
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT ORDINANCE (CAP. 499)
SECTION 5 (7)

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY BRIEF NO. ESB-278 /2014

PROJECT TITLE : ELEVATED PEDESTRIAN CORRIDOR IN YUEN LONG TOWN CONNECTING WITH LONG PING STATION (hereinafter known as the "Project")

NAME OF APPLICANT : HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT (hereinafter known as the "Applicant")

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 An application (No. ESB-278/2014) for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study Brief under section 5(1)(a) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO) was submitted by the Applicant on 7 August 2014 with a project profile (No. PP-514/2014) (the Project Profile).
- 1.2 The Project is to construct an elevated pedestrian corridor above Yuen Long Town Nullah from West Rail Long Ping Station (WRLPS) crossing over Yuen Long On Ning Road (YLONR), Castle Peak Road – Yuen Long Section (CPRYLS) to the south of Kau Yuk Road (KYR) with provision for future extension to Yuen Long South areas. The main components of the Project include the following:
- (i) Construction of a covered footbridge of about 540m in length and 6m clear width with staircases/lifts/escalators along Yuen Long Town Nullah from WRLPS to the south of KYR;
 - (ii) Connection of the footbridge with WRLPS;
 - (iii) Connection of the footbridge with at-grade footways in YLONR, CPRYLS and KYR;
 - (iv) Provision at the southern end of the footbridge to allow for future extension;
 - (v) Measures for mitigating drainage impact for the sections of Yuen Long Town Nullah underneath the footbridge;
 - (vi) Landscaping and streetscape works of the footpaths along both sides of Yuen

Long Town Nullah between WRLPS and KYR; and

- (vii) Associated civil, road, drainage, geotechnical, traffic aids, utility diversion, street lighting, landscaping, E&M works and environmental mitigation measures and temporary traffic arrangement during construction stage.

The location of the Project is shown in Appendix A.

- 1.3 Pursuant to section 5(7)(a) of the EIAO, the Director issues this EIA study brief to the Applicant to carry out an EIA study on the Project.
- 1.4 The Project consists of, at least, a designated project under Item I.1(b), Part I, Schedule 2 of the EIAO, i.e. *a drainage channel or river training and diversion works which discharges or discharge into an area which is less than 300m from the nearest boundary of an existing or planned (i) site of special scientific interest; (ii) site of cultural heritage; (iii) marine park or marine reserve; (iv) fish culture zone; (v) wild animal protection area; (vi) coastal protection area; or (vii) conservation area.*
- 1.5 The purpose of this EIA study is to provide information on the nature and extent of environmental impacts arising from the construction and operation of the Project. This information will contribute to decisions by the Director on :
 - (i) the acceptability of any adverse environmental consequences that are likely to arise as a result of the Project;
 - (ii) the conditions and requirements for the design, construction and operation of the Project to mitigate against adverse environmental consequences; and
 - (iii) the acceptability of residual impacts after the proposed mitigation measures are implemented.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE EIA STUDY

- 2.1 The objectives of the EIA study are as follows:
 - (i) to describe the Project and associated works together with the requirements and environmental benefits for carrying out the Project;
 - (ii) to identify and describe the elements of the community and environment likely to be affected by the Project and/or likely to cause adverse impacts to the Project, including both the natural and man-made environment and the associated environmental constraints;

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- (iii) to identify and quantify emission sources and determine the significance of impacts on sensitive receivers and potential affected uses;
 - (iv) to identify and quantify any potential losses or damage to flora, fauna and wildlife habitats;
 - (v) to identify and evaluate any potential landscape and visual impacts and to propose measures to mitigate these impacts;
 - (vi) to propose the provision of infrastructure or mitigation measures to minimize pollution, environmental disturbance and nuisance during the construction and operation of the Project;
 - (vii) to investigate the feasibility, effectiveness and implications of the proposed mitigation measures;
 - (viii) to identify, predict and evaluate the residual (i.e. after practicable mitigation) environmental impacts and the cumulative effects expected to arise during the construction and operation phases of the Project in relation to the sensitive receivers and potentially affected uses;
 - (ix) to identify, assess and specify methods, measures and standards, to be included in the detailed design, construction and operation of the Project which are necessary to mitigate these residual environmental impacts and cumulative effects and reduce them to acceptable levels;
 - (x) to design and specify environmental monitoring and audit requirements; and
 - (xi) to identify any additional studies necessary to implement the mitigation measures or monitoring and proposals recommended in the EIA report.

3. DETAILED REQUIREMENTS OF THE EIA STUDY

3.1 The Purpose

- 3.1.1 The purpose of this study brief is to scope the key issues of the EIA study and to specify the environmental issues that are required to be reviewed and assessed in the EIA report. The Applicant has to demonstrate in the EIA report that the criteria in the relevant sections of the Technical Memorandum on the Environmental Impact Assessment Process of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (hereinafter referred to as “the TM”) are complied with.

3.2 The Scope

3.2.1 The scope of this EIA study shall cover the Project proposed in the Project Profile. The EIA study shall address the likely key issues described below, together with any other key issues identified during the course of the EIA study:

- (i) potential air quality and noise impacts on the sensitive receivers during construction and operation of the Project;
- (ii) potential water quality impacts on water system(s) including the Deep Bay Water Control Zone and relevant water sensitive receivers (e.g. Shan Pui River), during construction and operation of the Project;
- (iii) potential waste management issues and impacts during construction and operation of the Project;
- (iv) potential ecological impact during construction and operation of the Project;
- (v) potential landscape impact arising from the Project and potential visual impact arising from the above-ground structures of the Project;
- (vi) potential impacts on sites of cultural heritage from construction and operation of the Project; and
- (vii) potential cumulative impacts of the Project, through interaction or in combination with other existing, committed and planned projects e.g. “Improvement of Yuen Long Town Nullah (Town Centre Section)” in the vicinity of the Project.

3.3 Consideration of Alternatives

3.3.1 Background and History of the Project

The Applicant shall provide information on the background and history of the Project, including the purpose and objectives of the Project, and describe the scenarios with and without the Project.

3.3.2 Consideration of Alternative Design and Layout

The Applicant shall present in the EIA report the consideration of alternative design and layout of the Project. Factors or constraints affecting the design and layout of the Project shall be stated.

3.3.3 Consideration of Alternative Construction Methods and Sequences of Works

Taking into consideration of the combined effect with respect to the severity and duration of the construction impacts to the affected sensitive receivers, the EIA study shall explore different construction methods and sequences of works of the Project with a view to avoiding or minimizing adverse environmental impacts during construction of the Project. A comparison of the environmental benefits and disbenefits of applying different construction methods and sequences of works shall be included in the EIA study.

3.4 **Technical Requirements**

The Applicant shall conduct the EIA study to address the environmental aspects of the Project as described in section 3.2 above. The assessment shall be based on the best and latest information available during the course of the EIA study. The Applicant shall include in the EIA report details of the construction and operational programme and the methodologies for assessing the environmental impacts of the Project. The Applicant shall clearly state in the EIA report the time frame and works programmes of the Project and other concurrent projects, and assess the cumulative environmental impacts from the Project and the interacting projects as identified in the EIA study.

The EIA study shall include the following technical requirements on specific impacts.

3.4.1 **Air Quality Impact**

- 3.4.1.1 The Applicant shall follow the criteria and guidelines for evaluating and assessing air quality impact as stated in section 1 of Annex 4 and Annex 12 of the TM.
- 3.4.1.2 The study area for air quality impact assessment shall be defined by a distance of 500 meters from the boundary of the Project site or other project locations as identified in the EIA, which shall be extended to include major existing, planned and committed air pollutant emission sources that may have a bearing on the environmental acceptability of the Project. The assessment shall include the existing, planned and committed sensitive receivers within the study area as well as areas where air quality may be potentially affected by the Project. The assessment shall be based on the best available information at the time of the assessment.
- 3.4.1.3 The Applicant shall follow the requirements stipulated under the Air Pollution Control (Construction Dust) Regulation to ensure that construction dust impacts are controlled within the relevant standards as stipulated in Section 1 of Annex 4 of the TM.

3.4.1.4 The Applicant shall evaluate the likely odour impact that may arise from the construction and associated activities of the Project, and propose suitable measures to control/ minimize potential odour nuisance.

3.4.1.5 A monitoring and audit programme for the construction phase of the Project shall be devised to verify the effectiveness of the proposed control measures so as to ensure proper control of fugitive dust and odour emissions.

3.4.2 Noise Impact

3.4.2.1 The Applicant shall follow the criteria and guidelines for evaluating and assessing noise impact as stated in Annexes 5 and 13 of the TM respectively.

3.4.2.2 Assessment shall include construction noise impact assessment of the existing, committed and planned NSRs earmarked on the relevant Outline Zoning Plans, Development Permission Area Plans, Outline Development Plans, Layout Plans and other relevant published land use plans, including plans and drawings published by the Lands Department and any land use and development applications approved by the Town Planning Board, in the vicinity of the Project.

3.4.2.3 The noise impact assessment of the Project shall follow the detailed technical requirements given in Appendix B of this EIA Study Brief.

