of the Study Programme is presented in **Appendix D**.

### **Figures**







### **Appendices**

Appendix A Sampling Schedule

Appendix B Water Quality Monitoring Results

Appendix C Graphical Presentations

Appendix D Study Programme

### **Appendix A. Sampling Schedule**

### East of Sha Chau CMPs Environmental Monitoring and Audit Sampling Schedule (January 2021 - March 2026)

Parameter / Station Type Pit Specific Sediment Ch		Frequency	2021   2022   2028   2028   2029   20
Active-Pit	ESC-NPAA ESC-NPAB	Monthly Monthly	6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6
Pit-Edge	ESC-NEAA ESC-NEAB	Monthly Monthly	6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6
Near-Pit	ESC-NNAA ESC-NNAB	Monthly Monthly	6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6
Cumulative Impact Sedin Near-field Stations	nent Chemistry	*	Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Au
Mid-field Stations	ESC-RNA ESC-RNB1	4 times per year 4 times per year	6     6     6     6     6     2
	ESC-RMA ESC-RMB	4 times per year 4 times per year	6     6     6     6     6     6     2
Capped Pit Stations	ESC-RCA1 ESC-RCB1	4 times per year 4 times per year	6     6     6     6     6     6     2
Far-field Stations	ESC-RFA ESC-RFB	4 times per year 4 times per year	6     6     6     6     6     2
Ma Wan Station	MW1	4 times per year	6 6 6 6 6 6 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
Sediment Toxicity Tests Near-pit Stations	ESC-TDA	2 times per year	Jan  Feb  Mar  Apr  May  Jun  Jun  Aug  Sep  Oct  Nov  Dec  Jan  Feb  Mar  Apr  May  Jun  Jun  Aug  Sep  Oct  Nov  Dec  Jan  Feb  Mar  Apr  May  Jun  Jun  Jun  Aug  Sep  Oct  Nov  Dec  Jan  Feb  Mar  Apr  May  Jun  Jun  Jun  Jun  Jun  Jun  Jun  Jun
Reference Stations	ESC-TDB1	2 times per year	5   5   5   5   5   5   5   5   5   5
Ma Wan Station	ESC-TRB	2 times per year	5 5 5 5 5 5
Tissue / Whole Body San	MW1	2 times per year	
Near-pit Stations	ESC-INA ESC-INB	2 times per year 2 times per year	
Reference North	TNA TNB	2 times per year 2 times per year	
Reference South	TSA TSB	2 times per year 2 times per year	
Demersal Trawling	.00	_ unios per year	Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Au
Near-pit Stations	ESC-INA ESC-INB	4 times per year 4 times per year	5 5         5 5
Reference North	TNA TNB	4 times per year 4 times per year	5 5         5 6
Reference South	TSA TSB	4 times per year 4 times per year	5 5         5 6         5 6         5 6         5 6         5 5
Capping * Ebb Tide			Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Au
Impact Station Downcurr	ESC-IPE1A	4 times per year * 4 times per year *	
	ESC-IPE3 ESC-IPE4 ESC-IPE5	4 times per year * 4 times per year * 4 times per year *	
Intermediate Station Dow	esc-INE1A	4 times per year * 4 times per year *	
	ESC-INE3A ESC-INE4A	4 times per year * 4 times per year *	
Reference Station Upcur	rent ESC-RFE1	4 times per year *	
	ESC-RFE3 ESC-RFE4	4 times per year * 4 times per year * 4 times per year *	
Ma Wan Station	ESC-RFE5 MW1	4 times per year *	
Flood Tide Impact Station Downcurr			
	ESC-IPF1 ESC-IPF2 ESC-IPF3	4 times per year * 4 times per year * 4 times per year *	
Intermediate Station Dow	ESC-INF1 ESC-INF2	4 times per year * 4 times per year *	
Reference Station Upcur		4 times per year * 4 times per year *	
Ma Wan Station		4 times per year * 4 times per year *	
Routine Water Quality Me	MW1	4 times per year *	Jan Febi Mari Apri May Jun Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mar   Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Febi Mari Apri May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan   Aug   Sepi Oct   Nov   Dec   Jan
Ebb Tide Impact Station Downcurr	rent	Monthly*	
	ESC-IPE2A ESC-IPE3 ESC-IPE4	Monthly* Monthly*	4         4
Intermediate Station Dow	ESC-IPE5 vncurrent	Monthly*	
	ESC-INE2A ESC-INE3A	Monthly*	4         4 <td< th=""></td<>
Reference Station Upcur		Monthly*	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
	ESC-RFE1 ESC-RFE2 ESC-RFE3	Monthly* Monthly* Monthly*	4         4
Ma Wan Station	ESC-RFE4 ESC-RFE5	Monthly* Monthly*	
Flood Tide	MW1	Monthly*	
Impact Station Downcurr	ESC-IPF1 ESC-IPF2	Monthly* Monthly*	4         4         4         4         4         4         4         4         4         4         4         2
Intermediate Station Dow	ESC-IPF3	Monthly*	4     4
Reference Station Upcur	ESC-INF2 ESC-INF3	Monthly* Monthly*	4     4
	ESC-RFF1A ESC-RFF2A ESC-RFF3	Monthly* Monthly* Monthly*	4     4     4     4     4     4     4     4     2
Ma Wan Station	MW1	Monthly*	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
Water Column Profiling * Plume Stations	WCP1	Monthly*	Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Au
Panth's Decision	WCP2	Monthly* Monthly*	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
Benthic Recoloinisation Capped Stations at CMP	V ESCV-CPA	2 times per year	Jan Feb Mar Apri May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apri May Jun Jul Aug Sep
	ESCV-CPC	2 times per year 2 times per year 2 times per year	
Reference Stations	RBA RBB	2 times per year 2 times per year	
Impact Monitoring for Dr	RBC1	2 times per year	Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sepi Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sepi
Upstream Stations	US1 US2	3 times per week 3 times per week	Jan reo mar Apri may Juni Jun jang isepi ucit nov uec Jan reo mar Apri may Juni Juni Juni Juni Juni Juni Juni Juni
Downstream Stations	DS1	3 times per week	
	DS2 DS3 DS4	3 times per week 3 times per week 3 times per week	
1	DS5	3 times per week	
Ma Wan Station	MW1	3 times per week	

