

Appendix 1.1 Responses to Public Comments on Project Profile

Comments	Responses
<p>Public Comment Date: 12 November 2013 15:56</p>	
<p>General comment</p>	
<p>I have read the Project Profile and would recommend the project proponent to also look into the possible problem of light pollution (where appropriate under the present EIAO) during operation phase of the facility.</p>	<p>The possible problem of light pollution during operation phase has been included in the assessment of night-time visual impact to visual sensitive receivers during operation phase in Section 12.11 with photomontage illustrations in Figures 12.12f, 12.12h and 12.12j.</p>
<p>Project Profile – bullet point comments for issue to be considered: Impact of light and sound on nearby residents should be taken into account</p>	<p>Impact of light on nearby residents has been included in the assessment of night-time visual impact to residential visual sensitive receivers in Section 12.11 with photomontage illustrations in Figure 12.12f. Nearby residents have also been included as noise sensitive receivers in the noise impact assessment as discussed in Section 5.3 and shown in Table 5.6.</p>
<p>Given the low ambient noise, and the reflection/ carrying of sound over the water – residents on Ap Lei Chau could be impacted</p>	<p>The representative noise sensitive receivers have been identified for carrying out noise assessment according to the study brief requirement. With implementation of the proposed mitigation measures, no residual noise impact exceeding the relevant noise criteria is anticipated on the selected noise sensitive receivers due to the Project during both construction and operation phases as concluded in Section 5.8. Therefore, unacceptable noise impact to residents on Ap Lei Chau, which are not the mostly affected noise sensitive receivers, is not anticipated.</p>
<p>Given the low ambient noise, low level of noise – especially unexpected changes in sound levels such as announcements, lucky draw, pop music could be perceived</p>	<p>Changes in sound levels such as announcements, lucky draw and pop music through Public Address System and loud speaker have been considered as fixed noise</p>

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as a nuisance – even though they may not be considered a problem under the current TM	sources as shown in Table 5.9 . They have been taken into account in the noise impact assessment in Section 5.6 .
Light impacts to be considered	Consideration of light impacts has been included in the assessment of night-time visual impact to visual sensitive receivers in Section 12.11 with photomontage illustrations in Figures 12.12f, 12.12h and 12.12j .
Traffic impacts on nearby roads	Both off-site traffic of construction trucks during construction phase are considered minimal. The anticipated increase in road traffic during operation phase due to the Project have been considered as potential noise sources in Section 5.4 and included in the noise impact assessment in Section 5.6 . Having said that, the traffic forecast and the Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) is outside the scope of this EIA.
The development should pay close attention to the natural stream sections which fall within the project area boundary and are clearly marked on the Project Layout Plan Fig.1	Potential ecological impacts to the streams sections within the Project area have been carefully assessed in Section 10.6.1 and summarized in Table 10.25 . Mitigation measures adopted to preserve the streams are discussed in Section 10.7.1.1 .
Encroachment on the well-vegetated hill slopes that border the development zone should be avoided.	Avoidance and minimization of encroachment on the well-vegetated hill slopes that border the development zone have been demonstrated in Section 10.7.1.1 .
<p>Ardeids Roosting Site at Tai Shue Wan</p> <p>Tai Shue Wan is the only confirmed location on Hong Kong Island with active egretries. In 2011, 3 nests of little Egret were observed and it was the first documented ardeids nesting colony on Hong Kong Island¹, while the recent surveys conducted by Hong Kong Bird Watching Society (HKBWS) between 2011 and 2012 have also clearly shown that there is an increasing trend of egret nests recorded in Tai Shue Wan. In 2012, 7 nests of Little Egret were recorded and 7 nests of Black-crowned Night Heron were</p>	Field surveys have been conducted to provide the most up-to-date information on the egretries in Tai Shue Wan. The survey findings are discussed in Section 10.4.4.2 and summarized in Tables 10.6 and 10.7 .

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<p>newly recorded in Tai Shue Wan area⁴. These results have suggested that Tai Shue Wan is becoming an important site of various egrets.</p>	
<p>The above implication from HKBWS records can be strongly supported by the monthly EM&A reports of South Island Line (East) Project. Relocation of roosting site from Wong Chuk Hang Nullah to Flamingo Pond at Tai Shue Wan has been observed since September 2012. According to the monthly observations from September 2012 to January 2013, number of Eastern Great Egrets recorded is increasing while that of Little Egrets counted is keeping stable condition (summarized as Table 1 in the Appendix). Therefore, we consider that Tai Shue Wan is apparently an important egret roosting and nesting site on Hong Kong Island and its ecological value should not be neglected. We are of grave concern that construction work within and around Flamingo Pond will impose significant adverse impact to the roosting and nesting colony there. Therefore, applicant should conduct comprehensive avifauna survey in both summer and winter months to identify whether Tai Shue Wan has already become an egret colony and address potential adverse impacts to the ardeids colony there. Also, development near Flamingo Pond should be avoided in order to prevent and disturbance to the roosting site.</p>	<p>Comprehensive avifauna surveys at Tai Shue Wan in both summer and winter months have been conducted as described in Section 10.3.3.2 and Table 10.1. Potential adverse impacts to the ardeids at Tai Shue Wan have been carefully assessed in Section 10.6.4 and summarized in Table 10.25. Measures to avoid and minimize disturbance on the ardeids at Tai Shue Wan are specified in Sections 10.7.1.3, 10.7.1.4, 10.7.2.1 and 10.7.3.1. The residual impacts to the ardeids at Tai Shue Wan are considered insignificant to minor as tabulated in Table 10.26.</p>
<p>Besides, there will be clearance of existing shrubland habit within and around the Project Area as claimed by the applicant⁵. Since recent record showed that Fishtail Palms (<i>Caryota ochlandra</i>) are utilized by roosting bird at Tai Shue Wan⁶, we are of grave concern that ardeids habitat will be affected by the removal of existing shrubland. Thus, we consider that detailed</p>	<p>Potential impacts on roosting ardeids due to removal of existing plantation at the fringe and in the vicinity of the Flamingo Pond and Bird Paradise have been carefully assessed in Section 10.6.4.1. Enhancement measures, which include planting of native trees known to have been used by ardeids as roosting substrate, have been included in Section 10.7.3.1 to minimize any potential</p>

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<p>vegetation survey should be conducted in EIA study to identify the potential vegetation utilized by ardeids as their nesting substrates. Protective measures should also be carried out to keep the potential roosting plant species intact and should not be removed.</p>	<p>impact on roosting ardeids at Tai Shue Wan.</p>
<p>Natural Streams near Flamingo Pond & Bird Paradise</p> <p>According to the Project Profile, a small stream near Bird Paradise will be re-provisioned while potential impacts to the two seasonal freshwater streams at the south of Nam Long Shan Road will be addressed⁷. Referring to the Technical Circular of Protection of Natural Streams/Rivers from Adverse Impacts arising from Construction Works (ETWB No. 5/2005), “method and type of works should be chosen to avoid or minimise the possible environmental impact on stream/river.”⁸. Thus, we opine that the applicant should identify all possible development alternatives and address their feasibility during the EIA stage. We consider that re-provisioning of natural streams should always be avoided as far as practicable.</p>	<p>The two seasonal streams are described with their ecological values assessed in Table 10.14. Potential impacts on the streams have been detailed in Section 10.6.1. Consideration of alternative development options is discussed in Section 2.7. Avoidance of impacts on the streams is discussed in 10.7.</p>