3.4.3 Water Quality Impact

3.4.3.1 The Applicant shall follow the criteria and guidelines for evaluating and assessing water pollution as stated in Annexes 6 and 14 of the TM.

3.4.3.2 The study area for the water quality impact assessment shall cover the Deep Bay Water Control Zone as designated under the Water Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap 358) and water sensitive receivers in the vicinity of the Project. The study area shall be extended to include other areas if they are found also being impacted during the course of the EIA study and have a bearing on the environmental acceptability of the Project.

3.4.3.3 The water quality impact assessment for construction and operation of the Project shall follow the detailed technical requirements given in Appendix C.

3.4.4 Waste Management Implication and Land Contamination

3.4.4.1 The Applicant shall follow the criteria and guidelines for evaluating and assessing

waste management implication as stated in Annexes 7 and 15 of the TM.

3.4.4.2 The assessment of the waste management implication arising from construction and operation of the Project shall follow the detailed technical requirements given in Appendix D.

3.4.4.3 The Applicant shall follow the guidelines for evaluating and assessing potential land contamination issue as stated in Section 3.1 of Annex 19 of the TM.

3.4.4.4 The assessment of the potential land contamination issue shall follow the detailed requirements given in Appendix D.

3.4.5 Ecological Impact (Terrestrial and Aquatic)

3.4.5.1 The Applicant shall follow the criteria and guidelines for evaluating and assessing ecological impact as stated in Annexes 8 and 16 of the TM.

3.4.5.2 The assessment area for the purpose of this ecological impact assessment shall include areas within 500m distance from the boundary of the Project and any other areas likely to be impacted by the Project. For aquatic ecology, the assessment area shall be the same as the water quality impact assessment described in section 3.4.3.

3.4.5.3 The ecological impact assessment for construction and operation of the Project shall follow the detailed technical requirements given in Appendix E.

3.4.6 Landscape and Visual Impacts

3.4.6.1 The Applicant shall follow the criteria and guidelines as stated in Annexes 10 and 18 of the TM and the EIAO Guidance Note No.8/2010 on “Preparation of Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance” for evaluating and assessing the landscape and visual impacts.

3.4.6.2 The assessment area for landscape impact assessment shall include all areas within a 100m distance from the site boundary of the Project. The assessment area for the visual impact assessment shall be defined by the visual envelope of the Project.

3.4.6.3 The landscape and visual impact assessments for construction and operation of the Project shall follow the detailed technical requirements given in Appendix F.

3.4.7 Impact on Cultural Heritage

- 3.4.7.1 The applicant shall follow the criteria and guideline for evaluating and assessing the cultural heritage impacts as stated in Annexes 10 and 19 of the TM.
- 3.4.7.2 The cultural heritage impact assessment shall include a Built Heritage Impact Assessment (BHIA). Details of the technical requirements of the BHIA are shown in Appendix G.

3.4.8 Summary of Environmental Outcomes

- 3.4.8.1 The EIA report shall contain a summary of key environmental outcomes arising from the EIA study, including environmental benefits of the Project and the environmental protection measures recommended, population and environmentally sensitive areas protected, recommended environmentally friendly designs, key environmental problems avoided and any compensation areas included.

3.4.9 Environmental Monitoring and Audit (EM&A) Requirements

- 3.4.9.1 The Applicant shall identify and justify in the EIA study whether there is any need for EM&A activities during the construction and operation phases of the Project and, if affirmative, define the scope of EM&A requirements for the Project in the EIA study.
- 3.4.9.2 Subject to the confirmation of the EIA study findings, the Applicant shall follow the guidelines for an EM&A programme as stated in Annex 21 of the TM.
- 3.4.9.3 The Applicant shall prepare a Project Implementation Schedule in the form of a checklist as shown in Appendix H of this EIA study brief. It shall contain the EIA study recommendations and mitigation measures with reference to the implementation programme.

4. DURATION OF VALIDITY

- 4.1 The Applicant shall notify the Director of the commencement of the EIA study. If the EIA study does not commence within 36 months after the date of issue of this EIA study brief, the Applicant shall apply to the Director for a fresh EIA study brief before commencement of the EIA study.

5. REPORT REQUIREMENTS

- 5.1 In preparing the EIA report, the Applicant shall refer to Annex 11 of the TM for the contents of an EIA report. The Applicant shall also refer to Annex 20 of the TM, which stipulates the guidelines for the review of an EIA report.
- 5.2 The Applicant shall supply the Director with hard and electronic copies of the EIA report and the executive summary in accordance with the requirements given in Appendix I. The Applicant shall, upon request, make additional copies of EIA report/documents available to the public, subject to payment by the interested parties of full costs of printing.

6. OTHER PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

- 6.1 If there is any change in the name of Applicant for this EIA study brief during the course of the EIA study, the Applicant must notify the Director immediately.
- 6.2 If there is any key change in the scope of the Project mentioned in Section 1.2 of this EIA study brief and in Project Profile (No. PP-514/2014), the Applicant must seek confirmation from the Director in writing on whether or not the scope of issues covered by this EIA study brief can still cover the key changes, and the additional issues, if any, that the EIA study must also address. If the changes to the Project fundamentally alter the key scope of the EIA study brief, the Applicant shall apply to the Director for a fresh EIA study brief.

7. LIST OF APPENDICES

- 7.1 This EIA Study Brief includes the following appendices:

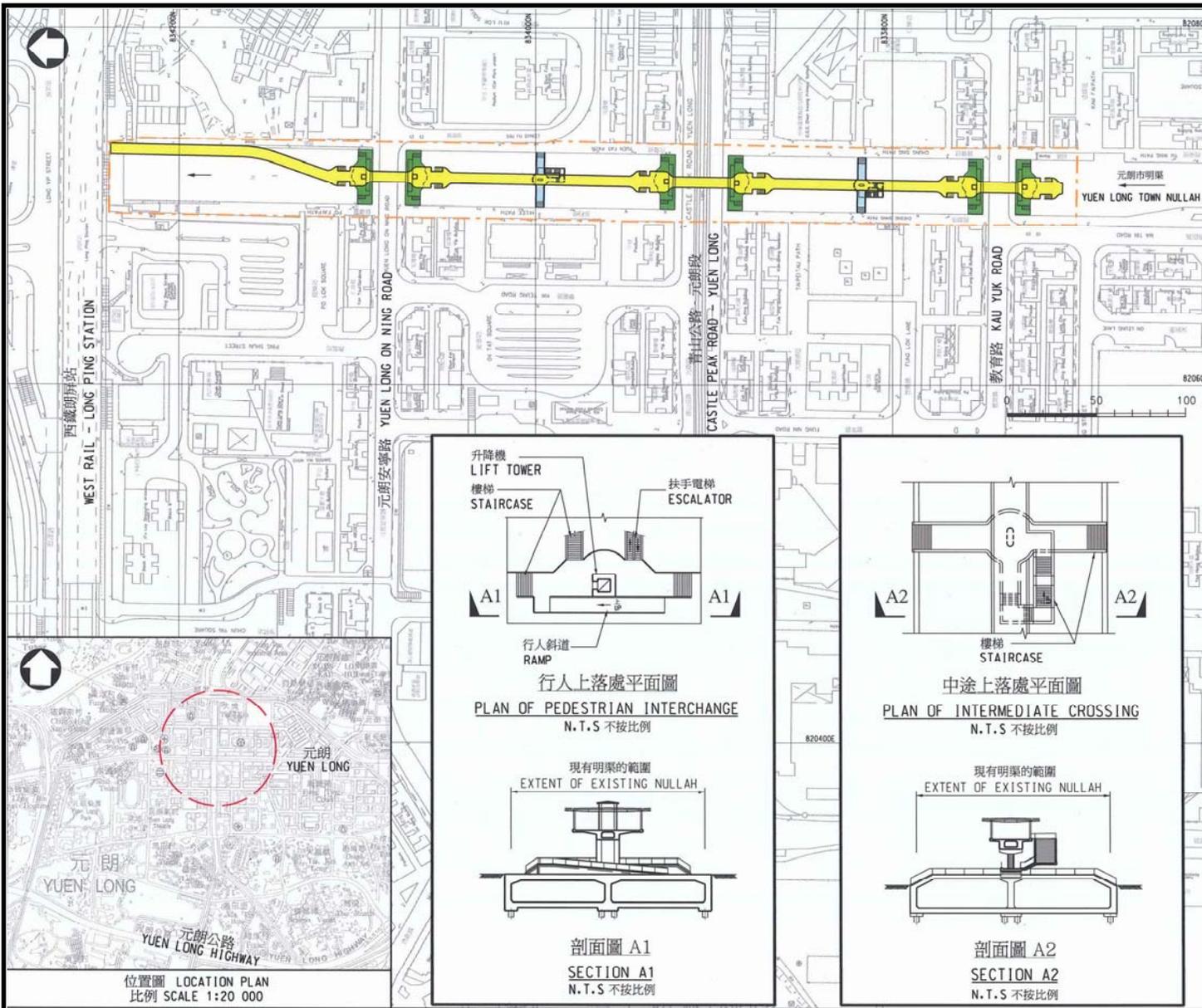
Appendix A	-	Project Location Plan
Appendix B	-	Requirements for Noise Impact Assessment
Appendix C	-	Requirements for Water Quality Impact Assessment
Appendix D	-	Requirements for Assessment of Waste Management Implication and Land Contamination
Appendix E	-	Requirements for Ecological Impact Assessment (Terrestrial and Aquatic)
Appendix F	-	Requirements for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments
Appendix G	-	Requirements for Built Heritage Impact Assessment
Appendix G-1	-	Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment
Appendix H	-	Implementation Schedule of Recommended Mitigation

