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4 November 2015

Water Supplies Department

**Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Ordinance, Cap.499
Application for Approval of EIA Report**

**Project Title: Desalination Plant at Tseung Kwan O
(Application No. EIA-229/2015)**

I refer to your above application received on 27 May 2015 for approval of an EIA report under Section 6(2) of the EIA Ordinance and our previous letter of 17 July 2015 advising you to exhibit the EIA report for public inspection in accordance with Section 6(4) of the EIA Ordinance.

Having considered the public comments received during the public inspection period and the comments from the Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE) given to us on 19 October 2015, I now advise you under Section 8(3) of the EIA Ordinance that the above EIA report as exhibited under Section 7(1) of the EIA Ordinance is approved subject to the conditions at Annex 1.

In addition, the recommendations from the ACE are contained in Annex 2 for your onward action.

It should be noted that the approval of the EIA report shall not relieve you of the responsibility to comply with other legislation or Government requirements for implementing the Project.

Under Section 15 of the EIA Ordinance, the approved EIA report (Register No. : AEIAR-192/2015) will be placed on the EIA Ordinance Register. The approved EIA report will also be placed on the EIA Ordinance website (<http://www.epd.gov.hk/eia/>) maintained by the Environmental Protection Department.

Should you have any queries on the above application, please contact my colleague Mr. Richard WONG at 2835 1128.

Yours sincerely,



(Louis P.L. CHAN)

Principal Environmental Protection Officer
(Regional Assessment)
for Director of Environmental Protection

Encl.

c.c. (w/o encl.)

Secretary of ACE EIA Subcommittee (Attn. : Ms. Evelyn LEUNG)

Fax: 2872 0603

**Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Ordinance, Cap.499
Application for Approval of EIA Report**

Project Title: Desalination Plant at Tseung Kwan O

Reference of the Approved EIA Report in the Register: AEIAR-192/2015

Conditions of Approval under Section 8(3) of the EIA Ordinance

- (1) The Project Proponent shall conduct an updated fisheries survey as early as possible and in any case, not later than 12 months before commencement of the construction of submarine works so as to verify if there is any fish spawning and nursery ground in the vicinity of the planned location and alignment of the seawater intake and submarine outfall for fine-tuning of the detailed design of these facilities as necessary. Details of the baseline fisheries survey shall be drawn up in consultation with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) for submission to the Director of Environmental Protection (DEP) for approval before commencement of the survey.
- (2) The Project Proponent shall include in the Environmental Monitoring & Audit (EM&A) programme of the post-construction regular monitoring on fisheries in the vicinity of seawater intake and submarine outfall areas so as to ensure no significant impacts on fisheries resources. The EM&A programme should also include post-construction regular monitoring on corals identified in the vicinity of the submarine outfall area to ensure that the health status of the corals was kept in good condition. Details of the fisheries and coral monitoring programmes shall be submitted to DEP for approval prior to commencement of operation of the desalination plant.
- (3) The Project Proponent shall carry out all slope mitigation works on the natural slopes within the Clear Water Bay Country Park in the northeast boundary of the desalination plant with reference to the guidelines and standards adopted by the Civil Engineering and Development Department, and prior written consent of AFCD shall be sought for any proposed slope works inside the country park.

- END -

**Environmental Protection Department
November 2015**

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**Recommendations from the Advisory Council on the Environment
for Carrying Out of the Project**

- (1) The Project Proponent should conduct further run(s) of the effluent dispersion model to ensure that the coral groups near the submarine outfall will not be adversely affected under the most critical conditions including tidal water current or seasonal water current which will bring effluent or reverse osmosis (RO) concentrate towards the corals as well as typhoons which will blow the RO concentrate towards the corals. The Project Proponent should report the model run results to the EIA Subcommittee of ACE.
- (2) The Project Proponent should explore the use of landfill gas as an alternative source of power supply for the operation of the desalination plant and its ancillary facilities.
- (3) The Project Proponent should minimize the generation of marine dredged materials and rock fills from the project, and these materials should be re-used in-situ as far as practicable.
- (4) The Project Proponent should consider further mitigation measures to keep impacts on marine ecology and marine life to a minimum, including the use of double silt curtain, further minimization of the daily volume of marine sediments to be dredged and the dredging rate.

- END -

**Environmental Protection Department
November 2015**