13. 14 Appendix I of RNTPC 到。城市規劃委員會 Paper No. A/NE-FTA/247A 在收到所有必要的資料及文件後才正式確認收到 18 JUN 2024 Form No. S16-III This document is received on 表格第 S16-III 號 The Town Planning Board will formally acknowledge the date of receipt of the application only upon receipt of all the required information and documents APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION **UNDER SECTION 16 OF** THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE (CAP. 131) 《城市規劃條例》(第131章) 根 據 第16條遞交的許 申 口 Applicable to Proposal Only Involving Temporary Use/Development of Land and/or Building Not Exceeding 3 Years in Rural Areas or Regulated Areas, or Renewal of Permission for such Temporary Use or Development* 適用於祇涉及位於鄉郊地區或受規管地區土地上及/或建築物內進行 為期不超過三年的臨時用途/發展或該等臨時用途/發展的許可續期的建議* *Form No. S16-I should be used for other Temporary Use/Development of Land and/or Building (e.g. temporary use/developments in the Urban Area) and Renewal of Permission for such Temporary Use or Development. *其他土地上及/或建築物內的臨時用途/發展(例如位於市區內的臨時用途或發展)及有關該等臨時用途/發 展的許可續期,應使用表格第S16-I號。 Applicant who would like to publish the notice of application in local newspapers to meet one of the Town

Planning Board's requirements of taking reasonable steps to obtain consent of or give notification to the current land owner, please refer to the following link regarding publishing the notice in the designated newspapers: https://www.tpb.gov.hk/en/plan_application/apply.html

申請人如欲在本地報章刊登<u>申請通知</u>,以採取城市規劃委員會就取得現行土地擁有人的同意或通知現行土地擁有人所指定的其中一項合理步驟,請瀏覽以下網址有關在指定的報章刊登通知: https://www.tpb.gov.hk/tc/plan_application/apply.html

<u>General Note and Annotation for the Form</u> 填寫表格的一般指引及註解

- * "Current land owner" means any person whose name is registered in the Land Registry as that of an owner of the land to which the application relates, as at 6 weeks before the application is made 「現行土地擁有人」指在提出申請前六星期,其姓名或名稱已在土地註冊處註冊為該申請所關乎的 土地的擁有人的人
- * Please attach documentary proof 請夾附證明文件
- ^ Please insert number where appropriate 請在適當地方註明編號

Please fill "NA" for inapplicable item 請在不適用的項目填寫「不適用」

Please use separate sheets if the space provided is insufficient 如所提供的空間不足,請另頁說明 Please insert a 「✔」at the appropriate box 請在適當的方格內上加上「✔」號

2401306 23/5 By hand

Form No. S16-III 表格第 S16-III 號

E. Officially Only	Application No. 申請編號	A/NE-77A/247
For Official Use Only 請勿填寫此欄	Date Received 收到日期	1 8 JUN 2024

- The completed form and supporting documents (if any) should be sent to the Secretary, Town Planning Board (the Board), 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong.
 申請人須把填妥的申請表格及其他支持申請的文件 (倘有),送交香港北角渣華道 333 號北角政府合署 15 樓城市 規劃委員會(下稱「委員會」)秘書收。
- 2. Please read the "Guidance Notes" carefully before you fill in this form. The document can be downloaded from the Board's website at <u>http://www.tpb.gov.hk/</u>. It can also be obtained from the Secretariat of the Board at 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong (Tel: 2231 4810 or 2231 4835), and the Planning Enquiry Counters of the Planning Department (Hotline: 2231 5000) (17/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong and 14/F, Sha Tin Government Offices, 1 Sheung Wo Che Road, Sha Tin, New Territories). 請先細閱《申請須知》的資料單張,然後填寫此表格。該份文件可從委員會的網頁下載(網址: <u>http://www.tpb.gov.hk/</u>),亦可向委員會秘書處(香港北角渣華道 333 號北角政府合署 15 樓 電話: 2231 4810 或 2231 4835)及規劃署的規劃資料查詢處(熱線: 2231 5000) (香港北角渣華道 333 號北角政府合署 17 樓及新界沙田上禾輋路 1 號沙田政府合署 14 樓)索取。
- 3. This form can be downloaded from the Board's website, and obtained from the Secretariat of the Board and the Planning Enquiry Counters of the Planning Department. The form should be typed or completed in block letters. The processing of the application may be refused if the required information or the required copies are incomplete. 此表格可從委員會的網頁下載,亦可向委員會秘書處及規劃署的規劃資料查詢處索取。申請人須以打印方式或以正楷填寫表格。如果申請人所提交的資料或文件副本不齊全,委員會可拒絕處理有關申請。

1. Name of Applicant 申請人姓名/名稱

(□Mr. 先生 /□Mrs. 夫人 /□Miss 小姐 /□Ms. 女士 / 🗹 Company 公司 /□Organisation 機構)

Standard Billion Limited 準億有限公司

2. Name of Authorised Agent (if applicable) 獲授權代理人姓名/名稱(如適用)

(□Mr. 先生 /□Mrs. 夫人 /□Miss 小姐 /□Ms. 女士 / ☑ Company 公司 /□Organisation 機構)

R-riches Property Consultants Limited 盈卓物業顧問有限公司

3.	Application Site 申請地點	
(a)	Full address / location / demarcation district and lot number (if applicable) 詳細地址/地點/丈量約份及 地段號碼(如適用)	Lots 427 RP (Part), 427 S.D (Part), 427 S.E RP (Part), 433 (Part), 445 (Part), 446 (Part), 447 (Part), 458 S.B RP (Part), 462 (Part), 463, 464 (Part), 465 (Part), 466 (Part), 518 RP (Part), 520 RP (Part), 521 (Part), 522 (Part), 523 (Part), 524 (Part), 525 S.A, 525 RP, 526 (Part) in D.D. 89 and Adjoining GL, Man Kam To, New Territories
(b)	Site area and/or gross floor area involved 涉及的地盤面積及/或總樓面面 積	☑Site area 地盤面積 16,256 sq.m 平方米☑About 約 ☑Gross floor area 總樓面面積 14,738 sq.m 平方米☑About 約
(c)	Area of Government land included (if any) 所包括的政府土地面積(倘有)	80sq.m 平方米 I About 約

(d)	Name and number of statutory plan(s) 有關法定圖則的名稱及						
(e)	Land use zone(s) involv 涉及的土地用途地帶	/ed	d "Agriculture" zone				
(f)	Current use(s) 現時用途						
4.	"Current Land Ow	vner" of A	pplication Site 申請地點的「現行土地擁有人」				
The	applicant 申請人 -						
	is the sole "current land 是唯一的「現行土地擁	owner" ^{#&} (ple 有人」 ^{#&} (請	ease proceed to Part 6 and attach documentary proof of ownership). 指繼續填寫第 6 部分,並夾附業權證明文件)。				
	is one of the "current lan 是其中一名「現行土地	d owners" ^{# &} 擁有人」 ^{#&}	(please attach documentary proof of ownership). (請夾附業權證明文件)。				
V	is not a "current land ow 並不是「現行土地擁有						
	The application site is en 申請地點完全位於政府	tirely on Gov 土地上(請	vernment land (please proceed to Part 6). 繼續填寫第 6 部分)。				
5.	Statement on Owner 就土地擁有人的		nt/Notification 印土地擁有人的陳述				
(a)	involves a total of	······	年				
(b)	The applicant 申請人 -						
			2 2				
		CT 1251	"current land owner(s)"#. 現行土地擁有人」"的同意。				
	Details of consent	of "current la	and owner(s)"* obtained 取得「現行土地擁有人」*同意的詳情				
	No. of 'Current Land Owner(s)' 「現行土地擁有 人」數目	Registry who	address of premises as shown in the record of the Land ere consent(s) has/have been obtained 冊處記錄已獲得同意的地段號碼/處所地址 日/月/年)				
	(Please use separate sl	heets if the spa	ice of any box above is insufficient. 如上列任何方格的空間不足,請另頁說明)				

1: 3

			rent land owner(s)" [#] notified 已经		的詳細資料 Date of notification
	La 「	o. of 'Current nd Owner(s)' 現行土地擁 人」數目	Lot number/address of premises a Land Registry where notification(根據土地註冊處記錄已發出通知	Date of notification given (DD/MM/YYYY) 通知日期(日/月/年)	
	-				
	(Plea	ase use separate s	heets if the space of any box above is i	nsufficient. 如上列任何方格的3	[[]間不足,請另頁說明)
\checkmark	已採	《取合理步驟以	e steps to obtain consent of or give 取得土地擁有人的同意或向該人	發給通知。詳情如下:	
	Rea		Obtain Consent of Owner(s) 取		
		於	r consent to the "current land owne (日/月/年)向每一名「玙	1行土地擁有人」"郵遞要求同	司意書《
Reasonable Steps to Give Notification to Owner(s) 向土地擁有人發出通知所採取的合理地					
	✓ published notices in local newspapers on23/5/2024 (DD/MM/YYYY) ^{&} 於(日/月/年)在指定報章就申請刊登一次通知 ^{&}				
			n a prominent position on or near a (DD/MM/YYYY)&	application site/premises on	
		於	(日/月/年)在申請地點/	「申請處所或附近的顯明位置	貼出關於該申請的通知
	\checkmark	office(s) or run	relevant owners' corporation(s)/ow ral committee on 22/5/2024	(DD/MM/YYYY)&	
			(日/月/年)把通知寄往 J鄉事委員會 ^{&}	相關的業主立案法團/業主委	奏員會/互助委員會或管
	Oth	ers 其他			
		others (please 其他(請指明			

6. Type(s) of Applicatio	n 申i	請類別		
Regulated Areas 位於鄉郊地區或受規管	地區土地	也上及/或建築	物内進行為其	Not Exceeding 3 Years in Rural Areas or 別不超過三年的臨時用途/發展
(For Renewal of Permiss proceed to Part (B))	ion for '	Temporary Use	or Developme	ent in Rural Areas or Regulated Areas, please
(如屬位於鄉郊地區或受規	管地區	臨時用途/發展的	的規劃許可續期	1,請填寫(B)部分)
(a) Proposed use(s)/development 擬議用途/發展	And	cillary Facilities	for a Period of	e (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with f 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land
(b) Effective period of	(Please			on a layout plan) (請用平面圖說明擬議詳情)
 (b) Effective period of permission applied for 申請的許可有效期 	-	☑ year(s) 年 □ month(s) {		
(c) Development Schedule 發展	田節表			
Proposed uncovered land area		天土地面積		
Proposed covered land area 携	凝議有上	蓋土地面積		7,369
Proposed number of buildings	s/structur	es 擬議建築物/	/構築物數目	2
Proposed domestic floor area	擬議住月	目樓面面積		N/Asq.m □About 約
Proposed non-domestic floor	area 擬詞	義非住用樓面面	積	
Proposed gross floor area 擬詞	義總樓面	面積		14,738sq.m ☑About 約
				plicable) 建築物/構築物的擬議高度及不同樓層 sufficient) (如以下空間不足,請另頁說明)
STRUCTURE USE		COVERED AREA	GFA	BUILDING HEIGHT
B1 WAREHOUSE (EXCL. D.G. OFFICE AND WASHROOM B2 WAREHOUSE (EXCL. D.G. OFFICE AND WASHROOM		5,950 m ² (ABOUT) 1,419 m ² (ABOUT)	11,900 m ² (ABOUT) 2,838 m ² (ABOUT)	16.5 m (ABOUT)(2-STOREY) 16.5 m (ABOUT)(2-STOREY)
	TOTAL	7,369 m ² (ABOUT)	14,738 m ² (ABOUT)	
Proposed number of car parking s	spaces by	types 不同種類	[停車位的擬議	數目
Private Car Parking Spaces 私家	- 15. of Arrest			10 (Private Car)
Motorcycle Parking Spaces 電單				
Light Goods Vehicle Parking Spa				
Medium Goods Vehicle Parking				
Heavy Goods Vehicle Parking Sp Others (Please Specify) 其他 (請		型貝里汨里位		
o meno (r reuse opeenig) 只能	a / 0 / 9 J /			
Proposed number of loading/unlo	ading spa	aces 上落客貨車	位的擬議數目	
Taxi Spaces 的士車位				
Coach Spaces 旅遊巴車位				
Light Goods Vehicle Spaces 輕型				
Medium Goods Vehicle Spaces				3 (Medium Goods Vehicle)
Heavy Goods Vehicle Spaces 重 Others (Please Specify) 其他 (譯		位		6 (Container Vehicle)
			2222	

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	osed operating hours				an an ann an Guarran	
Mor	nday to Saturday from	n 07:00 to	o 19:00. N	o operation on Sunday	and public holiday	
			1 10-10			
			es 是 │ ☑	appropriate)	access. (please indicate the 註明車路名稱(如適用))	street name, where
(d)	Any vehicular acce					
	the site/subject build		A.		n To Road via a local acces	
	是否有車路通往地 有關建築物?	.'盈/			ess. (please illustrate on plan a 青在圖則顯示,並註明車路的	
		N	•否 □			
(e)	Impacts of Developn	nent Propo	sal 擬議會	後展計劃的影響		
	(If necessary, please) justifications/reasons 措施,否則請提供理	for not pr	oviding su	indicate the proposed mea ch measures. 如需要的話	sures to minimise possible adv ,請另頁註明可盡量減少可	verse impacts or give 「能出現不良影響的
(i)	Does the development	Yes 是	(se provide details 請提供	共詳情	
	proposal involve alteration of					
	existing building?					
	擬議發展計劃是					
	否包括現有建築 物的改動?	No 否	\checkmark			
		Yes 是	V (Please	e indicate on site plan the bou	ndary of concerned land/pond(s), a	and particulars of stream
			diversi	on, the extent of filling of land/p	ond(s) and/or excavation of land)	
			(請用5 範圍)	也盤平面圖顯示有關土地/池圳	唐界線,以及河道改道、填塘、填土	及/或挖土的細節及/或
			🗌 D	iversion of stream 河道改	道	
(ii)	Does the		F	illing of pond 填塘		
	development proposal involve				sq.m 平方米	
	proposal involve the operation on the		D	epth of filling 填塘深度.	m米	□About 約
	right?		🗹 F	illing of land 填土		
	擬議發展是否涉		A	rea of filling 填土面積		☑About 約
	及右列的工程?		D	epth of filling 填土厚度	not more than 2.5. m 米	□About 約
			ПЕ	xcavation of land 挖土		
			A	rea of excavation 挖土面积	責sq.m 平方米	□About 約
					度m 米	
		No 否				
		On envir	onment 對	環境	Yes 會 🗌	No 不會 ☑
	On t		c 對交通		Yes 會 🗌	No 不會 ☑
(iii)	Would the		supply 對 age 對排z		Yes 會 🗌 Yes 會 🗌	No 不會 ☑ No 不會 ☑
(m)	development		age 到排/ s 對斜坡		Yes 會 □	No 不會 ☑
	proposal cause any	Affected	by slopes	受斜坡影響	Yes 👜 🗌	No 不會 🗹
	adverse impacts?			構成景觀影響	Yes 會 🗌	No 不會 ☑ No 不會 ☑
	擬議發展計劃會 否造成不良影		ling 砍伐 npact 構成		Yes 會 🗌 Yes 會 🗌	No 不會 ☑ No 不會 ☑
	響?			:ify) 其他 (請列明)	Yes 會 □	No 不會 ☑
				965		

Please state measure(s) to minimise the impact(s). For tree felling, please state the number,
diameter at breast height and species of the affected trees (if possible)
請註明盡量減少影響的措施。如涉及砍伐樹木,請說明受影響樹木的數目、及胸高度的樹 幹直徑及品種(倘可)

r; }

	Temporary Use or Development in Rural Areas or Regulated Areas 區臨時用途/發展的許可續期
(a) Application number to which the permission relates 與許可有關的申請編號	A//
(b) Date of approval 獲批給許可的日期	(DD 日/MM 月/YYYY 年)
(c) Date of expiry 許可屆滿日期	(DD 日/MM 月/YYYY 年)
(d) Approved use/development 已批給許可的用途/發展	
(e) Approval conditions 附帶條件	 □ The permission foes not have any approval condition 許可並沒有任何附帶條件 □ Applicant has complied with all the approval conditions 申請 □ Applicant has not yet complied with the following approval condition(s): □ 申請 人仍未履行下列附帶條件: □ Reason(s) for non-compliance: □ 仍未履行的原因: □ (Please use separate sheets if the space above is insufficient) (如以上空間不足,請另頁說明)
(f) Renewal period sought 要求的續期期間	□ year(s) 年

7. Justifications 理由
The applicant is invited to provide justifications in support of the application. Use separate sheets if necessary. 現請申請人提供申請理由及支持其申請的資料。如有需要,請另頁說明)。
Please refer to the planning statement.

8. Declaration 聲明	
I hereby declare that the particulars given in this application are c 本人謹此聲明,本人就這宗申請提交的資料,據本人所知及	orrect and true to the best of my knowledge and belief. 所信,均屬真實無誤。
I hereby grant a permission to the Board to copy all the materials s to the Board's website for browsing and downloading by the publ 本人現准許委員會酌情將本人就此申請所提交的所有資料複	lic free-of-charge at the Board's discretion.
Signature 簽署] Applicant 申請人 / 🗹 Authorised Agent 獲授權代理人
Matthew NG	Planning and Development Manager
Name in Block Letters 姓名(請以正楷填寫)	Position (if applicable) 職位 (如適用)
Professional Qualification(s) ✓ Member 會員 / □ Fellow (專業資格 ✓ HKIP 香港規劃師學會 / □ HKIS 香港測量師學會 / □ HKILA 香港園境師學會 / □ HKILA 香港園境師學會 / ○ HKILA 香港園境師學會 / ○ Chers 其他 ○ Chers 其他	of 資深會員 / □ HKIA 香港建築師學會 / □ HKIE 香港工程師學會 / / □ HKIUD 香港城市設計學會
on behalf of 代表 R-riches Property Consultants Limited 盈卓	a day
🗹 Company 公司 / 🗌 Organisation Name and C	Chop (if applicable) 機構名稱及蓋章(如適用)
Date 日期	DD/MM/YYYY 日/月/年)
Remark (#	
The materials submitted in this application and the Board's deci Such materials would also be uploaded to the Board's website fo Board considers appropriate. 委員會會向公眾披露申請人所遞交的申請資料和委員會對申請 資料亦會上載至委員會網頁供公眾免費瀏覽及下載。	r browsing and free downloading by the public where the
Warning [#]	<u>终生</u>
Any person who knowingly or wilfully makes any statement or fu which is false in any material particular, shall be liable to an offen 任何人在明知或故意的情況下,就這宗申請提出在任何要項」	urnish any information in connection with this application, ce under the Crimes Ordinance
Statement on Personal Data	a 個人資料的聲明
 The personal data submitted to the Board in this application w departments for the following purposes: 委員會就這宗申請所收到的個人資料會交給委員會秘書及 劃委員會規劃指引的規定作以下用途: (a) the processing of this application which includes making when making available this application for public inspect 處理這宗申請,包括公布這宗申請供公眾查閱,同時 (b) facilitating communication between the applicant and the 方便申請人與委員會秘書及政府部門之間進行聯絡。 	政府部門,以根據《城市規劃條例》及相關的城市規 g available the name of the applicant for public inspection ion; and 公布申請人的姓名供公眾查閱;以及
 The personal data provided by the applicant in this application mentioned in paragraph 1 above. 申請人就這宗申請提供的個人資料,或亦會向其他人士披 	

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2. 5

3. An applicant has a right of access and correction with respect to his/her personal data as provided under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Cap. 486). Request for personal data access and correction should be addressed to the Secretary of the Board at 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong. 根據《個人資料(私隱)條例》(第 486 章)的規定,申請人有權查閱及更正其個人資料。如欲查閱及更正個人資料,應向委員會秘書提出有關要求,其地址為香港北角渣華道 333 號北角政府合署 15 樓。

Gist of Application 申請摘要 (Please provide details in both English and Chinese as far as possible. This part will be circulated to relevant consultees, uploaded to the Town Planning Board's Website for browsing and free downloading by the public and available at the Planning Enquiry Counters of the Planning Department for general information.) (請盡量以英文及中文填寫。此部分將會發送予相關諮詢人士、上載至城市規劃委員會網頁供公眾免費瀏覽及 下載及於規劃署規劃資料查詢處供一般參閱。) (For Official Use Only) (請勿填寫此欄) Application No. 申請編號 Location/address Lots 427 RP (Part), 427 S.D (Part), 427 S.E RP (Part), 433 (Part), 445 (Part), 446 位置/地址 (Part), 447 (Part), 458 S.B RP (Part), 462 (Part), 463, 464 (Part), 465 (Part), 466 (Part), 518 RP (Part), 520 RP (Part), 521 (Part), 522 (Part), 523 (Part), 524 (Part), 525 S.A, 525 RP, 526 (Part) in D.D. 89 and Adjoining GL, Man Kam To, New Territories 16,256 sq. m 平方米 ☑ About 約 Site area 盈 卓 柳菜编店 地盤面積 sq.m 平方米 ☑ About 約) 80 (includes Government land of 包括政府土地 Plan 圖則 Approved Fu Tei Au and Sha Ling Outline Zoning Plan No. S/NE-FTA/18 Zoning 地帶 "Agriculture" zone Temporary Use/Development in Rural Areas or Regulated Areas for a Period of Type of \checkmark Application 位於鄉郊地區或受規管地區的臨時用途/發展為期 申請類別 ☑ Year(s) 年 3 □ Month(s) 月 _____ Renewal of Planning Approval for Temporary Use/Development in Rural Areas or Regulated Areas for a Period of 位於鄉郊地區或受規管地區臨時用途/發展的規劃許可續期為期 □ Year(s) 年 _____ □ Month(s) 月 _____ Applied use/ development Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with 申請用途/發展 Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land

(i)	Gross floor area and/or plot ratio		sq.1	n 平方米	Plo	t Ratio 地積比率
	總樓面面積及/或 地積比率	Domestic 住用	N/A	□ About 約 □ Not more 不多於		□About 約 □Not more than 不多於
		Non-domestic 非住用	14,738	☑ About 約 □ Not more 不多於		☑About 約 □Not more than 不多於
(ii)	No. of blocks 幢數	Domestic 住用			N/A	
		Non-domestic 非住用			2	
(iii)	Building height/No. of storeys 建築物高度/層數	Domestic 住用		N/A	□ (N	m 米 ot more than 不多於)
				N/A	□ (N	Storeys(s) 層 ot more than 不多於)
		Non-domestic 非住用		16.5 (about)	□ (N	m 米 ot more than 不多於)
				2	□ (N	Storeys(s) 層 ot more than 不多於)
(iv)	Site coverage 上蓋面積		45		%	🗹 About 約
(v)	No. of parking	Total no. of vehicle	e parking space	s 停車位總數		10
	spaces and loading / unloading spaces 停車位及上落客貨 車位數目	Private Car Parkir Motorcycle Parkir Light Goods Vehi Medium Goods V Heavy Goods Veh Others (Please Spe	ng Spaces 電單 cle Parking Spa ehicle Parking icle Parking Sp	量車車位 aces 輕型貨車 Spaces 中型貨 paces 重型貨車	南泊車位	10 (PC)
		Total no. of vehicle 上落客貨車位/ Taxi Spaces 的士 Coach Spaces 旅 Light Goods Vehi Medium Goods Vehi Medium Goods Vehi Others (Please Spe Container Vehicle	亭車處總數 車位 遊巴車位 cle Spaces 輕型 ehicle Spaces icle Spaces 重	型貨車車位 中型貨車位 型貨車車位	/S	9 3 (MGV) 6 (CV)

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Submitted Plans, Drawings and Documents 提交的圖則、繪圖及文件		
	<u>Chinese</u> 中文	<u>English</u> 英文
Plans and Drawings 圖則及繪圖		
Master layout plan(s)/Layout plan(s) 總綱發展藍圖/布局設計圖		\checkmark
Block plan(s) 樓宇位置圖		
Floor plan(s) 樓宇平面圖		
Sectional plan(s) 截視圖		
Elevation(s) 立視圖		
Photomontage(s) showing the proposed development 顯示擬議發展的合成照片		
Master landscape plan(s)/Landscape plan(s) 園境設計總圖/園境設計圖		
Others (please specify) 其他(請註明)		\checkmark
Please refer the attached planning statement.		
Reports 報告書		
Planning Statement/Justifications 規劃綱領/理據		\checkmark
Environmental assessment (noise, air and/or water pollutions)		
環境評估(噪音、空氣及/或水的污染)		
Traffic impact assessment (on vehicles) 就車輛的交通影響評估		
Traffic impact assessment (on pedestrians) 就行人的交通影響評估		
Visual impact assessment 視覺影響評估		
Landscape impact assessment 景觀影響評估		
Tree Survey 樹木調查		
Geotechnical impact assessment 土力影響評估		
Drainage impact assessment 排水影響評估		
Sewerage impact assessment 排污影響評估		
Risk Assessment 風險評估		
Others (please specify) 其他 (請註明)		
Note: May insert more than one「レ」. 註:可在多於一個方格內加上「レ」號		

- Note: The information in the Gist of Application above is provided by the applicant for easy reference of the general public. Under no circumstances will the Town Planning Board accept any liabilities for the use of the information nor any inaccuracies or discrepancies of the information provided. In case of doubt, reference should always be made to the submission of the applicant.
- 註: 上述申請摘要的資料是由申請人提供以方便市民大眾參考。對於所載資料在使用上的問題及文義上的歧異,城市規劃委員 會概不負責。若有任何疑問,應查閱申請人提交的文件。

SECTION 16 PLANNING APPLICATION

PROPOSED TEMPORARY WAREHOUSE (EXCLUDING DANGEROUS GOODS GODOWN) WITH ANCILLARY FACILITIES FOR A PERIOFD OF 3 YEARS AND ASSOCIATED FILLING OF LAND IN "AGRICULTURE" ZONE,

VARIOUS LOTS IN D.D. 89 AND ADJOINING GOVERNMENT LAND, MAN KAM TO, NEW TERRITORIES

PLANNING STATEMENT

Applicant Standard Billion Limited

<u>Consultancy Team</u> Planning Consultant: **R**-

R-riches Property Consultants Limited



May 2024 Version 1.0

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The applicant seeks planning permission from the Town Planning Board (the Board) under Section (S.) 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131)(the Ordinance) to use Various Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land (GL), Man Kam To, New Territories (the Site) for 'Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land'.
- The Site falls within an area zoned as "Agriculture" ("AGR") on the Approved Fu Tei Au and Sha Ling Outline Zoning Plan (OZP) No. S/NE-FTA/18. The Site occupies an area of 16,256 m² (about), including 80 m² (about) of Government Land (GL). A total of two 2-storey structures are proposed at the Site for warehouses (excluding dangerous goods godown), offices and washrooms with total GFA of 14,738 m² (about), the remaining area is reserved for vehicle parking and loading/unloading (L/UL) spaces and circulation area.
- The Site is accessible from Man Kam To Road via a local access. The operation hours of the proposed development are Monday to Saturday from 07:00 to 19:00. No operation on Sunday and public holiday.
- Justifications for the proposed development are as follows:
 - The applicant's original premises are affected by land resumption for the development of Hung Shui Kiu/Ha Tsuen (HSK/HT) New Development Area (NDA)
 - The applicant has spent effort in identifying suitable site for relocation.
 - The applied use is the same as the applicant's original premises.
 - No significant adverse impact is anticipated from the proposed development.
 - The proposed development is only on a temporary basis, approval of the application will not frustrate the long-term planning intention of the "AGR" zone.
- Details of development parameters are as follows:

Application Site Area	16,256 m ² (about), incl. 80 m ² (about) of GL			
Covered Area	7,369 m² (about)			
Uncovered Area	8,887 m ² (about)			
Plot Ratio	0.91 (about)			
Site Coverage	45% (about)			
Number of Structure	2			
Total GFA	14,738 m² (about)			
- Domestic GFA	Not applicable			
- Non-Domestic GFA	14,738 m² (about)			
Building Height	16.5 m (about)			
No. of Storey	2			



行政摘要 (內文如與英文版本有任何差異,應以英文版本為準)

- 申請人現根據《城市規劃條例》(第131章)第16條,向城市規劃委員會提交有關 新界文錦渡丈量約份第89約多個地段及毗鄰政府土地的規劃申請,於上述地點作 「擬議臨時貨倉(危險品倉庫除外)連附屬設施(為期3年)及相關填土工程」。
- 申請地點所在的地區在《虎地坳及沙嶺分區計劃大綱核准圖編號 S/NE-FTA/18》上 劃為「農業」用途地帶。申請地盤面積為 16,256 平方米(約),包括 80 平方米(約)
 的政府土地。申請地點將設有 2 座兩層高的構築物作貨倉(危險品倉庫除外)、辦公室及洗手間,構築物的總樓面面積合共為 14,738 平方米(約),其餘地方將預留作車輛上/落貨及停泊位及流轉空間。
- 申請地點可從文錦渡路經一條地區道路前往。擬議發展的作業時間為星期一至六上 午七時至下午七時。星期日及公眾假期休息。
- 擬議發展的申請理據如下:
 - 申請人原來的經營處所受到洪水橋/厦村新發展區發展收地影響。
 - 申請人曾經致力尋找合適的搬遷地點。
 - 申請的用途與申請人先前受影響的發展場地用途一致。
 - 擬議發展不會對周邊地區帶來重大負面影響。
 - 擬議發展只屬臨時性質,批出規劃許可則不會影響「農業」用途地帶的長遠 規劃意向。
- 擬議發展的詳情發展參數如下:

16,256 平方米(約)
(包括80平方米(約)的政府土地)
7,369 平方米(約)
8,887 平方米(約)
0.91(約)
45%(約)
2 座
14,738 平方米(約)
不適用
14,738 平方米(約)
16.5 米(約)
2 層



Planning Statement 20240517 Ver 1.0

1. INTRODUCTION

Background

- 1.1 R-riches Property Consultants Limited has been commissioned by Standard Billion Limited¹ (the applicant) to make submission on their behalf to the Board under the S.16 of the Ordinance in respect to Lots 427 RP (Part), 427 S.D (Part), 427 S.E RP (Part), 433 (Part), 445 (Part), 446 (Part), 447 (Part), 458 S.B RP (Part), 462 (Part), 463, 464 (Part), 465 (Part), 466 (Part), 518 RP (Part), 520 RP (Part), 521 (Part), 522 (Part), 523 (Part), 524 (Part), 525 S.A, 525 RP, 526 (Part) in D.D. 89 and Adjoining GL, Man Kam To, New Territories (the Site)(Plans 1 to 3).
- 1.2 The applicant would like to use the Site for '**Proposed Temporary Warehouse** (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land' (proposed development). The Site currently falls within an area zoned as "AGR" on the Approved Fu Tei Au and Sha Ling OZP No. S/NE-FTA/18 (Plan 2). According to the Notes of the OZP, the proposed use, i.e. 'warehouse (excluding dangerous goods godown)' is not a column one nor two use within the "AGR" zone. Therefore, planning permission is required to be obtained from the Board by the applicant to facilitate the proposed development at the Site.
- 1.3 In support of the proposal, a set of indicative development plans and drawings are provided with the planning statement (Plans 1 to 12 and Appendices I to III). Set of assessments to mitigate potential adverse impacts will be submitted, if required, at a later stage for the consideration of Government departments and members of the Board.

¹ Standard Billion Limited (the applicant) is authorized by Top Concept Logistics Limited 佳宏物流有限公司 (the affected business operator) to facilitate the relocation of their existing business premises in Hung Shui Kiu. Details of the affected business operator are provided at Appendix I.



2. JUSTIFICATIONS

To facilitate the relocation of the applicant's business premises affected by the development of the HSK/HT NDA

- 2.1 The current application is intended to facilitate the relocation of the applicant's affected business premises in HSK due to land resumption to pave way for the development of the HSK/HT NDA (Plans 4 to 6). The affected business premises (i.e. Various Lots in D.D. 125) have been occupied by 'storage' use since the early-1990s. Until the mid-2000s, there was a significant demand for local warehouses due to the proliferation of e-commerce. As the original premises had been storing goods in an unorganized and exposed manner since the 1990s, the premises were later transformed into a warehouse in the 2000s in order to increase efficiency and alleviate the pressing demand for the local warehousing and logistics industry.
- 2.2 The affected premises currently fall within an area zoned as "Other Specified Uses" Annotated "Port Back-Up, Storage and Workshop Uses" ("OU(PBUSW)"), "Other Specified Uses" Annotated "Logistics Facility(1)" ("OU(LF1)") and "Other Specified Uses" Annotated "Logistics Facility" ("OU(LF)") on the Approved HSK/HT OZP No. S/HSK/2 (**Plan 5**). According to the implementation programme for the development of HSK/HT NDA, the applicant's original premises fall within sites under the *'Second Phase Development'* and *'Remaining Phase Development'* (**Plan 6**). As land where the premises will be developed for port back-up and logistics related uses upon the completion of the HSK/HT NDA, the concerned parcel of land will be resumed and reverted to the Government in 2024. Therefore, the applicant desperately needs to identify a suitable site for relocation to continue its business operation.

Applicant's effort in identifying suitable site for relocation

2.3 While the applicant has spent effort to relocate their premises to a number of alternative sites in the New Territories, those sites were considered not suitable or impracticable due to various issues such as land use incompatibility, environmental concerns, land ownership, accessibility or the site area being too small (Appendix II and Plan 7). After a lengthy site search process, the Site was identified for relocation as it is relatively flat and easily accessible from Man Kam To Road via a local access (Plan 1).

Applied Use Is the Same as the Affected Business in HSK

2.4 The proposed development involves the operation of warehouse (excluding dangerous goods godown) with ancillary facilities to support the daily operation of the Site. The applied use is also the same as the affected business premises in HSK. The area of the Site (*i.e. about 16,256 m², -11%*) and GFA (*i.e. about 14,738 m², +9%*) are similar to the original premises, details of the original premises are shown at **Table 1** below:



	Original Premises (a)	The Site (b)	Difference (a) – (b)	
Site Area	18,279 m ²	16,256 m²	-2,023 m², -11%	
Covered Area	13,533 m ²	7,369 m ²	-6,164 m², -46%	
GFA	13,533 m ²	14,738 m ²	+1,205 m², +9%	

Table 1: Differences between the Original Premises and The Site

2.5 A significant portion of the Site (*i.e 8,887 m², 55%*) is uncovered and designated for manoeuvring and parking of vehicles, in order to support the daily operation of the Site. According to the applicant, the original premises currently lack adequate circulation space, resulting in prolonged waiting times for vehicles for L/UL of goods. Therefore, a substantial amount of circulation space is reserved at the Site in order to increase the Site's overall efficiency, as well as to minimise the potential adverse traffic impact to the surrounding road network.

Approval of the application would not frustrate the long-term planning intention of the "AGR" zone

- 2.6 Although the Site falls within area zoned as "AGR" on the Approved Fu Tei Au and Sha Ling OZP No. S/NE-FTA/18, the Site is currently vacant with no active agricultural activity. Therefore, approval of the current application on a temporary basis would not frustrate the long-term planning intention of the "AGR" zone and would better utilize deserted land in the New Territories.
- 2.7 Despite the fact that the proposed development is not in line with planning intention of the "AGR" zone, the special background of the application should be considered on its individual merit, which approval of the current application would therefore not set an undesirable precedent for the "AGR" zone.

The proposed development is not incompatible with surrounding land use

2.8 The surrounding areas of the Site are considered to be in semi-rural character and are predominately occupied by sites occupied by temporary structures for logistics centres, open storage yards and vacant land, the proposed development is therefore considered not incompatible with surrounding land uses. Upon approval of the planning application, the applicant will make effort in complying with approval conditions related to fire services and drainage aspects, to minimize potential adverse impact arisen from the proposed development.



3. SITE CONTEXT

Site Location

3.1 The Site is located approximately 10 m west of Man Kam To Road; 2 km west of Man Kam To Boundary Control Point; 3.1 km north of Sheung Shui MTR Station; 5.5 km southwest of Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point; 9.5 km east of Lok Ma Chau Boundary Control Point; and 27.7 km northeast of the original premises in HSK (Plan 1).

Accessibility

3.2 The Site is accessible from Man Kam To Road via a local access (**Plan 1**).

Existing Site Condition

3.3 The Site is currently vacant and unfenced. The Site is generally flat and majority of the Site is covered vegetation (**Plans 1**, **3** and **8**).

Surrounding Area

- 3.4 The Site is mainly surrounded by vacant land, woodland, public roads and temporary structures (**Plans 1**, **3** and **8**).
- 3.5 To its immediate north are woodland and Sha Ling Playground. To its further north are Lo Wu Station Road and the application site of an approved S.16 planning application (No. A/NE-FTA/220) for *'Temporary Cold Storage for Poultry and Distribution Centre'*.
- 3.6 To its immediate east is the Dongjiang Water pipelines. To its further east across the pipelines are Man Kam To Road, land covered by vegetation and some temporary structures for workshop and warehouse uses.
- 3.7 To its immediate south are some land covered by vegetation. To its further south are sites occupied by temporary structures for logistics centre (i.e. the application site of the approved S.16 planning application No. A/NE-FTA/199) for 'Temporary Cargo Handling and Forwarding Facility (Logistics Centre)') and warehouse, land covered by vegetation and woodland.
- 3.8 To its immediate west are land covered by vegetation and woodland. To its further west are some structures for domestic use, Lo Wu Station Road and Sandy Ridge Um Cemetery.



4. PLANNING CONTEXT

Zoning of the Application Site

4.1 The Site falls within an area zoned as "AGR" on the Approved Fu Tei Au and Sha Ling OZP No. S/NE-FTA/18 (**Plan 2**). According to the Notes of the OZP, *'warehouse (excluding dangerous goods godown)'* use is not a column 1 nor column 2 use within the "AGR" zone, which requires permission from the Board.

Planning Intention

4.2 This planning intention of the subject "AGR" zone is intended to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes.

Filling of Land Restrictions

4.3 According to the Remarks of the subject "AGR" zone, any *filling of land*, including that to effect a change of use to any of those specified in Columns 1 and 2 above or the uses or developments always permitted under the covering Notes (except public works co-ordinated or implemented by Government, and maintenance, repair or rebuilding works), shall not be undertaken or continued on or after the date of the first publication in the Gazette of the notice of the draft Tai Tong OZP No. S/YL-TT/12 without the permission from the Town Planning Board under section 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance.

Previous Application

4.4 There is no previous approved S.16 application in respect of the Site.

Similar Application

4.5 There is no approved S.16 planning application for '*warehouse*' use within the "AGR" zone. However, similar application (No. A/NE-FTA/199) for '*Temporary Cargo Handling and Forwarding Facility (Logistics Centre)*' was approved by the Board on a temporary basis of 3 years in 2021.

Land Status of the Application Site

4.6 The Site falls mostly on private lots, i.e. Lots 427 RP (Part), 427 S.D (Part), 427 S.E RP (Part), 433 (Part), 445 (Part), 446 (Part), 447 (Part), 458 S.B RP (Part), 462 (Part), 463, 464 (Part), 465 (Part), 466 (Part), 518 RP (Part), 520 RP (Part), 521 (Part), 522 (Part), 523 (Part), 524 (Part), 525 S.A, 525 RP, 526 (Part) in D.D. 89 with total land area of 16,176 m² (about) of Old Schedule Lots held under the Block Government Lease (Plan



- **3**). The remaining area, i.e. 80 m² (about) falls on GL (**Plan 3**).
- 4.7 Since there is the restriction that no structure is allowed to be erected without the prior approval of the Government, the applicant will submit Short Term Waiver (STW) and Short Term Tenancy (STT) applications to the Lands Department to make way for erection of the proposed structures and occupation of GL at the Site respectively after planning approval has been obtained from the Board. No structure is proposed for domestic use.



5. DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

Development Details

5.1 The site consists of an area of 16,256 m² (about), including 80 m² of GL. Details of development parameters are shown at **Table 2** below.

Table 2. Development Parameters of the Proposed Development					
Application Site Area	16,256 m ² (about), incl. 80 m ² (about) of GL				
Covered Area	7,369 m² (about)				
Uncovered Area	8,887 m² (about)				
Plot Ratio	0.91 (about)				
Site Coverage	45% (about)				
Number of Structure	2				
Total GFA	14,738 m² (about)				
- Domestic GFA	Not applicable				
- Non-Domestic GFA	14,738 m² (about)				
Building Height	16.5 m (about)				
No. of Storey	2				

 Table 2: Development Parameters of the Proposed Development

5.2 A total of two 2-storey structures are proposed at the Site for warehouses (excluding dangerous goods godown), offices and washrooms with total GFA of 14,738 m² (about), the remaining area is reserved for parking and L/UL spaces and circulation area (Plan 9). Details of structures are shown at Table 3 below:

Table 3: Details of Proposed Structure	S
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Structure	Use	Covered Area	GFA	Building Height
B1	Warehouses (excluding D.G.G.), Site Offices and	5,950 m ²	11,900 m ²	16.5 m (2-storey)
B2	Washrooms	1,419 m ²	2,838m ²	(2-310109)
	Total	7,369 m ² (about)	14,738 m ² (about)	-

*D.G.G. – Dangerous Goods Godown

Filling of Land at the Site

5.3 The Site is proposed to be filled wholly with concrete (of not more than 2.5 m in depth) for site formation of structures, parking, L/UL spaces and circulation area (Plan 10). As the Site currently consists of soiled ground, concrete site formation is required to provide a relatively flat surface for erection of structures and circulation purpose.



Therefore, the proposed filling of land at the Site is considered necessary and that has been kept to minimal to meet the operational needs of the proposed development. The applicant will reinstate the Site to an amenity area after the planning approval period.

Operation Mode

- 5.4 The Site will be used as warehouse (excluding dangerous goods godown) for storage of miscellaneous goods, including but not limited to packaged food, package beverage, apparel, footwear, electronic goods, etc.. The operation hours of the proposed development are Monday to Saturday from 07:00 to 19:00. No operation on Sunday and public holiday.
- 5.5 It is estimated that the Site would be able to accommodate not more than <u>30</u> staff. The ancillary facilities (i.e. office, washroom etc.) is intended to provide indoor workspace for administrative staff to support the daily operation of the Site. As no shopfront is proposed at the Site, visitor is <u>not</u> anticipated at the Site.