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Appendix I - Measures
Requirements for EIA Report Documents

--- END OF EIA STUDY BRIEF ---

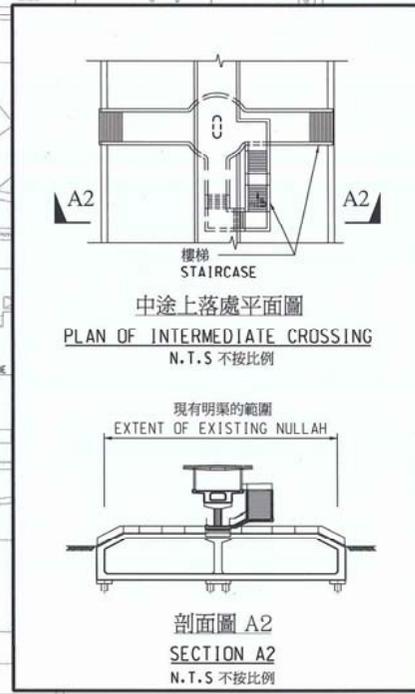
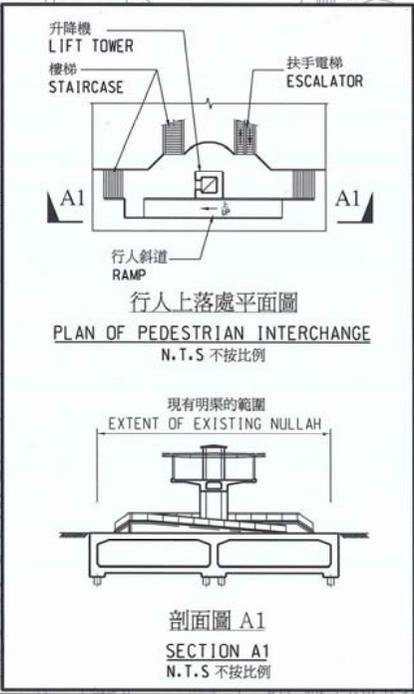
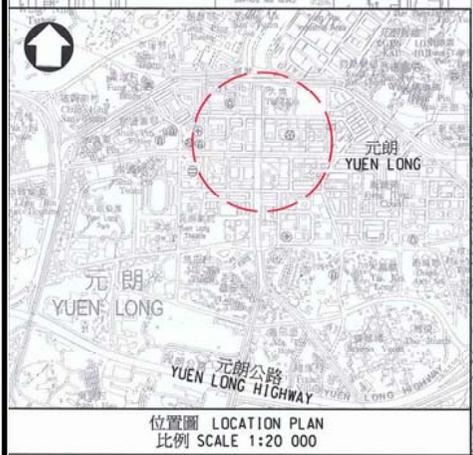
September 2014
Environmental Assessment Division
Environmental Protection Department



註釋 NOTES:

圖例 LEGEND

-  建議工程界限
PROPOSED SITE BOUNDARY
-  擬議行人天橋
PROPOSED FOOTBRIDGE
-  擬議行人上落處
PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN INTERCHANGE
-  擬議中途上落處
PROPOSED INTERMEDIATE CROSSING



Project Title: Elevated Pedestrian Corridor in Yuen Long Town connecting with Long Ping Station
(This figure is prepared based on Drawing No. HMW6182TB-SK0028 of Project Profile No. PP-514/2014)

工程項目名稱: 連接朗屏站之元朗市高架行人通道
(本圖是根據工程項目簡介 PP-514/2014 圖則編號 HMW6182TB-SK0028 編製)

EIA Study Brief No. : ESB-278/2014
環評研究概要編號 :

Appendix A: Project Location Plan
附錄 A: 工程項目位置圖



Appendix B

Requirements for Noise Impact Assessment

The noise impact assessment shall include the following:

1. Description of the Noise Environment

The Applicant shall describe the prevailing noise environment in the EIA report.

2. Construction Noise Impact Assessment

2.1 Construction Noise Impact Assessment Methodology

2.1.1 The Applicant shall carry out construction noise impact assessment (excluding percussive piling) of the Project during daytime, i.e. 7am to 7pm, on weekdays other than general holidays in accordance with methodology in paragraphs 5.3 and 5.4 of Annex 13 of the TM.

2.1.2 For ground-borne construction noise impact, the Applicant shall propose assessment methodology and computational model which shall be confirmed with the Director, with reference to Section 4.4.2 of the TM, prior to the commencement of the assessment. Site measurements at appropriate locations may be required in order to obtain the empirical input parameters required in the computational model.

2.2 Identification of Construction Noise Impact

2.2.1 Identification of Assessment Area and Noise Sensitive Receivers

- (a) The Applicant shall propose the assessment area for agreement of the Director before commencing the assessment. The assessment area for the construction noise impact assessment shall generally include areas within 300 metres from the boundary of the Project and the works of the Project.
- (b) The Applicant shall identify all existing NSRs in the assessment area and select assessment points to represent identified NSRs for carrying out quantitative construction noise impact assessment described below.
- (c) The assessment points shall be confirmed with the Director prior to the commencement of the quantitative construction noise impact assessment and may be varied subject to the best and latest information available during the course of the EIA study.

- (d) A map showing the location and description such as name of building, use, and floor of each and every selected assessment point shall be given. Photographs of existing NSRs shall be appended to the EIA report.

2.2.2 Inventory of Noise Sources

The Applicant shall identify and quantify an inventory of noise sources for representative construction equipment for the purpose of construction noise impact assessment.

2.3 Prediction and Evaluation of Construction Noise Impact

2.3.1 Phases of Construction

The Applicant shall identify representative phases of construction that would have noticeable varying construction noise emissions at existing NSRs at the assessment area for agreement of the Director before commencing the construction noise impact assessment.

2.3.2 Scenarios

The Applicant shall quantitatively assess the construction noise impact, with respect to criteria set in Annex 5 of the TM, of unmitigated scenario and mitigated scenario at different phases of construction of the Project.

2.3.3 Prediction of Noise Impact

- (a) The Applicant shall present the predicted noise levels in Leq (30 min) dB(A) at the selected assessment points at various representative floor levels (in m P.D.) on tables and plans of suitable scale.
- (b) The assessment shall cover the cumulative construction noise impact resulting from the construction works of the Project and other concurrent projects identified during the course of the EIA study on existing NSRs within the assessment area.
- (c) The potential construction noise impact under different phases of construction shall be quantified by estimating the total number of dwellings, classrooms and other noise sensitive receivers that will be exposed to noise impact exceeding the criteria set in Annex 5 in the TM.
- (d) The Applicant shall, as far as practicable, formulate a reasonable construction programme so that no work will be required in restricted hours as defined under the Noise Control Ordinance (NCO). In case the Applicant needs to evaluate whether construction works in restricted hours as defined under the

NCO are feasible or not in the context of programming construction works, reference should be made to relevant technical memoranda issued under the NCO. Regardless of the results of construction noise impact assessment for restricted hours, the Noise Control Authority will process Construction Noise Permit (CNP) application, if necessary, based on the NCO, the relevant technical memoranda issued under the NCO, and the contemporary conditions/situations. This aspect should be explicitly stated in the noise chapter and the conclusions and recommendations chapter in EIA report.

2.4 Mitigation of Construction Noise Impact

Direct Mitigation Measures

Where the predicted construction noise impact exceeds the criteria set in Table 1B of Annex 5, TM, the Applicant shall consider and evaluate direct mitigation measures including but not limited to, movable barriers, enclosures, quieter alternative methods, re-scheduling, restricting hours of operation of noisy tasks, etc. The feasibility, practicability, programming and effectiveness of the recommended mitigation measures shall be assessed. Any direct mitigation measures recommended should be well documented in the report. Specific reasons for not adopting certain direct mitigation measures to reduce the noise to a level meeting the criteria in the TM or to maximize the protection for the NSRs as far as possible should be clearly substantiated and documented in the EIA report.

2.5 Evaluation of Residual Construction Noise Impact

Upon exhaust of direct mitigation measures, if the mitigated noise impact still exceeds the relevant criteria in Annex 5 of TM, the Applicant shall identify, predict, evaluate the residual construction noise impact in accordance with Section 4.4.3 of the TM and estimate the total number of existing dwellings, classrooms and other noise sensitive elements that will be exposed to residual noise impact exceeding the criteria set in Annex 5 in the TM.

