

BY EMAIL ONLY

Ms. Maisie Cheng, J.P.

Director of Environmental Protection

EIA Ordinance Register Office

Environmental Protection Department

(E-mail: eiaocomment@epd.gov.hk)

25 August 2021

Dear Ms. Cheng,

EIA report for Relocation of Diamond Hill Fresh Water and Salt Water Service Reservoirs to Caverns

Green Power would like to draw your kind attention to our comments about the above-captioned EIA report.

- 1. The natural watercourses within the Study Area (Session 8.4.14) should be well preserved and avoided from any alternation. Non-point source pollution and site surface runoff should not be discharged or directed to the watercourses during the construction phase.
- 2. In the Project, about 260 to 300 individuals of trees will be removed (Session 9.9.4). Although most of them are the typical plantation species *Acacia confusa*, the permanent loss in the ecological values should not be neglected, especially when some native tree species have already established in that area and started the natural succession process. The Project proponent should compensate the impact such as planting native species at the Project site.
- 3. The Project proponent should be responsible for maintaining a safe working environment for the workers and occupants during the construction phase. In particular, proper occupational measures to reduce toxic air pollutants and air-borne dust, as well as to prevent fire hazard in the cavern should be adopted. An emergency evacuation procedure should be well planned in case of any sudden occurrence.

4. The proposed caverns are located in granite bedrock that may emit radioactive radon gas. A health risk assessment of radon gas emission is not covered in the EIA whereas the Project proponent should still consider the mitigation measures of such issue as the previous EIA for the Sha Tin Cavern Sewage Development Work did (AEIAR-202/2016). Sufficient ventilation and filtration systems should be installed in the Project site to control the radon level not exceeding the latest EPD's Indoor Air Quality Objectives.

Thank you very much for your kind attention. For any inquiries, please contact the undersigned at Green Power (T: 39610200, F: 2314 2661, Email: wflo@greenpower.org.hk).

Yours faithfully,

LO Wing-fung

Senior Education & Conservation Officer

Green Power