Minimal Traffic Impact

5.6 The Site is accessible from Man Kam To Road via a local access (Plan 1). One 10 m (about) wide ingress/egress is provided at northeastern part of the Site (Plan 9). A total of 19 parking and L/UL spaces are provided at the Site, details of spaces are provided at Table 4 below:

Type of Parking Space:	Number of Space
Private Car (PC) Parking Space	10
- 2.5 m (W) X 5 m (L)	10
Type of L/UL Space:	Number of Space
L/UL Space for Medium Goods Vehicle (MGV)	3
- 3.5 m (W) X 11 m (L)	5
L/UL Space for Container Vehicle (CV)	C
- 3.5 m (W) X 16 m (L)	6

Table 4: Parking and L/UL Provisions

5.7 Sufficient space is provided for vehicle to smoothly manoeuvere within the Site to ensure that no vehicle will be allowed to queue back to or reverse onto/from the Site to the public road (Plans 11 and 12). Staff is deployed to station at the ingress/egress of the Site to direct incoming/outgoing vehicle to enhance pedestrian safety. The breakdown of estimated trip generation and attraction of proposed development at AM and PM peak hours are provided at Table 5 below:



	Trip Generation and Attraction						
Time Period	PC		MGV		CV		2-Way
	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	Total
Trips at <u>AM</u>							
<u>peak</u> per hour	7	1	2	0	3	0	13
(07:30 – 08:30)							
Trips at <u>PM</u>							
<u>peak</u> per hour	1	4	1	4	2	3	15
(16:30 – 17:30)							
Traffic trip per							
hour (average)	1	1	2	2	2	2	10

Table 5: Trip Generation and Attraction of the Proposed Development

5.8 As the number of vehicular trips generated and attracted by the proposed development are minimal, adverse traffic impact to the surrounding road network should <u>not</u> be anticipated.

Minimal Environmental Impact

- 5.9 The applicant will strictly follow the 'Code of Practice on Handling the Environmental Aspects of Temporary Uses and Open Storage Sites' issued by Environmental Protection Department (EPD) to minimise adverse environmental impacts and nuisance to the surrounding area. The applicant will also comply with all environmental protection / pollution control ordinances, i.e. Water Pollution Control Ordinance, Air Pollution Control Ordinance, Noise Control Ordinance etc. at all times during the planning approval period.
- 5.10 During the construction stage, the applicant will follow the good practices stated in Professional Persons Environmental Consultative Committee Practice Notes (ProPECC PNs) 1/94 to minimize the impact on the nearby watercourse water quality. Surface run-off from the construction phase will be discharged into storm drains through appropriately designed sand/silt removal facilities such as sand traps, silt traps, and sediment basins. Silt removal facilities, channels, and manholes will be maintained, and the deposited silt and grit will be removed on a regular basis, at the start and end of each rainstorm, to ensure that these facilities are always operational.
- 5.11 During the operation of the proposed development, the major source of wastewater will be sewage from toilets generated by staff. The applicant will implement good practices under ProPECC PN 1/23 when designing on-site drainage system with the Site. Licensed collectors will be employed by the applicant to collect and dispose of sewage regularly, and the location of portable toilets are located away from the watercourse in the vicinity.



5.12 2.5m high solid metal wall will be erected along the site boundary by the applicant to minimize noise nuisance to the surrounding area. The boundary wall will be installed properly by licensed contractor to prevent misalignment of walls, to ensure that there is no gap or slit on boundary wall. In addition, maintenance will be conducted by the applicant on a regular basis.

Minimal Landscape Impact

5.13 No old and valuable tree or protected species has been identified at the Site. Due to proposed hard-paving works for circulation purpose, majority of the Site area will be disturbed. The remaining area will be affected by the erection of structures; consequently, all existing trees will be affected, and it is not proposed to retain any of the existing trees at the Site.

Minimal Drainage Impact

5.14 The applicant will submit a drainage proposal to mitigate potential drainage impact generated from the proposed development after planning approval has been granted from the Board. The applicant will implement the proposed drainage facilities at the Site once the drainage proposal is accepted by Drainage Services Department/the Board.

Fire Safety Aspect

5.15 The applicant will submit a fire service installations (FSIs) proposal to enhance fire safety of the Site. The applicant will implement the proposed FSIs at the Site once the proposal is accepted by Fire Services Department/the Board.



6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The current application is intended to facilitate the relocation of the applicant's business premises in HSK, which will be affected by the development of HSK/HT NDA (Plans 4 to 6). Whilst the applicant attempted to relocate their premises to a number of alternative sites in the New Territories, those sites were considered not suitable or impracticable (Appendix II and Plan 7). Since the applied use is the same as the affected business premises, approval of the application could facilitate relocation prior to land resumption, thereby minimizing the impact on the HSK/HT NDA implementation program.
- 6.2 Although the Site is not in line with the long-term planning intention of the "AGR" zone, there is no active agricultural activity within the Site, which approval of the application on a temporary basis would better utilize deserted land in the New Territories. Furthermore, the application site of the approved S.16 planning application (No. A/NE-FTA/199) for '*Cargo Handling and Forwarding Facility (Logistics Centre)*' is located approximately 80 m south of the Site. As the current application is in similar nature, approval of the current application is in line with the Board's previous decisions.
- 6.3 The Site is surrounded by vacant land, sites occupied by temporary structures for various uses and closely connected to nearby public road network; the proposed development is considered not incompatible with surroundings. Given that the application's special background is to facilitate the development of the HSK/HT NDA, approval of the current application would not set an undesirable precedent within the "AGR" zone and should be considered on its own merits.
- 6.4 The proposed development will not create significant nuisance to the surrounding areas. Adequate mitigation measures will be provided, i.e. submission of drainage, FSIs proposals etc. to mitigate any adverse impact arising from the proposed development. The applicant will also strictly follow the 'Code of Practice on Handling the Environmental Aspects of Temporary Uses and Open Storage Sites' by the EPD to minimize all possible environmental impacts on the nearby sensitive receivers.
- 6.5 In view of the above, the Board is hereby respectfully recommended to <u>approve</u> the subject application for 'Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land'.

R-riches Property Consultants Limited May 2024



APPENDICES

Appendix I	Details of the Affected Business Premises
Appendix II	Details of Alternative Sites for Relocation



Appendix I Details of the Affected Business Premises

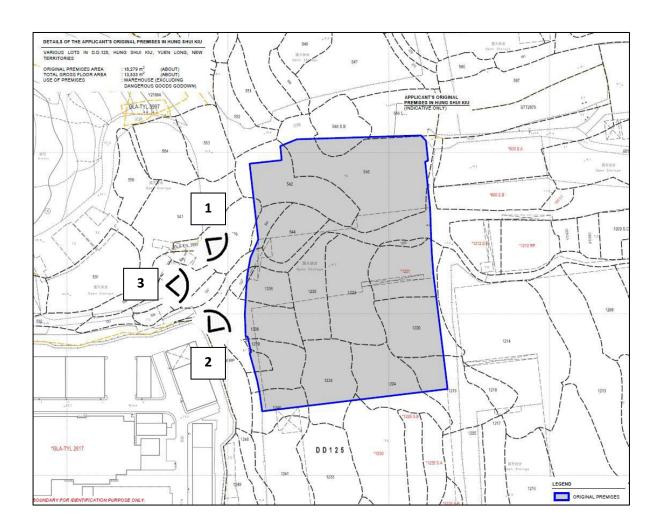


Appendix I – Details of the Affected Business Premises

Company Name: **Top Concept Logistics Limited** 佳宏物流有限公司 (authorised <u>Standard Billion Limited</u> as applicant of the current application)

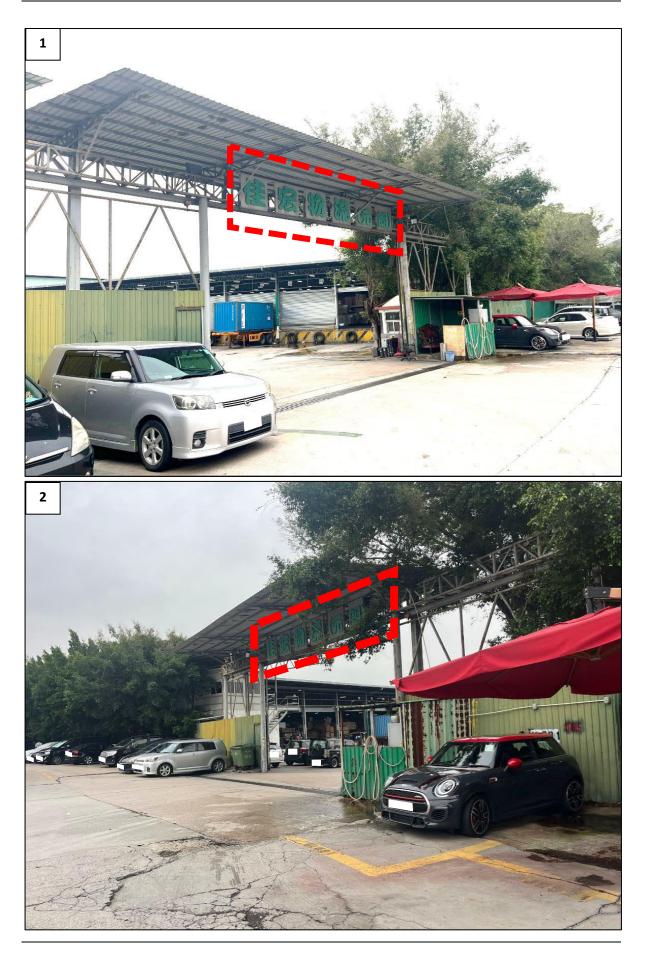
Details of Business Premises

Location:	Various Lots in D.D. 125, Hung Shui Kiu, Yuen Long, New Territories
Use of Premises:	Warehouse with Ancillary Facilities











Appendices 20240517 Ver 1.0



Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding D.G.G.) with Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land in "Agriculture" Zone, Various Lots in D.D.89 and Adjoining GL, Man Kam To, New Territories





Appendices 20240517 Ver 1.0



Appendix II Details of Alternative Sites for Relocation



Alternative Site / Application Site	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3	Site 4	Site 5	Application Site
Location	Various Lots in D.D. 93, Ma Tso Lung, New Territories	Various Lots in D.D. 99, Chau Tau, New Territories	Various Lots in D.D. 104, Ngau Tam Mei, Yuen Long, New Territories	Various Lots in D.D. 130, Lam Tei, Tuen Mun, New Territories	Various Lots in D.D. 135, Pak Nai, Yuen Long, New Territories	Various Lots in D.D.89 and Adjoining GL, Man Kam To, New Territories,
Site Area	30,190 m ² (about)	4,242m ² (about)	3,930 m² (about)	7,130 m² (about)	13,320 m² (about)	16,256 m ² (about)
Accessibility	Accessible from Ma Tso Lung Road via a local access	Accessible from Lok Ma Chau Road via a local access	Accessible from Wang Ping Shan South Road via a local access	Accessible from Fuk Hang Tsuen Road via a local access	Accessible from Nim Wan Road via a local access	Accessible from Man Kam To Road via a local access
Distance from Original Premises	24.6 km (about) from the original premises	20.7km (about) from the original premises	17.1km (about) from the original premises	6.9 km (about) from the original premises	9.7 km (about) from the original premises	27.7 km (about) from the original premises
Outline Zoning Plan	Approved Ma Tso Lung and Hoo Hok Wai OZP No. S/NE- MTL/3	Draft San Tin Technopole OZP No. S/STT/1	Draft Ngau Tam Mei OZP No. S/YL-NTM/13	Approved Lam Tei and Yick Yuen OZP No. S/TM-LTYY/12	Approved Sheung Pak Nai and Ha Pak Nai OZP No. S/YL-PN/9	Approved Fu Tei Au and Sha Ling OZP No. S/NE-FTA/18
Zoning	"Conservation Area (1)"	"Other Specified Uses" Annotated "Innovation Technology"	"Comprehensive Development Area"	"Comprehensive Development Area"	"Coastal Protection Area"	"Agriculture"
Existing Condition	Mostly vacant, covered by vegetation and occupied by fishpond.	Generally flat, partially covered by vegetation and occupied by vacant temporary structures	Hard paved and occupied by temporary structures	Hard paved and occupied by temporary structures	Occupied by temporary structures and fishponds	Vacant and generally flat and majority of the Site is covered vegetation
Surrounding Area	Surrounded by vegetation, pond, some GIC uses and residential use	Surrounded by vehicle park, temporary structures for storage, workshop and agricultural uses; and vacant land covered by vegetation and hard-paving	Surrounded by vehicle repair workshop, holiday camp site, and residential use	Surrounded by warehouse, workshop, logistic centre and land covered by residential use	Surrounded by fishpond and some temporary structures	Surrounded by vacant land, woodland, public roads and temporary structures
Suitability for Relocation	 <u>Not suitable</u> for relocation 65% <u>larger</u> than the original premises Within the closed area Falls within the "Conservation Area" zone Tenancy for portion of the site is not feasible Not compatible with the surrounding area 	 <u>Suitable</u> for relocation: 77% <u>smaller</u> than the original premises No active agricultural activities Not incompatible with the surrounding area 	 <u>Not suitable</u> for relocation 79% s<u>maller</u> than the original premises Tree felling is required Nearby residential development Not compatible with the surrounding area 	 original premises Not compatible with the surrounding area Tenancy for portion of the 	Protection Area" zone	 <u>Comparatively Suitable</u> for relocation: In close vicinity of Man Kam To Road and Man Kam To Road Boundary Control Point Relatively flat and mostly vacant No active agricultural activity

Appendix II – Alternative Sites for the Relocation of the Applicant's Original Premises in Hung Shui Kiu, Yuen Long

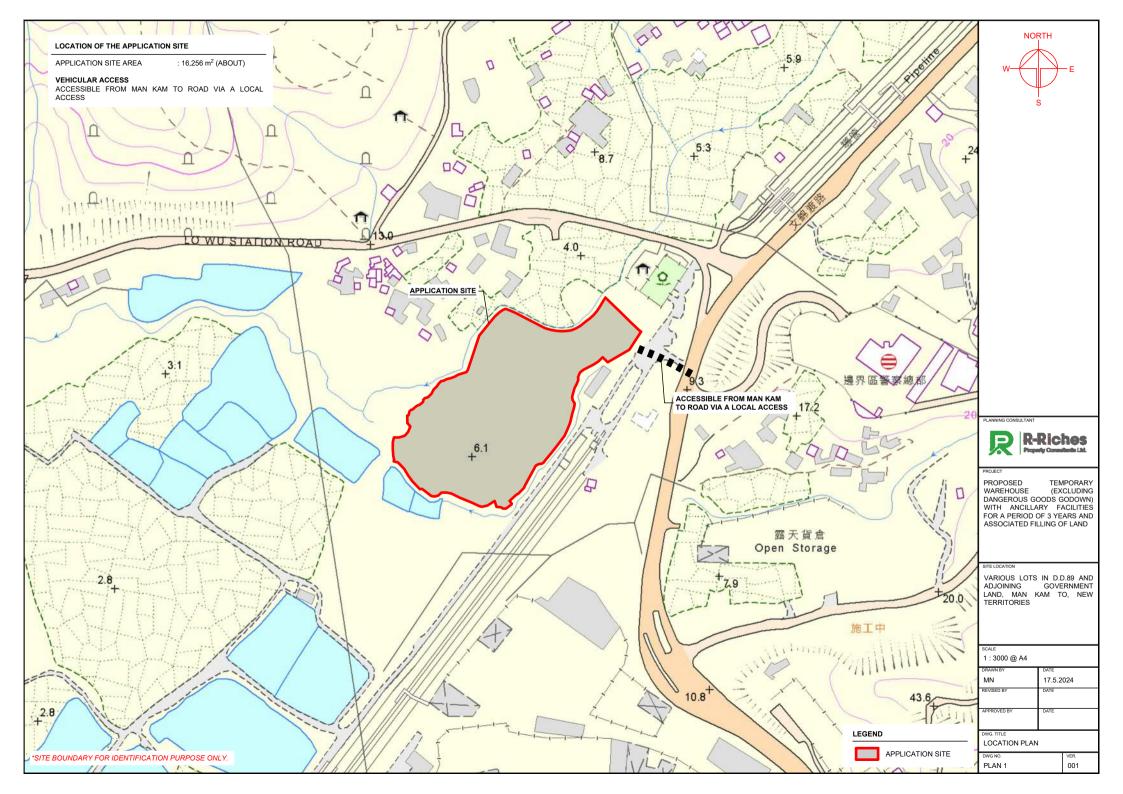


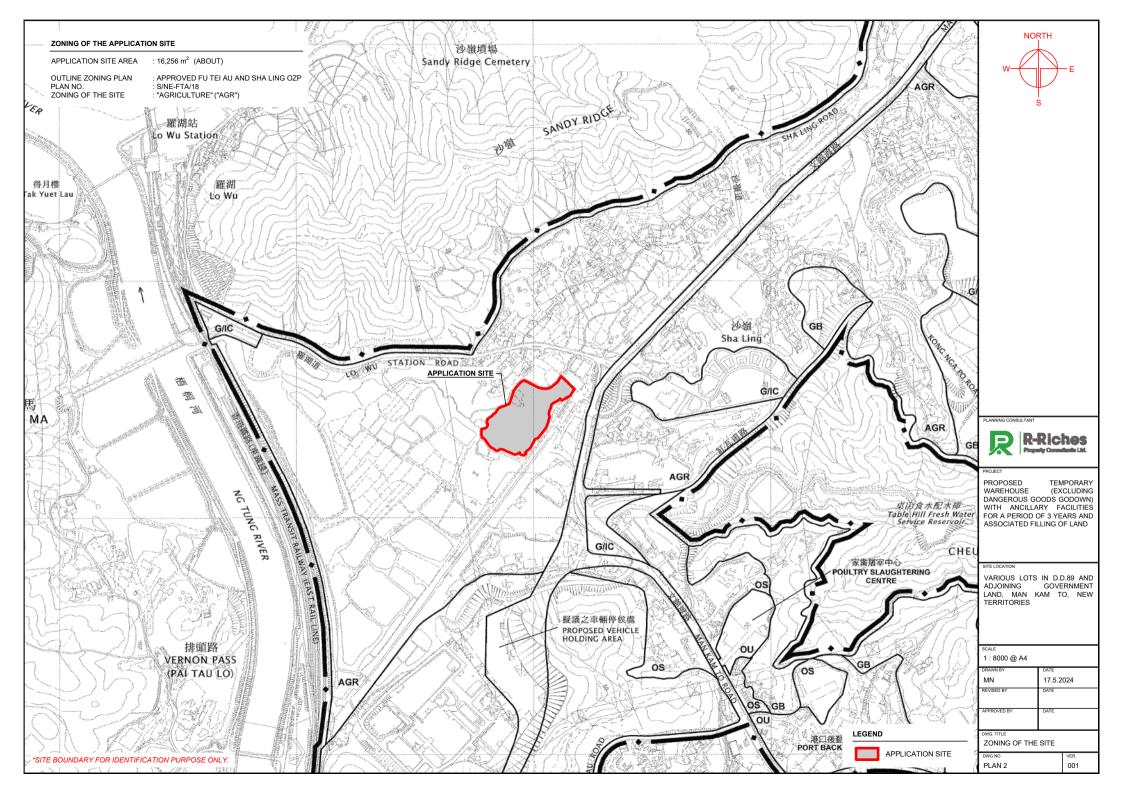
LIST OF PLANS

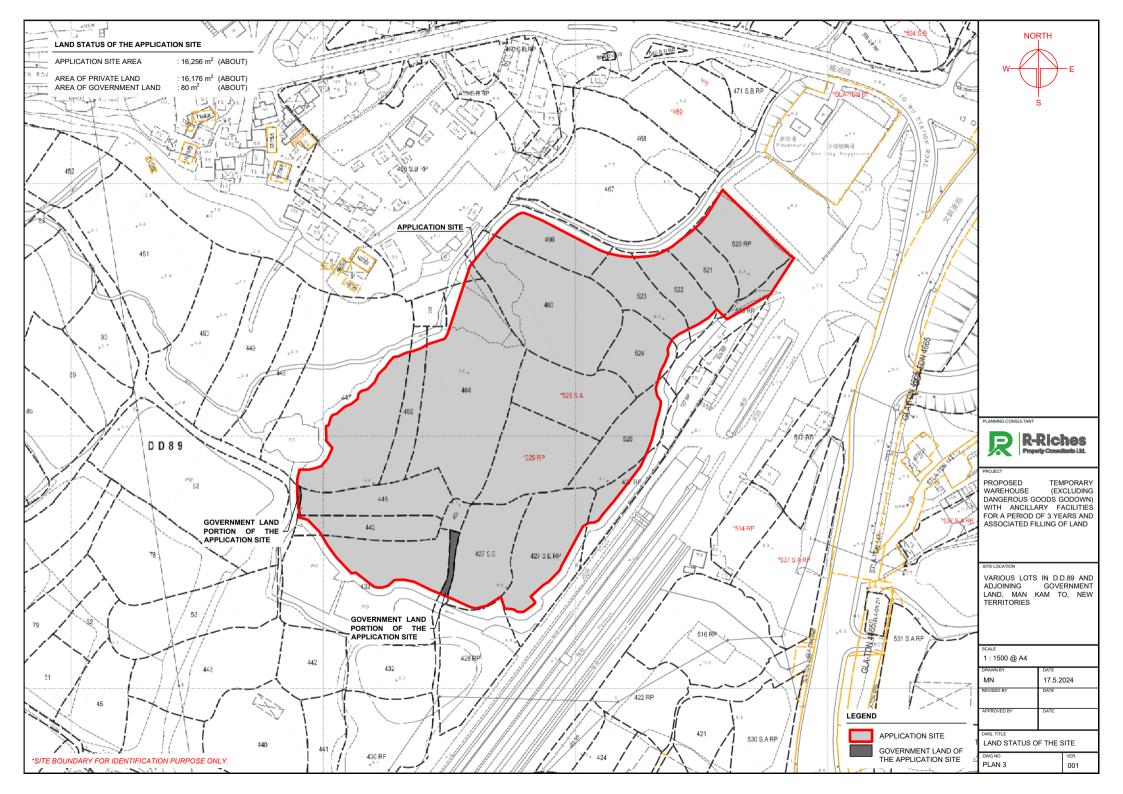
Plan 1	Location Plan
Plan 2	Plan showing the Zoning of the Application Site
Plan 3	Plan showing the Land Status of the Application Site
Plan 4	Affected Premises – Location
Plan 5	Affected Premises – Zoning and Existing Use
Plan 6	Affected Premises – Hung Shui Kiu / Ha Tsuen New Development Area
	Implementation Phasing
Plan 7	Plan showing the Locations of Alternative Sites for Relocation
Plan 8	Aerial Photo of the Application Site
Plan 9	Layout Plan
Plan 10	Proposed Filling of Land at the Application Site
Plan 11	Swept Path Analysis (Container Vehicle)
Plan 12	Swept Path Analysis (Medium Goods Vehicle)

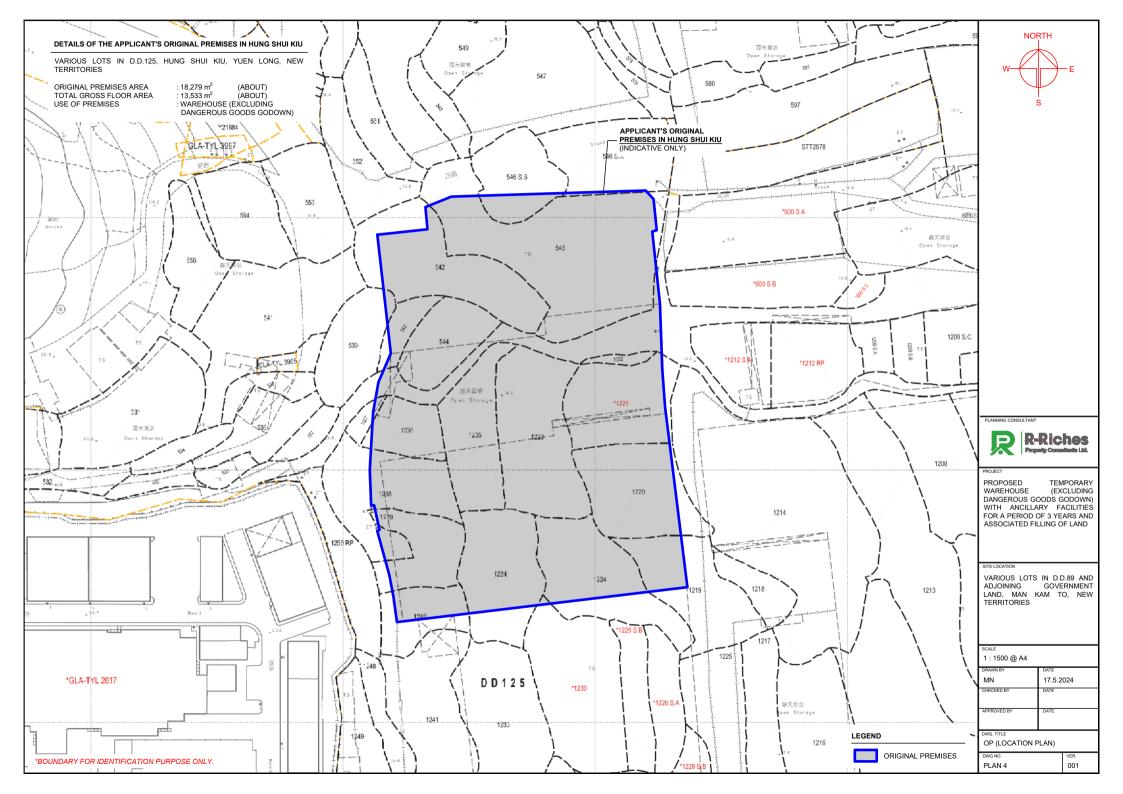


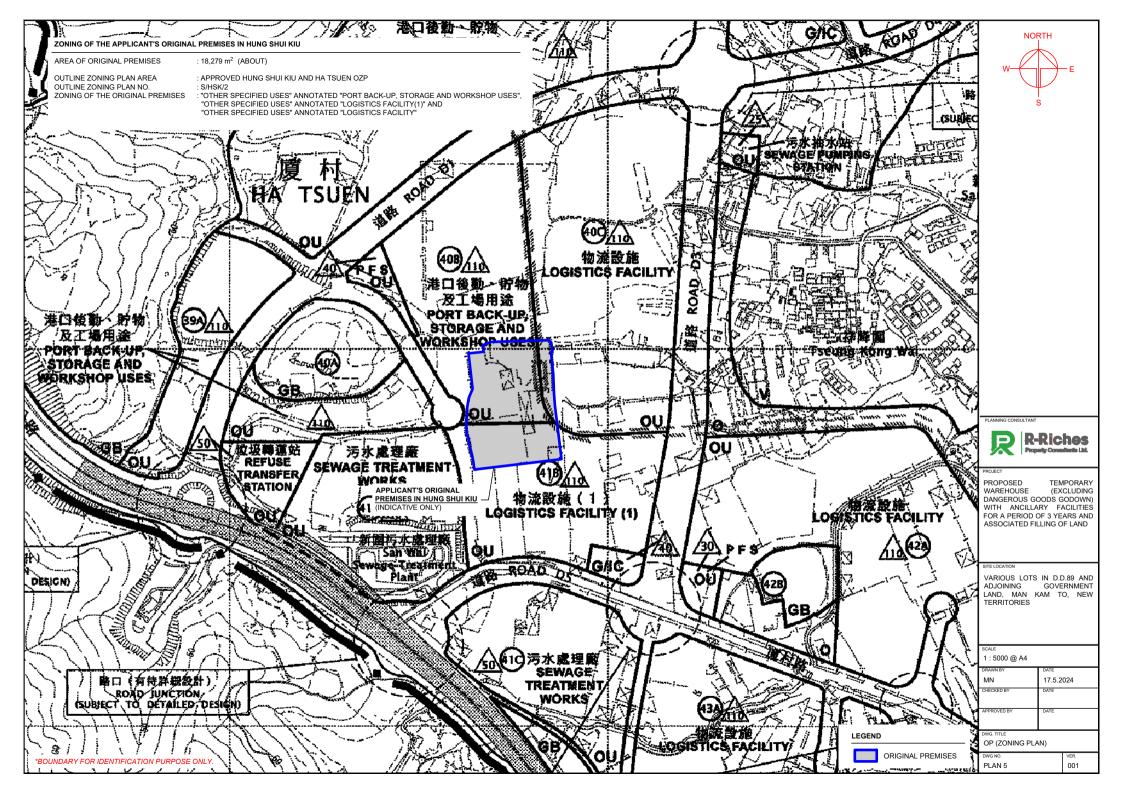


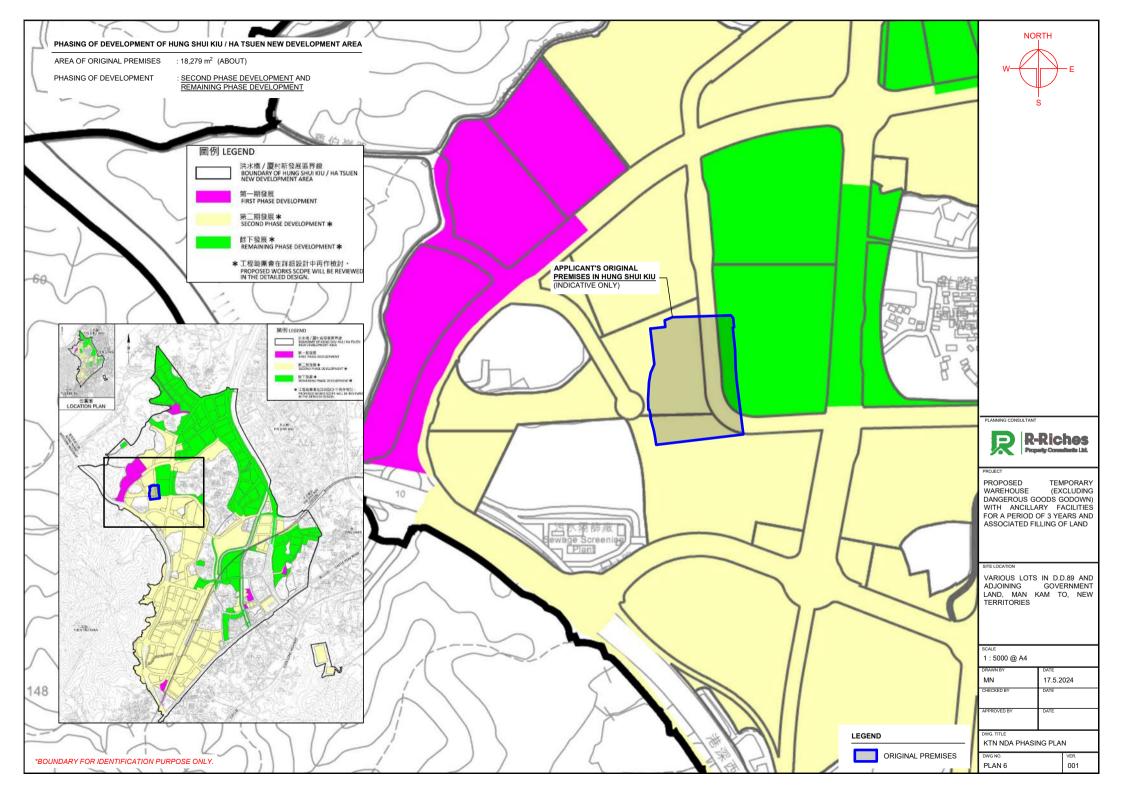


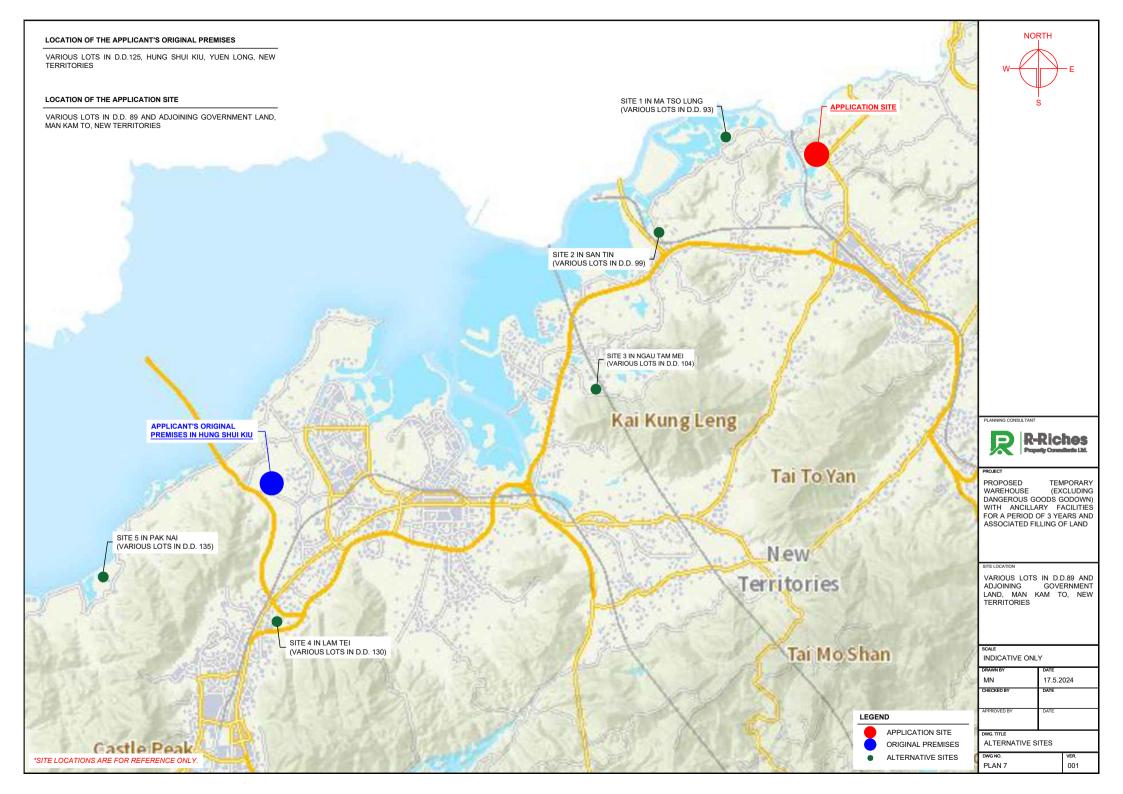






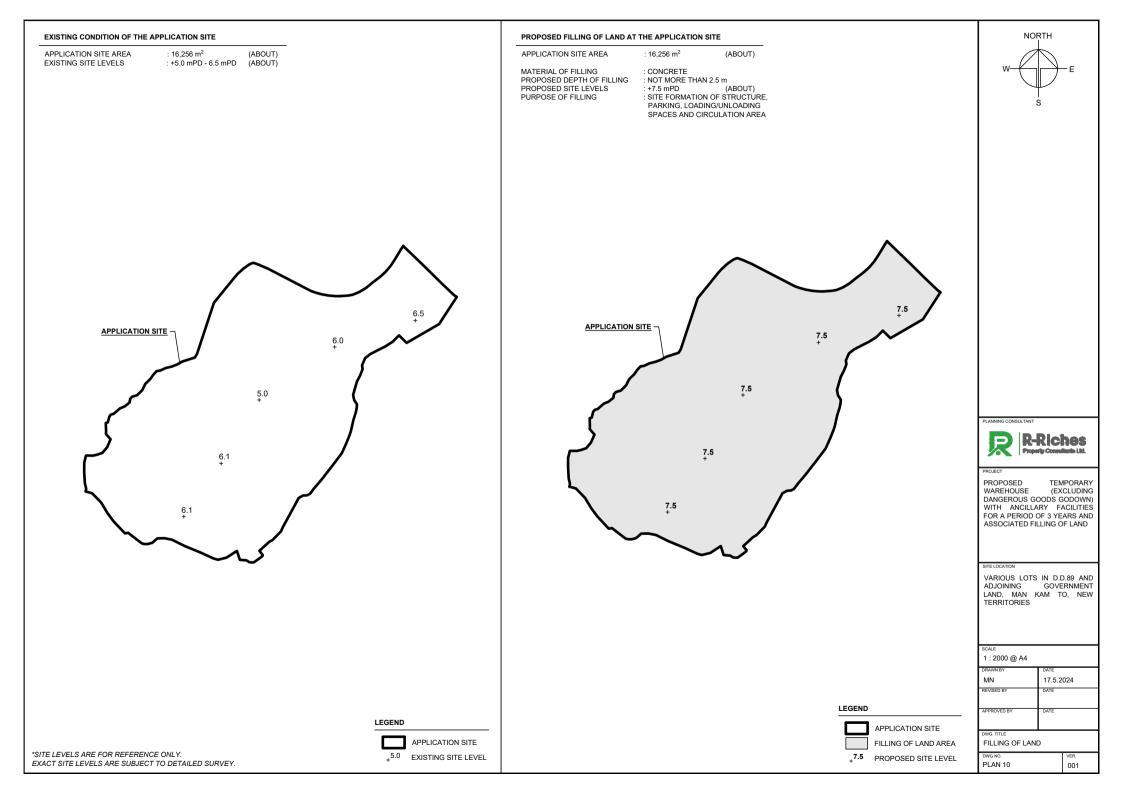


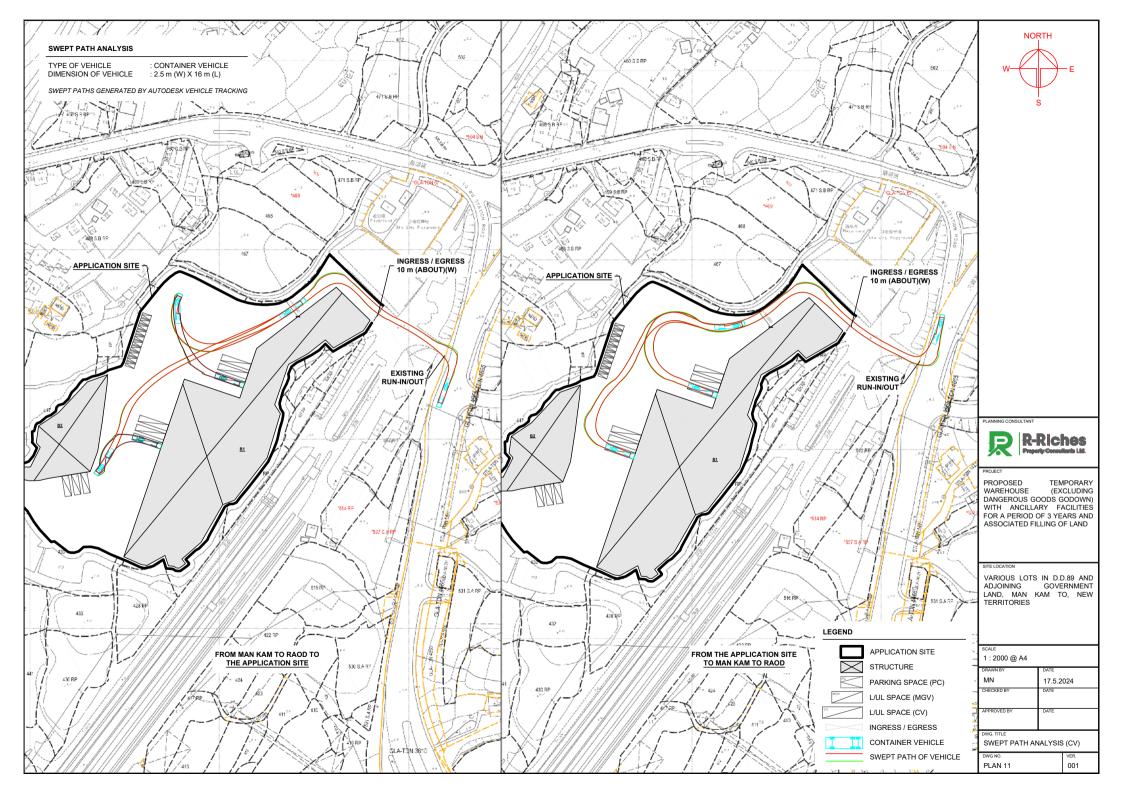


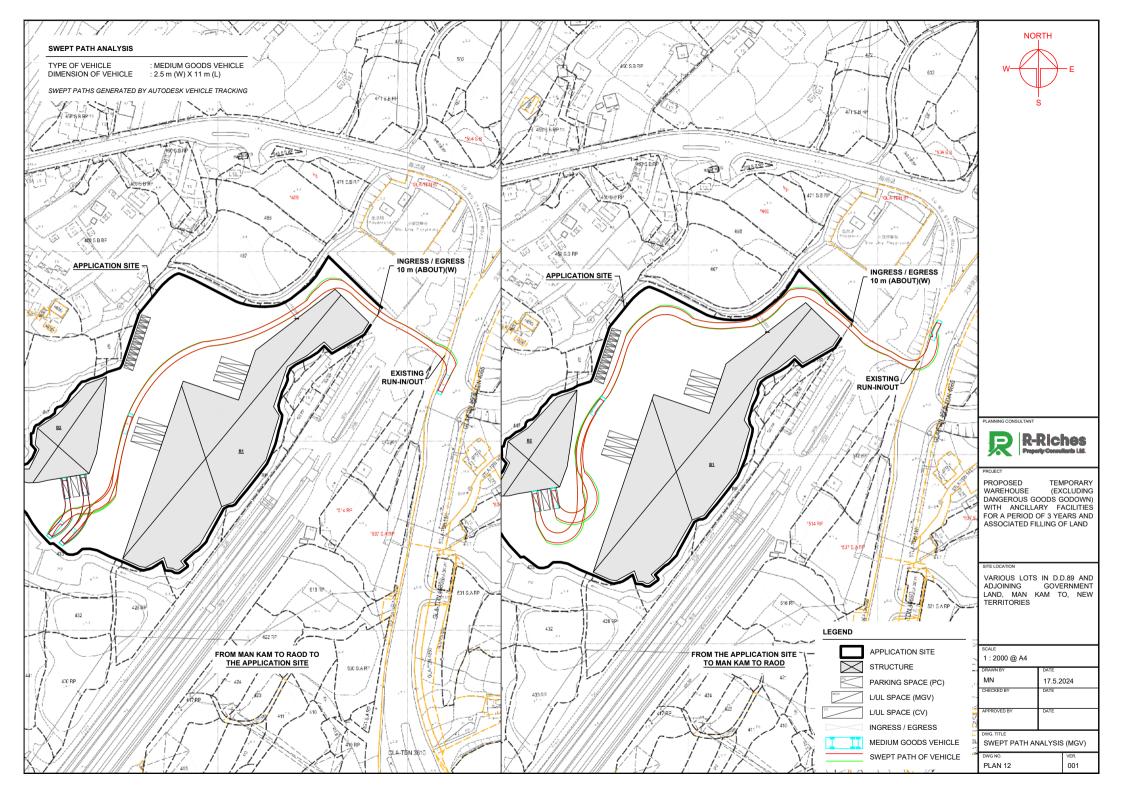




DEVELOPMENT PARAMETERS				STRUCTURE	USE	COVERED AREA	GFA	BUILDING HEIGHT	NORTH
COVERED AREA : 7,	16,256 m ² 7,369 m ² 8,887 m ²	(ABOUT) (ABOUT) (ABOUT)		B1 B2	WAREHOUSE (EXCL. D.G.G), OFFICE AND WASHROOM WAREHOUSE (EXCL. D.G.G),	5,950 m ² (ABOUT) 1,419 m ² (ABOUT)	11,900 m ² (ABOUT) 2,838 m ² (ABOUT)	16.5 m (ABOUT)(2-STOREY) 16.5 m (ABOUT)(2-STOREY)	W E
	0.91 45 %	(ABOUT) (ABOUT)			OFFICE AND WASHROOM		14,738 m ² (ABOUT)		s
NON-DOMESTIC GFA : 14	2 NOT APPLICAE 14,738 m ² 14,738 m ²	BLE (ABOUT) (ABOUT)			TOTAL	<u>7,369 m² (ABOUT)</u>	<u>14,738 m² (ABOUT)</u>		
BUILDING HEIGHT : 10 NO. OF STOREY : 2	16.5 m 2	(ABOUT)							
			APPLICATION SITE	CIRCULATION	BI	ST An KIERAN	INGRESS / EGRESS 10 m (ABOUT)		PLANING CONSULTANT PROJECT PROPOSED TEMPORARY WAREHOUSE (EXCLUDING DANGEROUS GOODS GODOWN) WITH ANCILLARY FACILITIES FOR A PERIOD OF 3 YEARS AND ASSOCIATED FILLING OF LAND SITE LOCATION VARIOUS LOTS IN D.D.89 AND ADJOINING GOVERNMENT LAND, MAN KAM TO, NEW TERRITORIES
PARKING AND LOADING / UNLOAD	DING (L/UL) P	ROVISIONS							DRAWN BY DATE
NO. OF PRIVATE CAR PARKING SP DIMENSION OF PARKING SPACE	PACE	: 10	n (L) x 2.5 m (W)					APPLICATION SITE STRUCTURE	MN 17.5.2024 REVISED BY DATE
NO. OF L/UL SPACE FOR MEDIUM DIMENSION OF L/UL SPACE	I GOODS VEHI		m (L) x 3.5 m (W)				MGV	PARKING SPACE (PC)	APPROVED BY DATE
NO. OF L/UL SPACE FOR CONTAIN DIMENSION OF L/UL SPACE	NER VEHICLE		m (L) x 3.5 m (W)					L/UL SPACE (CV)	DWG. TITLE LAYOUT PLAN DWG NO. VER.
									PLAN 9 001









Our Ref.: DD89 Lot 466 7 VL Your Ref.: TPB/A/NE-FTA/247

The Secretary, Town Planning Board, 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong Appendix Ib of RNTPC Paper No. A/NE-FTA/247A



By Email

23 September 2024

Dear Sir,

1st Further Information

Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land in "Agriculture" Zone, <u>Various Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land, Man Kam To, New Territories</u>

(S.16 Planning Application No. A/NE-FTA/247)

We write to submit further information to address departmental comments of the subject application (**Appendix I**).