Requirements for Water Quality Impact Assessment

1. The Applicant shall identify and analyse physical, chemical and biological disruptions of the water system(s) arising from the construction and operation of the Project.
2. The Applicant shall predict, quantify and assess any water quality impacts arising from the construction and operation of the Project. Possible impacts due to the effluent discharge, biocide discharge, and site runoff shall include changes in hydrology, flow regime, sediment erosion and deposition patterns, morphological change of riverbed/seabed profile, water quality and sediment quality. The prediction shall include possible different construction stages or sequences of the Project. Affected sensitive receivers shall be identified by the assessment tool with indications of degree of severity.
3. The assessment shall include, but not be limited to the following:
 - (i) the water quality impacts of the site run-off generated during the construction stage such as the effluents generated from dewatering associated with piling activities, grouting and concrete washing and those specified in the ProPECC Practice Note 1/94;
 - (ii) the assessment on operation stage shall have regard to the frequency, duration, volume and flow rate of the discharges and its pollutant;
 - (iii) the water quality impacts during construction and operation stages of the Project;
4. The Applicant shall address water quality impacts due to the construction phase and operational phase of the Project. Essentially, the assessment shall address the following :
 - (i) collect and review background information on affected existing and planned water systems, their respective catchments and sensitive receivers which might be affected by the Project;
 - (ii) characterize water quality of the water systems and sensitive receivers, which might be affected by the Project based on existing best available information or through appropriate site survey and tests;

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- (iii) identify and analyse relevant existing and planned future activities, beneficial uses and water sensitive receivers related to the affected water system(s). The Applicant should refer to, *inter alia*, those developments and uses earmarked on the relevant Outline Zoning Plans, Development Permission Area Plans, Outline Development Plans and Layout Plans, and any other relevant published landuse plans;
 - (iv) identify pertinent water quality objectives and establish other appropriate water quality criteria or standards for the water system(s) and the sensitive receivers identified in (i), (ii) & (iii) above;
 - (v) review the specific construction methods and configurations, and operation of the Project to identify and predict the likely water quality impacts arising from the Project;
 - (vi) identify any alternation of any water courses, natural streams, ponds, wetlands, flow regimes of water bodies, catchment types or areas, erosion or sedimentation due to the Project and any other hydrological changes in the study area;
 - (vii) identify and quantify existing and likely future water pollution sources, including point discharges and non-point sources to surface water runoff, sewage from workforce and polluted discharge generated from the Project;
 - (viii) provide an emission inventory on the quantities and characteristics of those existing and future pollution sources in the study area. Field investigation and laboratory test, shall be conducted as appropriate to fill relevant information gaps;
 - (ix) predict and quantify the water quality impacts arising from those alternations and changes identified in (vi) to (viii) above. The prediction shall take into account and include possible different construction and operation stages of the Project;
 - (x) assess the cumulative impacts due to other related concurrent and planned projects, activities or pollution sources within the study area that may have a bearing on the environmental acceptability of the Project;
 - (xi) analyze the provision and adequacy of existing and planned future facilities to reduce pollution arising from the point and non-point sources identified in (vii) above;

- (xii) develop effective infrastructure upgrading or provision, contingency plan, water pollution prevention and mitigation measures to be implemented during construction and operation stages, including emergency sewage discharge in the case of sewage treatment works and sewage pumping stations, so as to reduce the water quality impacts to within standards. Effluent generated from the Project shall require appropriate collection, treatment and disposal to ensure that there is no net increase in pollution load to Deep Bay. Requirements to be incorporated in the Project contract document shall also be proposed;
- (xiii) investigate and develop best management practices to reduce storm water and non-point source pollution as appropriate;
- (xiv) evaluate and quantify residual impacts on water system(s) and the sensitive receivers with regard to the appropriate water quality objectives, criteria, standards or guidelines;

Requirements for Assessment of Waste Management Implication and Land Contamination

The assessment of waste management implication and land contamination shall cover the following:

1. Analysis of Activities and Waste Generation

The Applicant shall identify the quantity, quality and timing of the wastes arising as a result of the construction and operation activities of the Project based on the sequence, duration, method and process of these activities, e.g. any dredged/excavated sediment/mud, construction and demolition materials, floating refuse, sewage sludge, screening, grits, chemical waste and other wastes which will be generated during construction and operation stages. The Applicant shall adopt appropriate design, general layout, construction methods and programme to minimize the generation of public fill/inert construction and demolition (C&D) materials and maximize the use of public fill/inert C&D materials for other construction works.

2. Proposal for Waste Management

- (i) Prior to considering the disposal options for various types of wastes, opportunities for reducing waste generation, on-site or off-site re-use and recycling shall be evaluated. Measures that can be taken in the planning and design stages e.g. by modifying the design approach and in the construction stage for maximizing waste reduction shall be separately considered;
- (ii) After considering the opportunities for reducing waste generation and maximizing re-use, the types and quantities of the wastes required to be disposed of as a consequence shall be estimated and the disposal methods/options for each type of wastes shall be described. The disposal methods/options recommended for each type of wastes shall take into account the result of the assessment in Section 2 (iv) below;
- (iii) The EIA report shall state the transportation routings and the frequency of the trucks/vessels involved, any barging point or conveyor system to be used, the stockpiling areas and the disposal outlets for the wastes identified; and
- (iv) The impact caused by handling (including stockpiling, labelling, packaging & storage), collection, transportation and re-use/disposal of wastes shall be addressed and appropriate mitigation measures shall be proposed. This

assessment shall cover the following areas:

- potential hazard;
- air and odour emissions;
- noise;
- wastewater discharge;
- ecology; and
- public transport.

3. Land Contamination

- (i) The Applicant shall identify land lots and sites within the Project boundary which, due to their past or present land uses, are potentially contaminated sites. A detailed account of the present activities and past land use history in relation to possible land contamination shall be provided.
- (ii) The list of potential contaminants which are anticipated to be found in these potentially contaminated sites shall be provided and relevant remediation options shall be presented.

4. ! Dredging/Excavation, Filling and Dumping

- (i) The Applicant shall identify and quantify all excavation/dredging, excavated/dredged sediment/mud transportation and disposal activities and requirements. Potential dumping ground to be involved shall also be identified. Appropriate field investigation, sampling and chemical and biological laboratory tests to characterize the sediment/mud concerned shall be conducted. The ranges of parameters to be analyzed; the number, type and methods of sampling; sample preservation; chemical and biological laboratory test methods to be used shall be agreed with the Director (with reference to Section 4.4.2(c) of the TM) prior to the commencement of the tests and document in the EIA report for consideration. The categories of sediment/mud which are to be disposed of in accordance with a permit granted under the Dumping at Sea Ordinance (DASO) shall be identified by both chemical and biological tests and their quantities shall be estimated. If the presence of any serious contamination of sediment/mud which requires special treatment/disposal is confirmed, the Applicant shall identify the most appropriate treatment and/or disposal arrangement and demonstrate its feasibility. The Applicant shall provide supporting document, such as agreement by the relevant facilities management authorities, to demonstrate the viability of any treatment/disposal plan.
- (ii) The Applicant shall identify and evaluate the best practical

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dredging/excavation methods to minimize dredging/excavation and dumping requirements based on the criterion that existing sediment/mud shall be left in place and not to be disturbed as far as possible.

Requirements for Ecological Impact Assessment (Terrestrial and Aquatic)

1. In the ecological impact assessment, the Applicant shall examine the flora, fauna and other components of the ecological habitats within the assessment area. The aim shall be to protect, maintain or rehabilitate the natural environment. In particular, the Project shall avoid or minimise impacts on recognised sites of conservation importance and other ecologically sensitive areas such as the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site, Wetland Conservation Area (WCA) and Wetland Buffer Area (WBA) as defined in Town Planning Board Guideline 12C and mudflats / mangrove along the embankment and at confluence of Kam Tin River and Shan Pui River. The assessment shall identify and quantify as far as possible the potential ecological impacts arising from the Project including its construction and operation phases
2. The assessment shall include the followings:
 - (i) Review of the findings of relevant studies/surveys and collection of the available information regarding the ecological characters of the assessment area;
 - (ii) Evaluation of information collected and identification of any information gap relating to the assessment of potential ecological impact, and determine the ecological field surveys and investigations that are needed for an impact assessment as required in the following sections;
 - (iii) Carrying out necessary field surveys and investigations to verify the information collected in (i) above, to fill the information gaps identified and to fulfill the objectives of the EIA study;
 - (iv) Establishment of the general ecological profile of the assessment area based on data of relevant previous studies/surveys and results of the ecological field surveys, if any, and description of the characteristics of each habitat found. Major information to be provided shall include :
 - (a) description of the physical environment, including all recognized sites of conservation importance and other ecologically sensitive areas, and assessment of whether these sites/areas will be affected by the Project or not;
 - (b) habitat maps of suitable scale (1:1000 to 1:5000) showing the types and locations of habitats/species in the assessment area;
 - (c) ecological characteristics of each habitat type such as size, type,