Notes:
(1) The number shown in each cell represents the numbers of replicates per monitoring station. The number shown in green bolded text represented monitoring works have been conducted before/ during the reporting period of this Monthly EM&A Report, while the number shown in black represent planned monitoring works after the reporting period of this Monthly EM&A Report.

<sup>(2)</sup> For the planned Routine Water Quality Monitoring (i.e. the numbers of replicates per monitoring station shown in black), the monitoring will be conducted at mid-ebb OR mid-flood tide. The yearly tidal selection of this monitoring will be based on a principle to obtain 6 moniths monitoring data at mid-ebb, and 6 months monitoring data at mid-ebb. OR mid-flood.

<sup>(3)</sup> Impact Monitoring for Dredging will be scheduled when dredging operations commence.

<sup>(3)</sup> impact Monitoring for Dredging will be scheduled when dredging operations commence.

(4) Benthic Recolonisation Studies for CMP V will be scheduled when capping operation for CMP V is completed.

Remarks:

A proposal on the change of number of sample replication of water quality & sediment monitoring and combination of routine water quality monitoring during capping operation was submitted to EPD and agreed by EPD on 3 December 2020. The proposed changes have been implemented for the EM&A activities since December 2020. Water Quality Monitoring during Capping Operation and Routine Water Quality Monitoring are combined such that Routine Water Quality Monitoring have been conducted monthly starting in December 2020. A technical note presenting the data review results served as a supplementary information was submitted to EPD and presented that Phase 2 optimization of sample replication of water quality and sediment monitoring for the Project will be implemented in 2022 was provided to EPD in April 2022. Phase 2 optimization of sample replication induced by the pandering which adversely affecting the supply of international septicing the supply of inter