Should you require more information regarding the application, please contact our Mr. Danny NG at or the undersigned at your convenience. Thank you for your kind attention.

Yours faithfully,

For and on behalf of R-riches Property Consultants Limited

Louis TSE Town Planner

cc DPO/STN, PlanD

(Attn.: Ms. Shirley CHAN (Attn.: Ms. Katie LEUNG

email: skkchan@pland.gov.hk) email: kyyleung@pland.gov.hk)

Responses-to-Comments

Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land in "Agriculture" Zone, <u>Various Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land, Man Kam To, New Territories</u>

(Application No. A/NE-FTA/247)

(i) A RtoC Table:

	Departmental Comments	Applicant's Responses
1. C	omments of the Commissioner for Transpor	t (C for T)
(a)	The applicant shall advise the management/control measures to be implemented to ensure no queuing of vehicles outside the subject site	As the application site (the Site) is proposed for 'warehouse' use with no shopfront, no visitor is anticipated at the Site and only the applicant's fleets will be allowed to enter/exit the Site. As the vehicular trips could be strictly controlled by the applicant, queuing of vehicles outside the Site will not be anticipated. Staff will also be deployed at the ingress/egress of the Site to direct vehicles entering and exiting the Site. Sufficient space is also reserved for smooth manoeuvring within the Site to ensure that no queuing of vehicle outside the Site at any time during the planning approval period.
(b)	The applicant shall advise the provision and management of pedestrian facilities to ensure pedestrian safety; and	Staff will be deployed by the applicant to direct vehicle entering/exiting the Site. 'Beware of pedestrians' signs would also be erected to ensure pedestrian safety to/from the Site.
(c)	The proposed vehicular access between Ping Che Road and the application site is not managed by TD. The applicant should seek comments from the responsible party.	Noted.
D	Comments of the Chief Engineer/Mainland () SD) Contact Person: Mr. Samuel WANG; Tel.:230	North, Drainage Services Department (CE/MN, 00 1135)
(a)	The application site is in large scale in terms of site area, it is located at low-lying area encompassing by existing nature watercourse, and the application involves	A drainage impact assessment (DIA) report is submitted by the applicant to review the drainage arrangement for the proposed development (Annex I). The additional surface



(b)	substantial earth filling works. With consideration of the above-mentioned, the application site area is considered as a complicated site and the applicant should submit a Drainage Impact Assessment (DIA) referring to DSD Advice Note No. 1. The DIA shall demonstrate that there would be adequate measures provided at	runoff from the Site will be collected by the drainage channels and storage tank (about 1,920m ³), and eventually discharge to existing watercourse downstream. All the proposed works will be placed at lease 3m away from the top of the bank of the streamcourse. The proposed filling of land works has already been taken into consideration by the submitted DIA. Based on the DIA, it is concluded that <u>no</u>
	the resources of the applicant to ensure capacity of streamcourse and flooding susceptibility of the adjoining areas would not be adversely affected by the proposed development and to avoid the site from being eroded and flooded. The applicant is required to assess whether the downstream for drainage connection would have sufficient capacity to receive the stormwater runoff. Flood mitigation measures proposed in the DIA and any other storm-water drainage facilities should be provided and maintained by the applicant to the satisfaction of this Division.	unacceptable drainage impact is anticipated.
(c)	The potential drainage impact is considered substantial under the development. The applicant should demonstrate and clarify if there is insurmountable drainage problem out of the development including but not limited to the following aspects: (i) Outling of the current flooding	
	 susceptibility. (ii) Outline of changes to the drainage characteristics and potential drainage impacts, including increment of impermeable surfaces and surface runoff, change in flood storage and diversion of any existing flow path etc; and (iii) Proposed mitigation measures, such as drainage pipeworks and storage tank, to compensate the drainage 	



	impact. Assessments to justify the details of proposed mitigation measures are required.
(d)	Based on the record, the application site is surrounded by existing streamcourse and water ponds. The applicant shall be required to place all the proposed works at lease 3m away from the top of the bank of the streamcourse. All the proposed works in the vicinity of the streamcourse should not create any adverse drainage impacts, both during and after construction. Proposed flooding mitigation measures if necessary shall be provided at the resources of the applicant to the satisfaction of this Division.
(e)	It is noted that the site area is proposed to be filled with a depth of up to 2.5m. Please justify such landfilling extent and depth and study for the potential drainage impact to the adjoining areas.
(f)	No land filling on site shall be allowed until the flood mitigation measures have been implemented to the satisfaction of DSD.
(g)	The applicant should be reminded to minimize the possible adverse environmental impacts on the existing watercourse in his design and during construction. DEP and DAFC should be consulted on possible environmental and/or ecological impacts of the development.



Drainage Impact Assessment

MARVELLOUS

September 24

Drainage Impact Assessment

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- Figure 4-2 Catchment Plan

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- Appendix A2 Sizing of Storage Tank
- Appendix B Development Layout Plan
- Appendix C Reference Drawings

Drainage Impact Assessment

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 The applicant seeks planning permission from the Town Planning Board (the Board) under Section (S.) 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) (the Ordinance) to use Various Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land (GL), Man Kam To, New Territories (the Site) for 'Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land'.
- 1.1.2 This report aims to support the development in drainage aspect.

1.2 Application Site

- 1.2.1 The application site is situated beside Man Kam To Road and Law Wo Station Road. It has an area of approx. 16,256 m². The site location is shown in **Figure 1**.
- 1.2.2 The existing site is mainly cover with vegetation with level various from approx. +5.0 to + 6.5mPD. The proposed site intent to fill to +7.5mPD to match with entrance level and for formation of structures, parking, L/UL spaces and circulation.
- 1.2.3 The surrounding site levels are mainly higher along the Man Kam To Road at approx. + 5.5 to + 8.1 mPD at the east. The site levels are generally lower at the north and west at approx. +2.9 to + 4.0 mPD.
- 1.2.4 There are existing watercrouse surrounding the proposed site, collecting runoff near Man Kam To Road which has generally higher ground level. The proposed site is minimum 3m away from the existing watercourse. **Figure 2** indicate the existing drainage system of the area.
- 1.2.5 According to the topo information, there is an area with ground level of approximate +4mPD which may provide flood storage during rainfall event. The existing levels, proposed levels and area which is suspected with flood storage is shown in **Figure 4-1**.

Drainage Impact Assessment

2 Development Proposal

2.1 The Proposed Development

- 2.1.1 The total site area is approximately 16,256 m². The existing site area is mainly coved by vegetation.
- 2.1.2 After the development the site would be fully paved. The catchment plan is shown in **Figure 4-2**.

Proposed Development	
Total Site Area (m ²)	16,256
Paved Area after Development (m ²)	16,256

Table 1 – Site Development Area

3 Assessment Criteria

3.1.1 The Recommended Design Return Period based on Flood Level from SDM (Table 10) is adopted for this report. The recommendation is summarized in **Table 2** below.

Description	Design Return Periods
Intensively Used Agricultural Land	2 – 5 Years
Village Drainage Including Internal Drainage System under a polder Scheme	10 Years
Main Rural Catchment Drainage Channels	50 Years
Urban Drainage Trunk System	200 Years
Urban Drainage Branch System	50 Years

Table 2– Design Return Periods under SDM

3.1.2 The proposed drainage system intended to collect runoff from internal site and external catchment.1 in 10 years return period is adopted for the drainage design.

Drainage Impact Assessment

- 3.1.3 Stormwater drainage design will be carried out in accordance with the criteria set out in the Stormwater Drainage Manual published by DSD. The proposed design criteria to be adopted for design of this stormwater drainage system and factors which have been considered are summarised below.
 - 1. Intensity-Duration-Frequency Relationship The Recommended Intensity-Duration-Frequency relationship is used to estimate the intensity of rainfall. It can be expressed by the following algebraic equation.

$$i = \frac{a}{(t_d + b)^c}$$

The site is located within the North District Zone. Therefore, for 10 years return period, the following values are adopted.

а	=	454.9
b	=	3.44
С	=	0.412

2. The peak runoff is calculated by the Rational Method i.e. $Q_p = 0.278$ CiA

where	Q_p	=	peak runoff in m³/s
	С	=	runoff coefficient (dimensionless)
	i	=	rainfall intensity in mm/hr
	А	=	catchment area in km ²

3. The run-off coefficient (C) of surface runoff are taken as follows:

1.	Paved Area:	C = 0.95
2.	Unpaved Area:	C = 0.35

Drainage Impact Assessment

4. Manning's Equation is used for calculation of velocity of flow inside the channels:

Manning's Equation:
$$v = \frac{R^{\frac{1}{6}}}{n} R^{\frac{1}{2}} S_f^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Where,

V = velocity of the pipe flow (m/s) S_f = hydraulic gradient n = manning's coefficient R = hydraulic radius (m)

5. Colebrook-White Equation is used for calculation of velocity of flow inside the pipes:

Colebrook-White Equation: $\underline{v} =$

$$= -\sqrt{32gRS} \log \log \left(\frac{k_s}{14.8R} + \frac{1.255v}{R\sqrt{32gRS_f}}\right)$$

where,

=	velocity of the pipe flow (m/s)
=	hydraulic gradient
=	roughness value (m)
=	kinematics viscosity of fluid
=	pipe diameter (m)
=	hydraulic radius (m)
	= = = =

6. Volume of Drainage Detention Tank:

Extreme Rainfall intensity (1 in 10 yr) at North District Area for rainfall duration of 120 mins, I = 63.2 mm/hr

2 hours rainfall duration is adopted

Drainage Impact Assessment

4 Proposed Drainage System

4.1. Proposed Storage Tank

- 4.1.1 Additional runoff is generated due to the change of hard pavement ratio. Storage tank is proposed to collect the additional runoff from the site, such that there is no drainage impact to the nearby area.
- 4.1.2 The storage tank is proposed to collect the additional runoff for a 1 in 10 year rainfall event for 2 hours. The volume of existing suspected flood storage is also considered in the storage tank design (suspected flood storage area refer to **Figure 4-1**). As per the design for volume of storage tank shown in **Appendix A2**, the total storage volume of the storage tank is proposed to be not less than 1,920 m³.
- 4.1.3 During rainstorm event, runoff would be first discharged to storage tank. When the tank is full, it would overflow to manhole A and eventually discharge to existing watercourse downstream.
- 4.1.4 An interconnection pipe, at invert level of storage tank, is proposed between the storage tank and manhole A and the flow is controlled by a penstock. After the rainfall event, the stored water would be discharge to manhole A by opening the penstock and eventually discharge to existing watercourse downstream.
- 4.1.5 The detail design of storage tank and discharge arrangement would be designed in later stage of the project.

4.2. Proposed Channels

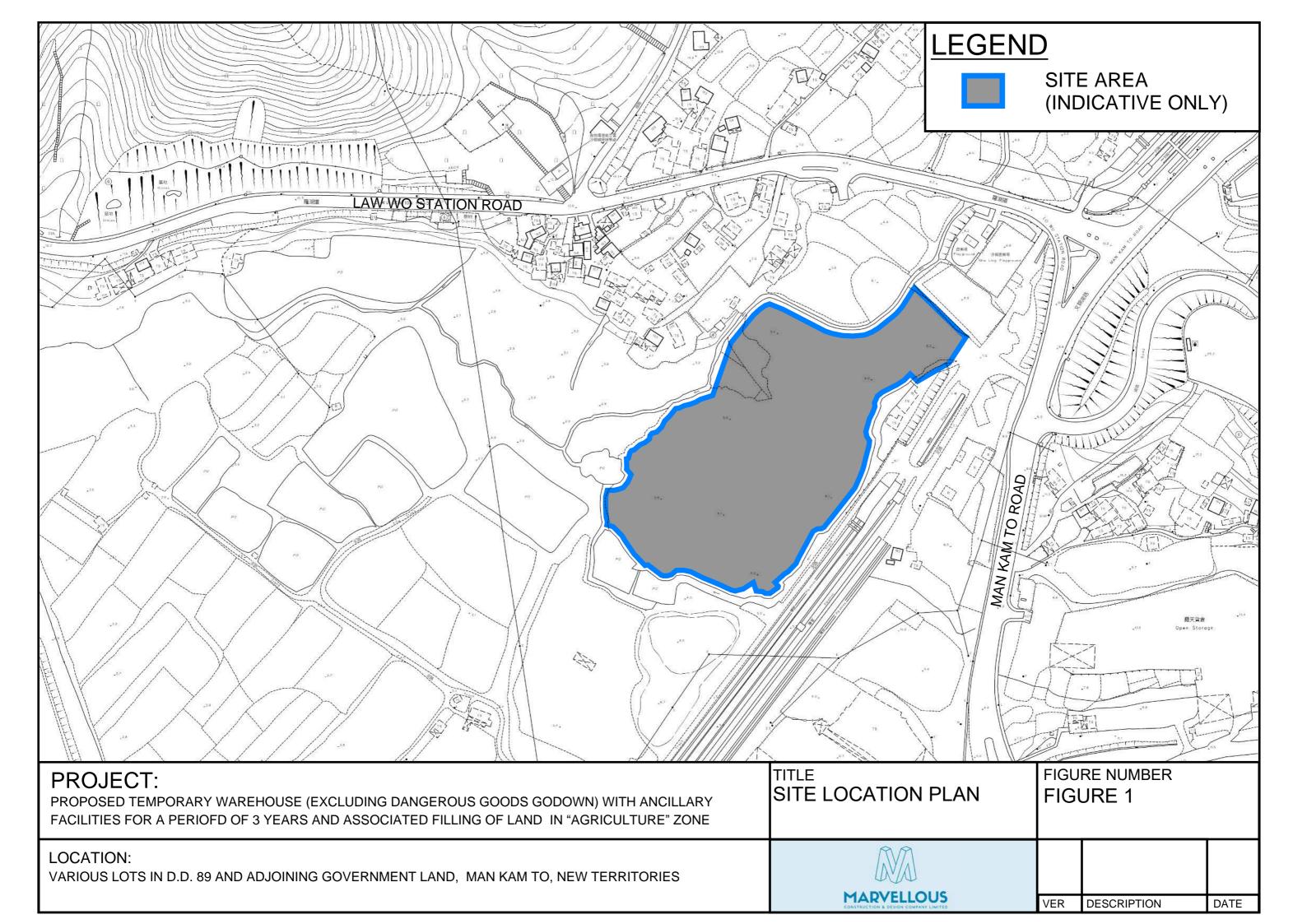
- 4.1.6 Proposed channels are designed for collection of runoff for internal and external catchment. They are proposed to connect to proposed storage tank.
- 4.1.7 The design calculations of proposed UChannel are shown in **Appendix A1**.
- 4.1.8 The alignment, size, gradient and details of the proposed drains are shown in **Figure 3**. The catchment plan is shown in **Figure 4-2**.
- 4.1.5 Reference Drawings are shown in **Appendix C** for reference.

5 Conclusion

- 5.1.1 Drainage review has been conducted for the Proposed Development. Storage tank and channels are proposed to mitigate the drainage impact to the nearby area.
- 5.1.2 With implementation of the above drainage system, the no unacceptable drainage impact is anticipated.

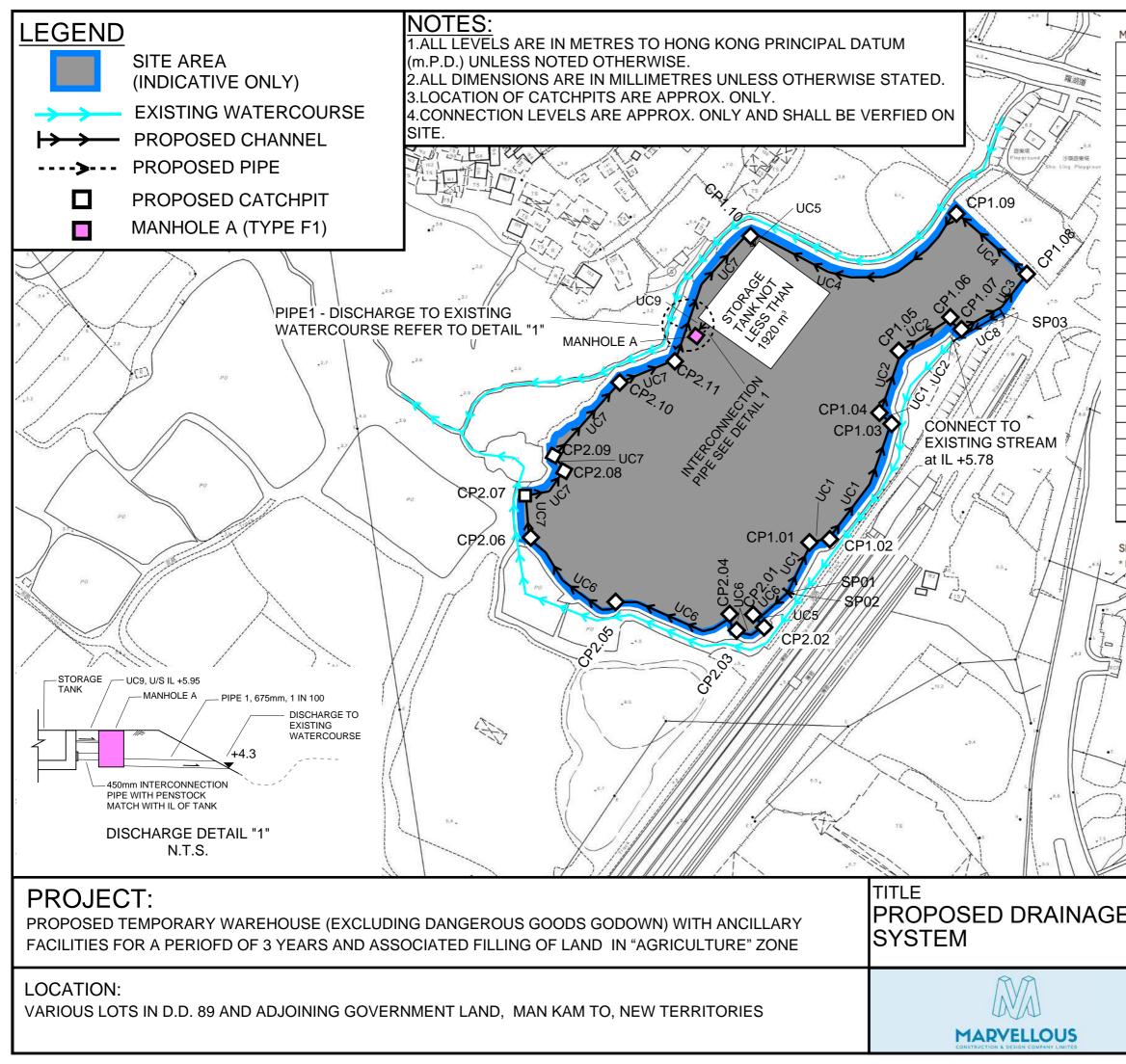
End of Text -

FIGURES



	50 沙嶺金塔墳場				50 倉物現 嶺城	境衛生署沙場辦事處	
		A					漫遊業場
					SITE AREA (INDICATIVE C	DNLY)	
	10						
	Combined Manhole	н	Tapping Point (Sewer)	н	Tapping Point (Storm)		
S	Overflow (Combined)		Sewer Terminal Manhole	0	Storm Water Terminal Manhole		
_	Pipe (Combined)	•	Catchpit	7223	Tunnel Protection Zone (100m / 200m)		
	Interface Valve Chamber)+	Inlet	7223	Tunnel Protection Zone (General Range)		
•	Sewer Manhole	0	Storm Water Manhole		Tunnel / Box Culvert (Sewer)		
	Oil / Petrol Interceptor	+-(Outlet	100	Tunnel / Box Culvert (Storm)		
S	Overflow (Sewer)	_	Pipe (Storm)				
-	Pipe (Sewer)		Sand Trap				
PROF					EROUS GOODS GODOWN FILLING OF LAND IN "AGI	-	TITLE EXISTING DRAINAGE I
	ATION: DUS LOTS IN D.D. 89) AND AE	DJOINING GOVERN	IMENT LA	AND, MAN KAM TO, NEW	TERRITORIES	





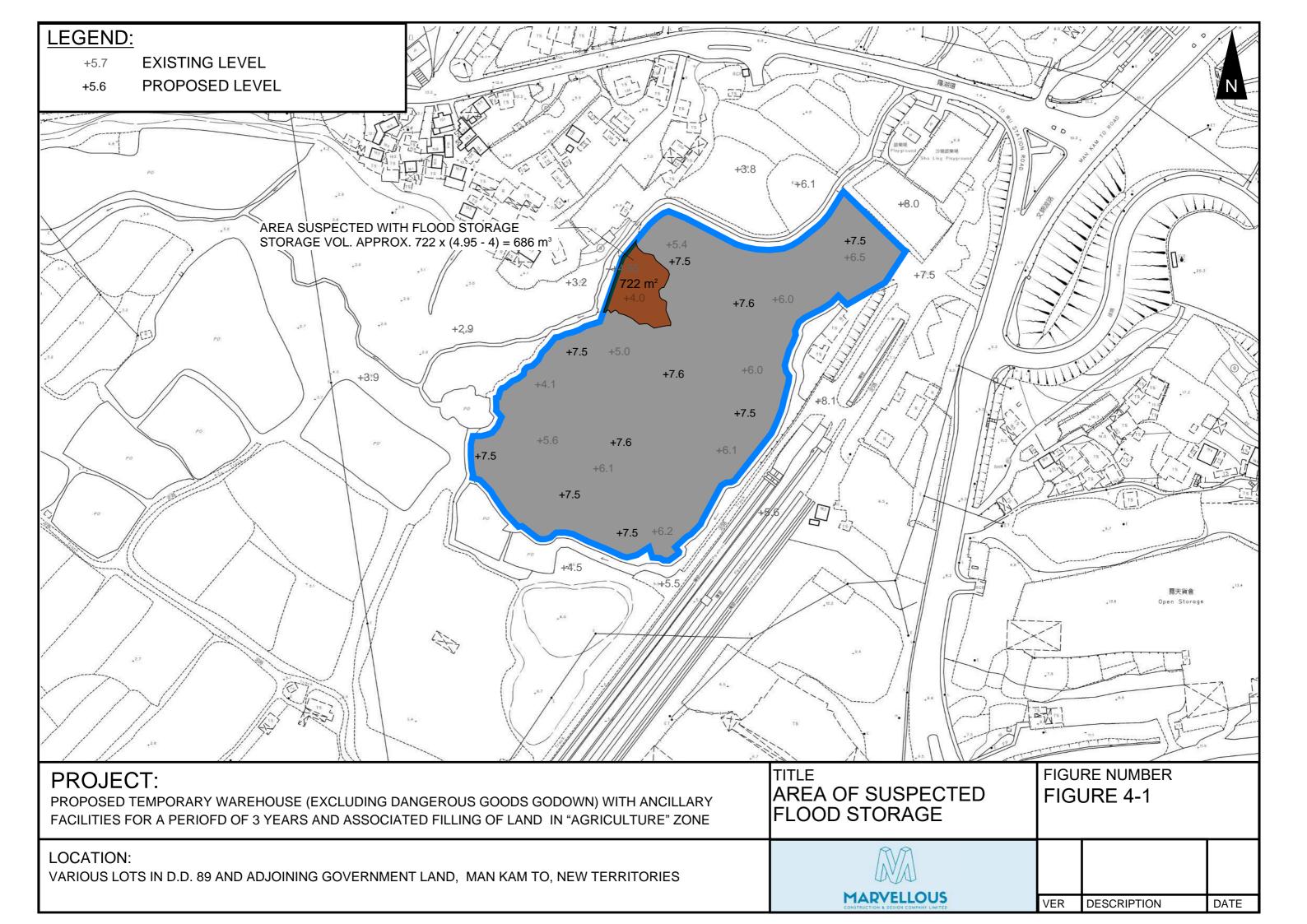
PIT#	GROUND LEVEL	INVERTLEVEL		
	(mPD)	(mPD)		
SP01	7.50	6.98		
CP1.01	7.50	6.90		
CP1.02	7.50	6.88		
CP1.03	7.50	6.71		
CP1.04	7.50	6.69		
CP1.05	7.50	6.60		
CP1.06	7.50	6.53		
CP1.07	7.50	6.51		
CP1.08	7.50	6.40		
CP1.09	7.50	6.27		
CP1.10	7.50	5.95		
SP02	7.50	7.05		
CP2.01	7.50	7.00		
CP2.02	7.50	6.99		
CP2.03	7.50	6.94		
CP2.04	7.50	6.93		
CP2.05	7.50	6.77		
CP2.06	7.50	6.61		
CP2.07	7.50	6.56		
CP2.08	7.50	6.49		
CP2.09	7.50	6.47		
CP2.10	7.50	6.34		
CP2.11	7.50	6.26		
SP03	7.50	7.28		
MANHOLEA	7.50	4.36		
START POINT				

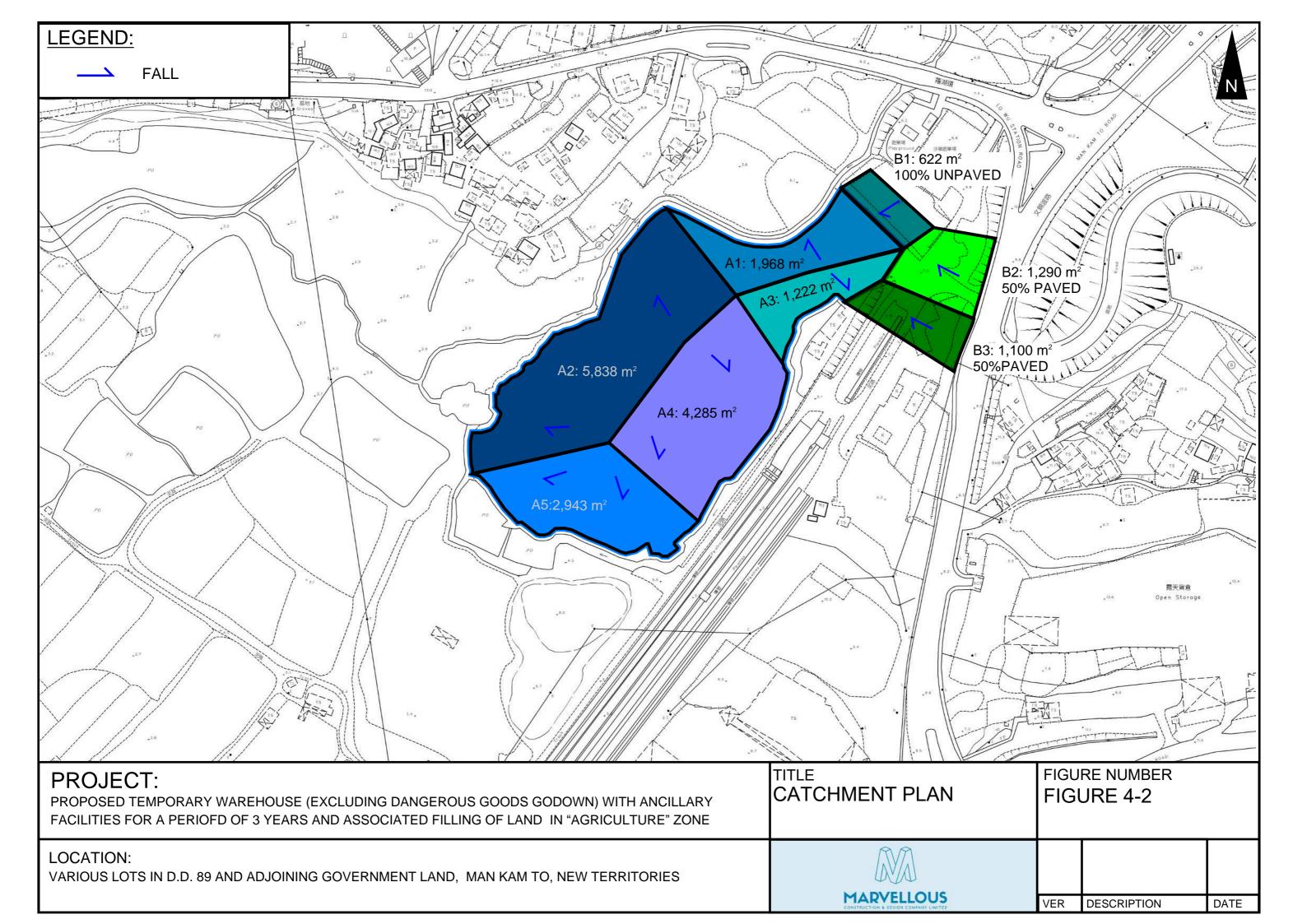
DISCHARGET	TRAGE TANK BY UCS	
12:00		
N et /	•0.7 •E	
~ ~ ~		
3-1		11
6.6		
i pi	PROPOSED CHANNEL	
ţ	Proposed Channel UC1, 525 mm, 1 in 300	
f	Proposed Channel UC2, 600 mm, 1 in 300	
1	Proposed Channel UC3, 600 mm, 1 in 300	
	Proposed Channel UC4, 675 mm, 1 in 300	
K	Proposed Channel UC5, 750 mm, 1 in 100	
()	, , , , , ,	
H	Proposed Channel UC6, 450 mm, 1 in 300	
	Proposed Channel UC7, 675 mm, 1 in 300	
	Proposed Channel UC8, 225 mm, 1 in 40	
EPL.		
	Proposed Channel UC9, 675 mm, 1 in 100	
TTT	Proposed PIPE1, 675 mm, 1 in 100	
	FIGURE NUMBER	
-	FIGURE 3	
_		

DESCRIPTION

VER

DATE





APPENDIX

Appendix A1: Design Calculation

one								n	0.014		North D	istrict a	454.9
North District		North District		Return Period 1 in 10 years			Ks	0.15	Storm Constant	North District b		3.44	
							-	Viscosity	0.000001		North D	istrict c	0.412
								,					
atchment Area	Table (Area i	n m²)					-						
atchment Area Catchment	Table (Area i	n m²) A2	A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	Total Site Area				
	•		A3 1222	A4 4285	A5 2943	B1 622	B2 1290		Total Site Area				
Catchment	A1	A2						B3					
Catchment Total Area	A1 1968	A2 5838	1222	4285	2943	622	1290	B3 1100	16256				

Pavement Type	Hard Paved	Unpaved
Runoff Coefficient	0.95	0.35

DRAINAGE DESIGN

Item	Total Equivalent Area m2 (1)	ToC min	Intensity mm/hr (2)	Total Discharge m3/s (3)	Size mm	Gradient 1 in	V m/s (4)	Capacity m3/s (5)	Utilitization (6)	Remark
Design of Channel UC1 for Catchment, A4	4071	3.00	211.18	0.24	525	300	1.33	0.33	73%	
Design of Channel UC2 for Catchment, A3,A4	5232	3.00	211.18	0.31	600	300	1.45	0.47	66%	
Design of Channel UC3 for Catchment, A3,A4,B2	6070	3.00	211.18	0.36	600	300	1.45	0.47	77%	
Design of Channel UC4 for Catchment, A1,A3,A4,B1,B2	8157	3.00	211.18	0.48	675	300	1.57	0.64	75%	
Design of Channel UC5 for Catchment, Total Site Area, B1, B2	16499	3.00	211.18	0.97	750	100	2.91	1.46	66%	
Design of Channel UC6 for Catchment, A5	2796	3.00	211.18	0.16	450	300	1.20	0.22	76%	
Design of Channel UC7 for Catchment, A2,A5	8342	3.00	211.18	0.49	675	300	1.57	0.64	77%	
Design of Channel UC8 for Catchment, B3	715	3.00	211.18	0.04	225	40	2.06	0.09	45%	For External Catchr
Design of Channel UC9 for Catchment, Total Site Area, B1, B2	16499	60.00	82.29	0.38	675	100	2.72	1.10	34%	From Storage Tank
Design of PIPE1 for Catchment, Total Site Area, B1, B2	16499	60.02	82.28	0.38	675	100	3.02	1.08	35%	From Manhole A to

1) Sum of Area in Catchment Table

2) $i = \frac{a}{(t_d + b)^c}$ 3) 0.278 × Intensity × Equivalent Area 4) Channel: Manning Equation, Pipe Colebrook-White Equation 5) Q = A x V

Manning Equation $v = \frac{R^{\frac{1}{6}}}{n} R^{\frac{1}{2}} S_f^{\frac{1}{2}}$ Colebrook-White Equation $\underline{v} = -\sqrt{32gRS} \log \log \left(\frac{k_s}{14.8R} + \frac{1.255v}{R\sqrt{32gRS_f}}\right)$

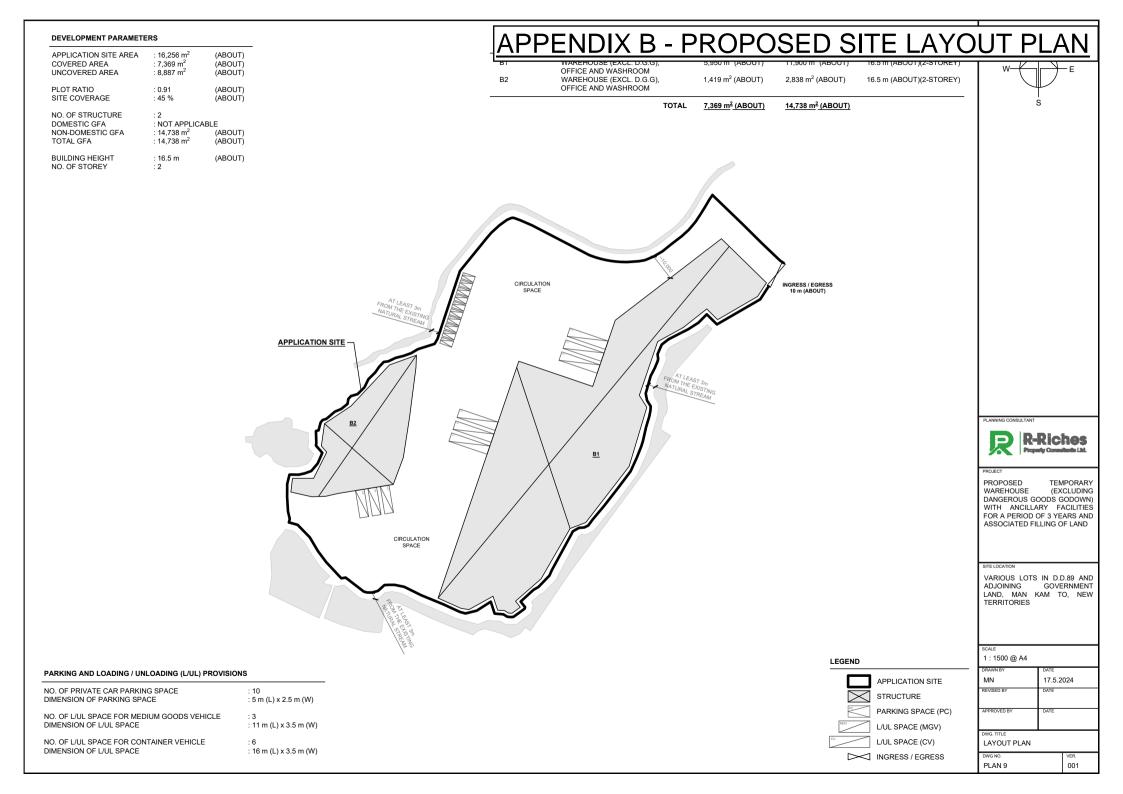
6) Less than 90%, for 10% allowance for siltation

chment B3

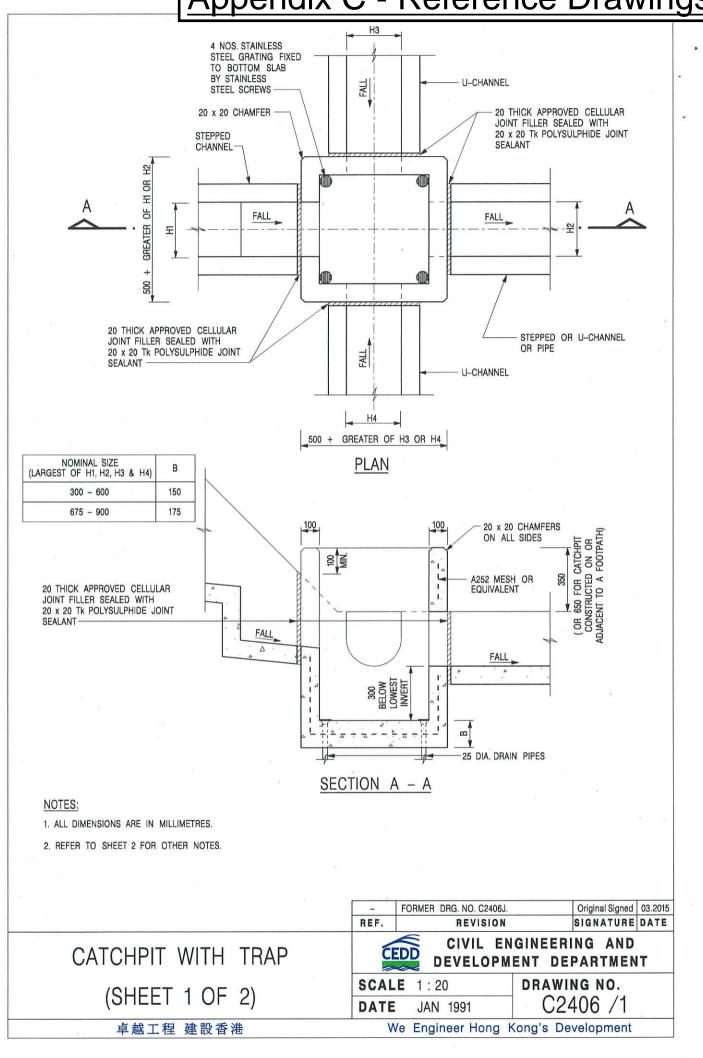
nk to Manhole A, ToC assumed as 60 min for conservative purpose to Existing Stream

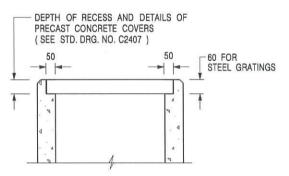
Appendix A2: Sizing of Storage Tank

Site Area								
16256	m²							
			-					
	Pre-Dev	velopment		Post-Dev	velopment		Runoff Coefficient	
Hard Paved Green		0 m ² 16256 m ²			16256 m ² 0 m ²		0.95 0.35	
Total Equivalent Area Design Flow Rate, Q	= 0 x 0.95 + 16256 x 0.35 = 0.278 x 5689.6 x 63.2 / 1000000	5689.6 m ² 0.100 m ³ /s		=16256 x 0.95 + 0 x 0.35 = 0.278 x 15443.2 x 63.2 / 1000000	15443.2 m ² 0.271 m ³ /s			
Volume of Runoff in 120 min	= 0.1 x 120 x 60	720 m ³			1954 m ³			
Storage Vol. Required Suspected Existing Floo Total Sorage Vol. Requi		= 686	m ³ Se	e Figure 4-1				



