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(ACE 5/95)
for advice
(Tabled on 16.1.95)

Report of the EIA Subcommittee: the 8th Meeting on 9 January 1995

The Subcommittee considered two EIA study reports at the meeting on 9 January 1995.

Focused EIA for West of Sulphur Channel Marine Borrow Area

2. Members considered the focused EIA study for the proposed marine borrow area. The total volume of material to be dredged from the proposed borrow area would be about 9 Mm³ of sand and 4 Mm³ of silt and clay. Marine water quality and marine ecology have been identified as the major issues.

3. Members accepted the conclusion of the study that environmental impacts associated with the proposed development can be minimised through implementation of appropriate mitigation measures, including proper on-site management of dredging and dumping activities, and monitoring programmes. Civil Engineering Department has agreed to implement all the recommendations in the EIA report.

4. Members agreed to recommend the report to the Council for endorsement subject to provision of a supplementary report on the inter-tidal fauna community in due course.

Focused EIA Study on West Kowloon Reclamation - Roadworks

5. Members considered the focused EIA study report for the proposed 14.2km local roads on the West Kowloon Reclamation. The study focuses on the potential noise and air quality impacts that the construction and operation of these roads would have on the existing residential areas near the reclamation.

6. Members accepted the conclusion of the report that the construction noise and dust can be controlled within the established standards through the use of mitigation measures.

7. The study also concludes the predicted air quality impacts during the operational phase would be within the established limits. However, traffic noise impact has been identified as a major operational impact for the residents at Nam Cheong Estate and Man Cheong Street. The consultants recommended provision of window insulation and air conditioning for both locations as the most practical and cost effective single solution.

8. The Administration, however, consider it necessary to set an example to the community in the fulfilment of environmental obligations and to ensure that the standards in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines are adhered to as closely as possible through adoption of practicable and cost-effective measures. A package of direct and indirect mitigation measures are recommended for these two locations. The recommended measures include low noise road surfacing, noise barriers, semi-enclosure, and window insulation supplemented by air conditioning.

9. The Subcommittee agreed to the consultants' recommended measures for the construction impacts and accepted the package of operational noise mitigation measures recommended by the Administration and agreed to recommend it to the Council for endorsement.

EIA Studies for Lantau Port Development Stage 1 - Container Terminals No. 10 and 11

10. The project proponent, Civil Engineering Department, together with their consultants presented an overview of the project and the main findings of the EIA reports to the Subcommittee. In view of the importance of the project, it has been decided that a special Subcommittee meeting will be held on 23 January 1995 to consider the reports.

Advice Sought

11. Members of the Council are requested to endorse the recommendations of the Subcommittee.

Planning, Environment & Lands Branch
January 1995