The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region



Civil Engineering and Development Department

Improvement Works of Seabed at the Northwest of Tung Wan, Peng Chau Project Profile

June 2009

Improvement Works of Seabed at the Northwest of Tung Wan, Peng Chau Project Profile

Contents

1.	Basi	e Information	.3
	1.1	Project Title	.3
	1.2	Purpose and Nature of the Project	
	1.3	Name of Project Proponent	
	1.4	Location of Project, Scale of Project and History of Site	
	1.5	Number and Types of Designated Projects to be Covered by the Project Profile	
	1.6	Name and Telephone Number of Contact Persons	
	1.7	Estimated Cost	
2.	Outl	ine of Planning and Implementation Programme	. 4
3.	Majo	or Impacts on the Environment	. 4
4.	Cons	struction Method	. 4
5.	Possi	ble Impacts on the Environment	. 5
	5.1	Ecology	. 5
	5.2	Water Quality	. 5
	5.3	Noise	. 5
	5.4	Air Quality	6
	5.5	Odour	. 6
	5.6	Traffic	. 6
	5.7	Fisheries	. 6
	5.8	Visual Appearance	. 6
	5.9	Cultural Heritage	. 6
	5.10	Other Residual Impacts	.7
6.		ronmental Protection Measures to be Incorporated in the	
	Desi	gn and Any Further Environmental Implications	.7
	6.1	Measures to Minimize Environmental Impacts	.7
		6.1.1 Water Quality	
		6.1.2 Noise	

Improvement Works of Seabed at the Northwest of Tung Wan, Peng Chau Project Profile

	6.2 6.3 6.4	Possible Severity, Distribution and Duration of Environmental Effects Public Consultation History of Similar Project	8
7.	Use	of Previously Approved EIA Reports	8
8.	Con	clusion	8
0			

9. Appendices

Appendix A	Drawing No. PW-FD09-048 – General Layout
Appendix B	Drawing No. PW-FD09-049 – Location of Sensitive Receivers
Appendix C	Drawing No. PW-FD09-050 – Proposed Mitigation Measures to
	Environmental Impact
Appendix D	Drawing No. PW-FD09-051 - Intertidal and Diving Inspection Report

1. Basic Information

1.1 <u>Project Title</u>

Improvement Works of Seabed at the Northwest of Tung Wan, Peng Chau (The Project).

1.2 <u>Purpose and Nature of the Project</u>

The purpose of the Project is to remove a layer of rubble/brick fragments in approximately 0.8m thick deposited on seabed at the northwest of Tung Wan, Peng Chau in response to a public complaint for sake of public safety.

1.3 <u>Name of Project Proponent</u>

Lands Department is the project proponent. Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) is the works agent for the planning and implementation of the Project.

1.4 Location of Project, Scale of Project and History of Site

The site is located at the northwest of Tung Wan, Peng Chau. Location plan for the Project is presented in in Appendix A. Site area is about 1,200m² and the total amount of rubble/brick fragments to be removed in the Project is approximately 1,000m³ with similar quantity of imported sand to replenish the seabed. No work has been carried out within the site.

1.5 <u>Number and Types of Designated Projects to be Covered by the Project Profile</u>

The Project comprising dredging operation which is less than 500 m from the nearest boundary of coastal protection area is classified as a designated project under Section C.12 of Schedule 2, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Ordinance. Only one designated project is involved.

1.6 <u>Name and Telephone Number of Contact Persons</u>

Port Works Division, CEDD	
Mr. N H SHUM, Senior Engineer	Tel: 2762 5554
	Fax: 2714 2054
	Email: stevennhshum@cedd.gov.hk
Mr. C P CHOI, Engineer	Tel: 2762 5567
	Fax: 2714 2054
	Email: cpchoi@cedd.gov.hk

1.7 <u>Estimated Cost</u>

\$ 2.0 million (at December 2008 price level).

2. Outline of Planning and Implementation Programme

- 2.1 The planning and implementation of the Project will be carried out by CEDD.
- 2.2 The works is scheduled to commence in late September 2009 and for completion in January 2010.

3. Major Impacts on the Environment

Sensitive receivers which are located within 500m of the site are shown in Appendix B. They include:-

3.1 <u>Coastal protection areas</u>

Coastal protection areas, which comprise flat rock area and other visually important landscape features is located at a distance of about 100m from the nearest boundary of the proposed site. However, no impact on the coastal protection areas is anticipated as the proposed works only involve removing the rubble/brick fragments and replenishing with the imported sand on a small area of seabed.