Appendix C - Reference Drawings



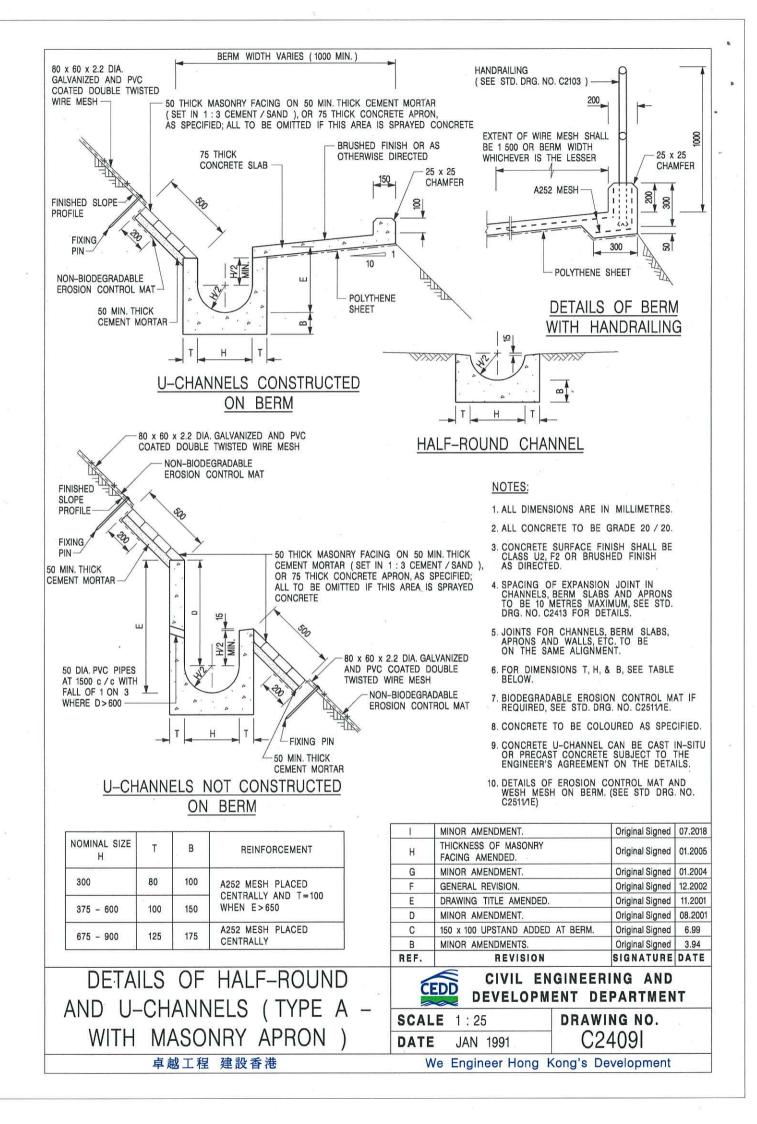


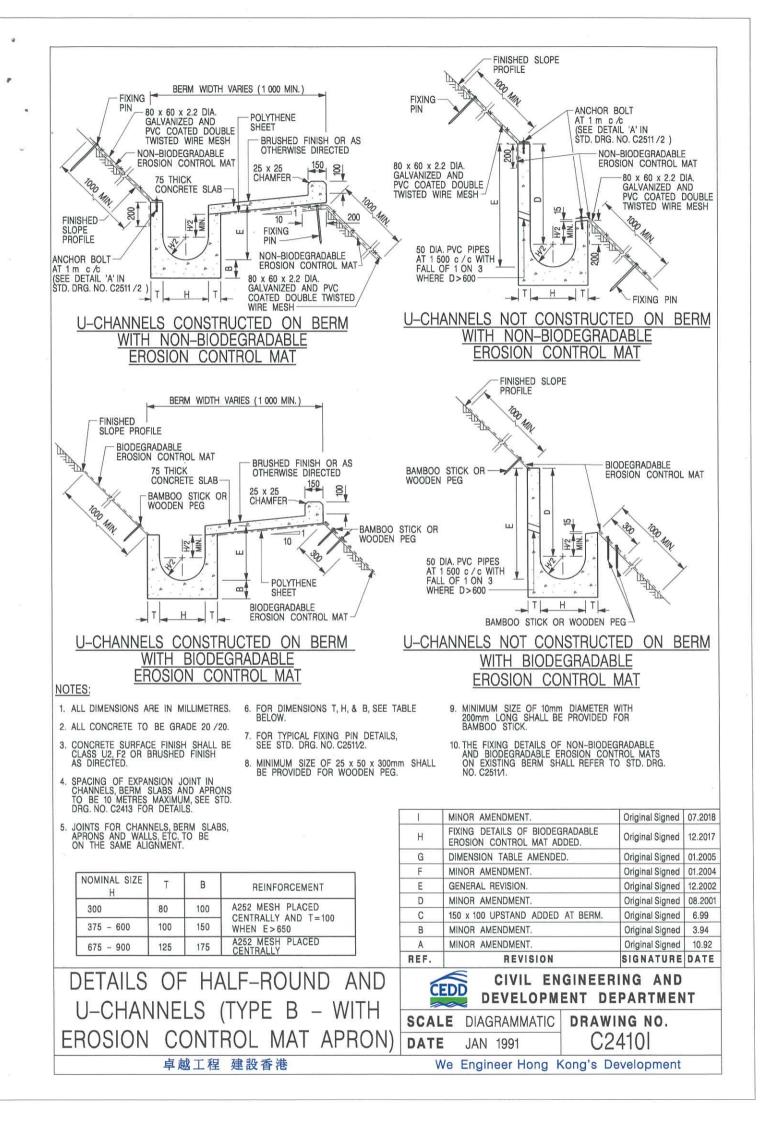
ALTERNATIVE TOP SECTION FOR PRECAST CONCRETE COVERS / GRATINGS

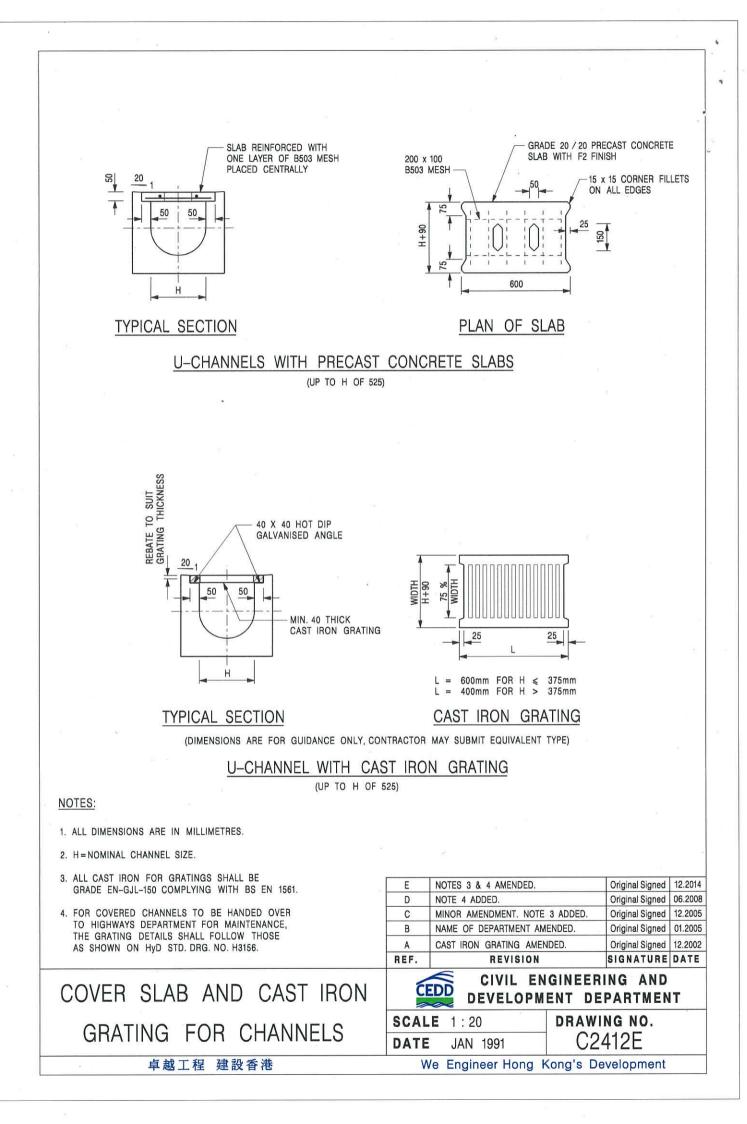
NOTES:

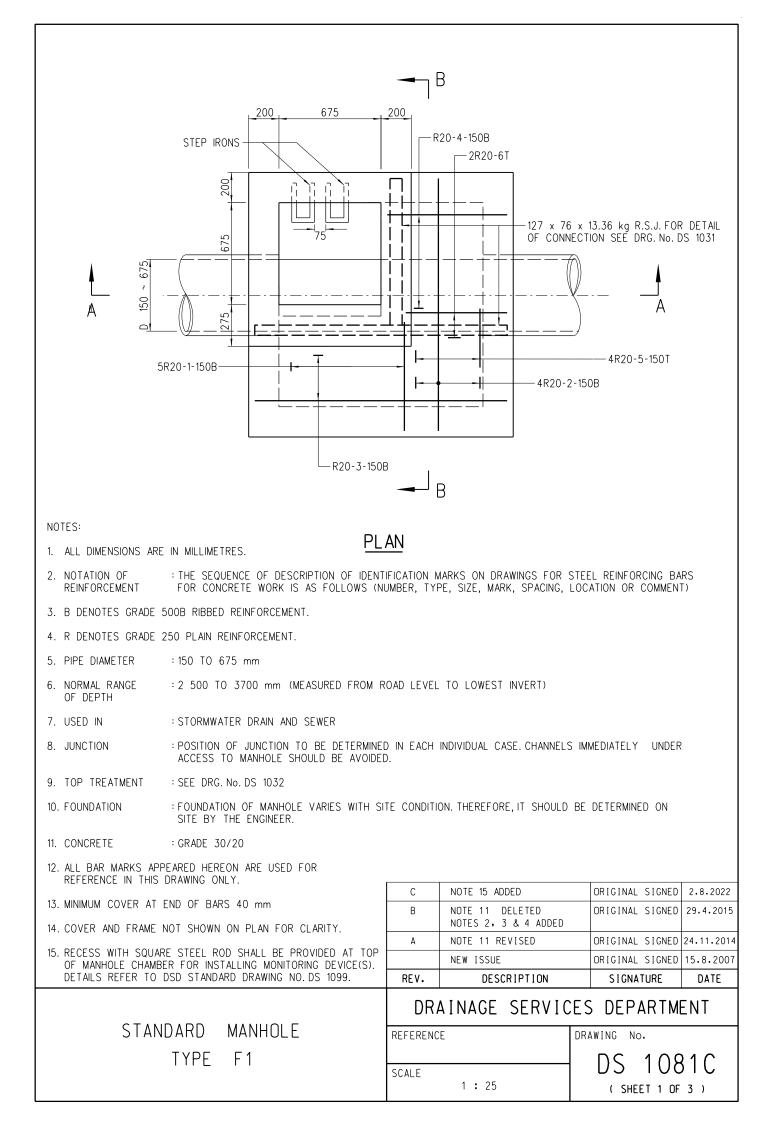
- 1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETRES.
- 2. ALL CONCRETE SHALL BE GRADE 20 /20.
- 3. CONCRETE SURFACE FINISH SHALL BE CLASS U2 OR F2 AS APPROPRIATE.
- 4. FOR DETAILS OF JOINT, REFER TO STD. DRG. NO. C2413.
- 5. CONCRETE TO BE COLOURED AS SPECIFIED.
- UNLESS REQUESTED BY THE MAINTENANCE PARTY AND AS DIRECTED BY THE ENGINEER, CATCHPIT WITH TRAP IS NORMALLY NOT PREFERRED DUE TO PONDING PROBLEM.
- 7. UPON THE REQUEST FROM MAINTENANCE PARTY, DRAIN PIPES AT CATCHPIT BASE CAN BE USED BUT THIS IS FOR CATCHPITS LOCATED AT SLOPE TOE ONLY AND AS DIRECTED BY THE ENGINEER.
- FOR CATCHPITS CONSTRUCTED ON OR ADJACENT TO A FOOTPATH, STEEL GRATINGS (SEE DETAIL 'A' ON STD. DRG. NO. C2405 /2) OR CONCRETE COVERS (SEE STD. DRG. NO. C2407) SHALL BE PROVIDED AS DIRECTED BY THE ENGINEER.
- 9. IF INSTRUCTED BY THE ENGINEER, HANDRAILING (SEE DETAIL 'J' ON STD. DRG. NO. C2405 /5; EXCEPT ON THE UPSLOPE SIDE) IN LIEU OF STEEL GRATINGS OR CONCRETE COVERS CAN BE ACCEPTED AS AN ALTERNATIVE SAFETY MEASURE FOR CATCHPITS NOT ON A FOOTPATH NOR ADJACENT TO IT. TOP OF THE HANDRAILING SHALL BE 1 000 mm MIN. MEASURED FROM THE ADJACENT GROUND LEVEL.
- 10. MINIMUM INTERNAL CATCHPIT WIDTH SHALL BE 1 000 mm FOR CATCHPITS WITH A HEIGHT EXCEEDING 1 000 mm MEASURED FROM THE INVERT LEVEL TO THE ADJACENT GROUND LEVEL. AND, STEP IRONS (SEE DSD STD. DRG. NO. DS1043) AT 300 c/c STAGGERED SHALL BE PROVIDED. THICKNESS OF CATCHPIT WALL FOR INSTALLATION OF STEP IRONS SHALL BE INCREASED TO 150 mm.
- 11. FOR RETROFITTING AN EXISTING CATCHPIT WITH STEEL GRATING, SEE DETAIL 'G' ON STD. DRG. NO. C2405 /4.
- 12. SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE ENGINEER, OTHER MATERIALS CAN ALSO BE USED AS COVERS / GRATINGS.

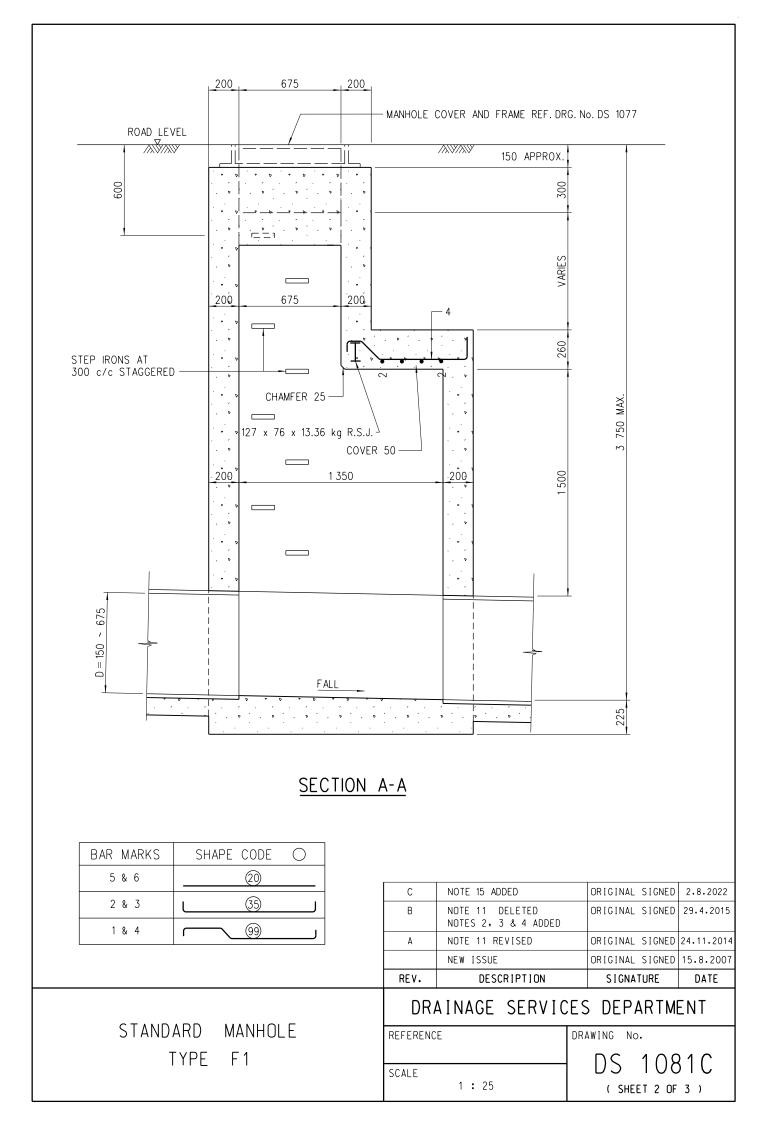
		MINOR AMENDMENT.	Original Signed 04.2016
	BEF.	FORMER DRG. NO. C2406J. REVISION	Original Signed 03.2015
CATCHPIT WITH TRAP	Œ	CIVIL EN DEVELOPM	IGINEERING AND Ent department
(SHEET 2 OF 2)	SCAL	E 1:20 JAN 1991	drawing no. C2406 /2A
卓越工程 建設香港	W	e Engineer Hong I	Kong's Development

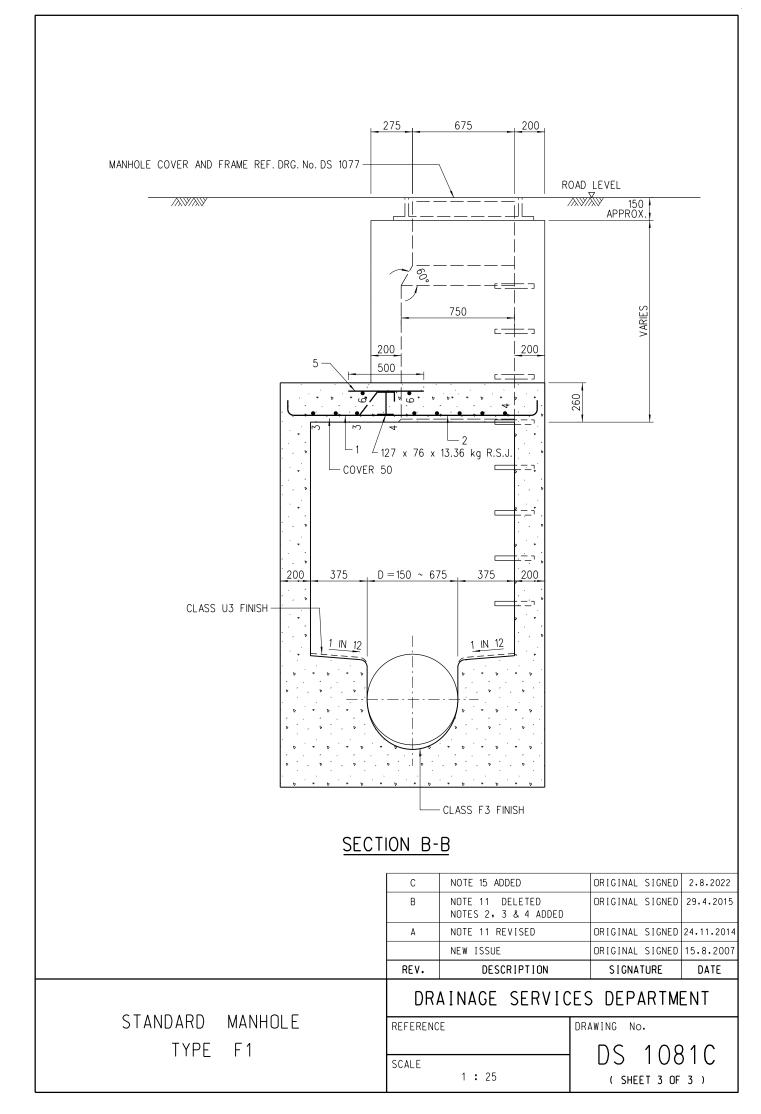














Our Ref.: DD89 Lot 466 7 VL Your Ref.: TPB/A/NE-FTA/247

The Secretary, Town Planning Board, 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong Appendix Ic of RNTPC Paper No. A/NE-FTA/247A



<u>By Email</u>

15 October 2024

Dear Sir,

2nd Further Information

Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land in "Agriculture" Zone, <u>Various Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land, Man Kam To, New Territories</u>

(S.16 Planning Application No. A/NE-FTA/247)

We write to submit further information to address departmental comments of the subject application (**Appendix I**).

Should you require more information regarding the application, please contact our Mr. Danny NG at **Sector** or the undersigned at your convenience. Thank you for your kind attention.

Yours faithfully,

For and on behalf of R-riches Property Consultants Limited

Louis TSE Town Planner

cc DPO/STN, PlanD

(Attn.: Ms. Shirley CHAN (Attn.: Ms. Katie LEUNG email: skkchan@pland.gov.hk) email: kyyleung@pland.gov.hk)

Responses-to-Comments

Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land in "Agriculture" Zone, <u>Various Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land, Man Kam To, New Territories</u>

(Application No. A/NE-FTA/247)

(i) A RtoC Table:

	Departmental Comments	Applicant's Responses
1. Com	nments of the Chief Town Planner	/Urban Design and Landscape, Planning Department
(CTF	P/UD&L, PlanD)	
(CTF (a) V (a) O O O C C V V V	Aments of the Chief Town Planner, P/UD&L, PlanD) With referenced to the aerial photo of 2023, the site is located in an area of rural inland plains landscape haracter comprising of farmlands, emporary structures, small houses, egetated areas and cluster of rees. Noticeable change to the existing rural landscape character is nticipated. Based on our site ecord taken on 2.5.2023 and 5.2023, the site is covered by self- eeded plants. Some trees of ommon and undesirable species. According to Para. 5.13 of the planning Statement, all existing rees will be affected and it is not proposed to retain any of the existing trees at the site. However, ree information, proposed tree reatment and landscape reatment/mitigation measures are not provided, potential impact on the existing landscape resources	/Urban Design and Landscape, Planning Department According to the tree survey conducted on 02/10/2024, a total of 28 nos. of trees are recorded within the application site (the Site) (Annex I). No old and valuable tree or protected species has been identified in accordance with DEVB TC(W) No. 5/2020 – Registration and Preservation of Old and Valuable Trees and the Forests and Countryside Ordinance (Cap. 96). Due to the proposed hard-paving works for site formation of structures and circulation purposes, all existing trees will be affected, and it is not proposed to retain any of the existing trees within the Site. As there will be felling of existing trees within the Site, a landscape proposal has been submitted by the applicant to provide landscape mitigation measures for the proposed development (Annex II). 28 new trees (N1 to N28), with continuous soil trench, are proposed to be planted along the southwest and northwest periphery boundary of the Site as a landscape buffer to minimise any potential impact to the surrounding areas. All these new trees within the Site will be maintained by the applicant during the
c a ir g o tt	he existing landscape resources annot be ascertained. The pplicant is advised to provide basic information (e.g. species, size, eneral conditions and tree photos) on existing trees within and along he site boundary, proposed tree reatments and mitigation neasures for TPB's consideration.	Site will be maintained by the applicant during the planning approval period.



2 C	ommonts of the Director of Environm	antal Protaction (DED)			
	, , ,				
((Contact Person: Ms. CC CHANG; Tel: 23 The proposed use involves the use of heavy vehicles and there are sensitive receivers (i.e. residential dwellings) located in the vicinity of the application site. As such, the application is not supported from environmental perspective.	 2.5m high solid metal wall will be erected along the whole Site to mitigate potential nuisances to the surrounding areas. Restricted operation hours (i.e. from 07:00 to 19:00 Monday to Saturday, no operation on Sunday and public holiday) will take place at the Site during the planning approval period. 3m buffer area along the site boundary and the watercourse adjacent to the Site is also proposed by the applicant as a buffer to minimise any potential impacts arising from the Site, as well as to separate the Site and the nearby sensitive receivers. A landscape proposal has been submitted by the applicant to provide landscape mitigation measures for the proposed development (Annex I). <u>28</u> new trees are proposal to be planted along the southwest and northwest periphery boundary of the Site as a landscape buffer to minimise any potential impact to the adjoining sensitive receivers. A drainage proposal and a fire service installations (FSIs) proposal have been submitted by the applicant to provide sufficient drainage facilities and fire service equipment within the Site, to mitigate any potential drainage and fire safety impact generated from the proposed development. Therefore, adverse impacts generated by the proposed development to the nearby sensitive receivers should <u>not</u> be anticipated. The applicant will reinstate the Site to an amenity area after the planning approval period. 			
3. C	omments of the Director of Agricultur	e, Fisheries and Conservation (DAFC)			
(a)	The subject site is largely covered with herbaceous plants and tree saplings and is not fully accessible. A small portion of the subject site at the north (partly within Lot 464, Lot 465 and the adjacent government land) is a marsh. Watercourse and	2.5m high solid metal wall will be erected along the Site boundary to mitigate any potential nuisance to the surrounding areas. 3m buffer area along the site boundary and the watercourse adjacent to the Site is also proposed by the applicant as a buffer to minimise any potential impacts arising from the Site, as well as to separate the Site and the nearby			



subject site. We have records of aquatic fauna, dragonflies, butterflies and birds within and in the vicinity of the subject site. Due to the sensitivity of the nearby habitats, an ecological impact assessment (EcoIA) is required to assess the potential ecological impact on the subject site and the surroundings for our further consideration of the application. Any wetland habitats within the subject site should be excluded from the application. The applicant should also propose mitigation measures to avoid pollution and disturbance to the nearby natural environment, in particular on the wetland habitats and fauna, should the application be approved.

An ecological impact assessment (EcoIA) has been submitted by the applicant to assess the potential ecological impact arising from the proposed development (**Annex III**). According to the EcoIA report, the potential impact due to the loss of those habitats within the Site is considered <u>minimal</u>.

As the proposed development is intended to facilitate the relocation of the applicant's affected business premises in Hung Shui Kiu due to land resumption to pave way for the second phase development of Hung Shui Kiu/Ha Tsuen New Development Area, the special background of the application should be considered on individual merit and approval of the current application would not set an undesirable precedent within the "AGR" zone. The applicant will reinstate the Site to an amenity area after the planning approval period.





Tree Survey Report

Date of Survey: 2nd October 2024

<u>Location:</u> Various Lots in D.D.89 And Adjoining Government Land, Man Kam To, New Territories

Prepared by:

Mak Ka Hei Registered Arborist Date: 2nd October 2024



Table of contents

1.	Introduction	3
2.	Summary of Existing Trees	4

Appendix:

- I. Tree Survey Schedule
- II. Tree Survey Plan
- III. Photo Records

Disclaimer:

The tree survey conducted indicates the condition of the surveyed trees at the time of inspection only. The assessments of amenity value, form, health and structural condition of the trees surveyed are based on visual inspection from the ground only. No aerial inspection, root digging or mapping, or diagnostic testing has been conducted as part of this survey. Wing Ho Yuen Landscaping Company Limited cannot accept responsibility for future failure or defects detected after the time of inspection of the trees surveyed in this report.



1. Introduction

The survey conducted is to record all the existing trees in the tree survey boundary. The survey include tree species identification, tree tagging with durable labels, the measurements of overall tree height, Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), average crown spread, the evaluation on amenity value, form, health and structural conditions.

The tree survey was conducted on 2nd October 2024. Plants with DBH less than 95mm were not recorded in the survey.



2. <u>Summary of Existing Trees</u>

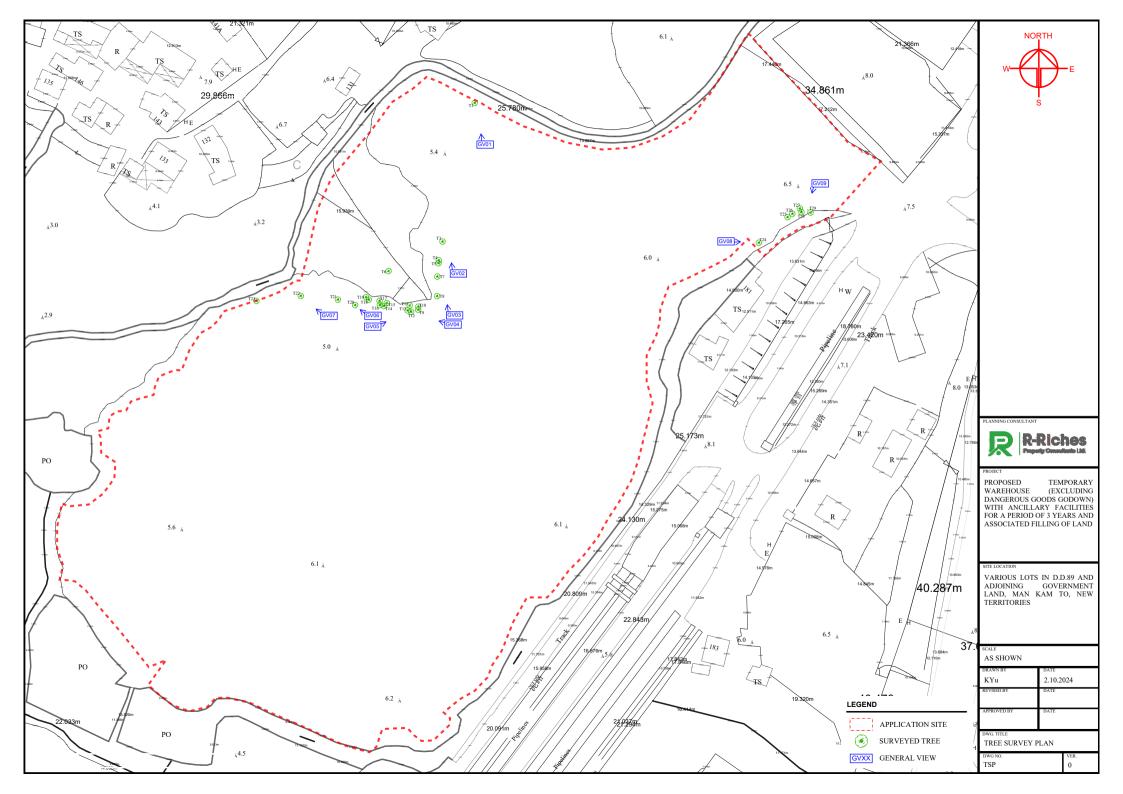
The surveyed site is located at Various Lots in D.D.89 And Adjoining Government Land, Man Kam To, New Territories.

At the time of inspection on 2^{nd} October 2024, **28 nos.** tree were found within the Site. **One** dead tree (T23) was recorded in the surveyed area. Location of individual tree refers to Appendix I.

Details of tree conditions and photo records for individual tree are recorded in the Appendix II and Appendix III respectively.



Appendix I – Tree Survey Plan





Appendix II – Tree Survey Schedule

Tree Survey Schedule

Location:

Tree surveyor(s):

Field Survey was conducted on:

Various	s Lots in D.D.89 And	l Adjoining Govern	ment Land, Man H	Kam To, New Terr	itories
Mak Ka	<u>a Hei</u>				
2 Octoł	ber 2024				

	Tree Species		Tree Size Measurements		Amenity Value Form		Health Condition	Structural Condition	Suitability for Transplanting		
Tree No.	Botanical Name	Chinese Name	Overall Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Average Crown Spread (m)	High /Med /Low	Good /Fair /Poor	Good /Fair /Poor /Dead	Good /Fair /Poor	High /Med /Low	
T1	Macaranga tanarius var. tomentosa	血桐	6.0	165	6.0	Low	Fair	Fair	Poor	Low	co-(
T3	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	8.0	135	7.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inv
T4	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	8.0	100	7.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inv
T5	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	8.0	95	5.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inv
T6	Sapium sebiferum	烏桕	5.0	130	5.0	Low	Fair	Fair	Fair	Low	
T7	Macaranga tanarius var. tomentosa	血桐	7.0	120	8.0	Low	Fair	Fair	Fair	Low	
T8	Macaranga tanarius var. tomentosa	血桐	6.0	110	6.0	Low	Fair	Fair	Fair	Low	
Т9	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	9.0	95	5.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inv
T10	Macaranga tanarius var. tomentosa	血桐	8.0	100	6.0	Low	Fair	Fair	Fair	Low	
T11	Sapium sebiferum	烏桕	5.0	130	5.0	Low	Fair	Fair	Fair	Low	
T12	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	10.0	95	5.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inv
T13	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	10.0	95	4.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inv
T14	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	10.0	120	5.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inva
T15	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	10.0	130	4.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inv
T16	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	10.0	130	5.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inv
T17	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	10.0	130	4.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inva
T18	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	10.0	110	6.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inva
T19	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	10.0	150	4.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inv
T20	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	5.0	220	3.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inva
T21	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	6.0	210	3.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inv
T22	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	9.0	130	5.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inv
T23	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	9.0	180	5.0	-	-	Dead	-	-	inva
T24	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	11.0	350	8.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inva
T25	Macaranga tanarius var. tomentosa	血桐	8.0	100	5.0	Low	Fair	Fair	Fair	Low	
T26	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	8.0	120	4.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inv
T27	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	8.0	120	5.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inv
T28	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	9.0	235	5.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inv
T29	Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	8.0	170	5.0	Low	Poor	Poor	Poor	Low	inv

Notes: Amenity Value, Form, Health Condition and Structural Condition of trees were obtained by Visual Assessment Only.



Remarks

o-dominant trunks vasive species vasive species, leaning, topped vasive species, leaning, topped vasive species, climber vasive species, dead tree vasive species, leaning, decay and wound on trunk vasive species vasive species vasive species vasive species



Appendix III – Photo Records



General view 01



General view 02



General view 03



General view 04



General view 05



General view 06



General view 07



General view 08





T1 (Overview)



T3 (Overview)



T4 (Overview)



T5 (Overview)



T6 (Overview)



T7 (Overview)



T8 (Overview)

T9 (Overview)



T10 (Overview)



T11 (Overview)





T13 (Overview)

T12 (Overview)



T14 (Overview)



T15 (Overview)





T17 (Overview)

T16 (Overview)



T18 (Overview)



T19 (Overview)





T21 (Overview)

T20 (Overview)



T22 (Overview)



T23 (Overview)



T24 Decay and wound on trunk

T24 (Overview)



T25 (Overview)



T26 (Overview)



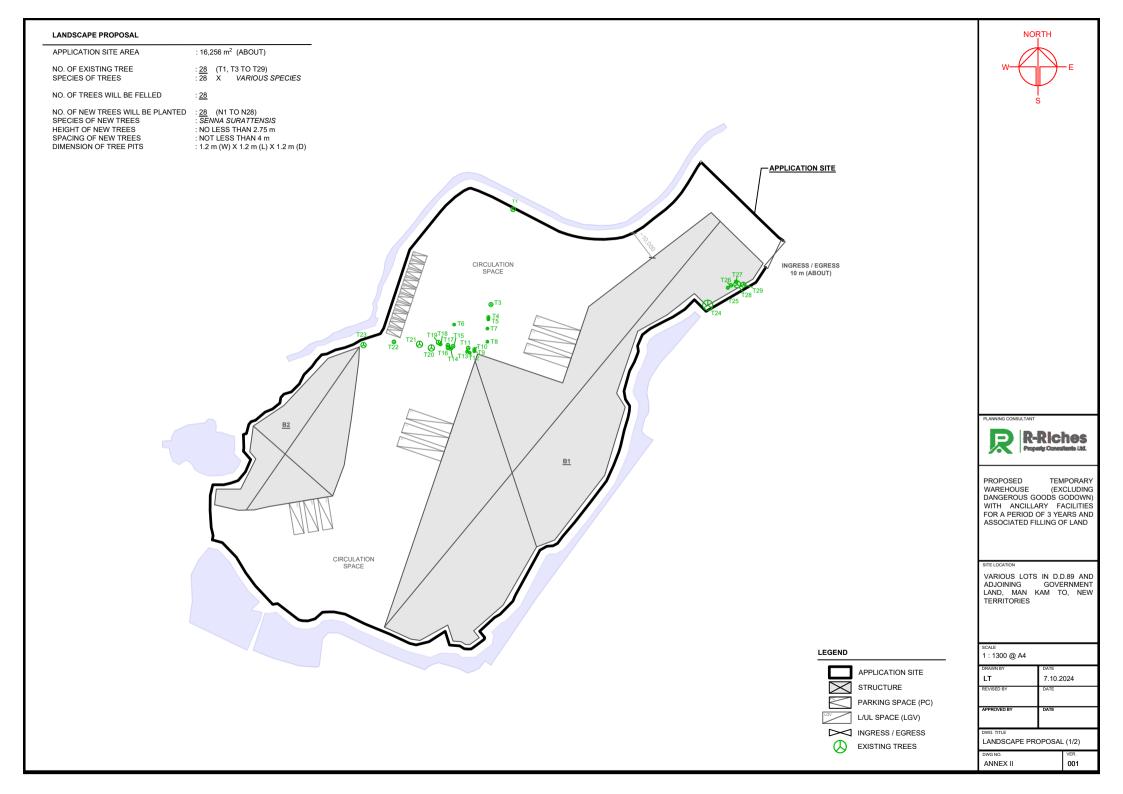
T27 (Overview)

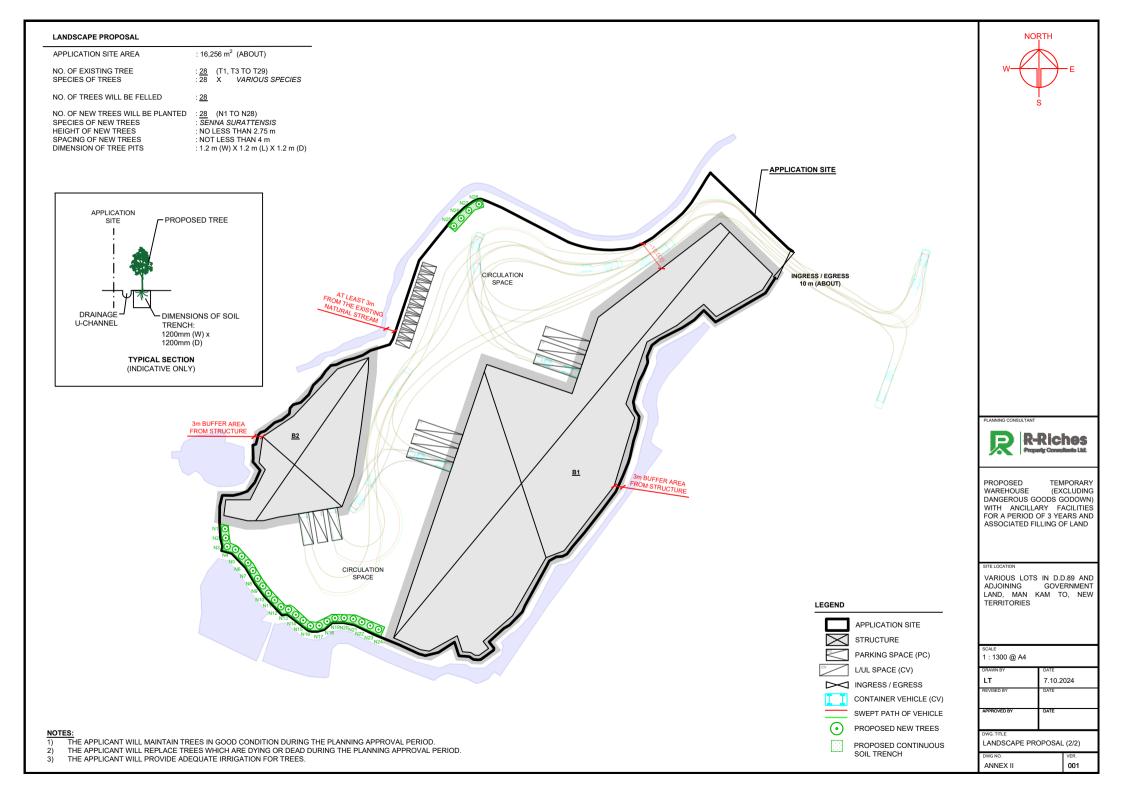


T28 (Overview)



T29 (Overview)





SECTION 16 PLANNING APPLICATION

Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land in "Agriculture" Zone

Various Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land, Man Kam To, New Territories

Ecological Impact Assessment Report

October 2024



Ecosystems Limited 生態系統顧問有限公司

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 Ecosystems Ltd. was commissioned by Standard Billion Limited (the Applicant) to be the Ecological Consultant for the Planning Application. The applicant seeks planning permission from the Town Planning Board under Section 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap 131) to use Various Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land at Man Kam To (Application Site) for "proposed temporary warehouse (excluding dangerous goods godown) with ancillary facilities for a period of 3 years and associated filling of land.
- 1.1.2 The Application Site falls within an area zoned as "Agriculture" on the Approved Fu Tei Au and Sha Ling Outline Zoning Plan No. S/NE-FTA/18. The Site occupies an area of about 16,256m².
- 1.1.3 This Ecological Impact Assessment (EcolA) presents any potential direct and indirect impacts to ecology arising from construction and operation of the Project. Ecological baseline conditions of the Application Site, the Development Site and its surroundings are described, potential ecological impacts including losses or damages to habitats and other potential impacts on the inhabiting flora and fauna have been assessed, with the need for mitigation measures such as avoidance, minimization and compensation explored. The potential ecological impacts on the identified species and habitats have also been evaluated.

2 LEGISLATION, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES ON ECOLOGICAL SURVEY

2.1 General

- 2.1.1 The HKSAR ordinances and regulations relevant to ecological impact assessment (EcolA) of this project include the following:
 - Forests and Countryside Ordinance (Cap. 96) and its subsidiary legislation, the Forestry Regulations (Cap. 96A);
 - Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131);
 - Wild Animals Protection Ordinance (WAPO, Cap. 170);
 - Country Parks Ordinance (Cap. 208) and its subsidiary legislation;
 - Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance ("the EIAO", Cap. 499) and the associated Technical Memorandum on Environmental Impact Assessment Process (EIAO-TM), in particular Annexes 8 and 16; and
 - Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and its subsidiary legislation.
- 2.1.2 This EcolA also made reference to the following guidelines and standards:
 - EIAO Guidance Note No. 3/2010 Flexibility and Enforceability of Mitigation Measures Proposed in an EIA Report;

- EIAO Guidance Note No. 6/2010 Some Observations on Ecological Assessment from the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance Perspective;
- EIAO Guidance Note No. 7/2023 Ecological Baseline Survey for Ecological Assessment;
- EIAO Guidance Note No. 10/2023 Methodologies for Terrestrial and Freshwater Ecological Baseline Surveys;
- ETWB Technical Circular (Works) No. 5/2005, "Protection of natural streams/rivers from adverse impacts arising from construction works";
- Environment, Transport and Works Bureau Technical Circular (Works) No. 3/2006. Tree Preservation. 25 May 2006.;
- Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (HKPSG) Chapter 10, "Conservation"; and
- PELB Technical Circular 1/97 / Works Branch Technical Circular 4/97, "Guidelines for Implementing the Policy on Off-site Ecological Mitigation Measures";
- 2.1.3 This EcoIA also made reference to the following People's Republic of China (PRC) legislation:
 - List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation; and
 - List of Wild Plants under State Priority Conservation
- 2.1.4 International conventions and guidelines that are relevant to this study include the following:
 - Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora ("CITES"). This Convention regulates international trade in animal and plant species considered to be at risk from such trade. The main categories of species relevant to Hong Kong are Appendices I and II. Species listed in Appendix I are species threatened with extinction that are or may be affected by trade; species listed in Appendix II are those that, while not necessarily under current threat of extinction, may become threatened unless trade is subject to strict regulation. Hong Kong's obligations under this Convention are enforced via the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance;
 - The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The World Conservation Union maintains, through its Species Survival Commission, a Red List of globally threatened species of wild plants and animals (see http://www.redlist.org). The Red List is considered the authoritative publication to classify species as critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable, or lowerrisk; and
 - United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity. This convention requires
 parties to regulate or manage biological resources important for the
 conservation of biological diversity whether within or outside protected areas,
 with a view to ensuring their conservation and sustainable use. It also requires
 parties to promote the protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and the
 maintenance of viable populations of species in natural surroundings. The

People's Republic of China (PRC) ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity on 5th January 1993. The HKSAR Government has stated that it is "committed to meeting the environmental objectives" of the Convention (PELB 1996).