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- species present, dominant species found, species diversity and abundance, community structure, seasonal pattern, ecological value and inter-dependence of the habitats and species, and presence of any features of ecological importance;
- (d) representative colour photos of each habitat type and any important ecological features identified; and
 - (e) species found that are rare, endangered and/or listed under local legislation, international conventions for conservation of wildlife/habitats or red data books.
- (v) Investigation and description of the existing wildlife uses of the various habitats with special attention to those wildlife groups and habitats with conservation interests, including:
- (a) Natural and man-made wetland habitats including mudflat, mangrove,;
 - (b) migratory and overwintering waterbirds roosting and/or feeding in the wetland habitats above;
 - (c) breeding egrets and herons foraging in the wetland habitats above;
 - (d) waterbirds and other wetland-dependant or associated fauna such as bent-winged firefly; and
 - (e) any other habitats or species identified as having special conservation interests by this study.
- (vi) Using suitable methodology and considering also other projects in the vicinity of the Project area reasonably likely to occur at the same time, identification and quantification as far as possible of any direct, indirect, on-site, off-site, primary, secondary and cumulative ecological impacts, reduction of species abundance/diversity, loss of feeding grounds, reduction of ecological carrying capacity, habitat fragmentation, and in particular the followings :
- (a) indirect ecological impacts due to changes in the water quality, hydrodynamics properties, sedimentation rates and pattern as well as hydrology. in the drainage channels, and its downstream wetland habitats in the assessment area during construction and operation phases.
- (vii) Evaluation of ecological impact based on the best and latest information available during the course of the EIA study, using quantitative approach as far as practicable and covering construction and operation phases of the Project
- (viii) Recommendations for practicable mitigation measures to avoid, minimize

and/or compensate for the adverse ecological impacts identified during construction and operation of the Project;

- (ix) Evaluation of the feasibility and effectiveness of the recommended mitigation measures and definition of the scope, type, location, implementation arrangement, resources requirement, subsequent management and maintenance of such measures;
- (x) Determination and quantification as far as possible of the residual ecological impacts after implementation of the proposed mitigation measures;
- (xi) Evaluation of the significance and acceptability of the residual ecological impacts by making reference to the criteria in Annex 8 of the TM; and
- (xii) Review of the need for and recommendation on any ecological monitoring programme required.

Requirements for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments

1. The Applicant shall review relevant plan(s) and/or studies which may identify areas of high landscape value. Any guidelines on landscape and urban design strategies and frameworks that may affect the appreciation of the Project shall also be reviewed. The aim is to gain an insight to the future outlook of the area affected so as to assess whether the Project can fit into the surrounding setting. Any conflict with the statutory town plan(s) and any published land use plans shall be highlighted and appropriate follow-up action shall be recommended.
2. The Applicant shall describe, appraise, analyse and evaluate the existing and planned landscape resources and character of the assessment area. A system shall be derived for judging landscape and visual impact significance. Annotated oblique aerial photographs and plans of suitable scale showing the baseline landscape character areas and landscape resources and mapping of impact assessment shall be extensively used to present the findings of impact assessment. Descriptive text shall provide a concise and reasoned judgment from a landscape and visual point of view. The sensitivity of the landscape framework and its ability to accommodate change shall be particularly focused on. The Applicant shall identify the degree of compatibility of the Project with the existing and planned landscape setting, recreation and tourism related uses, and scenic spot. The landscape impact assessment shall quantify the potential landscape impact as far as possible so as to illustrate the significance of such impacts arising from the proposed development. Clear mapping of the landscape impact is required. A Broad Brush Tree Survey shall be carried out and the impacts on existing trees shall be addressed. Cumulative landscape and visual impacts of the Project with other committed and planned developments shall be assessed.
3. The Applicant shall assess the visual impacts of the Project. Clear illustration including mapping of visual impact is required. The assessment shall include the following:
 - (i) identification and plotting of visual envelope of the Project;
 - (ii) identification of the key groups of existing and planned sensitive receivers within the visual envelope with regard to views from ground level and elevated vantage points;
 - (iii) description of the visual compatibility of the Project with the surrounding and the planned setting, and its obstruction and interference with the key views of the study areas;

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- (iv) identification of the severity of visual impacts in terms of distance, nature and number of sensitive receivers. The visual impacts of the Project with and without mitigation measures shall be included so as to demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation measures;
4. The Applicant shall evaluate the merits of preservation in totality, in parts or total destruction of existing landscape and the establishment of a new landscape character area. In addition, alternative location, layout, design, built-form and construction method that will avoid or reduce the identified landscape and visual impacts shall be evaluated for comparison before adopting other mitigation or compensatory measures to alleviate the impacts. The mitigation measures proposed shall not only be concerned with damage reduction but shall also include consideration of potential enhancement of existing landscape and visual quality. The Applicant shall recommend mitigation measures to minimize adverse effects identified above, including provision of a master landscape plan.
5. The mitigation measures shall also include the preservation of vegetation, transplanting trees in good condition and value, provision of screen planting, re-vegetation of disturbed lands, compensatory planting, design of structure, provision of finishes to structure, colour scheme and texture of material used and any measures to mitigate the impact on the existing and planned land use and visually sensitive receivers. Parties shall be identified for the on going management and maintenance of the proposed mitigation works to ensure their effectiveness throughout the construction phase and operation phase of the Project, associated works, supporting facilities and essential infrastructures. A practical programme and funding proposal for the implementation of the recommendation measures shall be provided.
6. Annotated illustration materials such as colour perspective drawings, plans and section/elevation diagrams, annotated oblique aerial photographs, photographs taken at vantage points, and computer-generated photomontage shall be adopted to fully illustrate the landscape and visual impacts of the proposal. In particular, the landscape and visual impacts of the Project with and without mitigation measures from representative viewpoints, particularly from views of the most severely affected visually sensitive receivers (i.e. worst case scenario), shall be properly illustrated in existing and planned setting at four stages (existing condition, Day 1 with no mitigation measures, Day 1 with mitigation measures and Year 10 with mitigation measures) by computer-generated photomontage so as to demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation measures. Computer graphics shall be compatible with Microstation DGN file format. The Applicant shall record the technical details in preparing the illustration, which may need to be submitted for verification of the accuracy of the illustration.

Requirements for Built Heritage Impact Assessment

The built heritage impact assessment shall include areas within a distance of 100m from the site boundary of the Project, associated works, supporting facilities and essential infrastructures.

The Applicant shall conduct a built heritage impact assessment (BHIA), taking the results of the previous studies and other background of the site into account, to identify known and unknown built heritage items within the assessment area that may be affected by the Project and its associated works and to assess the direct and indirect impacts on built heritage items. The impacts include visual impact, impacts on the fung shui/visual corridor of the historic buildings and structures through change of water-table, vibration caused by the Project. Assessment of impacts on cultural heritage shall also take full account of, and allow where appropriate, the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment of Annex 18 of the TM. The Applicant shall demonstrate that all reasonable efforts have been made to avoid or keep the adverse impacts of built heritage items to the minimum through modification of design of the Project, or use of latest construction / engineering techniques. For those built heritage items that might still be directly and indirectly affected by the Project, the Applicant shall recommend practicable mitigation measures and monitoring to avoid or keep the adverse impact to the minimum. A checklist including all the affected sites of cultural heritage, impacts identified, recommended mitigation measures as well as the implementation agent and period shall also be included in the EIA report.

The Applicant shall draw necessary reference to relevant sections of the “Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment” at Appendix G-1 for detailed requirement.

Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment

(as at January 2012)

Introduction

The purpose of the guidelines is to assist the understanding of the requirements in assessing impact on archaeological and built heritage. The guidelines which will be revised by the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department from time to time, where appropriate, and when required should be followed in the interest of professional practice.

A comprehensive Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (CHIA) includes a baseline study, an impact assessment study associated with the appropriate mitigation measures proposed and to be implemented by project proponents.

(1) Baseline Study

1.1 A baseline study shall be conducted:

- a. to compile a comprehensive inventory of heritage sites within the proposed project area, which include:
 - (i) all recorded sites of archaeological interest (both terrestrial and marine);
 - (ii) all declared monuments;
 - (iii) all proposed monuments;
 - (iv) all buildings/ structures/ sites graded or proposed to be graded by the Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB);
 - (v) Government historic sites identified by AMO;
 - (vi) buildings/ structures/ sites of high architectural / historical significance and interest which are not included in items (i) to (v) above; and
 - (vii) cultural landscapes include places associated with historic event, activity, or person or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values, such as sacred religious sites, battlefields, a setting for buildings or structures of architectural or archaeological importance, historic field patterns, clan graves, old tracks, fung shui woodlands and ponds, and etc.
- b. to identify the direct and indirect impacts on the heritage sites at the planning stage in order to avoid causing any negative effects. The impacts include the direct loss, destruction or disturbance of an element of cultural heritage, impact on its settings

or impinging on its character through inappropriate sitting or design, potential damage to the physical fabric of archaeological remains and historic buildings/ structures/ sites through air pollution, change of ground water level, vibration, ecological damage, new recreation or other daily needs to be caused by the new development. The impacts listed are merely to illustrate the range of potential impacts and not intended to be exhaustive.