3.2 <u>Residential Buildings/School</u>

The nearest residential building and school, located at a distance of 54m and 130m respectively from the nearest boundary of the proposed site, is likely to be sensitive to air quality and noise.

4. Construction Method

The works will be carried out during low tide periods by 2 nos. of backhoes, 1 no. of bulldozer and $4\sim5$ nos. of village vehicles to remove the rubble/brick fragments deposited on seabed which to be disposed of at Tai Lei Island Refuse Transfer Station. The maximum excavation rate will not exceed $100m^3/day$. The imported sand will be delivered by sea from the conveyor belt barge to replenish the seabed.

5. Possible Impacts on the Environment

In view of the nature and scale of the Project is small, it is expected that the impacts on the environment during the construction period is minimal. Details are as follows:

5.1 <u>Ecology</u>

Intertidal and diving inspection was carried out on 8 March 2009 by the marine ecologist to search for any species of conservation importance within the site area, sandy beach and coastal protection areas nearby. It revealed that the seabed of the site is mainly composed of sand and rubble/brick fragments. No species of conservation importance is observed in the intertidal zone of the sandy beach and the site. For the coastal protection areas, common hard coral species are recorded and no species of conservation importance is identified. The inspection results are shown in Appendix D.

The Project will mainly involve land-based plant and will be small in scale and the works will be carried out during low tide condition. It is expected that the construction works from the Project will not induce potential adverse impact on the Coastal Protection Areas.

5.2 <u>Water Quality</u>

As the Project involves only restoration of the seabed by removing the rubble/brick fragments and replenishing with the imported sand, the disturbance to the seabed will be minimal and turbidity of water will not be increased significantly. In addition, due to the works to be carried out during low tide condition, it is expected that the impact to water quality is minimal. To further safeguard the water quality in the area, silt curtain will be installed and environmental monitoring will be implemented.

5.3 <u>Noise</u>

In view of the shallow water in the vicinity, works will be confined to daytime only during low tide session. In addition, due to the small scale of works, the process will not generate significant noise problem. It is expected that the noise impact to the surrounding is minimal.

The distance between the site and the nearest residential building and school are 54m and 130m respectively. Low noise level is anticipated as only excavation and filling works to be involved and no breaking works will be required. It is planned that the following plant would be used during the construction:-

Improvement Works of Seabed at the Northwest of Tung Wan, Peng Chau Project Profile

Major construction activities	Construction plant likely to be used	Anticipated Noise Level (dB)
Removal of rubble/brick fragment	Backhoes + bulldozer + village vehicles	67-75
Filling of imported sand	Backhoes + bulldozer + conveyor belt barge	62-70

5.4 <u>Air Quality</u>

In view of small scale of the excavation and filling works, dust emission from the site is minimal. Moreover, the emitted gas from the plant is expected to be minimal as the number of plant on site is small.

5.5 <u>Odour</u>

As daily excavation rate is small, no odour problem is expected.

5.6 <u>Traffic</u>

The impact on marine traffic is considered insignificant because the marine plant only involves delivery of the construction plant and the imported sand in the Project. Although transportation of excavated materials will be restricted to land access, the impact to land traffic is considered insignificant in view of small daily excavation rate.

5.7 <u>Fisheries</u>

No fish culture zone is identified in the vicinity.

5.8 <u>Visual Appearance</u>

Upon completion of works, the appearance of shoreline will be improved. The visual appearance of the area will not be adversely affected.

5.9 <u>Cultural Heritage</u>

In view of the shallow water in the vicinity and the Project will involve only restoration of the seabed by removing 0.8m thick rubble and replenishing with the imported sand, no marine archaeological antiquities are expected within the site. If any antiquities are discovered in the course of the construction works, Antiquities and Monuments Office of Leisure and Cultural Services Department will be informed promptly.

5.10 Other Residual Impacts

No other operational and decommissioning impacts are identified.