2.2 Key Ecological Resources & Important Habitats

- 2.2.1 Key ecological issues that are identified within the Study Area and the surrounding environment include the following:
 - Man Kam To Road Egretry and Ho Sheung Heung Egretry (Figure 1);
 - Active agricultural lands that support land birds;
 - Ponds that support waterbirds; and
 - Species of conservation importance (e.g. Eurasian Otter)

3 ECOLOGICAL SURVEY METHODOLOGY

3.1 Application Site and Study Area

- 3.1.1 The Application Site is located approximately 10m west of Man Kam To Road. Although the Application Site falls within area zoned as "Agriculture" on the Approved Fu Tei Au and Sha Ling Outline Zoning Plan No. S/NE-FTA/18, it is currently vacant with no active agricultural activity.
- 3.1.2 The Study Area includes the area of 500 metres distance from the boundary of the Application Site (**Figure 1**). The western part of the Application Site contains agricultural lands and ponds that support both land birds and waterbirds, while the southern part to be in semi-rural character and area predominately occupied by temporary structures for logistics centres, open storage yards and vacant land. The locations of the Application Site and Study Area are shown in **Figure 1**.

3.2 Review of Existing Information

- 3.2.1 In accordance with Section 5.1.2.1 of the Annex 16 of EIAO-TM, existing information regarding the Application Site and its vicinity shall be reviewed. Literature review characterises the existing ecological baseline information within the Study Area. The literature review covers Government and private sector reports, independent and Government published literature, academic studies, vegetation maps and land use maps.
- 3.2.2 Reviewed information included, but not limited to the following:
 - Register No. AEIAR-201/2016 Police Facilities in Kong Nga Po
 - Register No. AEIAR-198/2016 Associated Infrastructural Works for Development of Columbarium, Crematorium and Related Facilities at Sandy Ridge Cemetery;
 - Annual report and other publications of The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society;
 - Draft Outline Zoning Plans and Outline Zoning Plans of Town Planning Board;
 - Hong Kong Biodiversity Newsletter of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD);

- Porcupine! Newsletter of Ecology & Biodiversity, The School of Biological Sciences, The University of Hong Kong;
- Publications of AFCD;
- The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN); and
- Relevant EIA reports.

3.3 Programme

- 3.3.1 The Survey Area covers terrestrial area only. The study on terrestrial ecology was mainly focus on the Application Site and adjacent areas of the Application Site. The Survey Area for the purpose of ecological baseline surveys includes all area within 500m distance from the boundary of the Application Site (**Figure 2**).
- 3.3.2 Due to the scale and nature of the proposed development, ecological survey conducted August and October 2024 covering major season of fauna to collect ecological baseline information is considered adequate (**Table 3.1**).
- 3.3.3 The survey methodology for each item is described in the following sections.

Survey Type	Wet Season			
Survey Type	August	September	October	
Habitat & vegetation	D	D	D	
Avifauna	E, D, S&N	E, D, S&N	E, D, S&N	
Butterfly	D	D	D	
Odonate	D	D	D	
Herpetofauna	D&N	D&N	D&N	
Terrestrial mammal	D, S&N	D, S&N	D, S&N	
Freshwater community	D&N		D&N	
Firefly	S & N	S & N	S & N	
Note:				

Table 3.1 Ecological Survey Programme

Note:

E: Early morning, D: Daytime; N: Night-time, S: Dusk

3.4 Methodology

Habitat and Vegetation

3.4.1 Habitats within the Study Area were identified, sized and mapped based on the latest government aerial photos and field ground-truthing. Representative areas of each habitat type were surveyed on foot. Flora species encountered in each habitat type and their relative abundance were recorded with special attention to rare or protected species. Nomenclature and conservation status of flora species follows the latest Hong Kong Plant Database available from the website of the Hong Kong Herbarium, whilst their rarity in Hong Kong followed Corlett *et al.* (2000) and Yip *et al.* (2010) where applicable. Habitats were characterized and defined with reference to size, vegetation type, flora species present, dominant species, species diversity and abundance, community structure, as well as the presence of any feature of ecological importance. Representative colour photos will be taken

for each habitat type and any important ecological features identified. Habitat maps of suitable scale (i.e. 1:1000 to 1:5000) were prepared.

<u>Avifauna</u>

3.4.2 Daytime and nighttime avifauna surveys were carried out monthly. Daytime surveys were carried out in the early morning at the period of peak avifauna activity, while night surveys were conducted during and after dusk to record nocturnal avifauna. The avifauna communities of each habitat type within the Study Area were surveyed using transect count method (Figure 2). All avifauna observed or heard within 30m along the survey transects were counted and identified to species wherever possible and a list of avifauna recorded in the surveys is provided. The location(s) of any avifauna species of conservation importance encountered were recorded, along with notable behaviour. Major foraging and roosting sites of avifauna species were marked on map, if any. Signs of breeding (e.g. nests and/ or recently fledged juveniles) within the Study Area, especially in the Application Site, were also recorded and marked on map. Surveyors were using a 7X to 10X binoculars for the surveys and photographic records were taken, if possible. Ornithological nomenclature in this report follows the latest List of Hong Kong Birds by Hong Kong Bird Watching Society.

Butterfly and Odonate

3.4.3 Butterfly and Odonate surveys were conducted by transect count method monthly during daytime (**Figure 2**). All the butterflies and odonates encountered were recorded with their abundance and two species lists for butterflies and odonates were provided respectively. The location(s) of butterfly and odonate species with conservation importance were marked on map, if any. Nomenclature for butterflies and odonates follows that available from the Hong Kong Biodiversity Information Hub, whilst conservation status for butterflies and dragonflies follows Chan *et al.* (2011) and Tam *et al.* (2011) respectively where applicable.

Herpetofauna (Reptile and Amphibian)

3.4.4 Daytime and nighttime herpetofauna surveys were carried out. Herpetofauna surveys were conducted through direct observation and active searching in all habitat types along the survey transects (**Figure 2**), and in potential hiding places such as among leaf litter, inside holes, under stones and logs within the Study Area. Particular attention was given to watercourses or other water bodies. Auditory detection of species-specific calls was used to survey frogs and toads. During the surveys, all reptiles and amphibians sighted and heard were counted and identified along with notable behaviour. A herpetofauna species list was provided according to the records. Location(s) of herpetofauna species with conservation importance were marked on map. Nomenclature and conservation status for herpetofauna follows that available from the Hong Kong Biodiversity Information Hub, Karsen *et al.* (1998) and Chan *et al.* (2005).

Terrestrial Mammal

3.4.5 Terrestrial mammal surveys were carried out during daytime and night-time on a monthly basis. As most mammals often occur at low densities, all sightings, tracks, and signs of mammals (including droppings) were actively searched along the survey transects (**Figure 2**). Night surveys were conducted to survey nocturnal

mammal species (e.g. rodents and bats). Hand torch was used to active search for the nocturnal mammals. Camera traps were installed to survey cryptic terrestrial mammals at representative locations within the Study Area. Bat surveys were conducted during and after dusk through direct observations and recorded by ultrasonic bat detector. Particular attention was given to potential foraging and drinking sites such as fruit trees and freshwater ponds (Tong, 2016). Roosting site(s) of bat species was marked on map. All bat calls recorded were identified according to species-specific echolocation call structure (Tong, 2016). All the mammals observed during the survey were counted and identified to species level whenever possible and a list of mammal species recorded was provided. Nomenclature for mammals follows that available from the Hong Kong Biodiversity Information Hub and Shek (2006).

Freshwater Community

3.4.6 Daytime and nighttime freshwater fauna surveys were carried out. Freshwater fauna, including freshwater macro-invertebrates (e.g. freshwater crabs, shrimps, freshwater molluscs and aquatic insect larvae) and fishes, in watercourses within the Study Area were studied by direct observation and active searching. Sampling was carried out and the sampling locations were shown in **Figure 2**. Freshwater fishes and aquatic macro-invertebrates were recorded and identified to the lowest possible taxon and their relative abundances were reported. The location(s) of freshwater fauna species of conservation importance were recorded. Nomenclature for freshwater fishes follows that available from the Hong Kong Biodiversity Information Hub, while those for the macro-invertebrates will follow Dudgeon (2003).

<u>Firefly</u>

3.4.7 Firefly surveys were carried out along the transects (**Figure 2**) at dusk and night (started shortly after sunset and continued until 120 minutes after sunset when the fireflies are most active). During the survey, any firefly observed, including larvae and adults, was identified to the species level, where possible. The location(s) of firefly species of conservation importance or any notable behavior (e.g. breeding) were recorded. Nomenclature and conservation status of fireflies (e.g. endemic to Hong Kong) follow Yiu (2023).

3.5 Impact Assessment

- 3.5.1 An ecological impact assessment was conducted to assess the impacts of the proposed development upon terrestrial and aquatic ecology.
- 3.5.2 The objectives of the ecological impact assessment included the followings:
 - to identify and evaluate as far as possible the potential terrestrial and aquatic ecological impacts associated to the proposed development, both directly (e.g. by physical disturbance) and indirectly (e.g. by disturbance or change of water quality);
 - to identify recognized sites of conservation importance, important habitats, and the associated wildlife groups/species; and
 - where needed, to propose mitigation measures to minimize adverse impacts for the development.

3.5.3 The ecological assessment made reference to the criteria and guidelines as stated in Annexes 8 and 16 of the EIAO-TM.

4 **RESULTS OF LITERATURE REVIEW**

4.1 Recognized Sites of Conservation Importance & Important Habitats

Man Kam To Road Egretry and Ho Sheung Heung Egretry

- 4.1.1 The Man Kam To Road Egretry is located at Man Kam To Road, approximately 900m from the Application Site. The egretry has been first discovered in June 2009 during the course of ecological surveys conducted under the NENT NDAs Study. It has been mainly used by Chinese Pond Heron. It was recorded with a maximum of 24 Chinese Pond Heron nests and 14 Little Egret nests in 2022 (Anon 2022).
- 4.1.2 According to the results of Summer 2022 Report conducted by the Hong Kong Bird watching Society, only 4 nests of Chinese Pond Heron were recorded in Ho Sheung Heung Egretry (Anon 2022).
- 4.1.3 With reference to the approved EIA report of North East New Territories New Development Areas (Register no.: AEIAR 175/2013), the major flight-lines of Ho Sheung Heung Egretry were observed over the Lo Wu Correctional Institution towards the Kwu Tung North New Development Area, towards Long Valley, along Shek Sheung River and along the Ng Tung River towards the Fanling North New Development Area. For Man Kam To Road Egretry, most birds flew towards the south-west, either following the Ng Tung River or directly over the developed area to the south-west. The flight-lines of breeding ardeids from both egretries were towards away from the Application Site.

Agricultural Land

4.1.4 A biodiversity study of selected farmlands in the proposed Northern Metropolis was conducted by Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden (KFBG), farmland in Sandy Ridge is one of the study areas. According to the study results, Sandy Ridge, Chow Tin (Lei Uk) and Tai Po Tin (Shan Kai Wat) were the top three sites in terms of bird species richness. A total of 98 bird species were recorded, 39 species are considered as species of conservation importance (**Table 4.1**). Agricultural lands are mostly located to the west and south-west of the Application Site. Locations of the recorded species of conservation importance were not available.

4.2 Flora and Fauna Species of Conservation Importance

4.2.1 Both the assessment area of EIA studies Register No. AEIAR-201/2016 and AEIAR-198/2016 partially covered the present Application Site and Study Area. Among the species of conservation importance, only two butterflies and one bird species with relatively good mobility were recorded within the Application Site. Details of the species of conservation importance recorded in the two EIA studies are shown in **Table 4.1**, while the locations are shown in **Figure 3**. Although *Rhododendron pulchrum* and *Rhododendron mucronatum* were considered as species of conservation importance in AEIAR-198/2016, they are cultivated and

exotic species, which are not considered as species of conservation importance in the present study.

4.2.2 With reference to information from AFCD's Biodiversity Survey (i.e. List of Species Recorded near Lo Wu Station Road by AFCD), 43 species of birds, 3 species of reptiles, 7 species of amphibians, 20 species of butterflies, 29 species of dragonflies, and 6 species of fishes were recorded within the 500m Study from the present Application Site. These species were accumulated since 2002. Among the species, 9 species of birds, 1 species of butterflies, and 3 dragonflies were considered as species of conservation importance. Details of the species of conservation importance recorded by AFCD are shown in **Table 4.1**. However, locations of those species are not available.

Table 4.1 List of Flora and Fauna Species of Conservation Importance Recorded within or in the vicinity of the PresentStudy Area from Reviewed Literature

	Location ^{1 3 6 7 9 10 11}				
Species	Application Site	Study Area	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ^{2 8 11}	Conservation status ^{4 5 7 11}	Source^{1 3 6 7 9 10} 11
Flora			•		
Aquilaria sinensis	-	\checkmark	Common. Found in lowland forest and fung shui woods.	IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (2024): VU; Appendix II of CITES; Threatened Species List of China's Higher Plants: VU; China Plant Red Data Book: VU; Included in Illustrations of Rare & Endangered Plant in Guangdong Province; Listed in "Rare and Precious Plants of Hong Kong"; Cap. 586; State Protection (Category II)	AEIAR- 198/2016 AEIAR- 201/2016
Avifauna (all avifauna ir	h Hong Kong ar	e protected und	der Cap 170)		
Eurasian Teal Anas crecca	Not available	Not available	Common winter visitor. Found in Deep Bay area, Shuen Wan, Tai Lam Chung Reservoir, Victoria Harbour, urban parks.	Fellowes et al. (2002): RC	KFBG
Chinese Francolin Francolinus pintadeanus	Not available	Not available	Common resident. Widely distributed in grassland throughout Hong Kong.	-	KFBG
Japanese Quail	Not available	Not available	Uncommon autumn passage migrant and rare winter visitor. Found in Long	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	KFBG

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	Location ^{1 3 6 7 9 10 11}				
Species	Application Site	Study Area	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ^{2 8 11}	Conservation status ^{4 5 7 11}	Source^{1 3 6 7 9 10} 11
Coturnix japonica			Valley, Mai Po, Kam Tin, Lam Tsuen, Tin Shui Wai.		
Little Grebe <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	-	\checkmark	Common resident. Found in Deep Bay area.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	AEIAR- 201/2016 KFBG
Black-winged Stilt Himantopus himantopus	Not available	Not available	Common migrant and wintor visitor. Found in Deep Bay area, Long Valley, Kam Tin.	Fellowes et al. (2002): RC	KFBG
Little Ringed Plover Charadrius dubius	Not available	Not available	Resident, common winter visitor and passage migrant. Widely distributed in freshwater areas throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC)	KFBG
Common Greenshank Tringa nebularia	Not available	Not available	Abundant passage migrant and winter visitor. Found in Deep Bay area.	Fellowes et al. (2002): RC	KFBG
Great Cormorant Phalacrocorax carbo	Not available	Not available	Common winter visitor. Widely distributed in coastal areas throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC	KFBG
Yellow Bittern Ixobrychus sinensis	-	~	Uncommon summer visitor and common passage migrant. Found in Deep Bay area, Chek Keng, Tai Long Wan.	Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC)	AEIAR- 201/2016 KFBG
Cinnamon Bittern Ixobrychus cinnamomeus	Not available	Not available	Uncommon passage migrant and scarce summer visitor. Found in Deep Bay area, Long Valley, Tai Yuen (Sheung Shui), Pui O.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	KFBG

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	Location ^{1 3 6 7 9 10 11}				
Species	Application Site	Study Area	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ^{2 8 11}	Conservation status ^{4 5 7 11}	Source^{1 3 6 7 9 10} 11
Black-crowned Night Heron <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Not available	Not available	Common resident and migrant. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	KFBG
Grey Heron Ardea cinerea	-	\checkmark	Common winter visitor. Found in Deep Bay area, Starling Inlet, Kowloon Park, Cape D'Aguilar.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC	AFCD AEIAR- 201/2016
Purple Heron Ardea purpurea	Not available	Not available	Uncommon passage migrant. Found in Deep Bay area.	Fellowes et al. (2002): RC	KFBG
Chinese Pond Heron Ardeola bacchus	-	\checkmark	Common resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC	AFCD AEIAR- 201/2016 KFBG
Eastern Cattle Egret Bubulcus coromandus	-	\checkmark	Resident and common passage migrant. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	AFCD AEIAR- 201/2016 KFBG
Great Egret <i>Ardea alba</i>	Not available	Not available	Common resident, migrant and winter visitor. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC	KFBG
Intermediate Egret Ardea intermedia	Not available	Not available	Resident and passage migrant. Found in Deep Bay area, Tai Long Wan, Starling Inlet, Tai O, Cape D'Aguilar.	Fellowes et al. (2002): RC	KFBG

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	Location ^{1 3 6 7 9 10 11}				
Species	Application Site	Study Area	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ^{2 8 11}	Conservation status ^{4 5 7 11}	Source^{1 3 6 7 9 10} 11
Little Egret <i>Egretta garzetta</i>	-	\checkmark	Common resident, migrant and winter visitor. Widely distributed in coastal area throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC	AEIAR- 201/2016 KFBG
Crested Serpent Eagle Spilornis cheela	Not available	Not available	Common resident. Widely distributed in shrublands on hillsides throughout Hong Kong.	China Red Data Book Status: VU; Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC); Cap. 586; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II; CITES: Appendix II	KFBG
Eastern Imperial Eagle <i>Aquila heliaca</i>	Not available	Not available	Common winter visitor. Found in Deep Bay area, Ma Tso Lung.	China Red Data Book Status: VU; IUCN Red List: VU; Fellowes et al. (2002): GC; Cap. 586; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class I; Red List of China's Vertebrates: EN; CITES: Appendix II	KFBG
Common Kestrel Falco tinnunculus	Not available	Not available	Common autumn migrant and winter visitor. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	Cap. 586; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II; CITES: Appendix II	AFCD
Black Kite <i>Milvus migrans</i>	-	\checkmark	Common resident and winter visitor. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): (RC); Cap. 586; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II; CITES: Appendix II	AFCD AEIAR- 201/2016 KFBG
Asian Barred Owlet Glaucidium cuculoides	Not available	Not available	Locally common resident. Widely distributed in woodland of the north and central New Territories.	Cap. 586; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II; CITES: Appendix II	KFBG

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	Location	1 3 6 7 9 10 11			Source ^{1 3 6 7 9 10}
Species	Application Site	Study Area	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ^{2 8 11}	Conservation status ^{4 5 7 11}	
Eastern Buzzard <i>Buteo japonicus</i>	Not available	Not available	Common winter visitor. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	Cap. 586; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II; CITES: Appendix II	KFBG
Crested Goshawk Accipiter trivirgatus	-	\checkmark	Common resident. Widely distributed in woodlands and shrublands throughout Hong Kong.	China Red Data Book Status: Rare; Cap. 586; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II; CITES: Appendix II	AEIAR- 201/2016 KFBG
Collared Crow Corvus torquatus	-	~	Locally common resident. Found in Inner Deep Bay area, Nam Chung, Kei Ling Ha, Tai Mei Tuk, Pok Fu Lam, Chek lap Kok, Shuen Wan, Lam Tsuen.	IUCN Red List: VU; Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	AFCD AEIAR- 201/2016 KFBG
White-throated Kingfisher <i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	-	\checkmark	Common resident. Widely distributed in coastal areas throughout Hong Kong	Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC); List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II	AEIAR- 201/2016 KFBG
Black-capped Kingfisher Halcyon pileata	Not available	Not available	Common resident. Widely distributed in coastal areas throughout Hong Kong	Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC); List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II	KFBG
Pied Kingfisher <i>Ceryle rudis</i>	Not available	Not available	Uncommon passage migrant and winter visitor. Widely distributed in coastal areas throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC)	KFBG
Common Greenshank Tringa nebularia	Not available	Not available	Abundant passage migrant and winter visitor. Found in Deep Bay area.	Fellowes et al. (2002): RC	AFCD

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	Location ^{1 3 6 7 9 10 11}				
Species	Application Site	Study Area	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ^{2 8 11}	Conservation status ^{4 5 7 11}	Source^{1 3 6 7 9 10} 11
Eurasian Coot <i>Fulica atra</i>	Not available	Not available	Uncommon winter visitor. Found in Deep Bay area, Plover Cove Reservoir, Shuen Wan.	Fellowes et al. (2002): RC	KFBG
Greater Coucal Centropus sinensis	\checkmark	\checkmark	Common resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	China Red Data Book Status: VU; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II	AEIAR- 201/2016 KFBG
Lesser Coucal Centropus bengalensis	-	\checkmark	Uncommon resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	China Red Data Book Status: VU; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II	AEIAR- 201/2016 KFBG
White-bellied Erpornis <i>Erpornis zantholeuca</i>	Not available	Not available	Uncommon resident. Found in Tai Po Kau, Shing Mun, Ho Chung, Kowloon Hills, Ng Tung Chai, Wu Kau Tang, Sha Tau Kok, A Ma Wat, Kop Tong, Lau Shui Heung.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	AFCD
White-cheeked Starling Spodiopsar cineraceus	Not available	Not available	Locally common winter visitor. Found in Deep Bay area, Kam Tin, Long Valley.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC	AFCD
Speckled Piculet Picumnus innominatus	Not available	Not available	Rare resident. Found in Wong Chuk Yeung, Tai Po Kau.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	KFBG
Alexandrine Parakeet Psittacula eupatria	Not available	Not available	Locally common resident. Found in Kowloon Park.	Cap. 586; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II; CITES: Appendix II	KFBG

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	Location	1 3 6 7 9 10 11			
Species	Application Site	Study Area	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ^{2 8 11}	Conservation status ^{4 5 7 11}	Source^{1 3 6 7 9 10} 11
Chinese Hwamei Garrulax canorus	Not available	Not available	Common resident. Widely distributed in hillside shrubland througthout Hong Kong.	Cap. 586; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: ; CITES: Appendix II	KFBG
White-cheeked Starling Spodiopsar cineraceus	Not available	Not available	Locally common winter visitor. Found in Deep Bay area, Kam Tin, Long Valley.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC	KFBG
Siberian Rubythroat <i>Calliope calliope</i>	Not available	Not available	Common winter visitor and passage migrant. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II	KFBG
Chinese Grosbeak Eophona migratoria	Not available	Not available	Common winter visitor. Found in Kam Tin, Nam Chung, Shek Kong, Deep Bay area, Ho Chung, Lam Tsuen, Hok Tau, Island House and Kowloon Park.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	KFBG
Common Rosefinch Carpodacus erythrinus	Not available	Not available	Rare winter visitor and migrant. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	KFBG
Grey-capped Greenfinch <i>Chloris sinica</i>	Not available	Not available	Scarce resident. Found in Shing Mun River, Lam Tsuen, Ping Shan, Lung Kwu Tang, Ho Man Tin, Tuen Mun.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	KFBG
Butterfly	1	1	I	1	

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	Location ^{1 3 6 7 9 10 11}				
Species	Application Site	Study Area	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ^{2 8 11}	Conservation status ^{4 5 7 11}	Source^{1 3 6 7 9 10} 11
Swallowtail Papilio xuthus	\checkmark		Rare. Kap Lung, Ma On Shan, Tai Tam, Sha Lo Wan, Kat O, Lung Kwu Tan, Wu Kau Tang, Lung Kwu Chau	-	AFCD AEIAR- 201/2016
Pale Palm Dart <i>Telicota colon</i>	Not available	Not available	Rare. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	KFBG
Metallic Cerulean Jamides alecto	Not available	Not available	Very rare. Victoria Peak, Fung Yuen, Chuen Lung, Mui Wo	-	KFBG
Danaid Eggfly Hypolimnas misippus	Not available	Not available	Uncommon. Ngau Ngak Shan, Lung Kwu Tan, Hong Kong Wetland Park, Mount Parker, Cloudy Hill, Lin Ma Hang	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	KFBG
Pigmy Scrub Hopper Aeromachus pygmaeus	-	\checkmark	Very rare. Cheung Sheung, Yung Shue O, Kuk Po	Fellowes et al. (2002): RC	AEIAR- 198/2016
Tailed Sulphur Dercas verhuelli	-	\checkmark	Rare. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	-	AEIAR- 198/2016
Plain Hedge Blue Celastrina lavendularis	-	~	Very rare. Chuen Lung, Kap Lung, Tai Po Kau, Shing Mun Country Park, Tai Lam Country Park, Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden, Ngau Ngak Shan.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	AEIAR- 198/2016
Grass Demon	\checkmark	\checkmark	Rare. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong.	-	AEIAR- 201/2016

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Species	Location ^{1 3 6 7 9 10 11}				
	Application Site	Study Area	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ^{2 8 11}	Conservation status ^{4 5 7 11}	Source ^{1 3 6 7 9 10} 11
Udaspes folus					
Odonate					
Blue Chaser Potamarcha congener	Not available	Not available	Common. Found in small weedy ponds, puddles and marshes. Widely distributed in the New Territories.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	AFCD KFBG
Scarlet Basker Urothemis signata	-	~	Common. Common in areas with abandoned fish ponds throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	AFCD AEIAR- 198/2016 AEIAR- 201/2016 KFBG
Amphibian					
Chinese Bullfrog Hoplobatrachus chinensis	-	\checkmark	Widely distributed in Lantau Island and New Territories.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II; Red List of China's Vertebrates: EN	AEIAR- 198/2016 2014
Mammal	•		·		·
Short-nosed Fruit Bat Cynopterus sphinx	-	\checkmark	Very common. Very widely distributed in urban and countryside areas throughout Hong Kong.	Сар. 170	AEIAR- 198/2016

Ecological Impact Assessment Report

Section 16 Planning Application Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land in "Agriculture" Zone

October 2024

	Location ^{1 3 6 7 9 10 11}				
Species	Application Site	Study Area	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ^{2 8 11}	Conservation status ^{4 5 7 11}	Source^{1 3 6 7 9 10} 11
Unidentified Bat Species 1	-	\checkmark	-	Сар. 170	AEIAR- 201/2016
Unidentified Bat Species 2	-	\checkmark	-	Сар. 170	AEIAR- 201/2016
Porcupine scat	-		Very common. Very widely distributed in countryside areas throughout Hong Kong, except for Lantau Island.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PGC; Cap. 170	AEIAR- 198/2016
Eurasian Otter	-	Near border of Yuen Leng Tsai (<900m from Study Area)	Rare/Species of Conservation Concern. Restricted to Mai Po, Lok Ma Chau, Hoo Hok Wai, and nearby areas.	China Red Data Book Status: VU; Fellowes et al. (2002): RC; Cap. 170; Cap. 586; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II; Red List of China's Vertebrates: EN; CITES: Appendix I	AFCD
Aquatic fauna		L			l
Small snakehead Channa asiatica	-	\checkmark	Uncommon in the wild. Records from a few streams in North district and on Lantau Island. The fish is also cultivated in some fish farms and are available from fish market.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	AEIAR- 198/2016

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	Location ^{1 3 6 7 9 10 11}				
Species	Application Site	Study Area	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ^{2 8 11}	Conservation status ^{4 5 7 11}	Source ^{1 3 6 7 9 10} 11
Somanniathelphusa zanklon	-	\checkmark	Hong Kong (New Territories: lower course of Lam Tsuen River and Su Kwun)	Fellowes et al. (2002): GC IUCN: Endangered	AEIAR- 198/2016

Notes:

- 1. Agreement No. AEIAR-198/2016 Site Formation and Associated Infrastructural Works for Development of Columbarium, Crematorium and Related Facilities at Sandy Ridge Cemetery Design and Construction Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report
- 2. Agreement No. AEIAR-201/2016 Engineering Study for Police Facilities in Kong Nga Po Feasibility Study
- 3. List of Species Recorded near Lo Wu Station Road by AFCD (extracted from data collected in the territorial-wide long-term monitoring survey on major taxon groups from 2002)
- 4. AFCD (2023). AFCD Biodiversity Information Hub.
- 5. Cap. 170 Wild Animals Protection Ordinance.
- 6. Fellowes et al. (2002). Wild animals to watch: Terrestrial and freshwater fauna of conservation concern in Hong Kong.
- For conservation status listed by Fellowes et al. (2002), letters in parentheses indicate that the assessment is on the basis of restrictedness in breeding and/or roosting sites rather than in general occurrence.
- 7. International Union of Conservation for Nature (2023). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2022-2.
- 8. Reels (2019). An annotated check list of Hong Kong dragonflies and assessment of their local conservation significance.
- 9. Tam *et al.* (2011). The Dragonflies of Hong Kong.
- 10. Wilson, K.D.P. (1997). An annotated checklist of the Hong Kong dragonflies with recommendations for their conservation. Memoirs of Hong Kong Natural History Society. 21. 1 69.

Abbreviations:

Conservation Status in Fellowes et al. (2002): GC = Global Concern; LC = Local Concern; PGC = Potential Global Concern; PRC = Potential Regional Concern; RC = Regional Concern;

5 **RESULTS OF ECOLOGICAL BASELINE SURVEYS**

5.1 **Ecological Survey**

Habitat

5.1.1 Twelve types of habitats were identified within the Study Area, including agricultural land, developed area, grassland/shrubland, marsh, natural watercourse, modified watercourse, orchard, plantation, pond, wasteland, wet grassland, and woodland (Figure 4). The area of the respective habitats within the Study Area and the Application Site are tabulated in **Table 5.1**. Representative photo of each habitat is shown in Figure 5.

Habitat	Application Site	Study Area
Tabitat	Size (ha)	Size (ha)
Agricultural Land	-	8.7
Developed Area	-	43.1
Grassland/Shrubland	-	18.6
Marsh	-	0.24
Modified Watercourse	-	0.6
Natural Watercourse	-	0.9
Orchard	-	2.4
Plantation	-	14.0
Pond	-	5.0
Wasteland	1.4	0.2
Wet Grassland	0.2	4.3
Woodland	-	8.2
Total	1.6	106.2

Note:

The size of habitats is rounded off to the nearest one decimal place.

Agricultural Land

5.1.2 Agricultural land within the Study Area have scattered distribution mainly at the western and eastern parts of the Study Area. The agricultural land in western side of the Application Site is still active, while most of the agricultural land in the eastern side were fallow land, which is left unplanted or uncultivated for a period. Thus, weedy species, such as Bidens alba and Echinochloa colona, were commonly found.

Developed Area

5.1.3 Developed area within the Study Area consisted of villages, residential areas, roads, and other anthropogenic structures. This habitat was largely paved with concrete and was prone to human disturbance. Vegetation colonizing in this habitat mainly was consisted of plantation/ornamental species such as *Ficus microcarpa, Melaleuca cajuputi* subsp. *Cumingiana* and *Tabebuia* sp. and weedy species such as *Kyllinga nemoralis* and *Pilea microphylla*.

Grassland/Shrubland

5.1.4 Grassland/Shrubland was found at the hillside and hilltop of the hills at the northern and southern parts of the Study Area. This habitat was formed where trees are difficult to re-colonising due to some unfavourable conditions such as frequent hill fires, poor soil quality or strong wind. Grass and herb species such as *Dicranopteris pedate, Neyraudia reynaudiana* and *Ischaemum barbatum*, and shrub species such as *Baeckea frutescens* and *Rhodomyrtus tomentosa* could also commonly encountered in this habitat.

<u>Marsh</u>

5.1.5 A patch of Marsh was found at the western part of the Study Area. Standing water beneath the vegetation was observed in most area of the marsh during survey. As there was no obvious water source (such as watercourse) linked to the marsh, indicating that this marsh was likely to be nourished by sub-surface water from adjacent areas. This habitat was derived from abandoned agricultural land and the marsh is surrounded by agricultural land in fact. Wetland-associated herbal species (such as *Persicaria orientalis, Brachiaria mutica* and *Commelina diffusa*) made up the major component of the vegetation assemblage. Weedy species such as *Paspalum conjugatum* and *Bidens alba* could also be occasionally observed in this habitat. Terrestrial woody species was hardly found in this habitat, displaying the tendency to undergo succession to a more terrestrial environment was not apparent.

Modified Watercourse

5.1.6 Sections of modified watercourse were identified at the north-eastern and southwestern part of the Application Site. The modified watercourses were associated with developed area, agricultural land and wet grassland inside the Study Area. The beds and banks of the watercourse were modified and muddy. Associating with the village and urbanized areas, this section of watercourse was prone to human disturbance, and exotic species, such as *Kyllinga polyphylla* and *Ludwigia erecta*, were commonly found.

Natural Watercourse

5.1.7 Sections of natural watercourse were identified within the Study Area and these sections are mainly associating with plantation, grassland/shrubland and woodland. The substrate of this section of watercourse consisted of sand, rocks and/or stones. These sections of watercourse were likely to be free of human disturbance due to limited accessibility.

<u>Orchard</u>

5.1.8 Orchards were identified at eastern and south-western adjacent to the Project Site within the Study Area. This habitat is man-made and was under management for fruit production. *Musa x paradisiaca, Dimocarpus longan* and *Psidium guajava* were the major fruit trees cultivated in the orchard. Other fruit trees could be found in this habitat includes *Mangifera indica* and *Eriobotrya japonica*.

Plantation

5.1.9 Plantation was mainly found at roadside, hillside and on engineering slopes. The canopy of this habitat was dominated by plantation/landscape species in general, such as *Acacia confusa* and *Ficus microcarpa*. Plantation next to developed area was prone to human disturbance, weedy species such as *Asystasia micrantha*, *Bidens alba* and *Eragrostis tenella* could be commonly encountered at the understorey.

Pond

5.1.10 This habitat was abandoned pond with overgrown vegetation and lentic waterbodies with surface water extensively covered with both weedy and aquatic species, such as *Eichhornia crassipes, Mikania micrantha, Nelumbo nucifera* and *Commelina diffusa*, and obviously without fish farming practice. They mainly scattered at the western and central part of the Study Area.

Wasteland

5.1.11 Wasteland refers to land without determined use but was largely colonized by weedy species. Wasteland within the Application Site were barren land in the past according to aerial photos, which was prone to human disturbance. The species found was mainly fast-colonizing species, such as *Sesbania cannabina, Leucaena leucocephala* and *Bidens alba*. While wasteland outside the Application Site were the surrounding area of the wasteland habitat, thus, the description of these habitats within the Study Area are the same as that mentioned under description of habitats within the Application Site.

Wet Grassland

5.1.12 Wet grassland was identified at north-western part inside the Application Site and western part of the Study Area. They were formed by abandoned agricultural land and wet in nature, growing with both hydrophilic and weedy herbal species, such as *Brachiaria mutica, Callipteris esculenta* and *Mikania micrantha* were commonly found within Application Site, while *Alocasia macrorrhizos, Brachiaria mutica, Colocasia esculenta, Ipomoea cairica* and *Mikania micrantha* were commonly found in outside Application Site.

Woodland

5.1.13 Woodland stands were identified at the eastern, north-eastern and north-western parts of the Study Area. The woodland habitat was largely natural, the canopy of woodland composed of lowland forest species such as *Celtis sinensis, Melia azedarach, Aporosa dioica, Macaranga tanarius var. tomentosa* and *Cinnamomum camphora*, reaching 5 to 12 meters. It had a complex structure with dense and well-developed understorey where native climbers (e.g. *Paederia scandens, Diploclisia glaucescens* and *Embelia laeta*), shrubs (e.g. *Ficus hispida, Litsea rotundifolia var. oblongifolia and Maesa perlarius*) and herbs (such as *Cyclosorus parasiticus, Pteris semipinnata* and *Liriope spicata*) could be found.

Vegetation

- 5.1.14 A total of 206 plant species were recorded within the Study Area, among which 116 and 88 are known to be native and exotic to Hong Kong respectively and the remaining 2 species are of uncertain origin **(Appendix A)**. *Aquilaria sinensis, Ichnocarpus frutescens* and *Persicaria orientalis* are the 3 flora species of conservation importance recorded within the Study Area. Locations of these species of conservation importance within the Study Area are shown in **Figure 6**.
- 5.1.15 Photos of selected plant species of conservation importance are enclosed in Figure 7. Plant species and their relative abundance within each habitat are listed in Appendix A. Details of the flora species of conservation importance recorded are summarized in Table 5.15.
- 5.1.16 *Dimocarpus longan* and *Podocarpus macrophyllus* are exotic to Hong Kong and not considered of conservation importance, despite being listed as Vulnerable by IUCN (2023), listed as endangered or vulnerable in Threatened Species List of China's Higher Plants, listed as vulnerable in China Plant Red Data Book, and/or listed under Category II in the List of Wild Plants under State Protection.
- 5.1.17 *Araucaria heterophylla* is listed as Vulnerable by IUCN (2023), however, it is exotic and the recorded individual was cultivated. Thus, they are not considered as species of conservation.
- 5.1.18 *Citrus reticulata* and *Nelumbo nucifera* are exotic to Hong Kong and not considered of conservation importance, despite being listed under Category II in the List of Wild Plants under State Protection.
- 5.1.19 *Michelia figo* is protected under Cap. 96A and are also regarded as rare and very rare respectively by Corlett (2000). However, it is exotic and the recorded individuals were cultivated. Thus, they are not considered as species of conservation.
- 5.1.20 *Livistona chinensis* is exotic to Hong Kong and not considered of conservation importance, despite being listed as vulnerable in Threatened Species List of China's Higher Plants. Thus, they are not considered as species of conservation.
- 5.1.21 *Keteleeria fortunei* were found in the orchard outside the Project Site but within the Study Area which is cultivated and not considered as species of conservation importance, despite being regarded as very rare in shrubland of Hong Kong (Corlett et al. 2000) and protected under Cap. 96A, included in "Rare and Precious Plants of Hong Kong" (Hu et al. 2003), China Plant Red Data Book (Fu and Chin 1992), Illustration of Rare & Endangered plant in Guangdong Province (Wu and Hu 1988, Category II of the List of Wild Plants under State Protection (State Forestry Administration & Ministry of Agriculture 2021), and categorized as "Vulnerable" in China Red Data Book (Fu and Chin 1992) and the Threatened Species List of China's Higher Plants (Qin et al. 2017).
- 5.1.22 *Ocimum basilicum* is regarded as very rare by Corlett (2000), yet it is cultivated in developed area outside the Project Site but within the Study Area. It is not considered as species of conservation.

5.1.23 *Cyperus odoratus, Mimosa diplotricha* and *Typha angustifolia*is are regarded as rare by Corlett (2000), yet it is exotic. It is not considered as species of conservation.

Avifauna

- 5.1.24 Thirty avifauna species were recorded within the Study Area (Appendix B). Most of the avifauna species are common resident and widely distributed in Hong Kong. No roosting, breeding or nursery behaviour was observed within the Study Area. All wild avifauna are protected under Cap. 170 Wild Animals Protection Ordinance. Among the avifauna species recorded, 6 avifauna species were considered as species of conservation importance i.e. Chinese Pond Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Grey Heron, Crested Serpent Eagle, Black Kite and Greater Coucal. All of them are common in Hong Kong. However, none of them were recorded within the Application Site.
- 5.1.25 Location of avifauna species of conservation importance is shown in **Figure 6**, while evaluation of the species of conservation importance is stated in **Table 5.16**.

Butterfly

- 5.1.26 A total of 20 butterfly species were recorded within the Study Area (Appendix C). Most of the recorded butterfly species are regarded as very common or common in Hong Kong, and widely distributed throughout Hong Kong (AFCD, 2022). Only one butterfly species i.e. Metallic Cerulean was considered as species of conservation importance. Metallic Cerulean was recorded outside the Application Site, in agricultural land away from the Application Site.
- 5.1.27 Location of butterfly species of conservation importance is shown in **Figure 6**, while evaluation of the species of conservation importance is stated in **Table 5.16**.

Odonate

- 5.1.28 Thirteen odonate species were recorded within the Study Area (**Appendix D**). All of the odonate species are abundant and common in Hong Kong, and/or widely distributed throughout Hong Kong (AFCD, 2022 & Tam *et al.*, 2011). Only one odonate species, Scarlet Basker was considered as species of conservation importance. Hainan Clubtail is found in pond habitat outside the Application Site.
- 5.1.29 Location of odonate species of conservation importance is shown in **Figure 6**, while evaluation of the species of conservation importance is stated in **Table 5.16**.

Firefly

5.1.30 Only one species of firefly i.e. Rimmed Window Firefly with low number was recorded within the Study Area (**Appendix E**). The species is common in Hong Kong and is not considered as species of conservation importance.

Herpetofauna (Reptile and Amphibian)

5.1.31 Two reptile species were identified within the Study Area (**Appendix F**). All the reptile species are widely distributed in Hong Kong (AFCD, 2022). No species are considered as species of conservation importance.

5.1.32 Six amphibian species were identified within the Study Area (**Appendix F**). Most of the amphibian species are widely distributed in Hong Kong (AFCD, 2022). No species are considered as species of conservation importance.

Terrestrial Mammal

- 5.1.33 A total of 9 terrestrial mammal species was identified by active searching, ultrasonic bat detector and camera trapping. Seven species of them were bat species, only 1 of the species was recorded during active searching and camera trapping, others are recorded by ultrasonic bat detector.
- 5.1.34 During the active search of survey and camera trapping, only one terrestrial mammal species i.e. Wild Boar was identified within the Study Area (Appendix G1). It is not considered as species of conservation importance in Hong Kong.
- 5.1.35 Of the bat species recorded by ultrasonic bat detector, 8 bat species was identified within the Study Area (Appendix G2). As all wild bats are protected under Cap. 170 Wild Animals Protection Ordinance, all bats are considered as species of conservation importance. However, no roosting sites of those bat species were found within the Application Site as well as the Study Area.
- 5.1.36 Due to the mobility of bats, and no specific habitat utilization was observed, location of the recorded bat species is not shown. Evaluation of the bat species of conservation importance is stated in **Table 5.16**.

Freshwater Community

5.1.37 Four freshwater species were recorded within the Study Area (**Appendix H**). Among the freshwater species, 3 fish species and 1 invertebrate species were recorded. Not only native fish species were recorded but also exotic species were observed. All of the species including the invertebrate are widely distributed in Hong Kong.

5.2 Evaluation of Habitats and Species of Conservation Importance

- 5.2.1 The ecological importance of habitats, flora and fauna species of conservation importance recorded within the Ecological Study Area are evaluated in **Table 5.2** to **5.14** according to the EIAO-TM.
- 5.2.2 A total of 3 flora, 6 avifauna, 1 butterfly, 1 odonate and 8 terrestrial mammal species of conservation importance were identified in the Study Area during the ecological survey for present study. Besides, according to the reviewed literature, some other species of conservation importance were also recorded in the vicinity of the Application Site or Study Area.
- 5.2.3 In accordance with Table 3, Annex 8 of the EIAO-TM, the ecological value of species was assessed in terms of protection status e.g. fauna protected under WAPO except avifauna, and flora and fauna protected under regional/global legislation/conventions, species distribution e.g. endemic, and rarity e.g. rare or restricted. Flora and fauna species of conservation importance recorded within the Study Area from both the present study and reviewed literature were evaluated according to the EIAO-TM in **Table 5.15** and **Table 5.16** respectively. As the locations of the species from AFCD and KFBG are not available, they are not put in **Table 5.12** to **Table 5.16**. However, the ecological values of the habitats already took those species into consideration.

