

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 39 – Drainage Services Department

Subhead:

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Under the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009–10, it is mentioned that the Administration will commence the construction of the upgrading works of the Pillar Point sewage treatment works by way of Design-Build-Operate procurement arrangement. Please explain:

- (a) the details of the works and the procurement arrangement;
- (b) whether the works will affect the environment and the residents in the vicinity; and
- (c) whether the procurement arrangement will affect the existing workers of the sewage treatment plant (such as remuneration, employment contract, etc.).

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

- (a) The proposed works include upgrading of the existing preliminary sewage treatment works to provide chemically enhanced primary treatment with disinfection and increase the treatment capacity from 215 000 cubic metres to 241 000 cubic metres per day. In order to achieve the most economical design to reduce the whole life cycle costs, the contractor will be required to design, build and operate the plant for a maximum period of 15 years. We plan to make a submission to the Public Works Subcommittee/Finance Committee within the current Legislative Council session.
- (b) The environmental impact assessment completed in 2008 concluded that the proposed works would reduce pollution load resulting in the improvement of the water quality at Tuen Mun. Besides, with the implementation of suitable mitigation measures, the proposed works would not give rise to unacceptable environmental impacts during construction and operation.
- (c) The existing Pillar Point sewage treatment works is operated by only a few staff members. They will be redeployed to work in other sewage handling facilities.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ K K LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 17 March 2009