Drainage Services Department

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

Project Title: Sha Tin Cavern Sewage Treatment Works
(Application No. EIA-240/2016)

I refer to your above application received on 31 May 2016 for approval of an EIA report under Section 6(2) of the EIA Ordinance and our previous letter of 21 July 2016 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 18 November 2016, 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 which shall be imposed, together with other relevant requirements, as appropriate, as conditions in the Environmental Permit, if granted, for carrying out the Project. In addition, 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 - 202/2016) will be placed on the EIA Ordinance Register. The approved EIA report and the conditions of approval will also be placed on the EIA Ordinance website (http://www.epd.gov.hk/eia/).
Should you have any queries on the above application, please contact my colleague Mr. Wang YUEN at 2835 1843.

Yours sincerely,

(Richard W.Y. WONG)
Acting Principal Environmental Protection Officer
for Director of Environmental Protection

Encl.

c.c. (w/o encl.)
Secretary of ACE EIA Subcommittee
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Ordinance, Cap.499
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Conditions of Approval under Section 8(3) of the EIA Ordinance

(1) The project proponent shall adopt the best practical means to minimize the vibrations generated by the blasting works on and below ground level so as to minimize disturbances to the heritage buildings and wildlife within the project site.

(2) The project proponent shall conduct a baseline survey for egress before the demolition of the existing Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works. Before the start of the demolition works, a report on the survey results and appropriate measures to minimize the impacts on egress, such as by the adoption of best practices, avoidance of the breeding season, and use of better demolition technology shall be provided to the Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE) for comments before submitting to the Director of Environmental Protection (DEP) for approval.

(3) The project proponent shall review the architectural design of the ventilation building with a view to harmonizing with the surrounding natural environment. The final design of the building shall be submitted to the DEP for approval before commencement of the construction works.

(4) The project proponent shall set up a platform to exchange views with the local community, like the Community Liaison Groups (CLGs).

(5) The project proponent shall devise and submit the tree preservation and woodland compensation plans to the DEP for approval with the aim of enhancing the quality of vegetation and woodlands.

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Environmental Protection Department
November 2016
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Recommendations from the Advisory Council on the Environment for Carrying Out the Project

(1) The project proponent should adopt the most efficient design and equipment to enhance energy efficiency of the facility, and explore measures to minimize the carbon footprint, and enable the recovery of resources, including but not limited to water, energy and phosphorus recovery.

(2) The project proponent should research and develop with the aim of developing new technology for minimizing existing and newly emerged pollutants.

(3) The project proponent should explore the feasibility of setting up an exhibition centre for promotion and educational purposes.

(4) The project proponent should continuously engage stakeholders prior to the setting up of CLGs before construction of the project.

(5) The project proponent should ensure that the temporary structures within the works area are visually and environmentally acceptable.

END

Environmental Protection Department
November 2016