

## **BY EMAIL ONLY**

## **Director of Environmental Protection**

EIA Ordinance Register Office Environmental Protection Department

(E-mail: eiaocomment@epd.gov.hk; Fax: 2147 0894)

6 February, 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

## Green Power's Comments on Project Profile for Provision of Trunk Sewer to 3 Villages: Ta Tit Yan, Yuen Tun Ha and Lo Lau Uk in Tai Po

- 1. Green Power would like to respond to the Project Profile (PP) for the above-captioned works (the Project). We are concerned about adverse environmental and ecological impacts on the butterfly habitats, stream water quality and aquatic ecology during construction and operation phase of the Project.
- 2. Ta Tit Yan and Yuen Tun Ha possess rich butterfly biodiversity which are recognized butterfly hotspots in Hong Kong. Green Power has been conducting butterfly surveys in these two sites since 2010. A total of 174 butterfly species have been recorded there, which account for two-third of local species in Hong Kong. Among the 174 butterfly species, there are 31 rare species and 22 very rare species.
- 3. On the other hand, the Project encroaches several sections of natural streams with "Excellent" Water Quality Index ranked by EPD, including Wun Yiu Ecologically Important Stream(EIS). Wun Yiu EIS is habitat of a rare freshwater fish *Pseudobagrus trilineatus* which is listed as "Near Threatened" by the Red List of China's Vertebrates. The Project sites are located in Water Supplies Department's water gathering ground(WGG).
- 4. In order to avoid environmental impacts and footprints brought about by the Project, the proponent shall
  - (a) precast and install the parts of sewer and associated structures outside the country parks, catchment area of WGG and Wun Yiu EIS.
  - (b) clearly define the boundary of work sites of the Project so that all works activities, stock piling or equipment storage should not take place outside the works sites.
  - (c) avoid the works procedures that will generate wastewater or chemicals take place in works sites. Physical barriers to intercept surface runoff, wastewater extraction devices (e.g. electric pumps) and storage tanks should be ready for any wastewater/chemical spillage before works commence.
  - (d) strictly control the disposal of C&D waste or soil debris generated by the Project.
- 5. In order to minimize the risk of damages to the installed sewers in operation phase, the sewers should not be laid on geotechnically unstable slopes and upstream side of bridges across any streams.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Cheng Luk-ki

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Division Head, Scientific Research and Conservation