

Response to Comments

PROPOSED TEMPORARY WAREHOUSE (EXCLUDING DANGEROUS GODOWN) AND ASSOCIATED FILLING OF LAND FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS IN “AGRICULTURE” ZONE

LOTS 665 S.A., 666 S.A., 667, 669, AND 685 OF D.D. 90, MAN KAM TO, NEW TERRITORIES

Departmental Comments	Applicant's Response
<p><u>Comments from the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department</u></p> <p><u>From nature conservation perspective</u></p> <p>It is noted from our recent site inspection that Lot 665 S.A, 666 S.A and 667 in D.D. 90 is a seasonal marsh where aquatic plants were recorded. A natural watercourse is located with the subject site. As loss of marsh and watercourse is not desirable from nature conservation perspective, I have reservation on the subject application.</p>	<p>Attached are photos taken on 29/4/2024 (Photo 1- 8), along with map of photo locations and angle (Figure 5). There were heavy rains in the week prior, and an amber rainstorm warning hoisted 3 days ago on 26/4/2024. Site inspections shows that although the land is damp from the rainfall, there were no signs of running water or streamcourse as indicated on the maps. The entire area is covered in overgrown vegetation, and further inspection shows that the area in the vicinity of the indicated streamcourse is actually soil ground as shown in attached picture (Photo 04). Therefore, there is no loss of watercourse. Nevertheless, a U-channel is proposed at the indicated watercourse to allow for waterflow, and at the end of the application period, the applicant proposes to reinstate the indicated watercourse.</p> <p>To mitigate the loss of marsh, the proposed site layout (Figure 1) has been modified to keep as much of the seasonal marsh as possible, around 400m², directly next to the streamcourse to the north. No work will be performed in this area. With the revised proposal, the majority of the seasonal marsh located on Lot 665 S.A in D.D.90 will be preserved, and much of the aquatic plant species can be maintained. The marsh area will be fenced between the site and marsh area, and a 3m wide buffer grassed area, is proposed between the site and the marsh area to ensure that the marsh will not be disturbed from the operations. Figures 2 to 4 are revised plans to accommodate the areas of marsh preservation.</p>