# **Appendix B. Water Quality Monitoring Results**



### Table B1: Action and Limit Levels of Water Quality for Dredging, Disposal and Capping Activities at ESC CMP V

Parameters	Action	Limit	
Dissolved Oxygen (DO)	Surface and Middle Depth <sup>(2)</sup>	Surface and Middle Depth <sup>(2)</sup>	
in mg L <sup>-1</sup> (Surface, Middle & Bottom) <sup>(1)</sup>	5%-ile of baseline data for surface and middle layer = <b>3.76</b>	1%-ile of baseline data for surface and middle layer = <b>3.11</b> <sup>(3)</sup>	
	and	and	
	Significantly less than the reference station's mean DO (at the same tide of the same day)	Significantly less than the reference station's mean DO (at the same tide of the same day)	
	Bottom	Bottom	
	5%-ile of baseline data for surface and middle layer = <b>2.96</b>	The average of the impact station readings are $< 2$	
	and	and	
	Significantly less than the reference station's mean DO (at the same tide of the same day)	Significantly less than the reference station's mean DO (at the same tide of the same day)	
Suspended Solids (SS) in mg L <sup>-1</sup>	95%-ile of baseline data for depth- averaged = <b>37.88</b>	99%-ile of baseline data for depth- averaged = <b>61.92</b>	
(depth-averaged) <sup>(5)</sup>	and	and	
	120% of control station's SS at the same tide of the same day	130% of control station's SS at the same tide of the same day	
Turbidity	95%-ile of baseline data = <b>28.14</b>	99%-ile of baseline data = <b>38.32</b>	
in NTU	and	and	
(depth-averaged) <sup>(4)(5)</sup>	120% of control station's Turbidity at the same tide of the same day	130% of control station's Turbidity at the same tide of the same day	

#### Notes:

- 1. For DO, non-compliance of the water quality limits occurs when monitoring result is lower than the limits.
- 2. Action and Limit Levels for DO for Surface and Middle layers were calculated from the combined pool of baseline surface layer data and baseline middle layer data.
- 3. Given the Action Level for DO for Surface and Middle layers has already been lower than 4 mg L<sup>-1</sup>, it is proposed to set the Limit Level at 3.11 mg L<sup>-1</sup> which is the first percentile of the baseline data.
- 4. "Depth-averaged" is calculated by taking the arithmetic means of reading of all three depths.
- 5. For turbidity and SS, non-compliance of the water quality limits occurs when monitoring result is higher than the limits.



### Table B2: Water Column Profiling Results for ESC CMP Vb in September 2023

Station	Temp.	Salinity	Turbidity	<b>Dissolved Oxygen</b>		рН	Suspended Solids	
	(°C)	(ppt)	(NTU)	(%)	(mg L <sup>-1</sup> )		(mg L <sup>-1</sup> )	
WCP 1 (Downstream)	26.95	26.03	4.26	79.63	5.49	7.94	5.5	
WCP 2 (Upstream)	26.95	26.14	3.23	79.84	5.50	7.91	4.0	
WQO (Wet Season)	N/A	23.53-28.76#	N/A	N/A	>4	6.5-8.5	11.7	

#### Notes:

- 1. \*Not exceeding 10% of natural ambient level which is the result obtained from the Reference Station.
- 2. Cell shaded yellow / red indicates value exceeding the Action/Limit levels.
- 3. Cell shaded grey indicates value exceeding the WQO.

Table B3: In-situ Monitoring Results for Routine Water Quality Monitoring of ESC CMPs in September 2023

Station	Temp.	Salinity	Turbidity	Dissolved Oxygen		рН
	(°C)	(ppt)	(NTU)	(%)	(mg L <sup>-1</sup> )	
RFF (Reference)	26.69	27.40	2.15	75.44	5.18	7.89
IPF (Impact)	26.73	26.98	3.53	76.42	5.26	7.91
INF (Intermediate)	26.81	26.60	2.39	77.01	5.30	7.90
Ma Wan	25.89	30.75	2.56	73.39	5.02	7.93
WQO (Wet Season)	N/A	24.66-30.14#	N/A	N/A	>4	6.5-8.5

#### Notes:

- 1. \*Not exceeding 10% of natural ambient level which is the result obtained from the Reference Station.
- 2. Cell shaded yellow / red indicates value exceeding the Action/Limit levels.
- 3. Cell shaded grey indicates value exceeding the WQO.