- 5.2.4 Species of flora and fauna with conservation importance were given special attention. In accordance with Table 3, Annex 8 of the EIAO-TM, the ecological value of species was assessed in terms of protection status, distribution, and rarity. Flora or fauna species protected by the following laws/regulations, listed under the following conventions and/or endemic to Hong Kong, were considered to be species of conservation importance. However, this excludes exotic weeds, escaped cultivars or captive species, vagrants and introduced species which have lower ecological value. Species which are classified by IUCN as Near Threatened (NT), Least Concern (LC), Data Deficient (DD), or Not Evaluated (NE), and not covered by any other laws/regulations/conventions are not considered of conservation importance in the present study.
 - Category I or II in List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation;
 - Category I/II/III in List of Wild Plants under State Priority Conservation;
 - China Plant Red Data Book;
 - China Red Data Book of Endangered Animals;
 - China Species Red List;
 - Fauna species considered of concern in Fellowes et al. (2002);
 - Forestry Regulations (Cap. 96A) which are subsidiary legislation of the Forests and Countryside Ordinance (Cap. 96);
 - Illustration of Rare & Endangered Plant in Guangdong Province;
 - Plant species considered 'Rare' or 'Very Rare' listed by Corlett *et al.* (2000), or regarded as rare by Yip *et al.* (2010) where applicable;
 - PRC Wild Animal Protection Law;
 - Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586);
 - Rare and Precious Plants of Hong Kong;
 - Red List of China's Vertebrates by Jiang et al. (2016);
 - The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES);
 - The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species;
 - Threatened Species List of China's Higher Plants (Qin et al. 2017); and
 - Wild Animals Protection Ordinance (Cap. 170) (except birds as all wild birds are protected under the ordinance but their conservation importance is not equal)

	Application Site			
Criteria	Habitat			
Cillena	Wasteland	Wet grassland		
	Description			
Naturalness	Man-made and subject to intensive and incessant anthropogenic disturbance	Semi-natural, comprising exotic species		
Size	About 1.4ha	About 0.2ha		
Diversity	Low floral diversity, comprising a high proportion of exotic flora species, and low faunal diversity	Low floral and faunal diversity		
Rarity	From survey of present study: none; From reviewed literature: Greater Coucal, Grass Demon and Swallowtail	Neither flora nor fauna species of conservation importance was recorded		
Re-creatability	Readily re-created	Readily re-created		
Fragmentation	None observed	None observed		
Ecological linkage	None observed	Ecologically connected to the modified watercourse just outside the Application Site		
Potential value	Very low	Low		
Nursery/breeding ground	No significant nursery or breeding ground known or observed	No significant nursery or breeding ground known or observed		
Age	Ecologically non-applicable	Less than 10 years of age		
Abundance/ richness of wildlife	Very low faunal abundance	Very low faunal abundance		
Overall ecological value	Low	Low		

Table 5.2 Evaluation of Habitats within the Application Site

Criteria	Description
Naturalness	Man-made
Size	About 8.7ha
Diversity	Low floral diversity; moderate faunal diversity
	From survey of present study: Black-crowned Night Heron, Chinese Pond Heron, Greater Coucal and Metallic Cerulean;
Rarity	From reviewed literature: Little Egret, Chinese Pond Heron, Eastern Cattle Egret, Grey Heron, Black Kite, Crested Goshawk, Chinese Bullfrog, Grass Demon, Scarlet Basker, <i>Channa asiatica</i> ;
	39 bird species of conservation importance were recorded by a study of KFBG
Re-creatability	Readily re-created
Fragmentation	None observed
Ecological linkage	Agricultural land to the west of the Application Site functionally linked to woodland, pond, natural watercourse
Potential value	Low due to its man-made nature
Nursery/breeding ground	No significant nursery or breeding ground known or observed
Age	Ecologically non-applicable
Abundance/richness of wildlife	High diversity of birds to the west of the Application Site
Overall ecological value	Agricultural land to the west of the Application Site: Medium; agricultural land to the east of the Application Site: Low

Table 5.3 Evaluation of Agricultural Land within the Study Area

Table 5.4 Evaluation of Developed Area within the Study Area

Criteria	Description
Naturalness	Man-made and subject to intensive and incessant anthropogenic disturbance
Size	About 43.1ha
Diversity	Low floral diversity, comprising a high proportion of exotic flora species; low overall faunal diversity, mainly consisting of disturbance-tolerant and locally widespread fauna species
Rarity	From survey of present study: <i>Aquilaria sinensis</i> , Scarlet Basker From reviewed literature: <i>Aquilaria sinensis</i> , unidentified bat sp. 2
Re-creatability	Readily re-created
Fragmentation	None observed
Ecological linkage	Ecologically non-applicable
Potential value	Very low, given the intensive and incessant anthropogenic disturbance

Criteria	Description
Nursery/breeding ground	No significant nursery or breeding ground known or observed
Age	Ecologically non-applicable
Abundance/richness of wildlife	Low
Overall ecological value	Very Low

Table 5.5 Evaluation of Grassland/Shrubland within the Study Area

Criteria	Description
Naturalness	Semi-natural
Size	About 18.6ha
Diversity	Very low floral diversity and very low faunal diversity
	From survey of present study: Crested Serpent Eagle
Rarity	
	From reviewed literature: Porcupine scat
Re-creatability	Readily re-created
Fragmentation	None observed
Ecological linkage	Functionally linked to woodland
Potential value	Low due to human disturbance and hill fire
Nursery/breeding ground	No significant nursery or breeding ground known or observed
Age	Ecologically non-applicable
Abundance/richness of wildlife	Very low faunal abundance
Overall ecological value	Low

Table 5.6 Evaluation of Marsh within the Study Area

Criteria	Description
Naturalness	Semi-natural. Its fringes have been subject to frequent disturbance, owing to the vicinity to active agricultural land
Size	About 0.24ha
Diversity	Low floral and faunal diversity
Rarity	From survey of present study: Persicaria orientalis
	From reviewed literature: none
Re-creatability	Re-creatable but need time to mature
Fragmentation	None observed
Ecological linkage	Ecologically connected to wet grassland
Potential value	Low due to small size of the habitat
Nursery/breeding ground	No significant nursery or breeding ground known or observed
Age	About 5 years of age in general
Abundance/richness of wildlife	Low

Criteria	Description
Overall ecological value	Medium

Table 5.7 Evaluation of Modified Watercourse within the Study Area

Criteria	Description
Naturalness	Subject to modification for irrigation purposes
Size	About 0.6ha
Diversity	Very low floral and faunal diversity
Rarity	From survey of present study: none From reviewed literature: <i>Somanniathelphusa zanklon</i>
Re-creatability	Readily re-created
Fragmentation	None observed
Ecological linkage	Ecologically linked to wet grassland
Potential value	Low given its current condition
Nursery/breeding ground	Might be the breeding ground of Somanniathelphusa zanklon and other aquatic fauna
Age	Ecologically non-applicable
Abundance/richness of wildlife	Very low faunal abundance
Overall ecological value	Low to medium

Table 5.8 Evaluation of Natural Watercourse within the EcologicalStudy Area

Criteria	Description
Naturalness	Mostly natural, but subject to human disturbance in some sections
Size	About 0.9ha
Diversity	Low floral and faunal diversity
	From survey of present study: none
Rarity	From reviewed literature: none
Re-creatability	Natural sections are difficult to re-create
Fragmentation	The lower courses of the watercourses are fragmented by modified section, although the stream flow is still maintained
Ecological linkage	Ecologically connected to woodland, wet grassland and agricultural land
Potential value	Medium, if proper enhancement can be applied
Nursery/breeding ground	Might be the breeding ground of aquatic fauna
Age	Not ecologically applicable
Abundance/richness of wildlife	Low
Overall ecological value	Medium

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Criteria	Description			
Naturalness	Artificial, comprising mostly of exotic fruit tree species			
Size	About 2.4ha			
Diversity	Low floral and faunal diversity			
	From survey of present study: none			
Rarity	From reviewed literature: Greater Coucal, Collared Crow, unidentified bat sp. 1			
Re-creatability	Readily re-created			
Fragmentation	None observed			
Ecological linkage	Ecological linkage with agricultural land			
Potential value	Low			
Nursery/breeding ground	No significant nursery or breeding ground known or observed			
Age	At least 10 years of age in general			
Abundance/richness of wildlife	Low faunal abundance			
Overall ecological value	Low			

Table 5.9 Evaluation of Orchard within the Study Area

Table 5.10 Evaluation of Plantation within the Study Area

Criteria	Description				
Naturalness	Artificial, comprising mostly of exotic tree species				
Size	About 14ha				
Diversity	Low floral and faunal diversity				
	From survey of present study: none				
Rarity	From reviewed literature: <i>Aquilaria sinensis</i> , White-throated Kingfisher, Lesser Coucal, Short-nosed Fruit Bat, unidentified bat sp. 2				
Re-creatability	Readily re-created				
Fragmentation	None observed				
Ecological linkage	Some patches of plantation are ecologically linked with woodland				
Potential value	Low to medium if active management implemented				
Nursery/breeding ground	No significant nursery or breeding ground known or observed				
Age	At least 20 years of age in general				
Abundance/richness of wildlife	Low faunal abundance				
Overall ecological value	Low to medium				

Table 5.11 Evaluation of Pond within the Study Area

Criteria	Description
Naturalness	Man-made
Size	About 5ha

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Criteria	Description			
Diversity	Very low floral and faunal diversity			
	From survey of present study: Grey Heron, Black Kite and Scarlet Basker			
Rarity				
	From reviewed literature: Litle Grebe, Little Egret, Chinese Pond Heron, Yellow Bittern			
Re-creatability	Readily re-created			
Fragmentation	None observed			
Ecological linkage	Not hydrologically connected to other waterbodies within the Study Area			
Potential value	Medium if active management implemented			
Nursery/breeding ground	No significant nursery or breeding ground known or observed			
Age	Not readily determinable			
Abundance/richness of wildlife	Low faunal abundance			
Overall ecological value	Low to medium			

Table 5.12 Evaluation of Wasteland within the Study Area

Criteria	Description			
Naturalness	Man-made and subject to intensive and incessant anthropogenic disturbance			
Size	About 0.2ha			
Diversity	Low floral diversity, comprising a high proportion of exotic flora species; and low faunal diversity			
	From survey of present study: none			
Rarity				
	From reviewed literature: none			
Re-creatability	Readily re-created			
Fragmentation	None observed			
Ecological linkage	None observed			
Potential value	Very low			
Nursery/breeding ground	No significant nursery or breeding ground known or observed			
Age	Ecologically non-applicable			
Abundance/richness of wildlife	Very low faunal abundance			
Overall ecological value	Low			

Table 5.13 Evaluation of Wet Grassland within the Study Area

Criteria	Description			
Naturalness	Semi-natural, comprising exotic species			
Size	About 4.3ha			
Diversity	Low floral and faunal diversity			

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Criteria	Description		
	From survey of present study: none		
Rarity			
	From reviewed literature: Pigmy Scrub Hopper, Plain Hedge Blue		
Re-creatability	Readily re-created		
Fragmentation	None observed		
Ecological linkage	Ecologically connected to woodland, pond and watercourse		
Potential value	Low		
Nursery/breeding ground	No significant nursery or breeding ground known or observed		
Age	Less than 10 years of age		
Abundance/richness of wildlife	Very low faunal abundance		
Overall ecological value	Low		

Table 5.14 Evaluation of Woodland within the Study Area

Criteria	Description			
Naturalness	Largely natural			
Size	About 8.2ha			
Diversity	Low floral and faunal diversity			
Rarity	From survey of present study: <i>Aquilaria sinensis</i> and <i>Ichnocarpus fruescens</i>			
	From reviewed literature: Tailed Sulphur			
Re-creatability	Can be recreated but takes time			
Fragmentation	None observed			
Ecological linkage Some patches of plantation are ecologically linked with w wetland grassland, pond and watercourse				
Potential value	Medium if active management implemented			
Nursery/breeding ground	No significant nursery or breeding ground known or observed			
Age	At least 30 years of age in general			
Abundance/richness of wildlife	Low faunal abundance			
Overall ecological value	Medium			

Table 5.15 Evaluation of Flora Species of Conservation Importance

Scientific	Rarity and Distribution in	Conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷⁸⁹	Location		
Names	Hong Kong ^{1 10}	Conservation status-	Application Site	Study Area	
Aquilaria sinensis	Common. Found in lowland forest and fung shui woods.	IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (2024): VU; Appendix II of CITES; Threatened Species List of China's Higher Plants: VU; China Plant Red Data Book: VU; Included in Illustrations of Rare & Endangered Plant in Guangdong Province; Listed in "Rare and Precious Plants of Hong Kong"; Cap. 586; State Protection (Category II)	-	Developed area, plantation and woodland	
Ichnocarpus frutescens	Very rare, forest.	-	-	Woodland	
Persicaria orientalis	Very rare (Corlett <i>et al.</i> 2000); Rare (Yip <i>et al.</i> 2010)	-	-	Marsh	

Table 5.16 Evaluation of Fauna Species of Conservation Importance

				Location	
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status ^{2 3 4 5 6 7} 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Application Site	Study Area
Avifauna					

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				Location		
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status ^{2 3 4 5 6 7} 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Application Site	Study Area	
Little Grebe (from reviewed literature)	Tachybaptus ruficollis	Common resident. Found in Deep Bay area.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	-	Pond	
Little Egret (from reviewed literature)	Egretta garzetta	Common resident, migrant and winter visitor. Widely distributed in coastal area throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC	-	Agricultural land, pond	
Eastern Cattle Egret (from reviewed literature)	Bubulcus coromandus	Resident and common passage migrant. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	-	Agricultural land	
Chinese Pond Heron	Ardeola bacchus	Common resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC	-	Agricultural land, pond	
Black-crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	Common resident and migrant. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	-	Agricultural land	

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				Loca	tion
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status²³⁴⁵⁶⁷ 891011121314	Application Site	Study Area
Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea	Common winter visitor. Found in Deep Bay area, Starling Inlet, Kowloon Park, Cape D'Aguilar.	Cap. 170; Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC	-	Agricultural land, pond
Yellow Bittern (from reviewed literature)	Ixobrychus sinensis	Uncommon summer visitor and common passage migrant. Found in Deep Bay area, Chek Keng, Tai Long Wan.	Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC)	-	Pond
Black Kite	Milvus migrans	Common resident and winter visitor. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): (RC); Cap. 586; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II; CITES: Appendix II	-	Agricultural land, pond
Crested Serpent Eagle	Spilornis cheela	Common resident. Widely distributed in shrublands on hillsides throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC); Cap. 586; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II; CITES: Appendix II; China Red Data Book Status: Vulnerable	-	Grassland/shrubland

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				Loca	tion
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status²³⁴⁵⁶⁷ 891011121314	Application Site	Study Area
Crested Goshawk (from reviewed literature)	Accipiter trivirgatus	Common resident. Widely distributed in woodlands and shrublands throughout Hong Kong.	Cap. 586; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II; CITES: Appendix II; China Red Data Book Status: Rare	-	Agricultural land
White-throated Kingfisher (from reviewed literature)	Halcyon smyrnensis	Common resident. Widely distributed in coastal areas throughout Hong Kong	Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC); List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II	-	Plantation
Greater Coucal	Centropus sinensis	Common resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II; China Red Data Book Status: Vulnerable	Wasteland	Agricultural land
Lesser Coucal (from reviewed literature)	Centropus bengalensis	Uncommon resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	China Red Data Book Status: VU; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II	-	Plantation
Collared Crow (from reviewed literature) Butterfly	Corvus torquatus	Locally common resident. Found in Inner Deep Bay area, Nam Chung, Kei Ling Ha, Tai Mei Tuk, Pok Fu Lam, Chek lap Kok, Shuen Wan, Lam Tsuen.	Cap. 170; IUCN Red List: VU; Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	-	Orchard

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				Loca	tion
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status ^{2 3 4 5 6 7} 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Application Site	Study Area
Metallic Cerulean	Jamides alecto	Very rare. Victoria Peak, Fung Yuen, Chuen Lung, Mui Wo	-	-	Agricultural land
Plain Hedge Blue (from reviewed literature)	Celastrina Iavendularis	Very rare. Chuen Lung, Kap Lung, Tai Po Kau, Shing Mun Country Park, Tai Lam Country Park, Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden, Ngau Ngak Shan.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	-	Wet grassland
Grass Demon (from reviewed literature)	Udaspes folus	Rare. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong.	-	Wasteland	Agricultural land
Swallowtail (from reviewed literature)	Papilio xuthus	Rare. Kap Lung, Ma On Shan, Tai Tam, Sha Lo Wan, Kat O, Lung Kwu Tan, Wu Kau Tang, Lung Kwu Chau	-	Wasteland	-
Pigmy Scrub Hopper (from reviewed literature)	Aeromachus pygmaeus	Very rare. Cheung Sheung, Yung Shue O, Kuk Po	Fellowes et al. (2002): RC	-	Wet Grassland
Tailed Sulphur (from reviewed literature)	Dercas verhuelli	Rare. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	-	-	Woodland
Odonate		-			
Scarlet Basker	Urothemis signata	Common. Common in areas with abandoned fish ponds throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	-	Agricultural land, developed area, pond
Herpetofauna		-		•	•

				Loca	tion			
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status ^{2 3 4 5 6 7} 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Application Site	Study Area			
Chinese Bullfrog (from reviewed literature)	Hoplobatrachus chinensis	Widely distributed in Lantau Island and New Territories.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II; Red List of China's Vertebrates: EN	-	Agricultural land			
Terrestrial Mam								
Chinese Noctule	Nyctalus plancyi	Fairly widely distributed in countryside areas throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC; Cap. 170	Pres	sent			
Chinese Pipistrelle	Hypsugo pulveratus	Only several records in the countryside areas at Ting Kau, Ma On Shan and Lin Ma Hang, and several records of stray individuals inside buildings.	Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC); Cap. 170	Pres	sent			
Greater Bent- winged Bat	Miniopterus magnater	Data deficient.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC; Cap. 170	Pres	sent			
Himalayan Leaf-nosed Bat	Hipposideros armiger	Very common. Widely distributed in countryside areas throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC); Cap. 170	Pres	sent			
Japanese Pipistrelle	Pipistrellus abramus	Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong.	Сар. 170	Present				
Least Pipistrelle	Pipistrellus tenuis	Ten-something records found in Nam Chung, Sheung Wo Hang, Lin Ma Hang, Plover Cove Country Park, Yuen Long, Shek Pik, Deep Water Bay, Ho Pui and Ho Chung.	Сар. 170	Pres	sent			

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				Loca	tion
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status^{2 3 4 5 6 7} 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Application Site	Study Area
Lesser Bamboo Bat	Tylonycteris pachypus	Fairly widely distributed in countryside areas throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC); Cap. 170	Pres	sent
Lesser Yellow Bat	Scotophilus kuhlii	Uncommon. Fairly widely distributed in countryside areas throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC); Cap. 170	Pres	sent
Short-nosed Fruit Bat (from reviewed literature)	Cynopterus sphinx	Very widely distributed in urban and countryside areas throughout Hong Kong.	Сар. 170	-	Plantation
Unidentified bat sp. 1 (from reviewed literature)	-	-	Сар. 170	-	Orchard
Unidentified bat sp. 2 (from reviewed literature)	-	-	Сар. 170	-	Developed area, plantation
Porcupine (from reviewed literature)	Hystrix brachyura	Very common. Very widely distributed in countryside areas throughout Hong Kong, except for Lantau Island.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PGC; Cap. 170	-	Grassland/shrubland
Freshwater Con					-
Small Snakehead (from reviewed literature)	Channa asiatica	Uncommon in the wild. Records from a few streams in North district and on Lantau Island. The fish is also cultivated in some fish	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC	-	Agricultural land

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				Loca	tion
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status ^{2 3 4 5 6 7} 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Application Site	Study Area
		farms and are available from fish market.			
Freshwater Crab (from reviewed literature)	Somanniathelphusa zanklon	Distributed quite widely in the northern and western New Territories and Lantau Island of Hong Kong	Fellowes et al. (2002): GC; IUCN Red List Status: EN; Endemic to Hong Kong	-	Modified watercourse

Remark: all wild avifauna species are protected under Cap. 170 Wild Animals Protection Ordinance in Hong Kong².

Notes:

- 1. AFCD (2023). AFCD Biodiversity Information Hub.
- 2. Cap. 170 Wild Animals Protection Ordinance.
- 3. Cap. 586 Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance.
- 4. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna. Appendices I, II and III.
- 5. Fellowes et al. (2002). Wild animals to watch: Terrestrial and freshwater fauna of conservation concern in Hong Kong.
 - For conservation status listed by Fellowes et al. (2002), letters in parentheses indicate that the assessment is on the basis of restrictedness in breeding and/or roosting sites rather than in general occurrence.
- 6. International Union of Conservation for Nature (2023). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2022-2.
- 7. Jiang, Z. G., Jiang, J. P., Wang, Y. Z., Zhang, E., Zhang, Y. Y., Li, L. L., ... & Dong, L. (2016). Red list of China's vertebrates.
- 8. List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation (2021).
- 9. Reels (2019). An annotated check list of Hong Kong dragonflies and assessment of their local conservation significance.
- 10. Stanton & Leven (2016). Distribution, habitat utilisation and conservation status of the freshwater crab, Somanniathelphusa zanklon Ng & Dudgeon, 1992 (Crustacea: Brachyura: Gecarcinucidae) endemic to Hong Kong.
- 11. Tam et al. (2011). The Dragonflies of Hong Kong.
- 12. Wang (1999). China Red Data Book of Endangered Animals: Mammalia.
- 13. Zhao & Wang (1998). China Red Data Book of Endangered Animals: Amphibia and Reptilia.
- 14. Zheng & Wang (1998). China Red Data Book of Endangered Animals: Aves.
- As bats are very mobile, and no specific habitat utilization of the recorded bats was observed (except Short-Nosed Fruit Bat), locations of bats were recorded by within the Application Site or outside the Application Site.

Abbreviations:

- Conservation Status in Fellowes et al. (2002): GC = Global Concern; LC = Local Concern; PGC = Potential Global Concern; PRC = Potential Regional Concern; RC = Regional Concern; RC =
- Conservation Status: CR = Critically Endangered; EN = Endangered; VU = Vulnerable

6 IMPACT IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION

6.1 Proposed Construction Works and Operation Mode

- 6.1.1 The Application Site is about 1.6ha. A total of two 2-storey structures are proposed at the Application Site for warehouses, offices and washrooms, and the remaining area is reserved for parking and loading/unloading spaces and circulation area. The Site is proposed to be to be filled wholly with concrete for site formation of the abovementioned items.
- 6.1.2 The Application Site will be used as warehouse for storage of miscellaneous goods, including but not limited to packaged food, package beverage, apparel, footwear, electronic goods, etc. The operation hours of the proposed development are Monday to Saturday from 7am to 7pm.

6.2 Impact Evaluation Criteria

- 6.2.1 Ecological impacts of the proposed development were assessed based upon the ecological resources considered at risk. Measures were proposed to mitigate negative impacts, and residual impacts were predicted assuming implementation of all feasible mitigation measures. Impact assessment and planning of mitigation measures were conducted in accordance with the Technical Memorandum (TM) on EIA Process.
- 6.2.2 The significance of ecological impacts was evaluated based primarily on the criteria set forth in Table 1, Annex 8 of the TM:
 - habitat quality;
 - species affected;
 - size/abundance of habitats/organisms affected;
 - duration of impacts;
 - reversibility of impacts; and
 - magnitude of environmental changes.
- 6.2.3 Direct, indirect and cumulative impacts are generally ranked as "minor", "moderate" or "severe", although in a few cases a ranking of "insignificant" (less than "minor") may be given. The ranking of a given impact varied based on the criteria listed above. For example, an impact might be ranked as "minor" if it affected only common species and habitats, or if it affected only small numbers of individuals or small areas, whereas it might be ranked as "severe" if it affected rare species or habitats, large numbers of individuals or large areas. The major factors giving rise to a ranking are explained in the text. As noted in Annex 16 of the TM, a degree of professional judgment is involved in the evaluation of impacts.
- 6.2.4 The potential ecological impacts arising from the construction works, including loss of habitats, removal of vegetation, and disturbance to animals, were assessed with reference to the criteria stated in Annexes 8 and 16 of the EIAO-TM, which are currently the most comprehensive guidance for ecological impact assessment.
- 6.2.5 The major ecological impacts associated with the proposed works include:
 - Direct habitat loss, either permanent or temporary, due to site formation and construction works within the Application Site;

- Direct and indirect impacts to flora and fauna species, in particular those of conservation importance, arising from mortality;
- Disturbance impacts to surrounding habitats and fauna during construction;
- Disturbance impacts to surrounding fauna, habitats and recognized sites of conservation importance during operation;
- Night-time light impacts.

6.3 Construction Phase

Direct Impact – Habitat Loss

6.3.1 Direct impact of the implementation of proposed construction works would be loss of habitats including wasteland and wet grassland. The estimated loss of the two types of habitats is shown in **Table 6.1**.

Table 6.1 Estimated Size of Habitats Affected by the Proposed Construction Works

Habitat	Ecological Value	Size of Habitat Loss
Wasteland	Low	1.4ha
Wet grassland	Low	0.2ha
	Total	1.6 ha

- 6.3.2 Loss of habitats and associated vegetation due to site formation will constitute direct ecological impacts of the construction. The works area will be limited to the Application Site, no additional site clearance is expected.
- 6.3.3 Estimated habitat loss within the Application Site would be about 1.4ha of wasteland, and about 0.2ha of wet grassland.
- 6.3.4 The impact of the loss of wasteland and the associated flora and fauna is considered **minor** due to its small extent of low overall ecological value and the presence of low abundance of common species. While for the wet grassland is also of low ecological value, and only common native and exotic species were recorded, loss of a small area would have an impact of low magnitude and considered **minor**. No mitigation for the habitat loss is required. Tree loss within the Application Site will be compensated with no less than 1:1 ratio.

Indirect Impact – Disturbance generated during construction phase

6.3.5 Potential indirect impacts for the surroundings during construction phase include construction traffic and construction activities that generate noise, dust, vibration and human disturbance during construction. Sensitive ecological receiver near the Application Site includes the birds in agricultural lands and ponds. Disturbance may discourage terrestrial fauna from using the surrounding habitats as breeding and roosting sites. Terrestrial fauna may be forced to use potential alternative locations in the vicinity. However, the surrounding habitats of the Application Site are already surrounded by developed area, wildlife in the vicinity have been habituated to disturbance. In addition, as no piling works will be involved, the potential impact of construction disturbance would be limited. Due to the temporary and localized nature of the impacts, potential impacts to flora and fauna are ranked as **minor**, if other good site practices are adopted.

Indirect Impact – Light Glare

6.3.6 If the construction site has strong lightings or flood light, there might be light glare impacts to nocturnal wildlife including firefly in the vicinity during any nighttime construction. However, there will not be nighttime construction works for the Project, and there will be no foreseeable security light source during the construction phase. The impacts due to increased night-time light during construction is therefore insignificant.

Indirect Impact – Water Quality and Site Run-off

- 6.3.7 Due to the removal of vegetation cover in wasteland and wetland grassland within the Application Site, the watercourse in close proximity might potentially be impacted by surface runoff, especially during rainstorm. Sediments produced from the eroded site surfaces might further pollute the periphery habitats. Furthermore, wash water from dust suppression sprays; and chemicals spillage such as fuel, oil, solvents and lubricants from maintenance of construction machinery and equipment might also pollute the surrounding habitats.
- 6.3.8 Elevated suspended solid levels caused by site runoff could increase the suspended solids load in the water bodies, and could decrease dissolved oxygen levels. A lower oxygen level would affect stationary species, whilst mobile species would tend to temporarily avoid the area. The result could be a temporary reduction in aquatic life abundance and/or change in distribution.
- 6.3.9 The watercourse section which locates just outside the Application Site will be potentially impacted by the surface runoff during construction phase. The ecological value of the watercourse is ranked as low to medium but it is considered an agricultural ditch for irrigation purpose. The recorded fauna abundance and diversity is low. It is expected the impact from surface runoff would be transient. Hence the potential impact due to surface runoff is considered **minor to moderate**. To avoid and minimize potential contamination of water, the construction runoff should be controlled by implementation of mitigation measures such as good site practice.

Indirect Impact – Recognized Sites of Conservation Importance and Important Habitats

6.3.10 Recognized sites of conservation importance within the Study Area and in the vicinity include Man Kam To Road Egretry and Ho Sheung Heung Egretry located more than 500m from the Application Site, and the flightlines of the breeding ardeids from these two egretries will not be affected. Hence, potential ecological impacts to these recognized sites are not expected. While the important habitats i.e. ponds and agricultural lands that support a variety of birds are already surrounded by developed area, wildlife in the vicinity have been habituated to disturbance, potential impacts to these habitats are considered **minor** due to the nature and scale of the proposed development.

Indirect Impact – Species of Conservation Importance

6.3.11 Species of conservation importance found within the Application Site from both the survey of present study or reviewed literature included Greater Coucal, Grass Demon and Swallowtail. These species of conservation importance however were of very low abundance. These species are also highly mobile and there are more suitable habitats for the recorded species of conservation importance in the vicinity (such as woodland, agricultural land, grassland/shrubland). No breeding activity was discovered during the survey period neither. Thus, the ecological impacts are considered **minor**, taken consideration of the habitat size and quality (i.e. low ecological value in the Application Site) as well as disturbance. While potential indirect impacts to the species of conservation importance recorded from the survey of present study as well as from AFCD, KFBG or other reviewed literature are also considered **minor**, as no piling works will be involved.

6.3.12 Eurasian Otter is a semi-aquatic mammal which forages in water and nests on land. It also inhabits terrestrial areas adjacent to water bodies, such as rivers, lakes, ponds, streams and coastal areas. As the Application Site comprised of wasteland and wet grassland which are not typical habitats for Eurasian Otter, and there were no records and signs of Eurasian Otter within the survey period, potential impacts to this species are not likely.

6.4 Operational Phase

Direct Impact – Operational Phase Permanent Habitat loss

6.4.1 The direct impacts during operational phase would be the areas permanently occupied by the project elements during construction, and in this case would be the area occupied by the proposed development (i.e. the same as the permanent habitat loss during the construction phase). No additional habitat loss will occur during operational phase.

Indirect Impact – Human Disturbance

- 6.4.2 Human activities within the Application Site might potentially affect the utilization of surrounding habitats by fauna during operation phase. The Application Site will be operated as temporary warehouse for storage. Only permitted staff and operator will be present within the Application Site, significant disturbance due to human activities during operation phase is not anticipated.
- 6.4.3 Habitats adjacent to the Project Site included watercourse, agricultural land, pond, wet grassland, orchard and developed area. Compared to habitats further away (e.g., woodland and majority of ponds and agricultural lands), these habitats are more likely to be disturbed by the operation of the warehouse. Due to the temporary nature and scale of the proposed development, the potential impact to these habitats and associated fauna due to human activities is ranked as **minor**.

Indirect Impact – Water Quality

6.4.4 There could be potential indirect impacts to the water quality of the surrounding watercourse from surface run-off and pollution events from the development. This nonpoint pollution may have various impacts to the local freshwater environment. Magnitude of impacts would be dependent upon the pollution type and quantity of pollutant. Increased stormwater runoff may also lead to increased siltation if there are areas with bare soils. The stormwater from the Application Site would be collected by the drainage facilities. Since the watercourse outside the Application Site has low abundance and diversity of freshwater species, and there will be 3m buffer between the Application Site and the watercourse, the indirect impact caused by stormwater would be **minor**.

Indirect Impacts – Light Glare

6.4.5 The behaviours of nocturnal wildlife including firefly might be affected by the lightings of the proposed warehouse, i.e. nocturnal animals either avoid or are attracted to lighted areas. However, the surroundings of the Application Site in particular the northern and southern sides are developed area, villages and warehouses are already present in nearby localities, and fauna inhabiting in nearby habitats have probably habituated to lighting. Therefore, potential impacts to fauna from this source are ranked as **minor**. However, as a precautionary measure, implementation of good site practices would still be recommended to minimise the impacts of the artificial lighting/glare as much as possible such as limiting the angle of the security lighting.

Indirect Impacts – Bird Collision

6.4.6 Bird collision risk would be more prominent when the building consists of extensive reflective glass façade such that the birds flying nearby are confused by the reflected image inside the glass which is normally the image of the sky and/or nearby environment. Considering that the proposed development of warehouse would not have extensive glass façade, and lack of identified flight lines across the Application Site, the potential bird collision impact is considered **insignificant**.

Potential Impact on Recognized Sites of Conservation Importance, Important Habitat, and Species of Conservation Importance

- 6.4.7 During the operational phase, the utilization of the proposed warehouse would be limited as the visitors would be controlled. Human disturbances, noises from the proposed operations will be localized. The potential impacts to Man Kam To Road Egretry and Ho Sheung Heung Egretry would be **insignificant**.
- 6.4.8 As important habitats, the key agricultural lands and ponds that support bird communities are in close proximity of the Application Site. However, limited human disturbance from the operation of the proposed development is expected. Since the habitats within the Study Area are already surrounded by developed area, wildlife in the vicinity have been habituated to disturbance, potential impacts to these habitats as well as the species of conservation importance recorded from the survey of present study, AFCD, KFBG or other reviewed literature are considered **minor**.

7 IMPACT AVOIDANCE, MINIMIZATION AND MITIGATION MEASURES

7.1 General

- 7.1.1 According to the principles in the EIAO-TM Annex 16 and EIAO Guidance Note 3/2010, ecological impacts on important habitats and the associated wildlife caused by the proposed development should be avoided, minimized and mitigated where practicable.
- 7.1.2 The potential impacts arising from the construction and operation of the proposed development have been assessed. The following mitigation measures are recommended.

7.2 Impact Avoidance

- 7.2.1 The proposed development has avoided sensitive habitats such as agricultural lands and ponds with diverse bird species, marsh, and woodland. Only habitats of low ecological value, including wasteland and wet grassland will be affected. Besides, there will be 3m separation between the Application Site and the nearby watercourse to avoid the watercourse being affected by the construction works.
- 7.2.2 The Application Site will be accessed mainly by existing road network during both construction and operation phases. There will be no impact due to temporary or permanent loss of habitats from construction of access.

7.3 Impact Minimization

Site Hoarding and Good Site Practices

- 7.3.1 Site hoarding would be erected along the construction site boundary. Together with good site practice would be implemented for dust, noise, water quality and site surface run-off to adopted by the Project, which will be adequate to any potential indirect impacts to the surrounding environment during both construction and operation phase. The minimization measures as follows:
 - Implementation of mitigation measures specified in ProPECC PN 1/94 to control site runoff and drainage at all work sites during construction;
 - Implementation of noise control measures at all construction sites to reduce impacts of construction noise to wildlife habitats adjacent works area;
 - Installation of site hoarding as temporary noise barrier where construction works will be undertaken;
 - The use of movable noise barrier;
 - The use of temporary noise screening structures or purpose-built temporary noise barriers;
 - Implementation of dust control measures at all construction sites to minimise dust nuisance to adjacent wildlife habitats during construction activities;
 - Construction debris and spoil should be covered up and/or properly disposed of as soon as possible to avoid being washed into nearby waterbodies by rain;
 - Construction effluent, site run-off and sewage should be properly collected and/or treated, Wastewater from a construction site should be managed with the following approach in descending order;
 - All dusty materials shall be sprayed with water prior to any loading, unloading or transfer operation so as to maintain the dusty material wet;
 - Proper locations for discharge outlets of wastewater treatment facilities well away from the natural watercourse should be identified;
 - Prohibition and prevention of open fires within the work site boundary during construction;
 - Regular checking should be undertaken to ensure that the work site boundaries are not exceeded and avoid damage to the vegetation in surrounding areas; and
 - Supervisory staff should be assigned to station on site to closely supervise and monitor the works.

- 7.3.2 In, addition, construction works will be programmed to minimize soil filling works in rainy season (generally from April to September). If filling works could not be avoided in these months or at any time of year when rainstorms are likely, temporarily exposed soil surfaces will be covered (e.g. by tarpaulin), to prevent storm runoff from washing across exposed soil surfaces.
- 7.3.3 The above measures will all contribute to the minimization of potential construction disturbance to the surrounding habitats and associated fauna. With the implementation of these measures and the screening effects of the hoarding, noise and disturbance impact as well as the water quality impact would be mitigated to an acceptable level and no residual impact is anticipated.

Good Practice of Night-time Light

7.3.4 Although mitigation measures would not be required for the potential nighttime light impact, it is recommended to avoid orientating any external flood light towards outside the Application Site during both construction and operational phases to minimize any potential disturbance.

8 **RESIDUAL IMPACTS**

8.1.1 The residual environmental impacts refer to the net environmental impacts after the implementation of mitigation measures. The residual impact will be the loss of wasteland (1.4ha) and wet grassland (0.2ha) of low ecological value. The loss of these habitats is considered **minor**, and no corresponding mitigation is required. Potential indirect impacts during both construction and operation phases will be mitigated by the recommended measures. With the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures, it is anticipated that all potential ecological impacts will be reduced to an acceptable level. As a result, no adverse residual impact is anticipated during both construction and operational phases.

9 CUMULATIVE IMPACT

9.1.1 No cumulative impacts as no construction project within the vicinity of the proposed construction.

10 CONCLUSION

- 10.1.1 Information on the ecological baseline conditions of the Application Site was collected through literature review and surveys, and they were integrated into the present EcolA to support the application.
- 10.1.2 Within the Application Site, about 1.4ha of wasteland and about 0.2ha of wet grassland will be lost directly. Due to the low ecological value of the habitats, the potential impact due to loss of those habitats within the Application Site is considered minor.
- 10.1.3 This application would satisfy the requirements listed in Town Planning Board Guidelines No. 12C (TPB PG-No. 12C).

