

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(W)079

(Question Serial No. 2442)

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): Not Specified

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (TONG Ka Hung, Edwin)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Regarding the investigation and design for the relocation of Sha Tin sewage treatment works to caverns, what are the current progress, work schedule and the provision involved?

Asked by: Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT (Member Question No. 22)

Reply:

According to Rule 49 of the Finance Committee Procedures, special meetings of the Finance Committee are convened to examine the annual Estimates of Expenditure prepared by the Government in support of the Appropriation Bill.

Expenditure charged to the Capital Works Reserve Fund do **not** form part of the Appropriation Bill. As such, questions relating to expenditure under the Fund are **not** relevant to the examination of the Estimates of Expenditure or the Appropriation Bill.

The investigation and design for the relocation of Sha Tin sewage treatment works to caverns commenced in September 2014. A number of technical assessments including environmental impact assessment, traffic impact assessment and blasting assessment have been substantially completed, while the ground investigation and design of the rock caverns and treatment processes are in progress. We also carried out the stage 3 Public Engagement for the project from December 2015 to March 2016, including a series of community engagement activities such as community group meetings, briefing sessions, focus group meetings and roving exhibitions. The investigation and design work are expected to be completed in stages by end 2022 as scheduled.

The investigation and design work are funded under the Capital Works Reserve Fund **Head 704 Subhead 4407DS** with an Approved Project Estimate of \$637.7 million in money-of-the-day prices.

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