

Expansion of Sha Tau Kok Sewage Treatment Works
Submission of Information

(a) Odour data to show the expected improvement from the Project when compared with the current situation;

As no other prominent odour emission source is identified within the Study Area, the baseline odour environment is primarily affected by potential odour emissions from the existing Sha Tau Kok Sewage Treatment Works (STKSTW). The treatment capacity of the existing STKSTW is about 1,660m³/day and odour emission arising from the existing plant is about 4,350 OU/s at source, with no deodourising facility or stack for dispersion.

The expanded STKSTW will have a much higher capacity of about 10,000m³/day. However, with the provision of deodourising facility having an odour removal efficiency of at least 99.5%, the odour emission from the expanded plant is only about 169.5 OU/s as indicated in the EIA Report. In addition, odour emission will be via a 2m tall stack on top of the STKSTW building to facilitate dispersion to atmosphere.

In view of the above, the potential odour impact due to the expanded STKSTW is expected to be lower than that due to the existing STKSTW. The odour environment within the Study Area during the operation of the expanded STKSTW is therefore expected to improve compared with current situation.

(b) Clarification on the baseline ecological survey report (Annex 7A of the EIA report) –

(i) the organizational structure of the survey team who conducted the wildlife transect surveys on mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, butterflies and dragonflies;

Please be advised that the survey team consisted of 6 surveyors. The surveys were mostly conducted simultaneously by members of the survey team but in some occasions the team was split out for specific fauna survey according to the need of the project. Nevertheless, the survey results were also verified by an experienced specialist.

(ii) whether the dragonfly species in photo Plate 29 should be *Orthetrum sabina*;

Please note that both *Orthetrum Sabina* and *Anax nigrofasciatus* were recorded in the survey. The photo in the appendix was a mis-match of the species name and photo but it did not affect the survey result. Accordingly it did not affect the habitat evaluation and the result of the ecological impact assessment.

(iii) survey results for “seagrass” in the habitat classification and evaluation;

Although seagrass is regarded as a habitat in the Technical Memorandum of Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO-TM), the presence of the seagrass is usually recorded as species of conservation interest in mudflat/sandflat, and not singled out as a separated habitat type in the habitat classification and evaluation. Other EIA examples taking the same sampling approach include the *EIA of Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities – Investigation* (2009), *EIA of Expansion of Hong Kong International Airport into a Three-Runway System* (2014) and *EIA of Tung Chung New Town Extension* (2015).

(iv) the factors considered in grading the “ecological values” of mudflat habitats under the Habitat Evaluation (Part 3); and

Please note that the habitat evaluation is based on consideration of factors as stimulated in EIAO-TM Annex 8 including naturalness, size, diversity, rarity, re-creatability, fragmentation, ecological linkage, potential value, nursery/breeding ground, age, abundance/richness of wildlife. Moreover, we had also taken into account the evaluation results in other studies in our habitat evaluation.

Egretty counts and flight path surveys were conducted for A Chau egretty to study the habitat use of the breeding egret. According to the flight path observation, it was found majority of the egrets breeding in A Chau egretty foraged in the area near A Chau with only a relatively small portion of the egrets flew to Sha Tau Kok direction. The result has been presented in the

EIA report and taken into account in the evaluation of the habitat in the Study Area.

(v) survey results for *Nannophya pygmaea* in the study area.

Please note that dragonfly survey is one of the fauna species surveyed for this EIA study. However, *Nannophya pygmaea* was not found.

Please also note the habitat for the *Nannophya pygmaea* in Starling Inlet are situated in less disturbed area which is different to the habitat in Study Area.

-End-