Table B4: Laboratory Results for Dissolved Metals and Metalloid in Routine Water Quality Monitoring of ESC CMPs in September 2023

Station	As	Cd	Cr	Cu	Pb	Hg	Ni	Ag	Zn
	(µg/L)								
RFF	2.21	0.03	0.12	0.74	0.01	0.023	0.74	ND	0.20
IPF	2.20	0.03	0.11	0.62	ND	0.006	0.76	ND	0.35
INF	2.26	0.03	0.13	0.70	ND	0.006	0.87	ND	0.32
Ma Wan	1.99	0.01	0.11	0.58	ND	0.007	0.56	ND	0.10

#### Note:

Table B5: Laboratory Results for Nutrients and Suspended Solid in Routine Water Quality Monitoring of ESC CMPs in September 2023

Station	NH <sub>3</sub>	TIN		SS
	(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)
RFF	0.08	0.62	<lor< th=""><th>6.3</th></lor<>	6.3
IPF	0.07	0.62	<lor< th=""><th>6.8</th></lor<>	6.8
INF	0.06	0.73	<lor< th=""><th>3.3</th></lor<>	3.3
Ma Wan	0.08	0.35	<lor< th=""><th>7.5</th></lor<>	7.5

WQO of TIN: 0.5 mg/L Wet Season WQO of SS: 11.7 mg/L

#### Notes:

- 1. "<LOR" indicates the concentrations of contaminants are below the limit of reporting.
- 2. Cell shaded yellow / red indicates value exceeding the Action/Limit levels.
- 3. Cell shaded grey indicates value exceeding the WQO.

<sup>1. &</sup>quot;ND" indicates the concentrations of metals and metalloids are not detected.

### **Appendix C. Graphical Presentations**

### Routine Water Quality Monitoring for ESC CMP V - September 2023

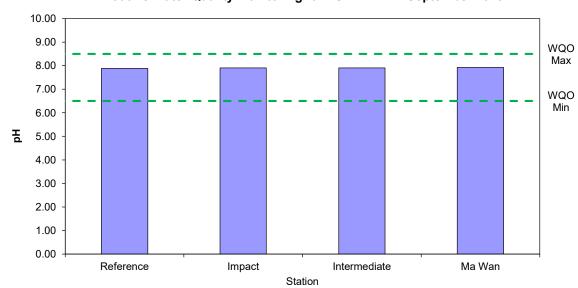


Figure 1: Level of pH recorded during Routine Water Quality Monitoring for disposal operations at ESC CMP V in September 2023

### Routine Water Quality Monitoring for ESC CMP V - September 2023

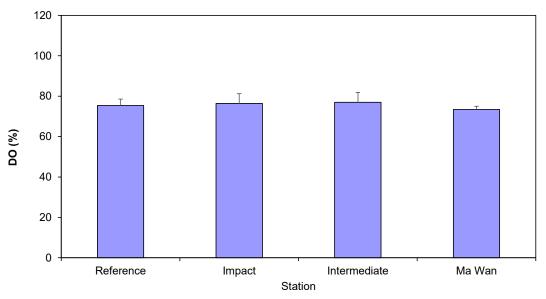


Figure 2: Level of Dissolved Oxygen (DO) (% saturation; mean + SD) recorded during Routine Water Quality Monitoring for disposal operations at ESC CMP V in September 2023

<sup>1</sup> The mean and standard deviation (SD) for in-situ data are the mean and SD for water columns within the area.



### Routine Water Quality Monitoring for ESC CMP V - September 2023

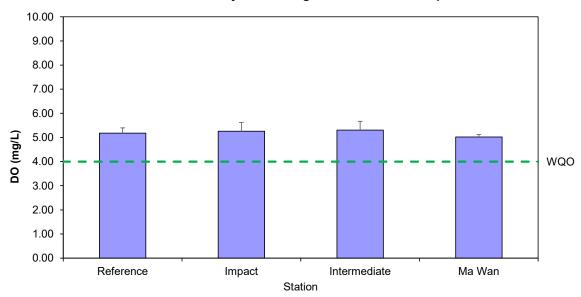


Figure 3: Concentration of Dissolved Oxygen (DO) (mg/L; mean + SD) recorded during Routine Water Quality Monitoring for disposal operations at ESC CMP V in September 2023