1.2 The baseline study shall also include a desk-top research and a field evaluation.

1.3. Desk-top Research

1.3.1 Desk-top research should be conducted to analyse, collect and collate the best available information. It shall include (if applicable) but not limited to:

- a. List of declared and proposed monuments protected by the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Chapter 53).
- b. Graded and proposed graded historic buildings/ structures/ sites.
- c. Government historic sites identified by AMO.
- d. Lists and archives kept in the Reference Library of AMO including sites of archaeological interest, declared monuments, proposed monuments and recorded historic buildings/ structures/ sites identified by AMO.
- e. Publications on local historical, architectural, anthropological, archaeological and other cultural studies, such as, Journals of the Royal Asiatic Society (Hong Kong Branch), Journals of the Hong Kong Archaeological Society, AMO Monograph Series and so forth.
- f. Other unpublished papers, records, archival and historical documents through public libraries, archives, and the tertiary institutions, such as the Hong Kong Collection and libraries of the Department of Architecture of the University of Hong Kong and the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Public Records Office, photographic library of the Information Services Department and so forth.
- g. Any other unpublished archaeological investigation and excavation reports kept by AMO.
- h. Relevant information from AMO's website.
- i. Historical documents in the Public Records Office, the Land Registry, District Lands Office, District Office and the Hong Kong Museum of History and so forth.
- j. Cartographic and pictorial documents. Old and recent maps and aerial photos searched in the Map and Aerial Photo Library of the Lands Department.
- k. Existing geological and topographic information (for archaeological desk-top research).

1. Discussion with local informants.

1.4 Field Evaluation

1.4.1 General

The potential value of the project area with regard the cultural heritage could be established easily where the area is well-documented. However, it does not mean that the area is devoid of interest if it lacks information. In these instances, site inspections and consultations with appropriate individuals or organisations should be conducted by those with expertise in local heritage to clarify the situation.

1.4.2 Field survey on historic buildings/ structures/ sites

- a. Field scan of all the historic buildings/ structures/ sites within the project area.
- b. Photographic recording of each historic building/ structure/ site including the exterior (the elevations of all faces of the building premises, the roof, close up for the special architectural details) and the interior (special architectural details), if possible, as well as the surroundings, the associated cultural landscape features and the associated intangible cultural heritage (if any) of each historic building/ structure/ site.
- c. Interview with local elders and other informants on local historical, architectural, anthropological and other cultural information related to the historic buildings/ structures/ sites.
- d. Historical and architectural appraisal of the historic buildings/ structures/ sites, their associated cultural landscape and intangible cultural elements.

1.4.3 Archaeological Survey

- a. Appropriate methods for pricing and valuation of the archaeological survey, including by means of a Bill of Quantities or a Schedule of Rates should be adopted when appropriate in preparing specifications and relevant documents for calling tenders to carry out the archaeological survey. The specifications and relevant documents should be sent to AMO for agreement prior to calling tenders to conduct the archaeological survey.
- b. For archaeologists involved in contract archaeological works, they should adhere to recognized standards for professional practice and ethical conduct in undertaking commissioned archaeological works under contracts. They should make themselves fully understand recognized principles and guidelines regarding contract archaeological works, such as those of the

Institute for Archaeologists, European Associations of Archaeologists and in Mainland China.

- c. A licence shall be obtained from the Antiquities Authority for conducting archaeological field work. It takes at least two months to process an application.
- d. An archaeological brief/proposal, as an outline framework of the proposed archaeological works, should be prepared. The brief/proposal should clearly state the project and archaeological background, address necessary archaeological works required, elaborate the strategy and methodology adopted, including what particular research question(s) will be resolved, how the archaeological data will be collected and recorded, how the evidence will be analysed and interpreted and how the archaeological finds and results will be organized and made available. Effective field techniques including method and sampling details are required to be demonstrated clearly in the brief/proposal. Monitoring arrangement, reporting, contingency plan for field and post-excavation works and archive deposition (including finds, field and laboratory records, etc.) should also be addressed in the brief/proposal. The brief/proposal should be submitted to AMO for agreement prior to applying for a licence. Prior site visit to the project site before the submission of the brief/proposal is required so as to ascertain the feasibility of the proposed strategy and methodology as well as the availability of the proposed locations for auger survey and test pitting.
- e. The following methods of archaeological survey (but not limited to) should be applied to assess the archaeological potential of the project area:
 - (i) Definition of areas of natural land undisturbed in the recent past.
 - (ii) Field scan of the natural land undisturbed in the recent past in detail with special attention paid to areas of exposed soil which were searched for artifacts.
 - (iii) Conduct systematic auger survey and test pitting. The data collected from auger survey and test pitting should be able to establish the horizontal spread of cultural materials deposits.
 - (iv) Excavation of test pits to establish the vertical sequence of cultural materials. The hand digging of 1 x 1 m or 1.5 x 1.5 m test pits to determine the presence or absence of deeper archaeological deposits and their cultural history.
 - (v) The quantity and location of auger holes and test pits should be agreed with AMO prior to applying for a licence. Additional auger holes and test pits may be required to ascertain and demarcate the extent of archaeological deposits and remains.

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- (vi) A qualified land surveyor should be engaged to record reduced levels and coordinates as well as set base points and reference lines in the course of the field survey.
 - (vii) All archaeological works should be properly completed and recorded to agreed standards.
- f. Archaeologists should adhere to all the agreed professional and ethical standards for archaeological works, such as the standards and guidelines of the Institute for Archaeologists, English Heritage, European Associations of Archaeologists, Society for American Archaeology and in Mainland China.
- g. A Marine Archaeological Investigation (MAI) following *Guidelines for MAI* may be required for projects involving disturbance of seabed.
- 1.4.4 If the field evaluation identifies any additional heritage sites within the study area which are of potential historic or archaeological importance/interest and not recorded by AMO, the findings should be reported to AMO as soon as possible.

1.5 The Report of Baseline Study

- 1.5.1 The study report should unequivocally include all the direct and concrete evidence to show that the process of the above desk-top and field survey has been satisfactorily completed. This should take the form of a detailed inventory of the heritage sites supported by full description of their significance. The description should contain detailed geographical, historical, archaeological, architectural, anthropological, ethnographic and other relevant data supplemented with illustrations below and photographic and cartographic records, if required.
- 1.5.2 A master layout plan showing all the identified archaeological and built heritage sites within the study area should be provided in the report. All the identified heritage sites should be properly numbered with their locations indicated on the master layout plan.
- 1.5.3 Historic Buildings/ Structures/ Sites
- a. A map in 1:1000 scale showing the boundary of each historic item.
 - b. Photographic records of each historic item.
 - c. Detailed recording form of each historic item including its construction year, previous and present uses, architectural characteristics, as well as legends, historic persons and events, cultural landscape features and cultural activities associated with the

structure.

- d. A cross-referenced checklist including the reference number of each historic item, their photo and drawing reference, as well as the page number of the detailed recording form of each identified historic item for easy cross-checking of individual records.

1.5.4 Sites of Archaeological Interest

- a. A map showing the boundary of each site of archaeological interest as supported and delineated by field walking, augering and test-pitting.
- b. Drawing of stratigraphic section of test-pits excavated which shows the cultural sequence of a site.
- c. Reduced levels, coordinates, base points and reference lines should be clearly defined and certified by a qualified land surveyor.
- d. *Guidelines for Archaeological Reports* should be followed (Annex 1).

- 1.5.5 A full bibliography and the source of information consulted should be provided to assist the evaluation of the quality of the evidence, including the title of the relevant material, its author(s), publisher, publication place and date. To facilitate verification of the accuracy, AMO will reserve the right to examine the full details of the research materials collected under the baseline study.

1.6 Finds and Archives

- 1.6.1 Archaeological finds and archives should be handled following *Guidelines for Handling of Archaeological Finds and Archives* (Annex 2).

1.7 Safety Issue

- 1.7.1 During the course of the CHIA Study, all participants shall comply with all Ordinances, Regulations and By-laws which may be relevant or applicable in safety aspect in connection with the carrying out of the CHIA Study, such as site safety, insurance for personal injuries, death and property damage as well as personal safety apparatuses, etc.
- 1.7.2 A Risk Assessment for the fieldwork shall be carried out with full consideration to all relevant Ordinances, Regulations and By-laws.

1.8 Information Disclosure

- 1.8.1 For releasing any information on the CHIA Study, the archaeologist/expert involved should strictly comply with the terms and conditions set in the

contract/agreement and avoid conflict of interest.

(2) Impact Assessment Study

2.1 Identification of impact on heritage

- 2.1.1 The impact assessment study must be undertaken to identify the impacts on the heritage sites which will be affected by the proposed development subject to the result of desktop research and field evaluation. The prediction of impacts and an evaluation of their significance must be undertaken by expert(s) in local heritage.
- 2.1.2 During the assessment, both the direct impacts such as loss or damage of important features as well as indirect impacts should be clearly stated, such as adverse visual impact on heritage sites, landscape change to the associated cultural landscape features of the heritage sites, temporary change of access to the heritage sites during the work period, change of ground level or water level which may affect the preservation of the archaeological and built heritage *in-situ* during the implementation stage of the project.
- 2.1.3 The evaluation of cultural heritage impact assessment may be classified into five levels of significance based on type and extent of the effects concluded in the CHIA study:
- a. Beneficial impact: the impact is beneficial if the project will enhance the preservation of the heritage site(s) such as improving the flooding problem of the historic building after the sewerage project of the area;
 - b. Acceptable impact: if the assessment indicates that there will be no significant effects on the heritage site(s);
 - c. Acceptable impact with mitigation measures: if there will be some adverse effects, but these can be eliminated, reduced or offset to a large extent by specific measures, such as conduct a follow-up Conservation Proposal or Conservation Management Plan for the affected heritage site(s) before commencement of work in order to avoid any inappropriate and unnecessary interventions to the building;
 - d. Unacceptable impact: if the adverse effects are considered to be too excessive and are unable to mitigate practically;
 - e. Undetermined impact: if the significant adverse effects are likely, but the extent to which they may occur or may be mitigated cannot be determined from the study. Further detailed study will be required for the specific effects in question.

