

CHAPTER NINE

POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS INSTALLATIONS

1. Potentially Hazardous Installations (PHIs) are those facilities where hazardous materials are equal to or greater than a prescribed amount are stored on-site (the amount varies depending upon the material in question). In order to protect the public in terms of residential and transient populations, consultation zones are designated for each potentially hazardous installation (PHI) depending upon the nature and extent of the hazard. At present, there are 34 PHI sites in Hong Kong including chemical stores, explosive depots, gas production plant, LPG/oil termini and LPG Stores.
2. Planning restrictions are imposed on future developments which could be located within the consultation zones of the PHIs are evaluated against a set of guidelines which define the extent of the potential risks. The overall aim of these restrictions is to ensure that any risks to the public at large are confined to acceptable limits. With increasing development pressure, sites which are suitable for the storage of materials for water treatment works, gas and oil supplies are increasingly difficult to find.
3. New populations planned for strategic growth areas which could be located within the consultation zones of the PHIs were also estimated to identify areas which are undesirable in terms of future development proposals. New residential populations within strategic growth areas which fall into this category are those proposed at Au Tau. Transient populations traversing consultation zones of the PHIs were forecast in the transport model. A summary of the findings is included in Table 9.1.

Table 9.1 Number of Daily Two-Way Passengers in Transit through Consultation Zones of PHIs along the Strategic Road and Rail Links

PHI Zone	Rail Passengers			Road Passengers		
	NT-Biased Option	HB-Biased Option	Recommended Strategy	NT-Biased Option	HB-Biased Option	Recommended Strategy
Gas Production Plant at Ma Tau Kok	458,588	517,812	523,141	-	-	-
LPG Store at Mei Foo	337,989	314,842	325,471	-	-	-
Water Treatment Works at Au Tau	1,378,154	1,248,361	1,283,835	-	-	-
LPG/Air Mixing Plant at Tuen Mun	-	-	-	80,871	83,315	82,076
LPG/Oil Terminal at Tsing Yi West	-	-	-	43,008	46,812	47,299

4. With the intensification of development in the rural NWNT under the NT-Biased Option, the need to define the extent of the PHI and the actual size of the population planned for the area (within the consultation zones per se) is particularly important.

5. Within the Metro Area it is becoming increasingly difficult to identify new solution spaces for transport corridors which do not have potentially adverse environmental impacts in term of the transport of hazardous materials. The intensification of population within the Metro Area under the HB option will create further interface problems.