### Routine Water Quality Monitoring for ESC CMP V - September 2023

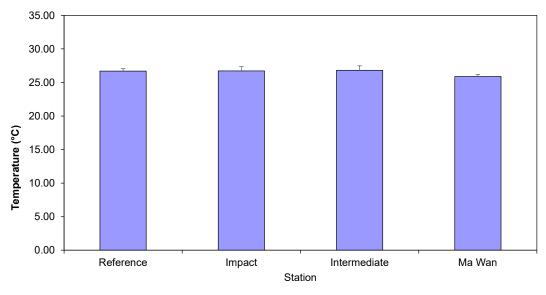


Figure 4: Level of Temperature (°C; mean + SD¹) recorded during Routine Water Quality Monitoring for disposal operations at ESC CMP V in September 2023

<sup>1</sup> The mean and standard deviation (SD) for in-situ data are the mean and SD for water columns within the area.

### Routine Water Quality Monitoring for ESC CMP V - September 2023

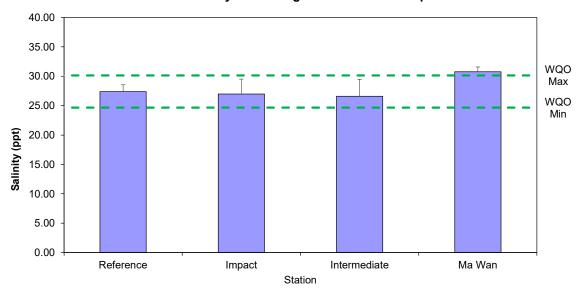


Figure 5: Level of Salinity (ppt; mean + SD) recorded during Routine Water Quality Monitoring for disposal operations at ESC CMP V in September 2023

### Routine Water Quality Monitoring for ESC CMP V - September 2023

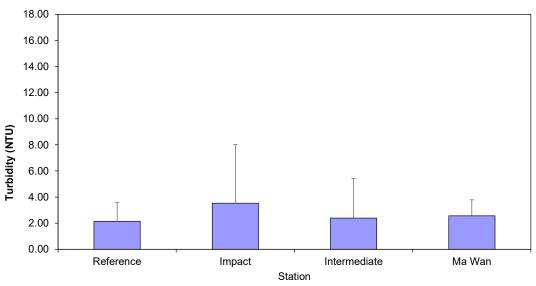
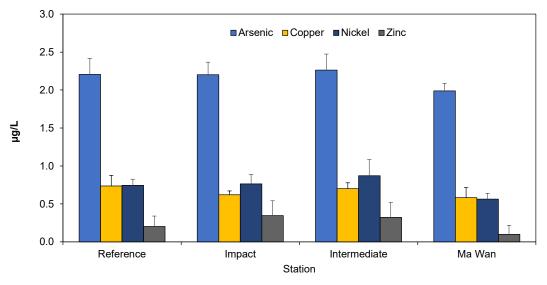


Figure 6: Level of Turbidity (NTU; mean + SD) recorded during Routine Water Quality Monitoring for disposal operations at ESC CMP V in September 2023

The mean and standard deviation (SD) for in-situ data are the mean and SD for water columns within the area.

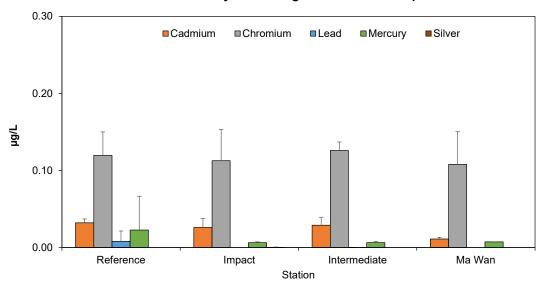


#### Routine Water Quality Monitoring for ESC CMP V September 2023



Concentration of Arsenic, Copper, Nickel, and Zinc (µg/L; mean + SD) in water samples Figure 7: collected from Routine Water Quality Monitoring for disposal operations at ESC CMP V in September 2023