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- 2.1.4 Preservation in totality must be taken as the first priority as it will be a beneficial impact and will enhance the cultural and socio-economical environment if suitable measures to integrate the heritage site into the proposed project are carried out.
 - 2.1.5 If, due to site constraints and other factors, only preservation in part is possible, this must be fully justified with alternative proposals or layout designs which confirm the impracticability of total preservation.
 - 2.1.6 Total destruction must be taken as the very last resort in all cases and shall only be recommended with a meticulous and careful analysis balancing the interest of preserving local heritage as against that of the community as a whole. Assessment of impacts on heritage sites shall also take full account of, and follow where appropriate, paragraph 4.3.1(c), item 2 of Annex 10, items 2.6 to 2.9 of Annex 19 and other relevant parts of the Technical Memorandum on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process (Technical Memorandum).

2.2 Mitigation Measures

- 2.2.1 It is always a good practice to recognize the heritage site early in the planning stage and site selection process, and to avoid it, i.e. preserve it *in-situ*, or leaving a buffer zone around the site with full justifications demonstrating the best practice of heritage conservation.
- 2.2.2 Mitigation is not only concerned with minimizing adverse impact on the heritage site but also should give consideration of potential enhancement if possible (such as to improve the access to the heritage site or enhance the landscape and visual quality of the heritage site).
- 2.2.3 Mitigation measures shall not be recommended or taken as *de facto* means to avoid preservation of heritage sites. They must be proved beyond all possibilities to be the only practical course of action. Heritage sites are to be in favour of preservation unless it can be demonstrated that there is a need for a particular development which is of paramount importance and outweighs the significance of a heritage site.
- 2.2.4 If avoidance of the heritage site is not possible, amelioration can be achieved by minimizing the potential impacts and the preservation of the heritage site, such as physically relocating it. Measures like amendments of the sitting, screening and revision of the detailed design of the development are required to lessen its degree of exposure if it causes visual intrusion to the heritage site and affects the character and integrity of the heritage site.

- 2.2.5 A rescue programme, when required, may involve preservation of the historic building or structure together with the relics inside, and its historic environment through relocation, detailed cartographic and photographic survey or preservation of site of archaeological interest “by record”, i.e. through excavation to extract the maximum data as the very last resort.

2.3 The Impact Assessment Report

- 2.3.1 A detailed description and plans should be provided to elaborate on the heritage site(s) to be affected. Besides, please also refer to paragraph 4.3.1(d), items 2.10 to 2.14 of Annex 19 and other relevant parts of the Technical Memorandum and the Guidance Notes, other appropriate presentation methods for mitigation proposals like elevations, landscape plan and photomontage shall be used in the report extensively for illustrating the effectiveness of the measures.
- 2.3.2 To illustrate the landscape and visual impacts on heritage sites, as well as effects of the mitigation measures, choice of appropriate presentation methods is important. These methods include perspective drawings, plans and section/elevation diagrams, photographs on scaled physical models, photo-retouching and photomontage. These methods shall be used extensively to facilitate communication among the concerned parties.
- 2.3.3 The implementation programme for the agreed mitigation measures should be able to be executed and should be clearly set out in the report together with the funding proposal. These shall form an integral part of the overall redevelopment project programme and financing of the proposed redevelopment project. Competent professionals must be engaged to design and carry out the mitigation measures.
- 2.3.4 For contents of the implementation programme, reference can be made to Annex 20 of the Technical Memorandum and the Guidance Notes. In particular, item 6.7 of Annex 20 requires to define and list out clearly the proposed mitigation measures to be implemented, by whom, when, where, to what requirements and the various implementation responsibilities. A comprehensive plan and programme for the protection and conservation of the preserved heritage site, if any, during the planning and design stage of the proposed project must be addressed in details.
- 2.3.5 Supplementary information to facilitate the verification of the findings shall be provided in the report including but not limited to:

- a. layout plan(s) in a proper scale illustrating the location of all heritage sites within the study area, the extent of the work area together with brief description of the proposed works;
- b. all the heritage sites within the study area should be properly numbered, cross-reference to the relevant drawings and plans.
- c. an impact assessment cross-referenced checklist of all the heritage sites within the study area including heritage site reference, distance between the heritage site and work area, summary of the possible impact(s), impact level, summary of the proposed mitigation measure(s), as well as references of the relevant plans, drawings and photos; and
- d. a full implementation programme of the mitigation measures for all affected heritage sites to be implemented with details, such as by whom, when, where, to what requirements and the various implementation responsibilities of individual parties.

* *This Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment was first set out in August 2008 based on the Criteria for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment and revised subsequently in December 2008, July 2010, October 2010, March 2011, April 2011 and January 2012.*

Annex 1

Guidelines for Archaeological Reports
(As at April 2011)

I. General

1. All reports should be written in a clear, concise and logical style.
2. All the constituent parts (text, figures, photos and specialist reports (if any)) should provide full cross-reference. Readers should be able to find their way around the report without difficulty.
3. The reports should be submitted in A4 size and accompanying drawings of convenient sizes.
4. Draft reports should be submitted to the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) for comments within two months after completion of archaeological work unless otherwise approved by AMO.
5. The draft reports should be revised as required by AMO and relevant parties. The revised reports should be submitted to AMO within three weeks after receiving comments from AMO and relevant parties.
6. At least 5 hard copies of the final reports should be submitted to AMO for record purpose.
7. At least 2 digital copies of the final reports in both Microsoft Word format and Acrobat (.PDF) format without loss of data and change of appearance compared with the corresponding hard copy should be submitted to AMO. The digital copies should be saved in a convenient medium, such as compact discs with clear label on the surface and kept in protective pockets.
8. Errors are the responsibilities of the author(s) and should so far as possible be identified and rectified before submission to AMO.
9. The guidelines which will be revised by the AMO of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department from time to time, where appropriate, and when required should be followed in the interest of professional practice.

II. Suggested Format of Reports

1. Front page:
 - Project/Site name
 - Nature of the report
e.g. (Draft/Final)
Archaeological Investigation/Survey Report
Archaeological Impact Assessment Report
Watching Brief Report
Rescue Excavation Report
Post-excavation Report
 - Organization
 - Date of report

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2. Contents list
Page number of each section should be given.
 3. Non-technical summary (both in English and Chinese with approximate 150 - 300 words each)
This should outline in plain, non-technical language, the principal reasons for the archaeological work, its aims and main results, and should include reference to authorship and commissioning body.
 4. Introduction
This should set out background leading to the commission of the reports. The location, area, scope and date of conducting the archaeological work must be given. The location of archaeological work should be shown on maps in appropriate scales and with proper legends.
 5. Aims of archaeological work
These should reflect the aims set in the project design.
 6. Archaeological, historical, geological and topographical background of the site
Supporting aerial photos and maps (both old and present) in appropriate scales, with proper legends and with the site locations clearly marked on should be provided.
 7. Methodology
The methods used including any variation to the agreed project design should be set out clearly and explained as appropriate.
 8. Results
 - The results should outline the findings, known and potential archaeological interests by period and/or type. Their significance and value with reference/inclusion of supporting evidence should be indicated. If more than one interpretation is possible, the alternatives should also be presented, at least in summary.
 - The results should be amplified by the use of drawings and photographs.
 - Tables summarizing features and artifacts by trench/grid/test pit together with their interpretation should be included.
 - The method, sampling details, results and interpretation as well as appropriate supporting data of the analysis for the environmental materials, e.g. ecofacts identified and/or collected during the fieldwork should be included.
 - For impact assessment, the likely effect of the proposed development on the known or potential archaeological resource should be outlined.
 9. Conclusion
This should include summarization and interpretation of the result.
 10. Recommendation
Recommendations on further work and the responsible party as well as a brief planning framework should be outlined.

