



**The Honourable Mr. Leung Chun-ying, GBM, GBS, JP**

Chief Executive

Chief Executive's Office

Tamar, Hong Kong

(E-mail: [ceo@ceo.gov.hk](mailto:ceo@ceo.gov.hk))

8 January 2013

**By post & e-mail**

Dear Mr. Leung,

**Preservation of Tung Chung River and Tung Chung Bay**

Green Power is writing to express our deep concern regarding the Tung Chung New Town Extension Study (*Planning and Engineering Study on the Remaining Development in Tung Chung*) and the consequent impacts to the entire Tung Chung river valley and estuary, which mostly remains intact and natural with high ecological, landscape, hydrological and cultural values.

By copy of this letter, we would like to present you our latest publication about the precious wildlife found in Tung Chung River valley and Tung Chung Bay. In fact, Tung Chung River is one of the few rivers in Hong Kong that still retains its natural setting continuously from its headwater to river mouth. The Tung Chung River and associated natural habitats is rich in its aquatic and coastal biodiversity, including many rare and endangered species, e.g., Beijiang Thick-lipped Barb (*Acrossocheilus beijiangensis*), Romer's Tree Frog (*Philautus romeri*), Hong Kong Newt (*Paramesotriton hongkongensis*), Tri-spine Horsehoe Crab (*Tachypleus tridentatus*) and Pipefish. Being one of the local rivers with the richest freshwater fish species, Tung Chung River yields at least 23 fish species and is designated as an "Ecologically Important Stream" by the Administration.

Any further development over the Tung Chung River basin and Tung Chung Bay may greatly degrade its environmental and ecological conditions. Plants and wildlife of high ecological values will be severely interrupted as their habitats will be fragmented or destroyed.

In order to preserve the valuable and distinctive condition of Tung Chung River, a holistic approach should be adopted to maintain rivers' hydrology which in brief context includes:

- (a) natural physical geometry and substratum of river courses, i.e. river beds, river banks, its alignment and estuary;
- (b) the permeability of river basin;
- (c) the vegetation cover of river basin; and
- (d) the river water quality.



Regarding the preservation of Tung Chung river and Tung Chung Bay, Green Power would advise that:

- (a) river works should be avoided as far as possible, the natural river courses and estuary should not be altered in any scale;
- (b) landuse planning for Tung Chung River basin and estuary should take into account of its permeability, natural landscape and ecology;
- (c) sufficient vegetation cover should be maintained in the basin; and
- (d) no sewage or stormwater of developed areas should be drained into Tung Chung River channel and Tung Chung Bay.

We strongly recommend the Administration to adopt the green groups's recommended DPA plan to guide a sustainable planning and development in Tung Chung.

Should you have any inquiries or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me (T: 3961 0223, F: 2314 2661, Email: [lkcheng@greenpower.org.hk](mailto:lkcheng@greenpower.org.hk)).

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Cheng Luk-ki  
Division Head, Conservation and Scientific Research  
Green Power

Attachment (hard copy only):

*"Preserving Tung Chung River – Photo Album of Wild Tung Chung River"* (Dec 2012)  
published by Green Power.

c.c.

**Mrs. LAM CHENG Yuet Ngor, Carrie, GBS, JP**  
Chief Secretary for Administration  
Chief Secretary for Administration's Private Office  
25/F, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong.  
(E-mail: [cso@cso.gov.hk](mailto:cso@cso.gov.hk))

**Mr. CHAN Mo Po, Paul, MH, JP**  
Secretary for Development  
Development Bureau  
18/F, West Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong  
(E-mail: [sdev@devb.gov.hk](mailto:sdev@devb.gov.hk))



**Mr. WONG Kam Sing**

Secretary for the Environment

15/F & 16/F, East Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong

(E-mail: [sen@enb.gov.hk](mailto:sen@enb.gov.hk))

**Sai Kung and Islands District Planning Office**

Planning Department

15/F, Sha Tin Government Office,

1 Sheung Wo Che Road,

Sha Tin, New Territories

(E-mail: [skisdpo@pland.gov.hk](mailto:skisdpo@pland.gov.hk))

**Hong Kong Islands Development Office**

Civil Engineering and Development Department

13/F, North Point Governemnt Office,

333 Java Road, North Point

(E-mail: [tungchung@cedd.gov.hk](mailto:tungchung@cedd.gov.hk))

**Mr. WONG Chi Kong, Alan, JP**

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

5/F Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices, 303 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon

(E-mail: [dafcoffice@afcd.gov.hk](mailto:dafcoffice@afcd.gov.hk))

**Ms. WONG Sean Yee, Anissa, JP**

Director of Environmental Protection

Environmental Protection Department

15/F & 16/F, East Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong

(E-mail: [dep@epd.gov.hk](mailto:dep@epd.gov.hk))