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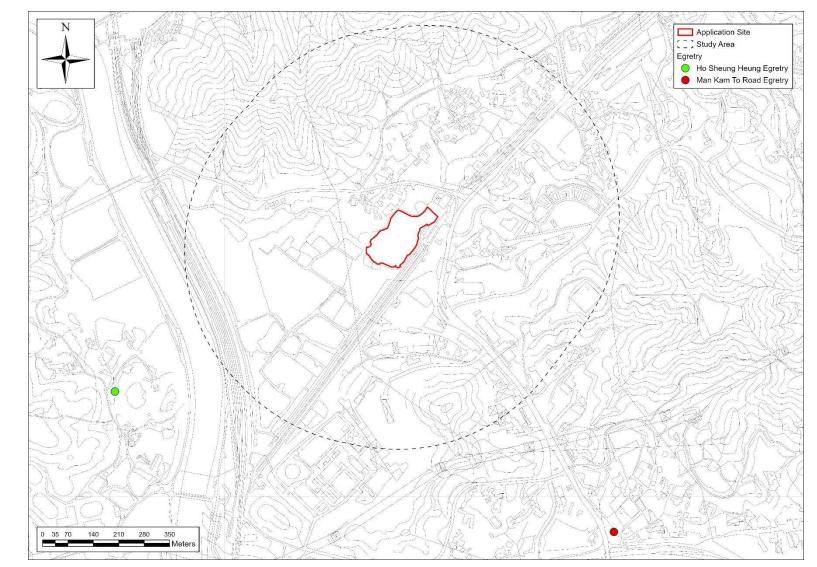
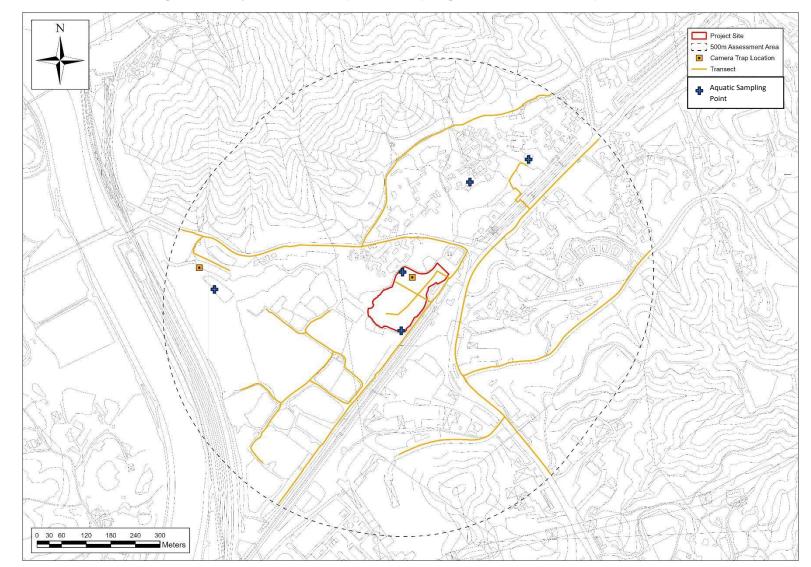
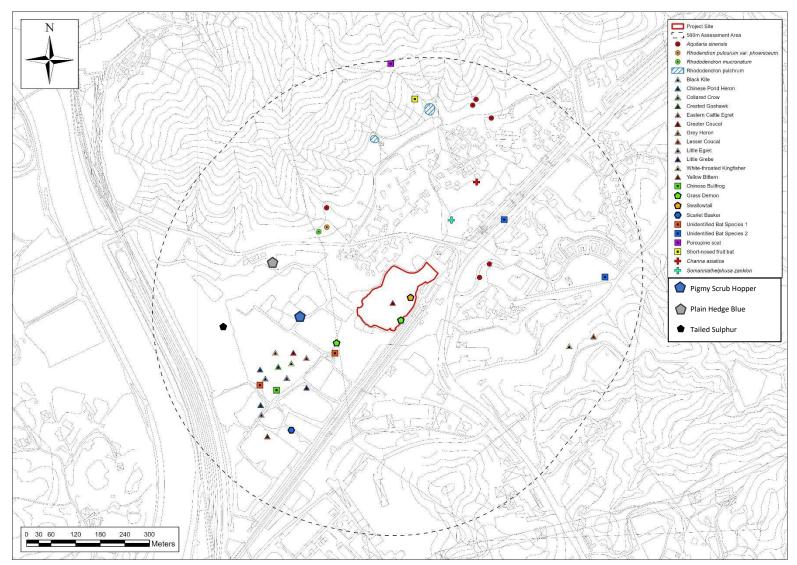


Figure 1 The Locations of Application Site, Study Area, and Egretries









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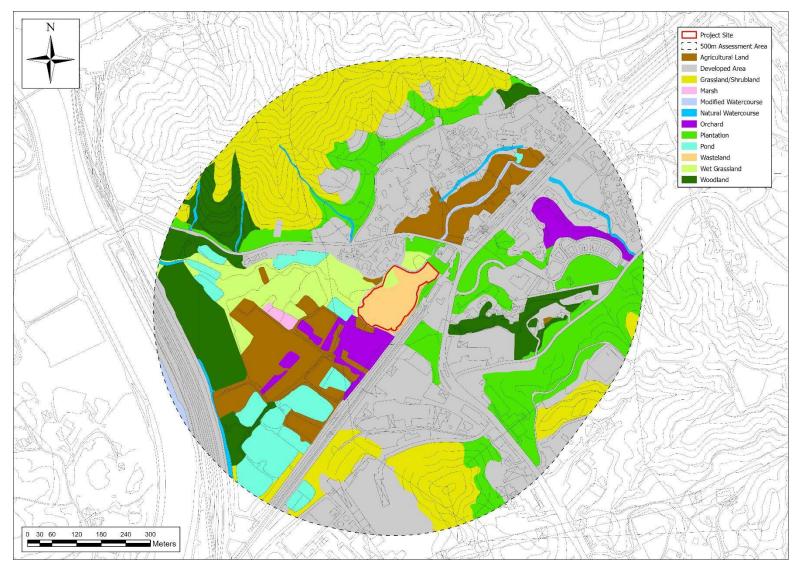


Figure 4Habitat Map of the Application Site and the Study Area

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Figure 5 Habitat Photos



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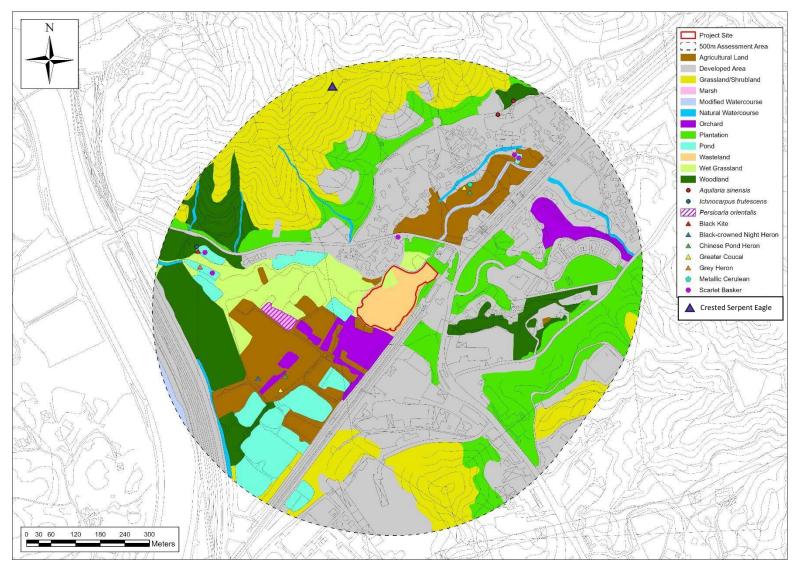


Figure 6Locations of Species of Conservation Importance

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Figure 7 Photos of Plant Species of Conservation Importance



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Appendix A Flora Species Recorded within the Study Area

				Rarity and						Relativ	/e Abu	ndance	within	Study	Area				
Scientific name	Chinese name	Growth form	Origin	distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Protection and conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷	Wit Applic Si	ation					Outsi	de App	licatio	n Site				
				Kong		WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Acacia confusa	台灣相思	Tree	Exotic	-					o						с				
Adenosma glutinosum	毛麝香	Herb	Native	Very common						o									
Aeschynomene americana	美洲合萌	Herb	Exotic	-		s		s										S	
Agave americana	龍舌蘭	Herb	Exotic	-					s						s				
Ageratum conyzoides	藿香薊	Herb	Exotic	Common		s		0	0						s		s		
Aglaonema modestum	廣東萬年青	Herb	Exotic	-								0							
Alangium chinense	八角楓	Tree	Native	Common											s				S
Aleurites moluccana	石栗	Tree	Exotic	-											s				
Alocasia macrorrhizos	海芋	Herb	Native	Very common			0	ο					с	ο				С	0
Alternanthera philoxeroides	空心莧	Herb	Exotic	Common		0										0	0		
Alysicarpus ovalifolius	圓葉鏈莢豆	Herb	Exotic	-					s										
Alysicarpus vaginalis	鏈莢豆	Herb	Native	Very common		0													
Amaranthus viridis	綠莧	Herb	Native	Very common				0	s										
Ampelopsis heterophylla var. kulingensis	牯嶺蛇葡萄	Climber	Native	Common				s											

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				Rarity and						Relativ	ve Abu	ndance	within	Study	Area				
Scientific name	Chinese name	Growth form	Origin	distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Protection and conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷	Wit Applio Si	cation					Outsi	de App	licatio	n Site				
				Kong		WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Anredera cordifolia	落葵薯	Climber	Exotic	Restricted				0											
Apluda mutica	水蔗草	Herb	Native	Very common		o												0	
Aporosa dioica	銀柴	Tree	Native	Very common											s				с
Aquilaria sinensis	土沉香	Tree	Native	Common	Cap. 586 Rare and Precious Plants of Hong Kong: NT in China China Plant Red Data Book: VU Illustrations of Rare & endangered plant in Guangdong Province List of Wild Plants under State Priority Conservation: Class 2 Threatened Species List of China's Higher Plants: VU, endemic species IUCN Red List: VU CITES Appendix II				S										S
Araucaria heterophylla	異葉南洋杉	Tree	Exotic	-	IUCN Red List: VU				s										

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				Rarity and						Relativ	ve Abu	ndance	within	Study	Area				
Scientific name	Chinese name	Growth form	Origin	distribution in Hong	Protection and conservation status ^{2 3 4 5 6 7}	Wit Applic Sit	cation					Outsi	de App	licatio	n Site				
				Kong ¹		WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	PO	WA	WG	WL
Asystasia micrantha	小花十萬錯	Herb	Exotic						s					o	с			 	o
Baeckea frutescens	崗松	Shrub	Native	Very common						с									
Bauhinia sp.	羊蹄甲屬	-	-	-										s					0
Bidens alba	白花鬼針草	Herb	Exotic	Very common		с		с	s	s	0	s		0	ο			s	
Bischofia javanica	秋楓	Tree	Native	Common															0
Blechnum orientale	烏毛蕨	Herb	Native	Very common						s									
Bombax ceiba	木棉	Tree	Exotic	-		0													
Brachiaria mutica	巴拉草	Herb	Exotic	Common			с	0			с	0						с	
Breynia fruticosa	黑面神	Shrub	Native	Very common						s								 	
Bridelia tomentosa	土蜜樹	Shrub	Native	Very common				s							s				0
Broussonetia papyrifera	構樹	Tree	Native	Very common			s		s					o					0
Cajanus scarabaeoides	蔓草蟲豆	Climber	Native	Common						s									
Callipteris esculenta	菜蕨	Herb	Native	Common			с	s				с		s				с	
Carica papaya	瓜木番	Tree	Exotic	-				0	s						s				
Catharanthus roseus	長春花	Shrub	Exotic	Common	1				s						s				
Celtis sinensis	朴樹	Tree	Native	Common	1			s							s				С

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				Rarity and						Relativ	ve Abu	ndance	within	Study	Area				
Scientific name	Chinese name	Growth form	Origin	distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Protection and conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷	Wit Applic Si	cation					Outsi	de App	licatio	n Site				
				Kong		WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Centella asiatica	積雪草	Herb	Native	Very common					s			s							
Cinnamomum camphora	樟	Tree	Native	Common					s										с
Citrus limonia	黎檬	Tree	Exotic	-				0											
Citrus reticulata	柑橘	Tree	Exotic	-	List of Wild Plants under State Priority Conservation: Class 2									0					
Claoxylon indicum	白桐樹	Tree	Native	Common										s					
Clausena lansium	黃皮	Tree	Exotic	-				s											0
Cleome rutidosperma	皺子白花菜	Herb	Exotic	Restricted				s	s										
Clerodendrum japonicum	赬桐	Shrub	Exotic	-										s					
Cocculus orbiculatus	木防己	Climber	Native	Common				s											
Codiaeum variegatum	變葉木	Shrub	Exotic	-					s										
Colocasia esculenta	芋	Herb	Native	-			0						s					с	
Commelina diffusa	節節草	Herb	Native	Common							0	0				0		0	
Conyza bonariensis	香絲草	Herb	Exotic	Very common				s	s										
Corchorus aestuans	甜麻	Herb	Native	Common				s											
Cratoxylum cochinchinense	黃牛木	Tree	Native	Very common						s					s				
Crotalaria pallida var. obovata	豬屎豆	Herb	Exotic	Common															S
Croton crassifolius	雞骨香	Shrub	Native	Very common						s									

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				Rarity and						Relativ	ve Abu	ndance	within	Study	Area				
Scientific name	Chinese name	Growth form	Origin	distribution in Hong	Protection and conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷	Wit Applio Si	cation					Outsi	de App	licatio	n Site				
				Kong ¹		WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Cuscuta chinensis	菟絲子	Herb	Native	Common			S											S	
Cyclosorus interruptus	間斷毛蕨	Herb	Native	Common			ο	s								s		S	
Cyclosorus parasiticus	華南毛蕨	Herb	Native	Very common				s	s			S	0						0
Cymbopogon hamatulus	扭鞘香茅	Herb	Native	Very common						ο									
Cyperus difformis	異型莎草	Herb	Native	Very common		s												s	
Cyperus involucratus	風車草	Herb	Exotic	Restricted			0					S						S	
Cyperus iria	碎米莎草	Herb	Native	Common				s										S	
Cyperus odoratus	斷節莎	Herb	Exotic	Rare				s			s					s		S	
Cyperus surinamensis	蘇里南莎草	#REF!	Exotic	-		s			s										
Desmodium heterocarpon var. strigosum	糙毛假地豆	Shrub	Native	-						s									S
Dicranopteris pedata	芒萁	Herb	Native	Very common						с									
Dimocarpus longan	龍眼	Tree	Exotic	Restricted	China Plant Red Data Book: VU List of Wild Plants under State Priority Conservation: Class 2 Threatened Species List of China's Higher Plants: VU									C	0				0

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				Rarity and						Relativ	/e Abu	ndance	within	Study	Area				
Scientific name	Chinese name	Growth form	Origin	distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Protection and conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷	Wit Applio Si	cation					Outsi	de App	licatio	n Site				
				Kong		WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Dioscorea bulbifera	黃獨	Climber	Native	Common									s						
Diploclisia glaucescens	蒼白秤鈎風	Climber	Native	Common															s
Dracaena fragrans	巴西鐵樹	Shrub	Exotic	-					s					s					
Drymaria cordata	荷蓮豆	Herb	Native	Common								0							
Duhaldea cappa	羊耳菊	Herb	Native	Common						s									
Duranta erecta	假連翹	Climber	Exotic	-										s					
Echinochloa colona	光頭稗	Herb	Native	Very common				с	s									s	
Eichhornia crassipes	鳳眼藍	Herb	Exotic	Common												с			
Elephantopus tomentosus	白花地膽草	Herb	Native	Common											s				
Eleusine indica	牛筋草	Herb	Native	Very common				0											
Embelia laeta	酸藤子	Climber	Native	Very common															S
Emilia sonchifolia	一點紅	Herb	Native	Very common					s						s				
Eragrostis tenella	鯽魚草	Herb	Native	Very common		s									ο		s		
Eremochloa ciliaris	蜈蚣草	Herb	Native	Very common						s									
Eriobotrya japonica	枇杷	Tree	Exotic	-				s						0					
Euphorbia hirta	飛揚草	Herb	Exotic	Very common					s										

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				Derity and						Relativ	ve Abu	ndance	within	Study	Area				
Scientific name	Chinese name	Growth form	Origin	Rarity and distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Protection and conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷	Wit Applio Si	cation					Outsi	de App	licatio	n Site				
				Kong		WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Euphorbia hypericifolia	通奶草	Herb	Native	Common		s											s		
Eurya chinensis	米碎花	Shrub	Native	Very common															s
Fallopia multiflora	何首烏	Herb	Native	Restricted										s					
Ficus benjamina	垂葉榕	Tree	Exotic	-											s				
Ficus elastica	印度榕	Tree	Exotic	-											s				
Ficus hirta	粗葉榕	Shrub	Native	Common											s				s
Ficus hispida	對葉榕	Shrub	Native	Very common		s			o					o	ο		s	s	о
Ficus microcarpa	榕樹	Tree	Native	Common					с						с				0
Ficus pandurata	琴葉榕	Shrub	Native	Restricted															s
Ficus religiosa	菩提樹	Tree	Exotic	Restricted											s				
Ficus variegata var. chlorocarpa	青果榕	Tree	Native	Common					s										
Fimbristylis dichotoma	兩歧飄拂草	Herb	Native	Very common		s				s							s		
Fimbristylis littoralis	水虱草	Herb	Native	Very common				0											
Flueggea virosa	白飯樹	Shrub	Native	Common					s										
Gymnanthemum amygdalinum	南非葉	Shrub	Exotic	-											s				
Hedyotis corymbosa	傘房花耳草	Herb	Native	-					s										
Helicteres angustifolia	山芝麻	Shrub	Native	Very common						0									
Heterosmilax gaudichaudiana	合絲肖菝葜	Climber	Native	Common															s
Hibiscus mutabilis	木芙蓉	Shrub	Exotic	-		s													

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				Denity and						Relativ	/e Abu	ndance	within	Study	Area				
Scientific name	Chinese name	Growth form	Origin	Rarity and distribution in Hong	Protection and conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷		hin cation ite					Outsi	de App	licatio	n Site				
				Kong ¹		WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Hibiscus rosa-sinensis	朱槿	Shrub	Exotic	-											s				
Hydrocotyle verticillata	銅錢草	Herb	Exotic	-												s			
Hylocereus undatus	量天尺	Herb	Exotic	-					s										
Ichnocarpus frutescens	腰骨藤	Climber	Native	Very rare															s
Ipomoea aquatica	蕹菜	Herb	Exotic	Very common		s												0	
Ipomoea cairica	五爪金龍	Climber	Exotic	Very common			s				s							с	ο
lpomoea triloba	三裂葉薯	Herb	Native	-		с		с									s		S
Ischaemum barbatum	粗毛鴨嘴草	Herb	Native	Very common						0									
Keteleeria fortunei	油杉	Tree	Native	very rare	Cap. 96A Rare and Precious Plants of Hong Kong: VU in China China Plant Red Data Book: VU Illustrations of Rare & endangered plant in Guangdong Province List of Wild Plants under State Priority Conservation: Class 2 Threatened Species List of China's Higher Plants: VU									S					

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				Rarity and						Relativ	ve Abu	ndance	within	Study	Area				
Scientific name	Chinese name	Growth form	Origin	distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Protection and conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷	Wit Applic Si	ation					Outsi	de App	licatio	n Site				
				Kong		WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
					IUCN Red List: NT														
Kyllinga nemoralis	單穗水蜈蚣	Herb	Native	Very common					o										
Kyllinga polyphylla	水蜈蚣	Herb	Exotic	Common		0		s				с						S	
Lantana camara	馬纓丹	Shrub	Exotic	Very common						s					s				
Leucaena leucocephala	銀合歡	Tree	Exotic	Common		с	s	с						0	0		С	S	0
Ligustrum sinense	山指甲	Tree	Native	Common					s						0				
Lindernia crustacea	母草	Herb	Native	Restricted					s			0							
Lindernia rotundifolia	圓葉母草	Herb	Exotic	-								S							
Liquidambar formosana	楓香	Tree	Native	Common					s										S
Liriope spicata	山麥冬	Herb	Native	Very common									s						S
Litsea glutinosa	潺槁樹	Tree	Native	Very common											s				s

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				Derity and						Relativ	ve Abu	ndance	within	Study	Area				
Scientific name	Chinese name	Growth form	Origin	Rarity and distribution in Hong	Protection and conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷	Wit Applio Si	cation					Outsi	de App	licatio	n Site				
				Kong ¹		WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Litsea rotundifolia var. oblongifolia	豺皮樟	Shrub	Native	Very common															0
Livistona chinensis	蒲葵	Tree	Exotic	-	Threatened Species List of China's Higher Plants: VU				s						s				
Lophostemon confertus	紅膠木	Tree	Exotic	-											s				
Ludwigia erecta	美洲水丁香	Herb	Exotic	-				ο				с				o		0	
Ludwigia hyssopifolia	草龍	Herb	Native	-				S				s				0		S	
Lygodium japonicum	海金沙	Herb	Native	Very common											s				
Lygodium scandens	小葉海金沙	Herb	Native	Common					s	s					ο				
Macaranga tanarius var. tomentosa	血桐	Tree	Native	Common				0	s			S		0	s			s	с
Maesa perlarius	鯽魚膽	Shrub	Native	Common															0
Mallotus paniculatus	白楸	Tree	Native	Very common															0
Malvastrum coromandelianum	賽葵	Shrub	Native	Common				s											
Mangifera indica	杧果	Tree	Exotic	-				0	S					0					
Manihot esculenta	木薯	Shrub	Exotic	-					S										
Mariscus cyperoides	磚子苗	Herb	Native	Very common				s	s									s	
Melaleuca cajuputi subsp. Cumingiana	白千層	Tree	Exotic	-					с						s				
Melia azedarach	苦楝	Tree	Exotic	Common									S	s	с			S	с
Merremia hederacea	魚黃草	Climber	Native	Restricted														0	

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				Rarity and						Relativ	/e Abu	ndance	within	Study	Area				
Scientific name	Chinese name	Growth form	Origin	distribution in Hong	Protection and conservation status ^{2 3 4 5 6 7}	Wit Applie Si	cation					Outsi	de App	licatio	n Site				
				Kong ¹		WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Michelia figo	含笑	Shrub	Exotic	Very rare	Cap. 96A				s						s				
Microcos nervosa	破布葉	Shrub	Native	Common											s				
Microstegium ciliatum	剛莠竹	Herb	Native	Very common					s					s					
Mikania micrantha	薇甘菊	Herb	Exotic	Very common		0	с	0	s		s	0		0	ο	0	0	с	0
Mimosa diplotricha	巴西含羞草	Herb	Exotic	Rare		s													
Mimosa pudica	含羞草	Herb	Exotic	Very common		с			s						s		ο		
Miscanthus floridulus	五節芒	Herb	Native	Common		0	s	0	s	s							0		
Morus alba	桑	Tree	Native	Common					s					0					
Murraya paniculata	九里香	Tree	Exotic	-					s					0					
Musa x paradisiaca	大蕉	Herb	Exotic	-				0	s					с					
Myriophyllum aquaticum	粉綠狐尾藻	Herb	Exotic	-												s			
Nelumbo nucifera	蓮	Herb	Exotic	-	List of Wild Plants under State Priority Conservation: Class 2											0		S	
Nephrolepis auriculata	腎蕨	Herb	Native	Common											s				
Neyraudia reynaudiana	類蘆	Herb	Native	Very common						0									
Ocimum basilicum	羅勒	Herb	Native	Very rare					s										
Oxalis corniculata	酢漿草	Herb	Native	Very common											s				

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				Rarity and						Relativ	/e Abu	ndance	within	Study	Area				
Scientific name	Chinese name	Growth form	Origin	distribution in Hong	Protection and conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷	Wit Applic Si	ation					Outsi	de App	licatio	n Site				
				Kong ¹		WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Paederia scandens	雞矢藤	Climber	Native	Very common		o			s						s		0		0
Palhinhaea cernua	鋪地蜈蚣	Herb	Native	Very common						s									
Panicum maximum	大黍	Herb	Exotic	Common		0		0	s	0	s				0	0			0
Paspalum conjugatum	兩耳草	Herb	Native	Common					s		0								
Paspalum urvillei	絲毛雀稗	Herb	Exotic	Common		o											0		
Passiflora foetida	龍珠果	Climber	Exotic	Very common		s		0							s		s		
Persea americana	鱷梨	Tree	Exotic	-					s					s					
Persicaria barbata	毛蓼	Herb	Native	Common			S					s						S	
Persicaria chinensis	火炭母	Herb	Native	Very Common					s					s					
Persicaria glabra	光蓼	Herb	Exotic	Restricted			s												
Persicaria lapathifolia	大馬蓼	Herb	Native	Common												s		S	
Persicaria orientalis	紅蓼	Herb	Native	Very rare							с								
Phyllanthus debilis	銳尖葉下珠	Shrub	-	-					s										
Phyllanthus reticulatus	小果葉下珠	Shrub	Native	Common					s						s				s
Pilea microphylla	小葉冷水花	Herb	Exotic	Very common					o										
Pinus elliottii	濕地松	Tree	Exotic	-											S				
Platycladus orientalis	側柏	Tree	Exotic	-					s										

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				Rarity and						Relativ	ve Abu	ndance	within	Study	Area				
Scientific name	Chinese name	Growth form	Origin	distribution in Hong	Protection and conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷	Wit Applic Sit	cation					Outsi	de App	licatio	n Site				
				Kong ¹		WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	PO	WA	WG	WL
Pluchea sagittalis	翼莖闊苞菊	Herb	Exotic	-		s													
Plumeria rubra	雞蛋花	Tree	Exotic	-											s				s
Podocarpus macrophyllus	羅漢松	Tree	Native	Restricted	List of Wild Plants under State Priority Conservation: Class 2 Threatened Species List of China's Higher Plants: VU				s										
Praxelis clematidea	假臭草	Herb	Exotic	Very common						s								0	
Psidium guajava	番石榴	Tree	Exotic	Common				s						с					
Psychotria asiatica	九節	Tree	Native	Very common															с
Pteris semipinnata	半邊旗	Herb	Native	Very common					s				s						0
Pteris vittata	蜈蚣蕨	Herb	Native	Very common						s									
Pycreus polystachyos	多枝扁莎	Herb	Native	Very common		s											s		
Rhaphiolepis indica	石斑木	Shrub	Native	Very common															s
Rhododendron pulchrum	錦繡杜鵑	Shrub	Exotic	-											s				
Rhodomyrtus tomentosa	桃金娘	Shrub	Native	Very common						ο									

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				Rarity and						Relativ	/e Abu	ndance	within	Study	Area				
Scientific name	Chinese name	Growth form	Origin	distribution in Hong	Protection and conservation status ^{2 3 4 5 6 7}	With Applic Sit	cation					Outsi	de App	licatio	n Site				
				Kong ¹		WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Rhus hypoleuca	白背鹽膚木	Shrub	Native	Common						o					s				
Ruellia coerulea	蘭花草	Herb	Exotic	-										s					
Sacciolepis indica	囊穎草	Herb	Native	Very common		s													
Sageretia thea	雀梅藤	Shrub	Native	Very common															s
Sapium sebiferum	烏桕	Tree	Native	Common			0											<u> </u>	
Schefflera arboricola	鵝掌藤	Climber	Exotic	-			<u> </u>		s								\Box '	'	
Senna siamea	鐵刀木	Tree	Exotic	-			<u> </u>								S		\Box'		
Sesbania cannabina	田菁	Herb	Exotic	Common		с	<u> </u>	0									с	'	
Sida rhombifolia	白背黃花稔	Shrub	Native	Common					s										
Solanum torvum	水茄	Shrub	Exotic	Common		S								0				I'	
Spermacoce remota	光葉豐花草	Herb	Exotic	-		s				s							s		
Stachytarpheta cayennensis	藍蝶猿尾木	Herb	Exotic	-						s									
Stephania longa	糞箕篤	Climber	Native	Common					s									1	s
Sterculia lanceolata	假蘋婆	Tree	Native	Very common									s						s
Sterculia nobilis	蘋婆	Tree	Exotic	-										s				1	1
Synedrella nodiflora	金腰箭	Herb	Exotic	Very common					s						s				
Syngonium podophyllum	合果芋	Herb	Exotic						s					s					s

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				Parity and						Relativ	ve Abu	ndance	within	Study	Area				
Scientific name	Chinese name	Growth form	Origin	Rarity and distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Protection and conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷	Witl Applic Sit	cation					Outsi	de App	licatio	n Site				
				Kong		WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Tabebuia sp.	風鈴木屬	Tree	Exotic	-					с										S
Thysanolaena latifolia	粽葉蘆	Herb	Native	Common		S		s								0		s	
Tinospora sinensis	中華青牛膽	Climber	Native	Common				s					s	s					
Trema tomentosa	山黃麻	Shrub	Native	Common						s					s				
Typha angustifolia	水燭	Herb	Exotic	Rare												s			
Typhonium blumei	犁頭尖	Herb	Native	Restricted					s						s				
Urena lobata	肖梵天花	Herb	Native	Common		s											s	ο	
Wedelia trilobata	三裂葉蟛蜞 菊	Herb	Exotic	Common		0						0		o	s			с	
Wikstroemia indica	了哥王	Shrub	Native	Common						0									
Total number of flora	a species record	Jed within the	Study Are	а	206	35	15	44	67	30	9	18	9	34	54	15	18	34	49

Notes:

1. Corlett et al. (2000). Hong Kong vascular plants: distribution and status.

2. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (2024). Appendices I, II and III.

3. Forestry Regulations, the subsidiary legislation of the Forests and Countryside Ordinance (Cap. 96A).

- 4. Fu & Chin (1992). China Plant Red Data Book Rare and Endangered Plants.
- 5. Hu et al. (2003). Rare and Precious Plants of Hong Kong.
- 6. International Union of Conservation for Nature. (2024). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2024-1.

7. National Forestry and Grassland Administration and the Ministry of Agricultural and Rural Affairs. (2021). List of Wild Plants under the State Priority Protection.

8. Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586).

- 9. Qin et al. (2017). Threatened Species List of China's Higher Plants.
- 10. Wu et al. (1988). Illustration of Rare & endangered plant in Guangdong Province.
- 11. Species in bold are considered of conservation importance.
- * Araucaria heterophylla, Casuarina equisetifolia, Citrus reticulata, Dimocarpus longan, Euphorbia hirta, Euphorbia hypericifolia, Hylocereus undatus, Lagerstroemia speciosa, Litchi chinensis, Livistona chinensis, Michelia x alba, Nelumbo nucifera, Opuntia stricta var. dillenii, Pterocarpus indicus, Rhodoleia championii and Tabebuia chrysantha are all exotic to Hong Kong and not considered of conservation importance.

Abbreviations:

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- Habitat: AGR = Agricultural Land; DA = Developed Area; GS = Grassland/Shrubland; MA = Marsh; MW = Modified Watercourse; NW = Natural Watercourse; O = Orchard; PL = Plantation; PO = Pond; WA = Wasteland; WG = Wet Grassland; WL = Woodland
- Protection and conservation status: CR = Critically endangered; EN = Endangered; VU = Vulnerable
- Abundance: c=Common; o=Occasional and s=Scarce

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Appendix B Avifauna Species Recorded within the Study Area

							Re	lative	Abund	dance v	vithin	Study	Area				
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷	Appli	thin cation ite					Outsid	e Appl	licatio	n Site				
				WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	PO	WA	WG	WL
Chinese Francolin	Francolinus pintadeanus	Common resident. Widely distributed in grassland throughout Hong Kong.	-					1									
Black-crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	Common resident and migrant. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC			1											
Chinese Pond Heron	Ardeola bacchus	Common resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC			5											
Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea	Common winter visitor. Found in Deep Bay area, Starling Inlet, Kowloon Park, Cape D'Aguilar.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC											2			
Crested Serpent Eagle	Spilornis cheela	Common resident. Widely distributed in shrublands on hillsides throughout Hong Kong.	China Red Data Book Status: VU; Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC); Cap. 586; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II; CITES: Appendix II					1									
Black Kite	Milvus migrans	Common resident and winter visitor. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): (RC); Cap. 586; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II; CITES: Appendix II					2									
White-breasted Waterhen	Amaurornis phoenicurus	Common resident. Widely distributed in wetland throughout Hong Kong.	-			1											
Spotted Dove	Spilopelia chinensis	Abundant resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-	2		6	2										
Greater Coucal	Centropus sinensis	Common resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	China Red Data Book Status: VU; List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation: Class II			1											

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							Re	lative	Abunc	lance v	vithin	Study	Area				
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷	Appli	thin cation ite					Outsid	e Appl	licatio	n Site				
				WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Asian Koel	Eudynamys scolopaceus	Common resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-			1											
House Swift	Apus nipalensis	Abundant spring migrant and common resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	_			6									4		
Long-tailed Shrike	Lanius schach	Common resident. Widely distributed in open areas throughout Hong Kong.	_	1													
Black Drongo	Dicrurus macrocercus	Common summer visitor. Widely distributed in open area throughout Hong Kong.	-	4													
Hair-crested Drongo	Dicrurus hottentottus	Common migrant and winter visitor, and locally common resident. Widely distributed in wooded area throughout Hong Kong.	_									1		8			
Red-billed Blue Magpie	Urocissa erythroryncha	Common resident. Widely distributed in woodland edges throught Hong Kong	-				2						2				
Large-billed Crow	Corvus macrorhynchos	Common resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong	-				1									2	
Cinereous Tit	Parus cinereus	Common resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-										2				4
Red-whiskered Bulbul	Pycnonotus jocosus	Abundant resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-	50		5	4						4				2
Chinese Bulbul	Pycnonotus sinensis	Abundant resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-			4											

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							Re	lative	Abund	dance	within	Study	Area				
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷	Appli	thin cation ite					Outsid	le Appl	icatio	n Site				
				WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Yellow-bellied Prinia	Prinia flaviventris	Common resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-	4		2											
Common Tailorbird	Orthotomus sutorius	Common resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-														1
Masked Laughingthrush	Pterorhinus perspicillatus	Abundant resident. Widely distributed in shrubland throughout Hong Kong.				4											
Swinhoe's White-eye	Zosterops simplex	Abundant resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-														6
Black-collared Starling	Gracupica nigricollis	Common resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-	2		2								2	80		
Oriental Magpie- Robin	Copsychus saularis	Abundant resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-			2	2										
Amur Stonechat	Saxicola stejnegeri	Common passage migrant and winter visitor. Widely distributed in open cultivated fields throughout Hong Kong.	-	2													
Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	Dicaeum cruentatum	Common resident. Widely distributed in wooded area throughout Hong Kong.	-				2										
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Passer montanus	Abundant resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-				30										
Scaly-breasted Munia	Lonchura punctulata	Abundant resident. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-			6								3			
White Wagtail	Motacilla alba	Resident, common passage migrant and winter visitor. Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-				2										

Section 16 Planning Application Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land in "Agriculture" Zone

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Remark: all wild avifauna species are protected under Cap. 170 Wild Animals Protection Ordinance in Hong Kong².

Notes:

- 1. AFCD (2023). AFCD Biodiversity Information Hub.
- 2. Cap. 170 Wild Animals Protection Ordinance.
- 3. Cap. 586 Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance.
- 4. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna. Appendices I, II and III.
- 5. Fellowes et al. (2002). Wild animals to watch: Terrestrial and freshwater fauna of conservation concern in Hong Kong.
 - For conservation status listed by Fellowes et al. (2002), letters in parentheses indicate that the assessment is on the basis of restrictedness in breeding and/or roosting sites rather than in general occurrence.
- 6. List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation (2021).
- 7. Zheng & Wang (1998). China Red Data Book of Endangered Animals: Aves.
- 8. Species in bold are considered of conservation importance.

Abbreviations:

- Conservation Status in Fellowes *et al.* (2002): GC = Global Concern; LC = Local Concern; PGC = Potential Global Concern; PRC = Potential Regional Concern; RC = Regional Concern
- Habitat: AGR = Agricultural Land; DA = Developed Area; GS = Grassland/Shrubland; MA = Marsh; MW = Modified Watercourse; NW = Natural Watercourse; O = Orchard; PL = Plantation; PO = Pond; WA = Wasteland; WG = Wet Grassland; WL = Woodland

Appendix C Butterfly Species Recorded within the Study Area

							Rela	tive A	bunda	nce wi	thin St	udy A	rea				
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷		thin tion Site					Outsid	le Appl	icatio	n Site				
				WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Formosan Swift	Borbo cinnara	Common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong.	-	1													
Metallic Cerulean	Jamides alecto	Very rare. Victoria Peak, Fung Yuen, Chuen Lung, Mui Wo	-			8											
Tailless Line Blue	Prosotas dubiosa	Vagrant. North Lantau Island	<u>-</u>	4													
Plum Judy	Abisara echerius	Very common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	-	2													
Common Indian Crow	Euploea core	Common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	-				2										
Staff Sergeant	Athyma selenophora	Common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	-														1
White-edged Blue Baron	Euthalia phemius	Common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong.	-	1													
Red Ring Skirt	Hestina assimilis	Common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong.	-														1
Great Eggfly	Hypolimnas bolina	Common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	-				1	1									
Common Sailer	Neptis hylas	Very common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	-				1						1				
Dark-brand Bush Brown	Mycalesis mineus	Very common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	-												2		
Red Helen	Papilio helenus	Very common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	-										2				
Great Mormon	Papilio memnon	Very common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	-				1										

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							Rela	tive A	bunda	nce wi	thin St	udy A	rea				
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷		thin tion Site					Outsid	e Appl	icatio	n Site				
				WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Common Mormon	Papilio polytes	Very common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	-			1	2						1			2	
Spangle	Papilio protenor	Very common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	-				1										1
Lemon Emigrant	Catopsilia pomona	Common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	-										4				
Three-spot Grass Yellow	Eurema blanda	Common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	-												4		
Common Grass Yellow	Eurema hecabe	Very common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	<u>-</u>										4	3	4		
Great Orange Tip	Hebomoia glaucippe	Common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong						1									
Yellow Orange Tip	lxias pyrene	Uncommon. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	-											1			
Indian Cabbage White	Pieris canidia	Very common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong	-			2											

Notes:

1. AFCD (2023). AFCD Biodiversity Information Hub.

2. Fellowes et al. (2002). Wild animals to watch: Terrestrial and freshwater fauna of conservation concern in Hong Kong.

• For conservation status listed by Fellowes *et al.* (2002), letters in parentheses indicate that the assessment is on the basis of restrictedness in breeding and/or roosting sites rather than in general occurrence.

3. Species in bold are considered of conservation importance.

Abbreviations:

- Conservation Status in Fellowes et al. (2002): GC = Global Concern; LC = Local Concern; PGC = Potential Global Concern; PRC = Potential Regional Concern; RC = Regional Concern
- Habitat: AGR = Agricultural Land; DA = Developed Area; GS = Grassland/Shrubland; MA = Marsh; MW = Modified Watercourse; NW = Natural Watercourse; O = Orchard; PL = Plantation; PO = Pond; WA = Wasteland; WG = Wet Grassland; WL = Woodland

Appendix D Odonate Species Recorded within the Study Area

							Re	lative	Abund	ance w	ithin S	Study	Area				
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷	Appli	thin cation ite					Outsid	e Appl	icatio	n Site				
				WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Pale-spotted Emperor	Anax guttatus	Common. Widely distributed in ponds and sluggish streams throughout Hong Kong.	-											1			
Orange- tailed Sprite	Ceriagrion auranticum	Abundant. Widely distributed in weedy ponds, marshes, abandoned fields or grasslands adjacent to waters.	_	2													
Blue Dasher	Brachydiplax chalybea	Common. Widely distributed in marshes and weedy ponds throughout Hong Kong.	-											6			
Forest Chaser	Lyriothemis elegantissima	Common. Frequents marshes beside woodlands. Widespread throughout Hong Kong.	_			1											
Russet Percher	Neurothemis fulvia	Common. Found in marshes, cultivated areas, streams, tanks and irrigation feeders, sometimes even found in nearly dried out marshy areas. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong.														1	
Green Skimmer	Orthetrum sabina sabina	Abundant. Widely distributed in all wetland habitats throughout Hong Kong.	-				2							2			
Wandering Glider	Pantala flavescens	Abundant. Widely distributed all over Hong Kong.	-	40		5								10			
Variegated Flutterer	Rhyothemis variegata arria	Common. Widely distributed in marshes, ponds and tanks throughout Hong Kong.	-				4										
Crimson Dropwing	Trithemis aurora	Abundant. Found in marshes, ponds, streams, andor even ornamental ponds in urban areas. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong.	-			1											
Scarlet Basker	Urothemis signata	Common. Common in areas with abandoned fish ponds throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): LC											3			
Dingy Dusk- darter	Zyxomma petiolatum	Common. Widely distributed in thick undergrowth, tree foliage and shady spots near water courses throughout Hong Kong.	_											1			
Regal Pond Cruiser	Epophthalmia elegans	Common. Always patrols along the edge of large ponds with a regular path.	-											1			

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							Rel	ative /	Abund	ance w	ithin S	Study /	Area				
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷		hin cation te					Outsid	e Appl	icatior	n Site				
				WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
		Widely distributed in reservoirs and large ponds throughout Hong Kong.															
Yellow Featherlegs	Copera marginipes	Abundant. Widely distributded in lowland streams, ditches, and weedy margins of pond throughout Hong Kong.	-														12

Notes:

- 1. AFCD (2023). AFCD Biodiversity Information Hub.
- 2. Fellowes et al. (2002). Wild animals to watch: Terrestrial and freshwater fauna of conservation concern in Hong Kong.
 - For conservation status listed by Fellowes *et al.* (2002), letters in parentheses indicate that the assessment is on the basis of restrictedness in breeding and/or roosting sites rather than in general occurrence.
- 3. Reels (2019). An annotated check list of Hong Kong dragonflies and assessment of their local conservation significance.
- 4. Tam et al. (2011). The Dragonflies of Hong Kong.
- 5. Species in bold are considered of conservation importance.

Abbreviations:

- Conservation Status in Fellowes et al. (2002): GC = Global Concern; LC = Local Concern; PGC = Potential Global Concern; PRC = Potential Regional Concern; RC = Regional Concern
- Habitat: AGR = Agricultural Land; DA = Developed Area; GS = Grassland/Shrubland; MA = Marsh; MW = Modified Watercourse; NW = Natural Watercourse; O = Orchard; PL = Plantation; PO = Pond; WA = Wasteland; WG = Wet Grassland; WL = Woodland

Appendix E Firefly Species Recorded within the Study Area

							Relati	ve Ab	undan	ce with	in Stu	dy Are	ea				
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong	Conservation status		Within Outside Application Site Oplication Site Image: Constraint of the second seco												
				WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
Rimmed Window Firefly	Pyrocoelia analis	Widespread.	-											3			

Abbreviations:

Habitat: AGR = Agricultural Land; DA = Developed Area; GS = Grassland/Shrubland; MA = Marsh; MW = Modified Watercourse; NW = Natural Watercourse; O = Orchard; PL = Plantation; PO = Pond; WA = Wasteland; WG = Wet Grassland; WL = Woodland

Appendix F Herpetofauna Species Recorded within the Study Area

							Rel	ative A	bund	ance w	ithin S	tudy A	rea				
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷	Appli	thin cation ite					Outsid	le Appl	icatio	n Site				
				WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	PO	WA	WG	WL
Amphibian																	
Bowring's Gecko	Hemidactylus bowringii	Distributed throughout Hong Kong.	-				+										
Chinese Gecko	Gekko chinensis	Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong.	-				+										
Reptile																	
Asiatic Painted Frog	Kaloula pulchra	Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-													+	
Butler's Pigmy Frog	Microhyla butleri	Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-							+							
Ornate Pigmy Frog	Microhyla fissipes	Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-							+							
Marbled Pigmy Frog	Microhyla pulchra	Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-							+						+	
Paddy Frog	Fejervarya limnocharis	Widely distributed in Hong Kong.	-				+		+			+					
Brown Tree Frog	Polypedates megacephalus	Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong.	-									+				+	

Notes:

- 1. AFCD (2023). AFCD Biodiversity Information Hub.
- 2. Cap. 170 Wild Animals Protection Ordinance.
- 3. Fellowes et al. (2002). Wild animals to watch: Terrestrial and freshwater fauna of conservation concern in Hong Kong.
 - For conservation status listed by Fellowes *et al.* (2002), letters in parentheses indicate that the assessment is on the basis of restrictedness in breeding and/or roosting sites rather than in general occurrence.
- 4. International Union of Conservation for Nature (2023). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2022-2.
- 5. Jiang, Z. G., Jiang, J. P., Wang, Y. Z., Zhang, E., Zhang, Y. Y., Li, L. L., ... & Dong, L. (2016). Red list of China's vertebrates.
- 6. List of Wild Animals under State Priority Conservation (2021).
- 7. Zhao & Wang (1998). China Red Data Book of Endangered Animals: Amphibia and Reptilia.

Abbreviations:

- Conservation Status in Fellowes et al. (2002): GC = Global Concern; LC = Local Concern; PGC = Potential Global Concern; PRC = Potential Regional Concern; RC = Regional Concern; RC =
- Conservation Status: CR = Critically Endangered; EN = Endangered; VU = Vulnerable
- Habitat: AGR = Agricultural Land; DA = Developed Area; GS = Grassland/Shrubland; MA = Marsh; MW = Modified Watercourse; NW = Natural Watercourse; O = Orchard; PL = Plantation; PO = Pond; WA = Wasteland; WG = Wet Grassland; WL = Woodland

Appendix G1 Mammal Species Recorded within the Study Area

					Relative Abundance within Study Area													
	Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷			Application Application Outside Application Site											
					WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL
- 1			Very common. Very widely distributed															
	Eurasian Wild		in countryside areas throughout Hong													+		
	Pig	Sus scrofa	Kong.	-														

Remark: all wild bat species are protected under Cap. 170 Wild Animals Protection Ordinance in Hong Kong².

Notes:

- 1. AFCD (2023). AFCD Biodiversity Information Hub.
- 2. Cap. 170 Wild Animals Protection Ordinance.
- 3. Species in bold are considered of conservation importance.
- 4. Bat species recorded by Acoustic Bat Detector and mammal species recorded by Infrared Camera Trap are excluded.

Abbreviations:

- Conservation Status in Fellowes et al. (2002): GC = Global Concern; LC = Local Concern; PGC = Potential Global Concern; PRC = Potential Regional Concern; RC = Regional Concern;
- Habitat: AGR = Agricultural Land; DA = Developed Area; GS = Grassland/Shrubland; MA = Marsh; MW = Modified Watercourse; NW = Natural Watercourse; O = Orchard; PL = Plantation; PO = Pond; WA = Wasteland; WG = Wet Grassland; WL = Woodland

Appendix G2 Bat Species Recorded within the Study Area by Acoustic Bat Detector

Common Names Scientific Names		Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status ²³⁴⁵⁶⁷
Greater Bent- winged Bat	Miniopterus magnater	Data deficient.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC; Cap. 170
Himalayan Leaf- nosed Bat	Hipposideros armiger	Very common. Widely distributed in countryside areas throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC); Cap. 170
Least Pipistrelle	Pipistrellus tenuis	Uncommon. Ten-something records found in Nam Chung, Sheung Wo Hang, Lin Ma Hang, Plover Cove Country Park, Yuen Long, Shek Pik, Deep Water Bay, Ho Pui and Ho Chung.	Сар. 170
Chinese Noctule	Nyctalus plancyi	Common. Fairly widely distributed in countryside areas throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): PRC; Cap. 170
Lesser Yellow Bat	Scotophilus kuhlii	Uncommon. Fairly widely distributed in countryside areas throughout Hong Kong.	Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC); Cap. 170
Chinese Pipistrelle	Hypsugo pulveratus	Rare/Species of Conservation Concern. Only several records in the countryside areas at Ting Kau, Ma On Shan and Lin Ma Hang, and several records of stray individuals inside buildings.	Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC); Cap. 170
Japanese Pipistrelle	Pipistrellus abramus	Very common. Widely distributed throughout Hong Kong.	Сар. 170
Lesser Bamboo Bat	Tylonycteris pachypus	Very common. Fairly widely distributed in countryside areas throughout Hong Kong.	China Red Data Book Status: Rare; Fellowes et al. (2002): (LC); Cap. 170

Remark: all wild bat species are protected under Cap. 170 Wild Animals Protection Ordinance in Hong Kong².

