



CIWEM HK

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THE CHARTERED INSTITUTION OF
WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
HONG KONG

香港水務及環境
管理學會

Our Ref.: L0005092006

Date: 5 September 2006

Planning Department
North Point Government Offices
333 Java Road,
North Point,
Hong Kong

(Attn: Mr Anthony TK Kwan)

Dear Mr Kwan,

**Re: Response to the Stage 3 Public Participation:
Preliminary Outline Development Plan for Kai Tak Planning Review**

Thank you for your letter dated 26 June 2006 and the enclosed information for the captioned review. We would like to offer our comments as follows:

1. General

1.1 The Chartered Institution of Water & Environmental Management Hong Kong (CIWEM HK) fully supports the Government's initiative to further move forward the re-development of the then Kai Tak International Airport and its surrounding areas. Earliest implementation of Kai Tak development not only minimizes the apparent wastage of available valuable land in the urban area, but also improves the living environment for the residents in East Kowloon and for Victoria Harbour as a whole. There has already been a lapse of almost a decade since the decommissioning of Kai Tak International Airport in 1998.

1.2 In response to current consultation documents, CIWEM HK would like to offer the following views on the project.

2. Overall Planning and Urban Design Framework

2.1 CIWEM HK recognizes Government's effort to investigate alternative to reclamation in solving the odour and environmental problems of KTAC when preparing this Preliminary Outline Development Plan (PODP). More in-depth surveys and assessments may need to be carried out in subsequent EIA and engineering feasibility studies to confirm the viability and cost effectiveness of the proposed mitigation

measures. There will be a need for health risk assessment for possible public use of the KTAC for water sports and recreation due to possible exposure of pathogens and other contaminants.

- 2.2 While the proposed 600 m opening at the northern end of the ex-runway will no doubt provide an additional flow path for the embayed waters, it is important to ensure that adequate water circulation will be maintained to avoid possible accumulation of pollutants in the enclosed water bodies. CIWEM HK suggested that the Government should study implications on water quality and hydrological regime within KTAC and Kowloon Bay (especially the existing typhoon shelter) due to the proposed 600m opening at the runway. Assessment should be carried out based on both dry-weather and wet-weather conditions.
 - 2.3 The rationale for choosing bioremediation for sediment remediation and odour control should be compared with other available technologies worldwide. The cost-effectiveness of the proposed bioremediation approach to sediment remediation and odour control should be assessed because the KTAC has accumulated a significant quantity of heavily contaminated sediment extended deep into the seabed of KTAC and Kwun Tong Typhoon Shelter. In long term, consideration should be given to assess whether the sediment would be left in-place or dredged & disposed, in order to rectify the root cause of historic sediment contamination and odour problem. Any of the preferred option(s) should be demonstrated to be environmentally acceptable with regard to the planning intention, existing and future beneficial uses; and the overall environmental quality in the wider context of the harbour.
 - 2.4 The viability and cost effectiveness of the proposed dry weather flow interceptors should be assessed in detail. The implications of the additional sewage flows into HATS sewer tunnels and Stonecutters Island sewage treatment works should also be evaluated before final decision is made.
3. Other Suggestions
- 3.1 CIWEM HK would suggest that consideration should be given to the feasibility of water reuse (grey water in particular) in this new development area. This will not only better utilize the non-saline water resources, but also improve the quality of wastewater discharged into the sea. It should be noted that the seawater quality may not be good enough for toilet flushing without further treatment.
 - 3.2 Consideration should also be given to the use of the storm water flow from the upper grounds (Wong Tai Sin, San Po Kong, Diamond Hill, etc.), if practical to flush the channels in the development area, so as to improve water circulation and quality of KTAC.

Yours sincerely,



Kenny Wong
Chairman, CIWEM HK