Contract No. DC/2007/24 Habour Area Treatment Scheme Stage 2A Construction of Sewage Conveyance System From Aberdeen to Sai Ying Pun

Comments and Responses

Submission Title: Baseline Environmental Monitoring Report (GEN/026) Ver B

	Comments	Designer (Atkins)'s Responses
Environmental Protection Department Ref: (8) in EP 2/G/F/137 Date: 22 December 2009		
	General	
1	Monitoring results for other parameters recommended in the approved EM&A Manual such as vibration and ground settlement should be included in the monthly reports.	Noted with thanks.
	Specific	
2	Landscape and Visual Impact – According to Section 11.5 of the EM&A Manual, one of the purpose of baseline review is to determine whether any change has occurred to the status of the landscape resources since the EIA and determine whether amendments in the design of the landscape and visual mitigation measures is required for those changes. While Table 4.3 indicated 5 trees were found missing/dead, no remedial proposal has been recommended. Compensatory tree planting should be carried out for the missing/dead trees. Same or compatible species should be adopted and the number should have equal aggregate trunk diameter to the aggregate trunk diameter lost by those missing or dead trees.	Referring to a letter issued by RE (AECOM) to EPD dated 22 January 2010 (Ref: (DC/2007/24)/M45/150(0018)), Tree Nos. T015, T016 and T082 were missing and T008 were cut by others on the Contract commencement date of 31 July 2009. The compensation of the above-mentioned missing trees is under discussion with DLO. Should compensatory tree planting be required confirmed by DLO, same or compatible species will be adopted and the number will have equal aggregate trunk diameter to the aggregate trunk diameter lost by the above-mentioned missing/dead trees. Tree No. T002 was blown down by typhoon (refer to a letter dated 26 September 2009 attached in Annex A of the Baseline Monitoring Report). According to clause 32 of ETWB TCW No. 3/2006, tree compensation is not applicable to this tree.
3	A compensatory planting proposal indicating the locations, quantity, species and sizes of the proposed trees should be submitted.	Noted and please refer to our response above.
4	Table 4.3 – the sizes and species of the 5 transplanted/retained trees found missing or dead on site should be indicated.	Noted and Table 1.3 will be revised accordingly.
Independent Environmental Checker E-mail Date: 11 February 2010		
5	Table 1.2, row of "LR7"	
	Please clarify whether the updated no. of trees (i.e. 67) contain the dead tree stated in Table 1.3 or not. Please state this clearly in the notes of the table to avoid confusion.	Clarification had been made as Note (c) of Table 1.2.
6	Table 1.3, the second row "LR5"	

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	The tree number T016 is not in line with the botanical name of the tree. Please rectify.	Realignment made accordingly.
7	Table 1.3, Note (a) and Annex A, Letter dated 14 October 2009 (ref: LLNSJV/2009/DC200724/000352)	
	Location of the missing T015 is not found in the photos attached to the letter in Annex A. Please provide the photo record of the tree.	Photo record of T015 is attached in Annex A of the Report dated 22 February 2010.
8	Table 1.4, row of "LCA2"	
	Please realign "Residential Urban Landscape" in the row of "LCA2".	Realignment made accordingly.
9	Table 1.4, row of "LCA8"	
	Please add a word "Landscape" after "Development".	Text had been amended accordingly.
10	S 1.4, 1st para, line 4	
	Incorrect reference is used. Landscape mitigation measures cannot be found in Section 10.7 of the approved EIA Report. Please check and rectify.	Relevant text had been changed to "Table 13.7".
	Independent Environmental Checker	
	E-mail Date: 12 February 2010	
11	General	
	The "Content" page of the revised report is placed as last page in the submitted pdf. It is recommended to be placed before chapter 1. Please ensure the real copy of the report is aligned in order.	Noted and the content page will be revised accordingly.
12	Table 1.3, Note (a) and Annex A, Letter dated 14 October 2009 (ref: LLNSJV/2009/DC200724/000352)	
	Our previous comment item 7 is still valid. No relevant updates were found on your resubmitted photo. Although the title of the photo is named as "Cyperport PTW – T015 (T) & T016 (T) were missing", no indication was given to show the location of the missing T015. Please check again and provide the photo record.	Noted and the location of the missing T015 will be indicated on the revised page in the letter issued by RE (AECOM) to EPD dated 22 January 2010 (Ref: (DC/2007/24)/M45/150(0018)) in <i>Annex A</i> .
13	S 1.4, 1st para, line 4	
	Our previous comment item 6 is still valid. The revised EIA reference is still incorrect. Section 13.7 of the approved EIA only presents the methodology of visual impact assessment. Please check and rectify.	Relevant text had been changed to "Table 13.7".
	Independent Environmental Checker E-mail Date: 5 March 2010	

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14	Item 11-13 of Response Table	
	Comments of these three items were made by IEC but not EPD. Please revise.	This response to comment table showed the correct commenter of comments no. 11-13.
15	Item 2 of Response Table	
	Your response is considered inadequate to address EPD's comment. Although the Baseline L&V Monitoring Report concluded in Section 2 – CONCLUSION that no significant changes of LRs were identified and no changes to mitigation measures proposed in the EIA are required, no discussion to justify these findings were provided in Section 1.	As stated in the letter from RE (AECOM) to EPD dated 22 January 2010 (Ref: (DC/2007/24)/M45/150(0018)), the four missing trees indicated in the Baseline Environmental Monitoring and Audit Report were found missing on the Contract commencement dated of 31 July 2009. The compensation plan of these trees is still under the discussion between our ER and DLO. We will keep you updating the status accordingly.
	It is suggested to provide a subsection after Table 1.3 to present your justifications as stated in Section 11.5 of the EM&A Manual.	
16	Item 3 of Response Table	
	It is suggested to provide as Annex of the report the compensatory planting proposal requested by EPD.	The four missing trees indicated in the Baseline Environmental Monitoring and Audit Report were found missing on the Contract commencement dated of 31 July 2009. The compensation plan of these trees is still under the discussion between our ER and DLO. We will keep you updating the status accordingly.
	Independent Environmental Checker E-mail Date: 12 February 2010	
17	Page i, first para of "Landscape and Visual"	
	"visual sensitive receivers" should read "visually sensitive receivers" in consistent with Appendix D.	Relevant text had been amended.
18	Page i, last para of "Landscape and Visual"	
	Please revise the last sentence as "The compensation of these missing/dead trees is under discussion with DLO. Except LR5 and LR7, no changes to in the approved EIA are required." to correspond with the conclusion in Appendix D.	Relevant text had been amended.