

Chapter 3 BASELINE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

3.1 Air Quality

This Section describes the baseline air quality assessment for the Third Comprehensive Transport Study (CTS-3) Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The assessment was based upon the 1997 data obtained from the Environmental Protection Department (EPD).

3.1.1 Air Quality Objectives

Air Quality in Hong Kong is regulated under the Air Pollution Control Ordinance (APCO). One of the principal features of the APCO is a set of Air Quality Objectives (AQO) which the Government is required to achieve as soon as practicable and to maintain thereafter. The prevailing AQOs are summarised in Table 3.1a.

Table 3.1a
Hong Kong Air Quality Objectives ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)^(a)

Pollutant	Averaging Time				
	1 Hour ^(b)	8 Hours ^(c)	24 Hours ^(c)	3 Months ^(d)	1 Year ^(d)
Total Suspended Particulates (TSP)	-	-	260	-	80
Respirable Suspended Particulates ^(e) (RSP)	-	-	180	-	55
Sulphur Dioxide (SO ₂)	800	-	350	-	80
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂)	300	-	150	-	80
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	30,000	10,000	-	-	-
Photochemical Oxidants (as Ozone)	240	-	-	-	-
Lead	-	-	-	1.5	-
Notes:					
(a) Measured at 298 K (25 °C) and 101.325 kPa (one atmosphere).					
(b) Not to be exceeded more than three times per year.					
(c) Not to be exceeded more than once per year.					
(d) Arithmetic means.					
(e) Respirable suspended particulates means suspended particles in air with a nominal aerodynamic diameter of 10 micrometres and smaller.					