6. Environmental Protection Measures to be Incorporated in the Design and Any Further Environmental Implications

6.1 Measures to Minimize Environmental Impacts

6.1.1 <u>Water Quality</u>

It is expected that there will be no significant impact on water quality during the works. However, to further safeguard the surrounding water, the following measures will be implemented:-

(a) <u>Installation of silt curtain around the site</u> The proposed location of silt curtain is shown in Appendix C. Silt curtain will be installed in order to minimize the water quality impact. With its bottom side reaching the seabed and its top supported by floating booms, silt curtain can accommodate tidal rise and fall, and the egress of turbid water is limited.

(b) <u>Water quality monitoring throughout the construction period</u>

The water quality monitoring programme in this Project will follow the "Environmental Monitoring and Audit, Guidelines for Development Projects in Hong Kong". The proposed monitoring stations are shown in Appendix C. Baseline monitoring, impact monitoring and post-project monitoring on turbidity and suspended solids will be carried out 2 weeks prior to the construction, during the construction and 2 weeks after the construction respectively at mid-flood and mid-ebb tides, at a frequency of 3 days per week, Environmental Monitoring &Audit (EM&A) manual and monthly EM&A reports will be submitted to Environmental Protection Department for comments.

6.1.2 <u>Noise</u>

The nearest receiver is about 54m from the site. The anticipated noise level is very low since the works will not cause substantial noise. To further minimize the nuisance, no work will be allowed to be carried out at night times and during Sundays and public holidays.

6.2 <u>Possible Severity, Distribution and Duration of Environmental Effects</u>

In view of the small scale of works and that the works will be completed within 3 months, any environmental impacts which may be caused by the Project should be short-termed, localized and minimal.

6.3 <u>Public Consultation</u>

Island District Council (IDC) was consulted in August 2005. The IDC supported the Project in principle.

6.4 <u>History of Similar Project</u>

A dredging operation of similar nature was carried out near the site in May 2007 under the Environmental Permit no. EP 269/2007 "Dredging at Seabed of Peng Chau, Tung Wan" granted on 21 March 2007.

7. Use of Previously Approved EIA Reports

No previously approved EIA report has been conducted in Tung Wan, Peng Chau.

8. Conclusion

- (1) Environmental impacts mainly ecological, water quality, noise and air quality arising from the Project are minimal.
- (2) The following mitigation measures will be incorporated into the Project:
 - (i) use of quiet machinery, conducting the works during daytime and no works during Sundays or general holidays; and
 - (ii) installation of a silt curtain
- (3) As the environmental impact arising from the Project is unlikely to be adverse, direct application for an environmental permit under EIA Ordinance will be adopted.

Appendix A

Drawing No. PW-FD09-048

- General Layout



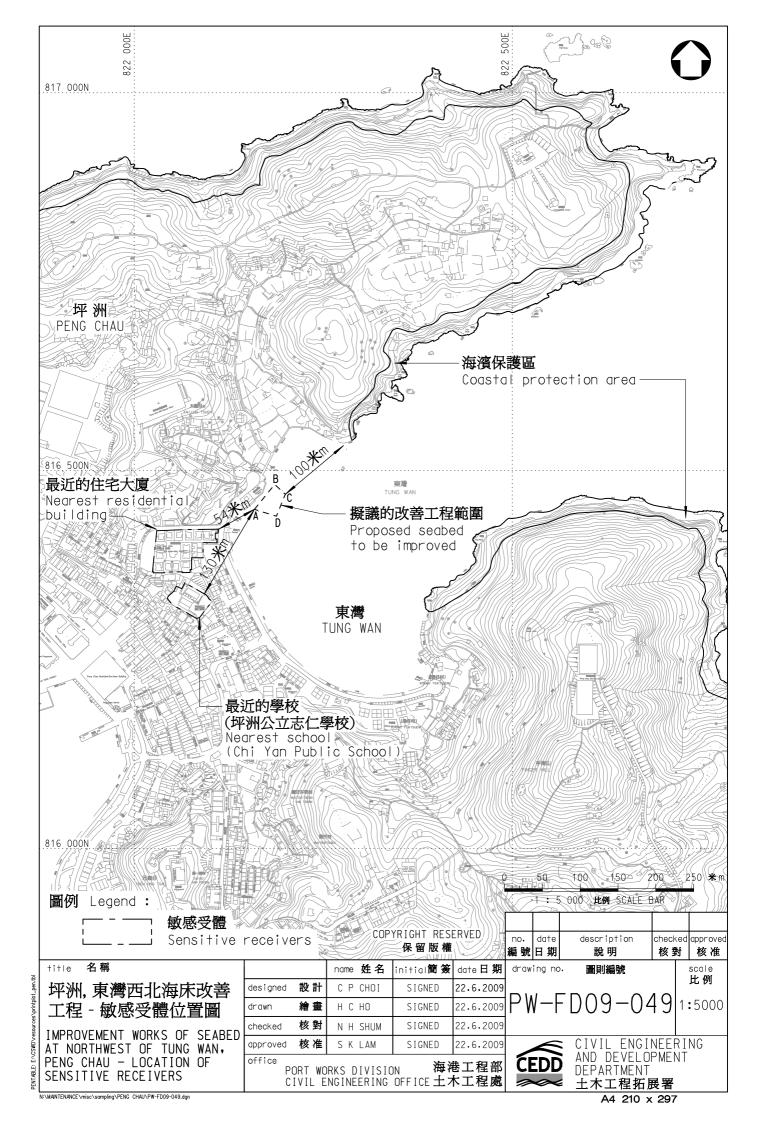
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Appendix B

