

To <wqo_review@epd.gov.hk>

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Subject A few questions

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Dear Sirs

I'm a member of the Harbourfront Enhancement Committee. The WQOs in Victoria Harbour, as well as the minimum WQOs for various marine activities are of importance to the enhancement of Victoria Harbour - and especially for the 'leisure harbour' - the water body between the Central/TST Star Ferry and Lei Yue Mun.

We are keen to see more active uses of the harbour. Moreover, with enhancement of the waterfront, we can expect more interest in marine uses, from sailing to yachting to water taxis.

We welcome the WQO review and look forward to developing our comments during the consultation period.

Below please find a number of preliminary questions. Your response will help us better understand the issues:

1. Is the EPD planning to brief the Harbourfront Enhancement Committee on the WQO review?
2. Page 2 refers to waterbodies - what is the relationship between these and water control zones?
3. What is the rationale behind the existing delineation of water control zones? How was the delineation decided on? Are the definition of water control zones up for review?
4. Beneficial uses are both uses which impact the water quality (i.e. discharge of drains) as well as uses which are impacted by water quality (i.e. bathing). I'm somewhat confused by the footnote 1 and the text on page 2.
5. What are the different categories of BUs which are subject to minimum WQO standards? I understand that bathing and windsurfing is within one category? Is there a different category for other leisure uses: sailing? yachting? sampans/kaidos/power boats? Is there an overview?
6. Typhoon shelters are notorious for low WQ. Contamination ranges from storm drains to discharge of excrement from vessels moored in the shelter. What means does the EPD have to control the latter?

We look forward to discuss these matters further with you.

Kind regards

Paul Zimmerman