11. Reference and bibliography
A list of all primary and secondary sources including electronic sources used should be given in full detail, including the title of the relevant material, its author(s), publisher, publication place and date.
12. Archaeological team
The director and members of the archaeological team and the author(s) of the report should be clearly specified.
13. Copyright and dissemination
The copyright of the report should be clearly identified. To facilitate future research studies, please specify that the report can be made available to the public in the Reference Library of the Heritage Discovery Centre.
14. Supporting illustrations
They should be clearly numbered and easily referenced to the text. They should be scanned and saved in TIFF or JPEG formats.
 - A. Maps
A location plan of the project site should be included. Archaeological work locations, such as auger hole and test pit locations (with relevant coordinates certified by a qualified land surveyor), should be clearly shown on maps in appropriate scales, with proper legends, grid references (in 8 digits) and captions.
 - B. Drawings of test pits, archaeological features, special finds¹, selected representative samples from general finds
Drawings of all excavated test pits (at least one cross section of each test pit), all excavated archaeological features (both plan and cross section of each archaeological feature), all special finds identified in the excavation and selected representative samples from general finds (at least front view and section of each finds) should be included. All drawings should be clearly numbered and easily referenced to the text. The drawing scales stipulated below should be followed:

Cross section and profile drawings of test pits	1:20
Archaeological feature drawings	1:10
Finds drawings	1:1
 - C. Photos of project site and the surrounding area, test pits, archaeological

¹ Special finds are sometimes known as small finds (小物件) in Chinese or registered finds. Drawings and photos of the special/small/registered finds should be included in the archaeological report.

features, special finds, selected representative samples from general finds

Photos of project site and the surrounding area, all excavated test pits (at least one cross section of each test pit), all excavated archaeological features (both plan and cross section of each archaeological feature), all special finds identified in the excavation and selected representative samples from general finds (at least front view of each of the finds) should be included. All photos should be at least in 3R size with proper captions and scales. They should be clearly numbered and easily referenced to the text. They should be scanned and saved in TIFF or JPEG formats.

15. Supporting data in appendices

These should consist of essential technical details to support the result. These may include stratigraphic record of test pits and auger holes, records of general and special finds as well as ecofacts discovered with description, quantity and context number/stratigraphic sequence, result of laboratory testing, index of field archives.

16. Other professional views/comments

This can reflect any issues/difficulties regarding the archaeological project observed/encountered by the archaeological team.

17. Comment and response

All comments and responses from AMO and relevant parties should be attached in full.

III. Green Measures

1. All reports should be of single line spacing and printed on both sides of the paper.
2. Excessive page margins should be avoided. A top/bottom margin of 2 cm and left/right margin of 2.5 cm are sufficient.
3. Use of blank paper should be avoided as far as possible.
4. Suitable font type of font size 12 should be used generally in balancing legibility and waste reduction objective.

Annex 2

Guidelines for Handling of Archaeological Finds and Archives

(As at 28 November 2011)

I. General Remark

1. The guidelines which will be revised by the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department from time to time, where appropriate, and when required should be followed in the interest of professional practice.
2. Please use the site code (_____)** for the archaeological project, namely _____. Licensee must use this unique site code for the whole project.

** If an archaeological project covers more than one archaeological site/location, licensee should contact the Central Archaeological Repository (CAR) at 2384 5446 or aciamoar@lcsd.gov.hk to obtain relevant site codes.

3. Licensee should contact the CAR at 2384 5446 or aciamoar@lcsd.gov.hk regarding the handover of archaeological finds and archives when post-excavation research and excavation report have been completed and accepted by the AMO.
4. If a huge quantity of similar general finds was discovered from a single archaeological project, licensee is advised to consult the AMO regarding the collecting strategy as early as possible.
5. For the preparation of archaeological finds and archives for long-term curation by the CAR, the guidelines as set out below should be followed.
6. If the licensee does not handle the finds and archives in accordance with this guidelines, the AMO may inform the project proponent to revise the relevant data. The arrangement of handover may subsequently be deferred.

II. Archaeological Finds

7. Cleaning

The excavated finds should be properly cleaned with water, except: (i) the finds are identified for scientific analysis; (ii) metal & organic objects (e.g. bone, wood, leather, textile objects and etc.) should not be cleaned with water. Licensee is advised to consult the AMO if in doubt.

8. Marking

- The excavated finds should be cleaned before marking object number.

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- “Sandwich” technique¹ should be adopted for marking permanent object number.
 - Each special find should be marked with site code, context number and SF number, etc.
 - Any representative samples selected from the general finds for discussion on the excavation report should be marked with site code, context number, sample number and bagged separately.
 - The general finds should be marked with site code and context number.
 - For the finds which are too small, organic objects (e.g. bone, wood, leather, textile objects and etc.) or have unstable surface, object number should not be marked on the object directly. These finds should be bagged separately and attached with a label containing information about the site code, context number, find number and description of find.

9. Labeling and bagging

- Two labels should be provided for each bag which contains finds, one is adhered on the surface of the bag while the other is kept inside the bag for easy reference.
- The label inside the bag should be kept separately with a smaller plastic bag so that the label can be kept much longer.
- Information about the site code, context number, test-pit number, object number (or bag number) and description of finds should be written clearly on the label.
- Finds under the same context should be bagged together. If those finds, however, have been categorized according to their typology, materials or characteristics, separate bagging is required.

10. Conservation

- To refit and reconstruct pottery vessels with appropriate adhesive. A heat and waterproof adhesive, e.g. product of H. Marcel Guest Ltd., is recommended.
- Any adhesives which are not reversible or would damage the finds should not be applied on the finds. Archaeologist is advised to consult the AMO if in doubt.

11. Finds register

A standard finds register, for both special finds and general finds, with information about the find’s number, name, description, quantity, type, weight, dimensions and field data should be duly filled in. Licensee should contact the CAR at 2384 5446 or aciamoar@lcsd.gov.hk to obtain the standard finds register (in Excel format). Special finds and general finds should be inputted in individual register. Both hard & soft copies (in Excel format) of the duly completed register should be handed over.

¹ Steps for “Sandwich” technique

1. First of all, the find number should be marked in appropriate area and size that does not impact important diagnostic or aesthetic parts of the find.
2. Clean the area to be marked.
3. Apply a thin coat of clear reversible lacquer on the area. Use white lacquer if the object is dark in colour. Let the base coat dry completely.
4. Use a permanent water-based ink to write the find number on top of the base coat. Let ink dry completely.
5. Apply a top coat of clear varnish.
6. Let the clear varnish dry completely before packing.

12. Sample register of eco-facts

A clear sample register with information about the description of the sample, quantity, type and weight should be prepared for handover.

III. Field Records and Finds Processing Records

13. Field records include field diary, site record for individual test pit/trench/square, context recording sheet, special finds recording sheet, soil sample & eco-facts sample recording sheet, map, survey sheet, photograph/ audio-visual records, etc.

14. Finds processing records include conservation record, measured drawings and photographs, laboratory reports, etc.

15. Measured drawing, both hard & soft copies (in pdf format), and photograph (in jpg format) of each special find should be handed over.

16. All the aforesaid records stated in paragraphs 12 to 14 should be handed over to the CAR when post-excavation research and excavation report have been completed. Please note:

- all the field records should be submitted together with indexes.
- the video footage should be submitted together with index describing the content of the video footage.
- all the slides, colour/ black & white negatives or digital photographs should be submitted together with photo register.

IV. Handover of Finds

17. Packing

- Each special find should be packed and protected with tissue paper, bubble sheet or P.E. foam to avoid shocking when transporting to the repository. No packing material other than the aforesaid items should be used.
- The general finds should be protected with bubble sheet or P.E. foam and packed in heavy duty plastic container.
- The heavy duty plastic container, e.g. product of the Star Industrial Co., Ltd. (No. 1849 or 1852), is recommended.
- For oversized finds, prior advice on packing method should be sought from the AMO.

18. Handover procedure

- The licensee should make an appointment with the CAR for the handover and arrange to transport the finds and archives to the repository.
- Prior to handover, licensee is required to supply with the aforesaid finds register, field records register and associated records to the CAR for checking at least three working days in advance. Exact date of handover will be arranged subsequently.
- Handover forms for finds and archives should be signed by the representatives of the licensee and the AMO.

Requirements for EIA Report Documents

1. The Applicant shall supply the Director with the following number of copies of the EIA report and the executive summary:
 - (i) 30 copies of the EIA report and 30 copies of the bilingual (in both English and Chinese) executive summary as required under section 6(2) of the EIAO to be supplied at the time of application for approval of the EIA report.
 - (ii) When necessary, addendum to the EIA report and the executive summary submitted in item (i) above as required under section 7(1) of the EIAO, to be supplied upon advice by the Director for public inspection.
 - (iii) 20 copies of the EIA report and 50 copies of the bilingual (in both English and Chinese) executive summary with or without Addendum as required under section 7(5) of the EIAO, to be supplied upon advice by the Director for consultation with the Advisory Council on the Environment.
2. To facilitate public inspection of EIA report via EIAO Internet Website, the Applicant shall provide electronic copies of both the EIA report and the executive summary prepared in HyperText Markup Language (HTML) (version 4.0 or later) and in Portable Document Format (PDF version 1.3 or later). For the HTML version, a content page capable of providing hyperlink to each section and sub-section of the EIA report and the executive summary shall be included in the beginning of the document. Hyperlinks to figures, drawings and tables in the EIA report and the executive summary shall be provided in the main text from where respective references are made. Graphics in the report shall be in interlaced GIF format.
3. The electronic copies of the EIA report and the executive summary shall be submitted to the Director at the time of application for approval of the EIA report.
4. When the EIA report and the executive summary are made available for public inspection under section 7(1) of the EIAO, the content of the electronic copies of the EIA report and the executive summary must be the same as the hard copies and the Director shall be provided with the most updated electronic copies.
5. To promote environmentally friendly and efficient dissemination of information, both hardcopies and electronic copies of future EM&A reports recommended by the EIA study shall be required.