Drawing No. PW-FD09-049

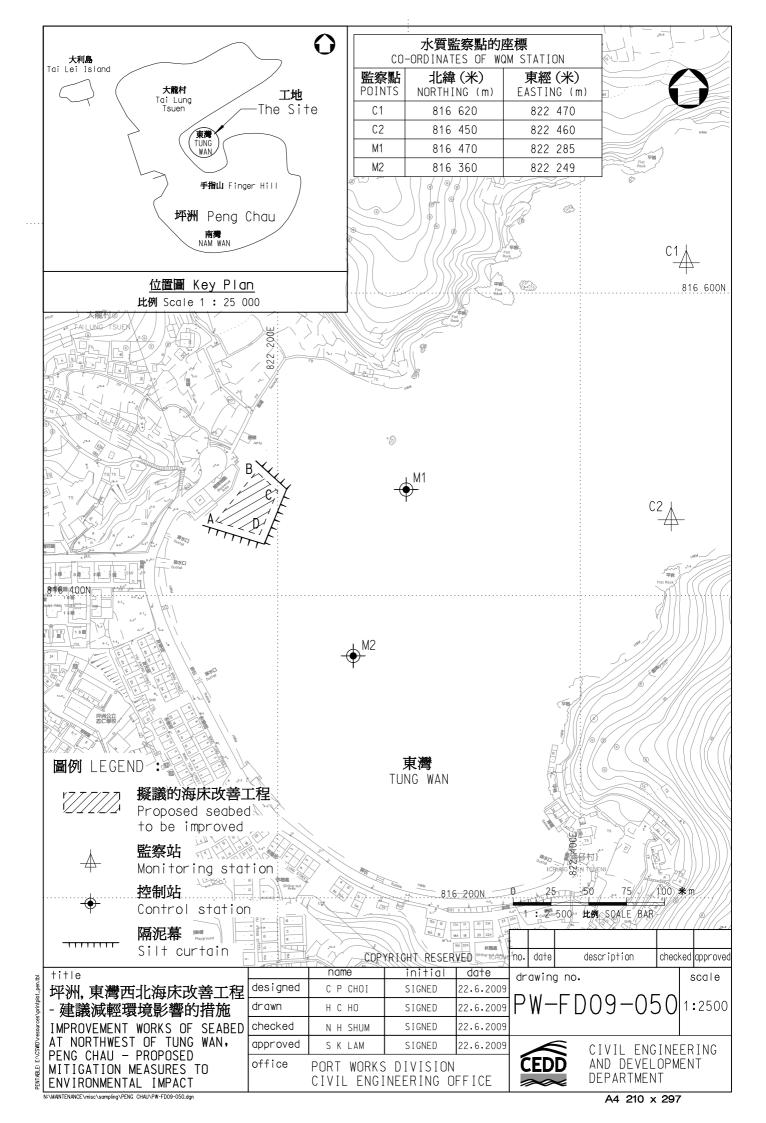
- Location of Sensitive Receivers



Appendix C

Drawing No. PW-FD09-050

- Proposed Mitigation Measures to Environmental Impact



Appendix D

Drawing No. PW-FD09-051

- Intertidal and Diving Inspection Report



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