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

Project Title: Improvement Dredging for Lamma Power Station Navigation Channel
(Application No. EIA-251/2017)

I refer to your above application received on 29 March 2017 for approval of an EIA report under Section 6(2) of the EIA Ordinance and our previous letter of 24 May 2017 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, the comments from the Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE) given to us on 11 September 2017, 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 may be imposed, together with other relevant requirements, where appropriate, as conditions in the Environmental Permit, if granted, for carrying out the Project. In addition, recommendation from the ACE is given 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-212/2017) 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. Simon HO at 2835 1153.

Yours sincerely,

(Louis P. L. Chan)
Principal Environmental Protection Officer
for Director of Environmental Protection
Annex 1

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

Project Title: Improvement Dredging for Lamma Power Station Navigation Channel

Reference of the Approved EIA Report in the Register: AEIAR-212/2017

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

(1) The project proponent shall review the maintenance dredging strategy of the Channel such that dredging is conducted more frequently with a view to reducing the need for large scale dredging of the Channel during the operation phase. Should re-profiling of the Channel with estimated dredging quantity of 2.9Mm³ be required during the operation phase, the Project Propunent shall devise a detailed plan with clear justification on why frequent small scale dredging is not feasible. The plan shall be provided to the Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE) for comment prior to submission to the Director of Environmental Protection (DEP) for approval before commencement of works;

(2) The project proponent shall conduct marine ecological and fisheries baseline review before commencement of each dredging. The marine ecological baseline review shall cover species of conservation interest including but not limit to Green Turtle and Finless Porpoise. In preparing the detailed baseline report, the Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department shall be consulted and the report shall be submitted to the DEP for approval before each dredging, including selected high spot dredging and re-profiling;

(3) The project proponent shall conduct and review the baseline sediment quality condition before each dredging, including selected high spot dredging and re-profiling; and

(4) The project proponent shall install extra water quality monitoring stations adjacent to the project site boundary in addition to the proposed stations near to water quality sensitive receivers. The exact locations of the additional monitoring stations and the relevant event action plan shall be submitted to the DEP for approval before each dredging, including selected high spot dredging and re-profiling.

- END -

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

(1) The project proponent should closely monitor the presence and movement of Finless Porpoise within the project area and avoid dredging operations in the night time and active seasons of the Finless Porpoise as far as practicable;

(2) The project proponent should consider the use of trailer suction hopper dredgers for project areas not within nursery and/or spawning grounds with a view to minimizing the negative impacts due to disturbance of sediment;

(3) The project proponent should explore the use of the dredged sediment generated from the project site for use by concurrent projects as fill materials as far as practicable; and

(4) The project proponent should strengthen efforts on marine conservation with a view to preserving and enhancing the marine ecology within the project site.

- END -

Environmental Protection Department
October 2017