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環境保護署分處

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16 February 2022

By Registered Post & Fax:

World Wide Fund for Nature Hong Kong

Dear

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

**Project Title: Mai Po Nature Reserve Infrastructure Upgrade Project
(Application No. EIA-274/2021)**

I refer to your above application received on 10 September 2021 for approval of an EIA report under Section 6(2) of the EIA Ordinance and our previous letter of 2 November 2021 advising you to exhibit the EIA report for public inspection in accordance with Section 6(4) of the EIA Ordinance.

Having considered the comments from the Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE) given to us on 26 January 2022 and no public comments were received during the public inspection period, 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 conditions in the Environmental Permit for carrying out of 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 from 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 - 233/2022) 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 concerning the above, please contact my colleague Ms. Mable CHAN at 2835 1129.

Yours sincerely,



(Stanley C.F. LAU)
Principal Environmental Protection Officer
for Director of Environmental Protection

Encl.

c.c. (w/encl.)

ACE EIA Subcommittee Secretariat (Attn. : Miss Sally SHEK) Fax: 2872 0603

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

Project Title: Mai Po Nature Reserve Infrastructure Upgrade Project

Reference of the Approved EIA Report in the Register: AEIAR-233/2022

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

- (1) The project proponent shall devise a Tree Pruning / Felling Plan (the Plan) by qualified ecologist(s), if tree pruning / felling is necessary, with a view to mitigating any potential adverse impact / disturbance to the wildlife, including bats or birds. The Project Proponent shall consult the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) on the Plan prior to submission to the Director of Environmental Protection (DEP) for approval before commencement of the construction works;
- (2) The project proponent shall devise an Egretty Mitigation Measures Plan (the Plan) by qualified ecologist(s) with a view to mitigating any potential adverse impact/disturbance to the egretty and breeding ardeids, if they are identified in the vicinity of and may be affected by the proposed works. The Project Proponent shall consult the AFCD on the Plan prior to submission to the DEP for approval before commencement of the construction works; and
- (3) The project proponent shall develop, in consultation with the AFCD, a method statement and management plan for the design and construction of the wooden boardwalk, including but not limited to the maintenance of the wooden boardwalk and the existing concrete footpath beneath the wooden boardwalk, with a view to minimising disturbances to the wildlife and sensitive habitats in the vicinity. The Plan shall be submitted to the DEP for approval before commencement of the construction works.

- END -

**Environmental Protection Department
February 2022**

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

Project Title: Mai Po Nature Reserve Infrastructure Upgrade Project

Reference of the Approved EIA Report in the Register: AEIAR-233/2022

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

The project proponent is recommended to –

- (1) identify and justify the choices of the bamboo species used for screen planting, in consultation with the AFCD, with a view to avoiding invasive species being deployed in the Project;
- (2) explore ways to enhance the habitat quality in the project site as far as practicable;
- (3) minimise the amount of excavated materials generated from the proposed construction of tower hides, reduce the duration of the temporary storage of the sediment on the nearby bunds as well as backfilling as far as practicable in order to avoid possible cross contamination in the works area and the immediate vicinity; and
- (4) adopt effective and innovative measures to minimise carbon emissions arising from the proposed construction works with the aim to achieve carbon neutrality within the project site.

- END -

**Environmental Protection Department
February 2022**