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(ACE 22/95)
for advice
(Tabled on 15.5.95)

Report of the EIA Subcommittee

The Subcommittee has considered one information paper by circulation since the ACE meeting held on 24 April 1995.

Paper on the Conveyor Systems of Route 3 (Country Park Section)

2. The EIA report for the Route 3 Country Park Section: the Tai Lam Tunnel and Yuen Long Approach Road was endorsed by the main Council on 15 August 1994 on conditions.
3. At the same meeting, the Council was informed by the Highways Department, the project proponent, that as the project would likely be divided into phases, the detailed EIA as well as the implementation of mitigation measures would also be implemented in phases. The Council agreed to expedite its consideration on the reports so as to tie in with the construction programme.
4. The information paper on the predicted environmental impacts and proposed controls and mitigation measures to be implemented during the preliminary works was endorsed by this Council on 24 April 1995.
5. This paper addresses the environmental impacts due to the construction and operation of the Conveyor Systems. Members accepted the conclusion of the paper that the environmental impacts associated with the Conveyor Systems could be minimised through implementation of appropriate mitigation measures and monitoring programmes. The Route 3 Contractors Consortium has agreed to implement all the recommendations in the paper.
6. Some Members expressed concerns that this EIA was divided into phases. Members agreed to recommend the report to the Council for endorsement subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) all of the mitigation measures listed out on page 14 of the Conveyor System Information Paper (April 1995) be adopted with the exception of enclosing the discharge points to the stockpile and the barges;
 - (b) additional quietened equipment be deployed in construction activities and/or the use of noise barriers where necessary to ensure the daytime criterion of 75 dB(A) is met;

- (c) extremely loud equipment, such as rock drills, should not be used during evening or night hours;
- (d) noise reduction measures for tugboats or strict controls on their use be applied;
- (e) litter and debris arising from the project be cleared frequently and the jetty reinstated as soon as possible; and
- (f) a summary of the habitat loss mitigation proposals for the project be included in the Southern Section Detailed EIA to be submitted to ACE.

Advice Sought

7. Members of the Council are requested to endorse the recommendations of the Subcommittee contained in paragraph 6.

Planning, Environment and Lands Branch
May 1995