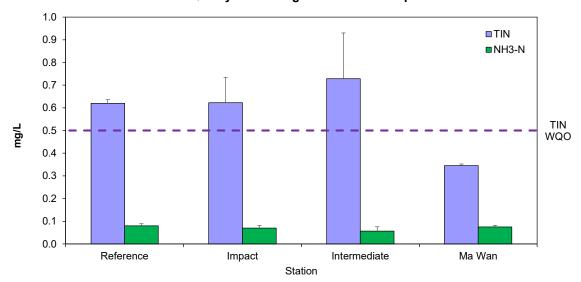
### Routine Water Quality Monitoring for ESC CMP V September 2023



Concentration of Cadmium, Chromium, Lead, Mercury and Silver, ( $\mu$ g/L; mean + SD) in water samples collected from Routine Water Quality Monitoring for disposal operations at ESC CMP V in September 2023 Figure 8:

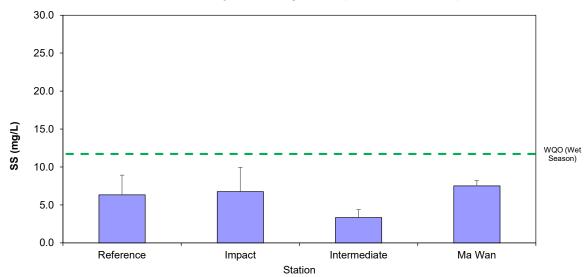


### **Routine Water Quality Monitoring for Nutrients - September 2023**



Concentration of Total Inorganic Nitrogen (TIN) and Ammonia Nitrogen (NH3-N) (mg/L; mean + SD) in water samples collected from Routine Water Quality Monitoring for disposal operations at ESC CMP V in September 2023 Figure 9:

### Routine Water Quality Monitoring for Suspended Solids - September 2023



Concentration of Suspended Solids (SS) (mg/L; mean + SD) in water samples collected from Routine Water Quality Monitoring for disposal operations at ESC CMP V in Figure 10 September 2023



### Pit Specific Sediment Chemistry for Metal and Metalloid Contaminants at ESC CMP Vb - August 2023

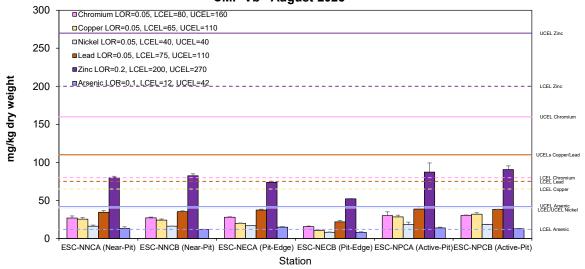


Figure 11: Concentration of Metals and Metalloid (Cr, Cu, Ni, Pb, Zn, As; mg/kg dry weight; mean + SD) in sediment samples collected from Pit Specific Sediment Chemistry Monitoring for ESC CMP Vb in August 2023

### Pit Specific Sediment Chemistry for Metal Contaminants at ESC CMP Vb - September 2023

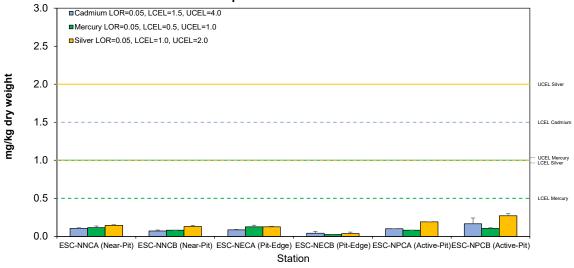


Figure 12: Concentration of Metals (Cd, Hg, Ag; mg/kg dry weight; mean + SD) in sediment samples collected from Pit Specific Sediment Chemistry Monitoring for ESC CMP Vb in September 2023



### Pit Specific Sediment Chemistry for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) at ESC CMP Vb - September 2023

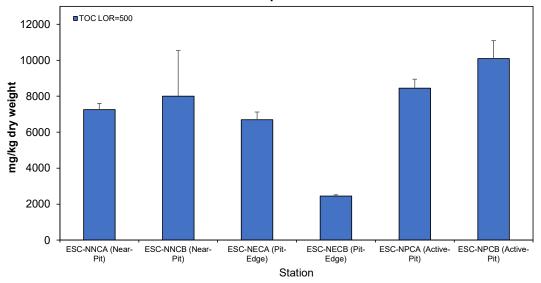


Figure 13: Concentration of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) (mg/kg dry weight; mean + SD) in sediment samples collected from Pit Specific Sediment Chemistry Monitoring for ESC CMP Vb in September 2023

### Pit Specific Sediment Chemistry for Low and High Molecular Weight Polycyclic Aromatics Hydrocarbons (PAHs) at ESC CMP Vb - September 2023

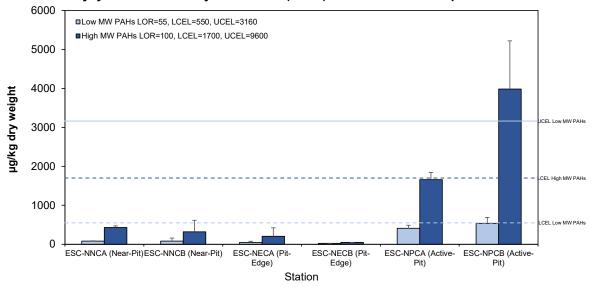


Figure 14: Concentration of Low and High Molecular Weight Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (μg/kg dry weight; mean + SD) in sediment samples collected from Pit Specific Sediment Chemistry Monitoring for ESC CMP Vb in September 2023

### Pit Specific Sediment Chemistry for Tributyltin (TBT) at ESC CMP Vb - September 2023

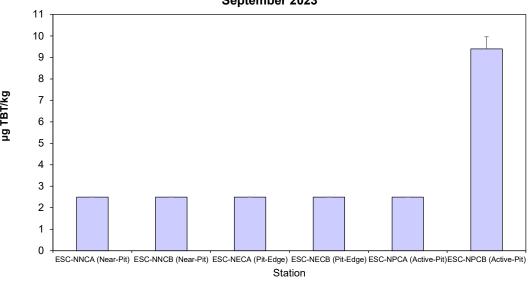


Figure 15: Concentration of Tributyltin (TBT) (µg TBT/kg; mean + SD) in sediment samples collected from Pit Specific Sediment Chemistry Monitoring for ESC CMP Vb in September 2023

### Sediment Chemistry after a Major Storm for Metal and Metalloid Contaminants at ESC CMPs - September 2023

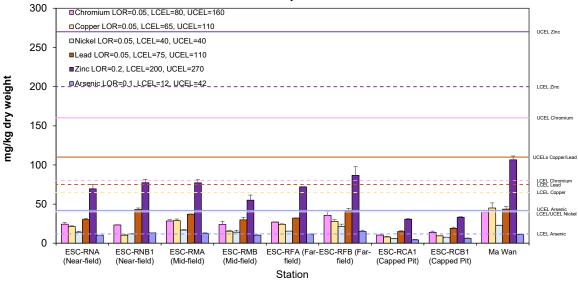


Figure 16 Concentration of Metals (Cr, Cu, Ni, Pb, Zn, As; mean + SD) in sediment samples collected from Sediment Chemistry after a Major Storm for ESC CMPs in September 2023



### Sediment Chemistry after a Major Storm for Metal Contaminants at ESC CMPs - September 2023

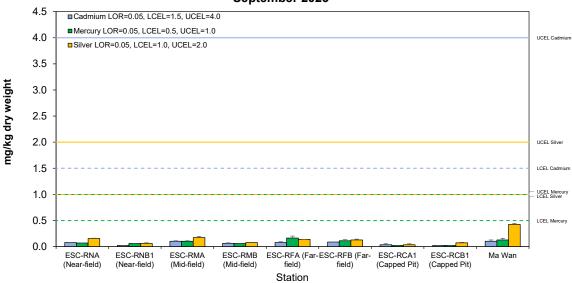


Figure 17: Concentration of Metals (Cd, Hg, Ag; mean + SD) in sediment samples collected from Sediment Chemistry after a Major Storm for ESC CMPs in September 2023

### **Appendix D. Study Programme**

### Study Programme

## Agreement No. CE 59/2020 (EP) Environmental Monitoring and Audit for Disposal Facility to the East of Sha Chau (2021-2026) - Investigation

Mott MacDonald Hong Kong Limited