Notes:

- 1. AFCD (2023). AFCD Biodiversity Information Hub.
- 2. Cap. 170 Wild Animals Protection Ordinance.
- 3. Wang (1999). China Red Data Book of Endangered Animals: Mammalia.
- 4. Fellowes et al. (2002). Wild animals to watch: Terrestrial and freshwater fauna of conservation concern in Hong Kong

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- For conservation status listed by Fellowes et al. (2002), letters in parentheses indicate that the assessment is on the basis of restrictedness in breeding and/or roosting sites rather than in general occurrence.
- 5. Species in bold are considered of conservation importance.
- 6. As bats are highly mobile, and no specific habitat utilization of the recorded bats was observed, locations of bats were recorded by within the Application Site or outside the Application Site.

Abbreviations:

• Conservation Status in Fellowes et al. (2002): GC = Global Concern; LC = Local Concern; PGC = Potential Global Concern; PRC = Potential Regional Concern; RC = Regional Concern

Appendix H Freshwater Species Recorded within the Study Area

				Relative Abundance with							ithin S	n Study Area						
Common Names	Scientific Names	Rarity and Distribution in Hong Kong ¹	Conservation status ^{2 3 4 5 6 7}	Within Application Site		Outside Application Site												
				WA	WG	AGR	DA	GS	MA	MW	NW	OR	PL	РО	WA	WG	WL	
Mosquito fish	Gambusia affinis	Introduced as a mosquito- control agent, widespread in local freshwater bodies.	-		+					+	+					+		
Dwarf snakehead	Channa gachua	Probably an introduced species. Records from a few streams in North District.								+	+							
Typical Tilapia	<i>Tilapia</i> sp.	-	-							+	+					+		
Apple snail	Ampullariidae sp.				+	+			+	+	+					+		

Notes:

- 1. AFCD (2023). AFCD Biodiversity Information Hub.
- 2. Fellowes et al. (2002). Wild animals to watch: Terrestrial and freshwater fauna of conservation concern in Hong Kong.
 - For conservation status listed by Fellowes *et al.* (2002), letters in parentheses indicate that the assessment is on the basis of restrictedness in breeding and/or roosting sites rather than in general occurrence.
- 3. International Union of Conservation for Nature (2023). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2022-2.
- 4. Reels (2019). An annotated check list of Hong Kong dragonflies and assessment of their local conservation significance.
- 5. Stanton & Leven. (2016). Distribution, habitat utilisation and conservation status of the freshwater crab, Somanniathelphusa zanklon Ng & Dudgeon, 1992 (Crustacea: Brachyura: Gecarcinucidae) endemic to Hong Kong.
- 6. Tam *et al.* (2011). The Dragonflies of Hong Kong.
- 7. Species in bold are considered of conservation importance.

Abbreviations:

- Relative abundance: + = scarce, ++ = occasional, +++ = abundant
- Conservation Status in Fellowes et al. (2002): GC = Global Concern; LC = Local Concern; PGC = Potential Global Concern; PRC = Potential Regional Concern; RC = Regional Concern; RC =
- Conservation Status: EN = Endangered; VU = Vulnerable

Previous s.16 Applications

Rejected Applications

Application No.	Proposed Development	Date of Consideration	Rejection Reasons
A/NE-FTA/151	Proposed Temporary Goods Reshuffling Yards for a Period of 3 Years	24.7.2015 (on review)	R1, R3 & R5
A/NE-FTA/156	Proposed Temporary Unloading/Loading Platforms for a Period of 3 Years	9.10.2015	R1, R4 & R5
A/NE-FTA/182	Proposed Filling of Land and Pond for Permitted Agricultural Use (Hydroponic Farm)	6.4.2018	R2, R5 & R6
A/NE-FTA/186	Filling of Land for Permitted Agricultural Use (Hydroponic Farm)	7.9.2018	R5, R6 & R7

Rejection Reasons

- R1 The proposed use was not in line with the planning intention of the "Agriculture" ("AGR") zone for the area which was primarily intended to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It was also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes. There was no strong planning justification in the submission for a departure from such planning intention, even on a temporary basis.
- R2 The planning intention of the "AGR" zone was primarily to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It was also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes. There was no strong planning justifications for land/pond filling of 2 to 3m in height (+6.5mPD) for agricultural purpose.
- R3 The proposed use did not comply with the Town Planning Board Guidelines for Application for Open Storage and Port Back-up Uses (TPB PG-No. 13E) in that there was no previous planning approval granted at the site; the proposed development was not compatible with the surrounding land uses which were predominantly rural in character; there were adverse departmental comments on the application; and the applicant failed to demonstrate that the development would have no adverse traffic, environmental and landscape impacts on the surrounding areas.
- R4 The application did not comply with the TPB PG-No. 13E in that there was no previous planning approval granted at the site; the proposed development was not compatible with the surrounding land uses which were predominantly rural in character; there were adverse departmental comments on the application; and the applicant failed to demonstrate that the development would have no adverse environmental and landscape impacts on the surrounding area.
- R5 Approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for similar applications within the same "AGR" zone. The cumulative effect of approving such similar applications would result in a general degradation of the environment of the area.

- R6 The applicant failed to demonstrate that the filling of land and pond would not cause adverse drainage, environmental, ecological, landscape and traffic impacts on the surrounding area.
- R7 The planning intention of the "AGR" zone was primarily to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It was also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes. There was no strong planning justifications for land filling of 1.5m in height (5mPD to 6mPD) for agricultural purpose.

Appendix III of RNTPC Paper No. A/NE-FTA/247A

Similar s.16 Applications for Temporary Warehouse in the vicinity of the application site within/partly within the "Agriculture" zone <u>in the Fu Tei Au and Sha Ling Area</u>

Approved Applications

Application No.	Uses/Developments	Date of Consideration
A/NE-FTA/201*	Proposed Temporary Cold Storage for Poultry and Distribution Centre for a Period of 3 Years and Land Filling for Site Formation Works	28.5.2021 (revoked on 28.12.2023)
A/NE-FTA/220*	/NE-FTA/220 [*] Proposed Temporary Cold Storage for Poultry and Distribution Centre for a Period of 3 Years and Filling of Land for Site Formation Works	
A/NE-FTA/238	Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with Ancillary Facilities for a Period of Three Years and Associated Filling of Land	21.6.2024

Remarks

^{*} Application No. A/NE-FTA/220 occupies part of the application site of application No. A/NE-FTA/201.

Government Departments' General Comments

1. Land Administration

Comments of the District Lands Officer/North, Lands Department (DLO/N, LandsD):

- no objection to the application;
- the application site (the Site) comprises Lot 526 in D.D. 89 held under New Grant No. 6514 for the purpose of agriculture only and no structure shall be erected on the lot. The remaining lots in the Site are Old Schedule Agricultural Lots No. 427 S.D, 427 RP, 427 S.E RP, 433, 445, 446, 447, 458 S.B RP, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 518 RP, 520 RP, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525 S.A and 525 RP all in D.D. 89 held under the Block Government Lease which contains the restriction that no structures are allowed to be erected without the prior approval of the Government. No right of access via Government land is granted to the Site; and
- detailed advisory comments are in Appendix V.

2. <u>Traffic</u>

Comments of the Commissioner for Transport (C for T):

- no comment on the application from traffic engineering perspective;
- approval condition on the implementation of traffic management measures as proposed by the applicant within 9 months from the date of planning approval to the satisfaction of C for T or of the Town Planning Board shall be imposed; and
- the proposed vehicular access between Man Kam To Road and the Site is not managed by the Transport Department. The applicant should seek comments from the responsible party.

Comments of the Chief Engineer/Technical Services, Railway Development Office, Highways Department (CE/TS, RDO, HyD):

• the Site would encroach onto the preliminary alignment of Northern Link Eastern Extension which is now under planning as mentioned in the Hong Kong Major Transport Infrastructure Development Blueprint promulgated by the Government in December 2023. However, considering the temporary use of warehouse (excluding dangerous goods godown) with ancillary facilities of the subject application for a period of three years, he has no particular comment on the application.

3. Drainage

Comments of the Chief Engineer/Mainland North, Drainage Services Department (CE/MN, DSD):

• having considered that the application is to facilitate the relocation of affected brownfield operators affected by the new development areas and in order to streamline the process and act as a facilitator, he has no objection in principle to the application provided that a revised drainage impact assessment (DIA) would be submitted afterwards;

- should the application be approved, approval conditions should be included to request the applicant to submit a revised DIA and the flood mitigation measures proposed in the DIA and any other stormwater drainage facilities should be implemented and maintained at all times during the planning approval period;
- detailed comments on the application and the submitted DIA are appended in **Appendix V**; and
- the Site is in an area where no public sewerage connection is available. Environmental Protection Department should be consulted regarding the sewage treatment/disposal facilities for the proposed use.

4. <u>Landscape</u>

Comments of the Chief Town Planner/Urban Design and Landscape, Planning Department (CTP/UD&L, PlanD):

- with reference to the aerial photo of 2023, the Site is located in an area of rural inland plains landscape character comprising farmlands, temporary structures, domestic dwellings, vegetated areas and tree clusters. Noticeable change to the existing rural landscape character is anticipated. Based on the site record, the Site is covered by self-seeded plants and some trees of common and undesirable species;
- with reference to the Further Information (FI) (**Appendix Ic**), it is noted that a total no. of 28 existing trees including 1 no. of dead tree are identified within the Site. All existing trees will be affected and proposed to be felled. Based on the landscape proposal (**Drawing A-4**), 28 nos. of new trees with continuous soil trench of minimum 1.2m(W) x 1.2m(D) are proposed within the Site to the northwest and southwest along the boundary. She has no further comments on the FI; and
- detailed advisory comments are in **Appendix V**.

5. <u>Fire Safety</u>

Comments of the Director of Fire Services (D of FS):

- no objection in principle to the proposal subject to fire service installations (FSIs) being provided to his satisfaction; and
- detailed comments on the FSIs proposal are appended in Appendix V.

6. <u>New Development Area</u>

Comment of the Project Manager (North), Civil Engineering and Development Department (PM(N), CEDD):

• it is noted that the proposed temporary warehouse (excluding dangerous goods godown) with ancillary facilities on a three-year basis and associated filling of land (the subject development) are located within the proposed development area of Lo Wu/Man Kam To (LW/MKT) under the Planning and Engineering (P&E) Study for New Territories North (NTN) New Town and Man Kam To which was already commenced on 29.10.2021. While

the implementation programme of LW/MKT is being formulated under the P&E Study, the site formation works will likely commence soon after the completion of detailed design in next stage. Hence, the applicant is reminded that subject to the land use planning in the P&E Study, the subject development, if approved, may need to be vacated for the site formation works.

7. Other Departments

The following government departments have no comment on/no objection to the application:

- Chief Highway Engineer/New Territories East, Highways Department;
- Chief Building Surveyor/New Territories West, Buildings Department;
- Chief Engineer/Construction, Water Supplies Department; and
- District Officer (North), Home Affairs Department.

Recommended Advisory Clauses

- (a) to resolve any land issues relating to the development with the concerned owner(s) of the application site (the Site);
- (b) to note the comments of the District Lands Officer/North, Lands Department (DLO/N, LandsD) that:
 - (i) the Site comprises Lot 526 in D.D. 89 held under New Grant No. 6514 for the purpose of agriculture only and no structure shall be erected on the lot. The remaining lots in the Site are Old Schedule Agricultural Lots No. 427 S.D, 427 RP, 427 S.E RP, 433, 445, 446, 447, 458 S.B RP, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 518 RP, 520 RP, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525 S.A and 525 RP all in D.D. 89 held under the Block Government Lease which contains the restriction that no structures are allowed to be erected without the prior approval of the Government. No right of access via Government land (GL) is granted to the Site;
 - (ii) the lot owners shall apply to her office for Short Term Waiver (STW) and Short Term Tenancy (STT) to permit the structures to be erected within the private lots and the occupation of GL. The application for STW and STT will be considered by the Government in its capacity as a landlord and there is no guarantee that they will be approved. The STW and STT, if approved, will be subject to such terms and conditions including the payment of waiver fee/rent and administrative fee as considered appropriate by LandsD. Given the proposed use is temporary in nature, only erection of temporary structure(s) will be considered; and
 - (iii) the applicant/lot owners should comply with all the land filling requirements imposed by relevant Government departments. GL should not be disturbed unless with prior approval;
- (c) to note the comments of the Commissioner for Transport (C for T) that the proposed vehicular access between Man Kam To Road and the Site is not managed by the Transport Department. The applicant should seek comments from the responsible party;
- (d) to note the comments of the Chief Engineer/Technical Services, Railway Development Office, Highways Department (CE/TS, RDO, HyD) that the Site would encroach onto the preliminary alignment of Northern Link Eastern Extension which is now under planning as mentioned in the Hong Kong Major Transport Infrastructure Development Blueprint promulgated by the Government in December 2023;
- (e) to note the comments of the Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (DAFC) that:
 - (i) the Site is largely covered with herbaceous plants and tree saplings and is not fully accessible. A small portion of the Site at the north (partly within Lots 464 and 465 in D.D. 89 and the adjacent GL) is a marsh. Watercourse and marsh are located adjacent to the Site. There are records of aquatic fauna, dragonflies, butterflies and birds within and in the vicinity of the Site. Due to the sensitivity of the nearby habitats, an ecological impact assessment (EcoIA) is required to assess the potential ecological impact on the Site and its surroundings. Any wetland habitats within the Site should be excluded from the application. The applicant should also propose mitigation measures to avoid pollution and disturbance to the nearby natural environment, in particular on the wetland habitats and fauna;

- (ii) it is noted from the Further Information (FI) (Appendix Ic) that the wetland within the Site was still included as part of the Site. His comment on excluding any wetland habitats within the Site remains valid;
- (iii) in addition to the buffer area mentioned in the Responses to Comments of the FI (**Appendix Ic**), any wetland habitats within the Site should be excluded from the application; and
- (iv) specific comments on the FI (Appendix Ic)
 - the wetland habitats have been underrated;
 - the habitat photos in Figure 5 revealed that the habitat type should be "Grassland" instead of "Wasteland";
 - the potential value and overall ecological value of "Wasteland" (which he is of the view the habitat should be "Grassland" instead) and "Wet Grassland" have been underrated; and
 - did not agree that that direct loss of the wet grassland should be evaluated as "minor". As mentioned above, direct loss of wetland habitats should be avoided. The applicant should revise the site boundary and update the relevant paragraph as appropriate;
- (f) to note the comments of the Chief Town Planner/Urban Design and Landscape of Planning Department (CTP/UD&L, PlanD) that approval of the application does not imply approval of tree works such as pruning, transplanting and felling. The applicant should seek approval for any proposed tree works from relevant departments prior to commencement of the works;
- (g) to note the comments of the Director of Environmental Protection (DEP) that:
 - to implement the relevant mitigation measures and follow the requirements in the latest 'Code of Practice on Handling the Environmental Aspects of Temporary Uses and Open Storage Sites' and sewerage facilities shall be provided in accordance to Professional Persons Environmental Consultative Committee Practices Notes PN 1/23; and
 - (ii) to strictly comply with all environmental protection/pollution ordinances, in particular the Water Pollution Control Ordinance and Noise Control Ordinance;
- (h) to note the comments of the Chief Engineer/Mainland North, Drainage Services Department (CE/MN, DSD) that:
 - (i) the applicant should minimise the possible adverse environmental impacts on the existing watercourse in his design and during construction. DAFC and DEP should be consulted on possible environmental and/or ecological impacts of the proposed use; and
 - (ii) the Site is in an area of no public sewerage connection is available. EPD should be consulted regarding the sewage treatment/disposal facilities for the proposed use;
 - (iii) the applicant is advised on the following comments on the application and the submitted drainage impact assessment (DIA) (**Appendix Ib**):
 - para. 1.2.2 the applicant should advise entrance path in the layout plan and provide further justification on the proposed substantial landfilling height all over the site area;

- para. 4.1.3 & 4.1.4 the operation mechanism seems contradictory at two paragraphs. The applicant should review if the rainstorm water would overflow to manhole A, or controlled by penstock during rainstorm events. Please also clarify if the stored water would be discharged by gravity or pumping system after the rainstorm event;
- Figure 3
 - ♦ in addition to the proposed drainage layout plan, the applicant should provide the existing drainage layout for reference and to demonstrate that the drainage impact to the existing drainage system is acceptable to other parties in the vicinity;
 - \diamond the invert level at the proposed storage tank should be provided;
 - the applicant should advise if hoarding/fencing would be erected along the site boundary and design for uninterrupted path for overland flow from external catchment areas;
- Figure 4-1 the applicant should elaborate the land status of the "area suspected with flood storage" with aerial photo and/or existing site photo, and also if the existing flood storage area collects flow from catchment area outside the development area. If confirmative, the applicant should further advise how the proposed drainage design could cater for the flow from external catchments;
- Appendix A1 the applicant should supplement the adoption of the time of consideration (ToC) at 3 min;
- Appendix B it appears that the proposed no-less-than- $1920m^3$ flood storage facility was not shown on the proposed site layout plan. Please supplement on the layout plan and provide the relevant dimension and schematic details to demonstrate the feasibility on site;
- the storage tank and the associated drainage system should be ready before commencement of any construction works that might induce drainage impacts; and
- photos should be submitted clearly showing the current conditions of the area around the Site, the existing drainage/flowpaths around the Site, the proposed drainage from the Site to the downstream existing watercourse. The locations of the camera and the direction of each photo should also be indicated on a plan.
- (i) to note the comments of the Director of Fire Services (D of FS) that in consideration of the design/nature of the proposal, fire service installations (FSIs) are anticipated to be required. The applicant should submit relevant layout plans incorporated with the proposed FSIs to his satisfaction. In addition, the following points should be noted:
 - (i) the layout plans should be drawn to scale and depicted with dimensions and nature of occupancy; and
 - (ii) the location of the proposed FSIs to be installed should be clearly marked on the layout plans;

if the proposed structures are required to comply with the Buildings Ordinance (BO) (Cap. 123), detailed fire service requirements will be formulated upon receipt of formal submission of general building plans;

- (j) to note the comments of Project Manager (North), Civil Engineering and Development Department (PM(N), CEDD) that the proposed temporary warehouse (excluding dangerous goods godown) with ancillary facilities on a three-year basis and associated filling of land (the subject development) are located within the proposed development area of Lo Wu/Man Kam To (LW/MKT) under the Planning and Engineering (P&E) Study for New Territories North (NTN) New Town and Man Kam To which was already commenced on 29.10.2021. While the implementation programme of LW/MKT is being formulated under the P&E Study, the site formation works will likely commence soon after the completion of detailed design in next stage. Hence, subject to the land use planning in the P&E Study, the subject development may need to be vacated for the site formation works; and
- (k) to note the comments of the Chief Building Surveyor/New Territories West, Buildings Department (CBS/NTW, BD) that:
 - (i) it is noted that two new structures are proposed in the application. Before any new building works are to be carried out on the Site, prior approval and consent of the Building Authority (BA) should be obtained unless they are exempted building works, designated exempted works or minor works commenced under the simplified requirements under the BO. Otherwise they are unauthorized buildings works (UBWs). An Authorized Person (AP) should be appointed as the coordinator for the proposed building works in accordance with the BO;
 - (ii) for UBW erected on leased land, enforcement action may be taken by the BA to effect their removal in accordance with BD's enforcement policy against UBWs as and when necessary. The granting of any planning approval should not be construed as an acceptance of any existing building works or UBWs on the Site under the BO;
 - (iii) any temporary shelters or converted containers for storage or office, canteen or other uses are considered as temporary buildings and subject to the control of Part VII of the Building (Planning) Regulations (B(P)R);
 - (iv) the Site shall be provided with means of obtaining access thereto from a street under regulation 5 of the B(P)R and emergency vehicular access shall be provided under regulation 41D of B(P)R;
 - (v) if the Site is not abutting on a specified street having a width not less than 4.5m, the development intensity shall be determined by the BA under regulation 19(3) of the B(P)R at building plan submission stage;
 - (vi) in general there is no requirement under the BO in respect of provision of car parking spaces for a proposed development. However, the applicant should note the provision of accessible car parking spaces designated for the use of persons with a disability as per the requirements under regulation 72 of B(P)R and Division 3 of Design Manual: Barrier Free Access 2008;
 - (vii) the applicant should note the provision under regulations 40 and 41 of the Building (Standards of Sanitary Fitments, Plumbing, Drainage Works and Latrines) Regulations in respect of disposal of foul water and surface water respectively;

- (viii) the headroom of the storey not be excessive, otherwise gross floor area of the storey will be considered double counting under regulation 23(3)(a) of the B(P)R subject to justification; and
- (ix) formal submission under the BO is required for any proposed new works, including any temporary structures, site formation works like filling of ponds and land and site formation drainage works. Detailed comments under BO on individual sites for private developments such as permissible plot ratio, site coverage, emergency vehicular access, private streets and/or access roads, barrier free access and facilities, compliance with the sustainable building design guidelines, etc. will be formulated at the formal building plan submission stage.

致城市規劃委員會秘書:

專人送遞或郵遞:香港北角渣華道 333 號北角政府合署 15 樓 傳真: 2877 0245 或 2522 8426 電郵: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk

To : Secretary, Town Planning Board

By hand or post : 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong By Fax : 2877 0245 or 2522 8426 By e-mail : tpbpd@pland.gov.hk

有關的規劃申請編號 The application no. to which the comment relates <u>A/NE-FTA/247</u>

意見詳情 (如有需要,請另頁說明)

Details of the Comment (use separate sheet if necessary)

「提意見人」姓名/名稱 Name of person/company making this comment / 孩子-」 日期 Date ____47.5 簽署 Signature

就規劃申請/覆核提出意見 Making Comment on Planning Application / Review							
參考編號 Reference Number:	240715-132420-33726						
提交限期 Deadline for submission:	16/07/2024						
提交日期及時間 Date and time of submission:	15/07/2024 13:24:20						
有關的規劃申請編號 The application no. to which the comment relates:	A/NE-FTA/247						
「提意見人」姓名/名稱 Name of person making this comment:	先生 Mr. Lau Cheuk Fung						

意見詳情 Details of the Comment :

1. The proposed temporary warehouse is not in align with the planning intention of the "AGR" z one that was preliminary to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds f or agricultural purposes. It is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for re habilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes.

2. The proposed development is VERY close to (even within) a large, continue, active and qualit y farming area to the southwest of the site. The closest distance between the development site an d active farmland is ONLY 60m. It is anticipated that the warehouse operation and construction will pose water pollution, noise pollution and visual impact to the nearby farmland. BUT no tech nical assessment is submitted to TPB.

3. To the south of Lo Wu Station Road and Sandy Ridge is a quality and active farming area, wh ich is potential to be a "Agricultural Priority Area" to support the agricultural development in N orthern Metropolis. Such proposed development will set an undesirable precedent case for simil ar application in this area in the future.

4. The filling of land will cause IRREVERSIBLE impact to this planned farmland.

5. NO Sewerage & Drainage Impact Assessment is provided to proof the warehouse will not pos e impact to the nearby waterbody and active farmland.

3

就規劃申請/覆核提出意見 Making Comment on Planning 參考編號	Application / Review							
Reference Number:	240716-174210-98728							
提交限期 Deadline for submission:	16/07/2024							
提交日期及時間 Date and time of submission:	16/07/2024 17:42:10							
有關的規劃申請編號 The application no. to which the comment relates:	A/NE-FTA/247							
「提意見人」姓名/名稱 Name of person making this comment:	女士 Ms. Lai							
意見詳情								
Details of the Comment :								
這份A/NE-FTA247擬議包括填土工程(不多於2.5米高),這片土地再次被要求填高泥 土,在2018年間已有擬議A/NE-FTA/182事件填了高過預期高度泥土、破壞周邊環境包 括疏水、排水和造成水浸等問題,被要求還原可接受主水平+泥土。原本農地受破壞,借 機改變用途。填上混凝土就很難翻生了。								
期望有關當局關注這地段土地填土的高度和周圍環境和道路是否可以取得平衡共存?只要有規劃地改變,不要個別團體利益先行。 土地填土過高改變現有環境,加上疏水、排水等系統應付需求,居民生活環境受到影響,最重要是不要水浸和倒灌等危機。								
還有這份擬議北面有大明渠通過,它是這地段唯一排水道,由東面流經羅湖道下渠道沿 途收集周邊兩水、山水等,時刻保持通順,土地填高泥土,應該有加護土牆等工程保 護、保障這條渠道,理應得到有關當局批準和監察。								

From: Sent: To: Subject: Attachment:

2024-07-15 星期一 15:58:21 tpbpd/PLAND <tpbpd@pland.gov.hk> DHK's comment on A/NE-FTA/247 20240716 A_NE-FTA_247 Man Kam To Temp Warehouse and Land Filling in AGR.pdf

Dear Sir/Madam,

Our comment on the following application is attached: 1. A/NE-FTA/247

Thank you for your attention.

Regards,

Samuel Wong Project Officer | Designing Hong Kong Limited



15 July 2024 Chairman and Members Town Planning Board 15/F, North Point Government Offices 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong Fax: 2877 0245; Email: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk

Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land (Application No. A/NE-FTA/247)

Dear Chairman and Members,

Designing Hong Kong Limited **objects** the captioned for the following reasons:

- The proposed area is zoned as "Agriculture (AGR)". The planning intention of this zone is primarily for retaining and safeguarding good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes.
- It is noted that several applications at the same site were **rejected** by the Board between 2015 and 2018 with the following reason:

"Approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for similar applications within the same "AGR" zone. The cumulative effect of approving such similar applications would result in a general degradation of the environment of the area."

- From the Google Earth's aerial image, the proposed site has been cleared and destroyed in late 2017 and later reinstated as the existing condition. We concern the Town Planning Board may be rewarding an **"Destroy First, Development Later" practice** and **unauthorized development** here through the approval of captioned application.
- Active farming activities are still found at the South and West of the application site which shows a good potential for this site for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes.
- The approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for other applications within the "Agriculture (AGR)" zone, and lead to a general degradation of the rural environment of the area.

Here we submit our concerns for your consideration.

Yours,

Designing Hong Kong Limited

From: Sent: To: Subject:

2024-07-15 星期一 02:55:01 tpbpd/PLAND <tpbpd@pland.gov.hk> A/NE-FTA/247 DD 89 Nam Kam To Road

A/NE-FTA/247

Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land, near Lo Wu Station Road, Man Kam To Road, New Territories

Site area: About 16,256m² Includes Government Land of about 80m²

Zoning: "Agriculture"

Applied Development: Warehouse / 19 Vehicle Parking / Filling of Land

Dear TPB Members,

Strong Objections. In 2018 the site was rejected under an application for Hydroponic Farming. But since then the government has reneged on its pledges to phase out brownfield operations and is fully committed to converting every field in NT to such use.

Members should refer to the papers and minutes re 186 and question why the site has been completely stripped of vegetation and is now being applied for a use that is not Col 2. Neither is the area one of those designated under the manipulative Notes that effectively render zoning obsolete.

This is an area with considerable farming activity. There are ponds on adjacent lots. The site is beside a playground so the introduction of frequent trips by large vehicles is certainly not appropriate.

Why has the government not ensured that its mega construction projects do not include sturdy multi floor warehouses?

The application should be rejected as it is inconceivable that white becomes black in such a short time frame.

Mary Mulvihill

From:

To: tpbpd <<u>tpbpd@pland.gov.hk</u>> Date: Thursday, 1 November 2018 2:35 AM HKT Subject: Re: A/NE-FTA/186 DD 89 Nam Kam To Road

Dear TPB Members,

□Urgent □Return receipt □Expand Group □Restricted □Prevent Copy

The 7 Sept minutes include additional information with regard to illegal operations at this site:

DEP had also received environmental complaints concerning the site in the past three years and during one of their ambush operation, a truck driver was caught red-handed dumping construction and demolition waste at the Site and he was convicted under Waste Disposal Ordinance.

PD: The Site was over 1.5 hectares and **majority of it had been filled up without planning permission. The current application was a "Destroy First, Build Later" case.** Although the northern part of the Site covering Lots 466, 520RP, 521 to 523 in DD89 had once obtained approvals from the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and LandsD for erection of agricultural structures, the land filling activities at that part of the Site exceeding +3.9mPD had never been agreed by relevant departments and the relevant Letter of Approval (LoA) and associated Certificates of Exemption (for Building Works and Site Formation) were cancelled and revoked on 12.10.2017.

It is blatantly obvious that this application has zero merit and that the relevant authorities must pursue remedial measures so that the site is restored.

Mary Mulvihill

From:

To: "tpbpd" <<u>tpbpd@pland.gov.hk</u>> Sent: Monday, August 6, 2018 2:20:24 AM Subject: A/NE-FTA/186 DD 89 Nam Kam To Road

A/NE-FTA/186 Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land, near Lo Wu Station Road, Man Kam To Road, New Territories Site area : About 15,836m² Includes Government Land of about 67m² Zoning : "Agriculture" Applied Development : Hydroponic Farm

Dear TPB Members,

Back again albeit a reduction in size andland filling to only 6m.

On 6 April when Application 182 was discussed the following details were revealed:

The District Lands Officer/North, Lands Department (LandsD) did not support the application from the land administration point of view on the grounds that there were illegal structures on the site, illegal occupation of government land and illegal landfilling activities had been carried out on the site. As for the rest of the site, the land/pond filling activities had never obtained permission from relevant departments. The Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (DAFC) objected to the application from nature conservation point of view in that the application site and its vicinity was a piece of wetland consisted of marsh/watercourse/etc., which might be of considerable ecological value, and the applicant failed to identify and address any potential ecological impact that might arise from the proposed land filling activity. The Commissioner for Transport did not support the application at this stage as the applicant

□Urgent □Return receipt □Expand Group □Restricted □Prevent Copy

should carry out a traffic impact assessment covering Man Kam To Road, Po Shek Wu Road, Jockey Club Road and road network of the Sheung Shui/Fanling district. The Chief Town Planner/Urban Design and Landscape, Planning Department (PlanD) objected to the application from landscape planning point of view **as there was an extensive unauthorised land filling of at least 2m in height and unauthorised significant vegetation clearance at the site prior to application**. The Director of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Chief Engineer/Mainland North, Drainage Services Department had reservations on the application as there was no technical assessment to demonstrate that the proposed use would not result in adverse drainage impacts. DEP had also **received environmental complaints concerning the site from 2015 to 2018.**

Even Plan D did not support application, indicating that that it is seriously bad. The application site was over 2 hectares and majority of it had been filled without planning permission. The current application was for further filling of the entire site to about +6.5mPD (which was about 2 to 3m in thickness based on original ground level), which was a "**Destroy First, Build Later**" case.

The extensive filling of land and pond with hard surface was considered incompatible with the rural agricultural landscape character in the area and the **applicant had not provided any justification for the required depth of land-filling (i.e. over 5mPD) for erection of hydroponic farm/greenhouses** and ancillary facilities.

Precisely, this type of activity does not require land filling and should be carried out on industrial sites as hydroponic farming is nothing more than an artificial form of farming and studies indicate that the produce lacks certain elements that only produce grown in the earth can provide.

Members must again reject what is an obvious Destroy First, Build Later development.

Mary Mulvihill

From:

To: "tpbpd" <<u>tpbpd@pland.gov.hk</u>> Sent: Tuesday, March 6, 2018 2:29:13 AM Subject: A/NE-FTA/182 DD 89 Nam Kam To Road

A/NE-FTA/182 Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land, near Lo Wu Station Road, Man Kam To Road, NT Site area : About 20,800m² Includes Government Land of about 100 m² Zoning : "Agriculture" Applied Development : Filling of Land and Pond 6.5m for Hydroponic Farm

Dear TPB Members,

Give over. Even a townie like me knows that hydroponic farming is essentially industrial in nature and can be carried out inside buildings, on roof tops, etc.

The produce is planted in containers on stands filled with nutrient solution. There is no direct planting into the earth so no land filling is required.

3

This is obviously an ongoing unapproved brownfield and the land filling is a Destroy to Build project. Note location close to Lo Wu.

TPB must reject this application as approval would set a most undesirable precedent.

Mary Mulvihill

From:	х.
Sent:	2024-07-16 星期二 13:16:18
То:	tpbpd/PLAND <tpbpd@pland.gov.hk></tpbpd@pland.gov.hk>
Cc:	
Subject:	Comments on the Section 16 Application No. A/NE-FTA/247
Attachment:	TPB20240716(FTA247).pdf
Dear Sir/Madam,	
Please refer to the attachment for	or the captioned.
Yours faithfully,	
Ng Hei Man (Mr.)	
C	

Campaign Manager The Conservancy Association T: D: F: Registered Name 註冊名稱 : The Conservancy Association 長春社 (Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability by guarantee 於香港註冊成立的擔保有限公司)

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The Conservancy Association

16th July 2024

Town Planning Board 15/F North Point Government Offices 333 Java Road North Point Hong Kong

By e-mail: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk

Dear Sir/Madam,

Comments on the Section 16 Application No. A/NE-FTA/247

The Conservancy Association OBJECTS to the captioned application.

1. Not in line with the planning intention of Agriculture (AGR) zone

According to the draft Fu Tei Au & Sha Ling Outline Zoning Plan (OZP) No. S/NE-FTA/18, the planning intention of AGR zone "*is intended primarily to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes*". From the figures in the application, the entire site would be filled by concrete. We worry that agricultural land would no longer be arable after the temporary use. We do not think that such plan is in line with the planning intention.

2. Adverse environmental impact

We worry that there would be several potential adverse environmental impacts:

Adverse impact on Greater painted-snipe and other wetland-associated species:
 Abandoned agricultural land would become seasonally wet and offer a range of opportunities for wetland-associated and aquatic fauna. Previous studies¹ have revealed that Greater painted-snipe was once recorded in agricultural land in Sha

¹ Ove Arup (2016), Site Formation and Associated Infrastructural Works for Development of Columbarium, Crematorium and Related Facilities at Sandy Ridge Cemetery – Design and Construction, Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report.





Ling. This is a rare and localised breeding species in Hong Kong² such that any breeding sites is of conservation importance. Since similar habitat can be spotted in the application site, we worry that direct loss of agricultural land would also pose adverse ecological impact on Greater painted-snipe, and other wetland-associated species.

- Potential impact on the watercourse: two watercourses are spotted at southern and northern periphery of the application site. No sufficient details are available to demonstrate any indirect ecological impacts would be resulted, and how these impacts could be mitigated. Meanwhile, potential drainage impacts are also not evaluated in details. We worry that the proposed land and pond filling activities would largely change the hydrology of the site, and such change would affect the adjacent agricultural activities and temporary uses.
- No plans on land recovery: The filling of the Site will be no more than 2.5m. Afterwards, warehouse office, washroom, loading/unloading space for container vehicles, private car parking space, etc., would be provided at the site. However, no details are available to illustrate how the land would be recovered after the proposed temporary use.

3. Undesirable precedent for similar applications

According to aerial photos of Google Earth Pro, this site has been subject to land formation and vegetation clearance (Figure 1-3) since 2017. we suspected that this is a case of "destroy first, build later".

Planning Department and members of Town Planning Board (TPB) should alert that TPB has announced approaches to deter "destroy first, build later" activities in 2011. It stated that "the Board is determined to conserve the rural and natural environment and will not tolerate any deliberate action to destroy the rural and natural environment in the hope that the Board would give sympathetic consideration to subsequent development

² Carey G.J., Chalmers M.L., Diskin D.A., Kennerley P.R., Leader P.J., Leven M.R., Lewthwaite R.W., Melville M.S., Turnbull M. and Young L. (2001). The Avifauna of Hong Kong. Hong Kong Bird Watching Society





on the site concerned"³. Therefore, this application should not be given any sympathetic consideration, or it will set an undesirable precedent for similar cases in future.

Yours faithfully, The Conservancy Association

³ Town Planning Board adopts approaches to deter "destroy first, build later" activities (2011). <u>http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201107/04/P201107040255.htm</u>

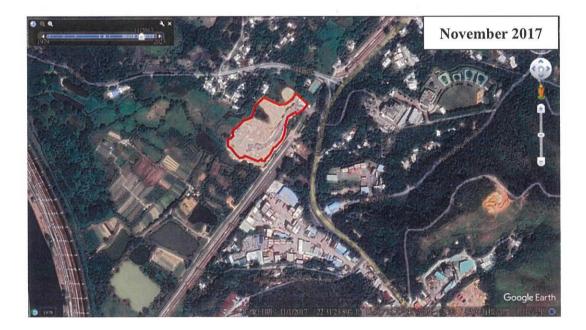


長春社 since 1968

The Conservancy Association

Figure 1-3 According to aerial photos of Google Earth Pro, the application site (marked in red) has been subject to land formation and vegetation clearance since 2017











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致城市規劃委員會秘書: 專人送遞或郵遞:香港北角渣華道 333 號北角政府合署 15 樓 傳真: 2877 0245 或 2522 8426 電郵: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk

To : Secretary, Town Planning Board

By hand or post : 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong By Fax : 2877 0245 or 2522 8426 By e-mail : tpbpd@pland.gov.hk

有關的規劃申請編號 The application no. to which the comment relates <u>A/NE-FTA/247 Received on 23/09/2024</u>

意見詳情 (如有需要, 請另頁說明)

Details of the Comment (use separate sheet if necessary)

. -便志、五 「提意見人」姓名/名稱 Wame of person/company making this comment // 日期 Date 2024.10.12 簽署 Signature

就規劃申請/覆核提出意見 Making Comment on Planning Application / Review		
參考編號 Reference Number:	241019-113854-34943	
提交限期 Deadline for submission:	25/10/2024	
提交日期及時間 Date and time of submission:	19/10/2024 11:38:54	
有關的規劃申請編號 The application no. to which the comment relates:	A/NE-FTA/247	
「提意見人」姓名/名稱 Name of person making this comment:	小姐 Miss Yuen Kwai Mui	
意見詳情 Details of the Comment :		
這個位置時常水浸以令居民困擾 而且影響排水 請撤銷這個申請		

FI I

From: Sent: To: Subject:

2024-10-20 星期日 03:17:55 tpbpd/PLAND <tpbpd@pland.gov.hk> Re: A/NE-FTA/247 DD 89 Nam Kam To Road

Dear TPB Members,

In view of the drainage issues and proximity to watercourses this application has to be rejected IF, and regretably this is doubtful, TPB'S OWN APPROVED GUIDELINES HAVE ANY SUBSTANCE.

This district is Cat 3 and 4, "**existing**" and approved open storage and port back-up uses are to be contained and further proliferation of such uses is not acceptable" TPB PG-No. 13G (Revised April 2023) TOWN PLANNING BOARD GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION FOR OPEN STORAGE AND PORT BACK-UP USES UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE

There is no justification for approval.

Mary Mulvihill

From:

To: tpbpd <<u>tpbpd@pland.gov.hk</u>> Date: Monday, 15 July 2024 2:55 AM HKT Subject: A/NE-FTA/247 DD 89 Nam Kam To Road

A/NE-FTA/247

Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land, near Lo Wu Station Road, Man Kam To Road, New Territories

Site area: About 16,256m² Includes Government Land of about 80m²

Zoning: "Agriculture"

Applied Development: Warehouse / 19 Vehicle Parking / Filling of Land

Dear TPB Members,

Strong Objections. In 2018 the site was rejected under an application for Hydroponic Farming. But since then the government has reneged on its pledges to phase out brownfield operations and is fully committed to converting every field in NT to such use.

Members should refer to the papers and minutes re 186 and question why the site has been completely stripped of vegetation and is now being applied for a use that is not Col 2. Neither is the area one of those designated under the manipulative Notes that effectively render zoning obsolete.

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This is an area with considerable farming activity. There are ponds on adjacent lots. The site is beside a playground so the introduction of frequent trips by large vehicles is certainly not appropriate.

Why has the government not ensured that its mega construction projects do not include sturdy multi floor warehouses?

The application should be rejected as it is inconceivable that white becomes black in such a short time frame.

Mary Mulvihill

From:

To: tpbpd <<u>tpbpd@pland.gov.hk</u>> Date: Thursday, 1 November 2018 2:35 AM HKT Subject: Re: A/NE-FTA/186 DD 89 Nam Kam To Road

Dear TPB Members,

The 7 Sept minutes include additional information with regard to illegal operations at this site:

DEP had also received environmental complaints concerning the site in the past three years and during one of their ambush operation, a truck driver was caught red-handed dumping construction and demolition waste at the Site and he was convicted under Waste Disposal Ordinance.

PD: The Site was over 1.5 hectares and **majority of it had been filled up without planning permission. The current application was a "Destroy First, Build Later" case.** Although the northern part of the Site covering Lots 466, 520RP, 521 to 523 in DD89 had once obtained approvals from the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and LandsD for erection of agricultural structures, the land filling activities at that part of the Site exceeding +3.9mPD had never been agreed by relevant departments and the relevant Letter of Approval (LoA) and associated Certificates of Exemption (for Building Works and Site Formation) were cancelled and revoked on 12.10.2017.

It is blatantly obvious that this application has zero merit and that the relevant authorities must pursue remedial measures so that the site is restored.

Mary Mulvihill

From:

To: "tpbpd" <<u>tpbpd@pland.gov.hk</u>> Sent: Monday, August 6, 2018 2:20:24 AM Subject: A/NE-FTA/186 DD 89 Nam Kam To Road

A/NE-FTA/186 Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land, near Lo Wu Station Road, Man Kam To Road, New Territories □Urgent □Return receipt □Expand Group □Restricted □Prevent Copy

Site area : About 15,836m² Includes Government Land of about 67m² Zoning : "Agriculture" Applied Development : Hydroponic Farm

Dear TPB Members,

Back again albeit a reduction in size andland filling to only 6m.

On 6 April when Application 182 was discussed the following details were revealed:

The District Lands Officer/North, Lands Department (LandsD) did not support the application from the land administration point of view on the grounds that there were illegal structures on the site, illegal occupation of government land and illegal landfilling activities had been carried out on the site. As for the rest of the site, the land/pond filling activities had never obtained permission from relevant departments. The Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (DAFC) objected to the application from nature conservation point of view in that the application site and its vicinity was a piece of wetland consisted of marsh/watercourse/etc., which might be of considerable ecological value, and the applicant failed to identify and address any potential ecological impact that might arise from the proposed land filling activity. The Commissioner for Transport did not support the application at this stage as the applicant should carry out a traffic impact assessment covering Man Kam To Road, Po Shek Wu Road, Jockey Club Road and road network of the Sheung Shui/Fanling district. The Chief Town Planner/Urban Design and Landscape, Planning Department (PlanD) objected to the application from landscape planning point of view as there was an extensive unauthorised land filling of at least 2m in height and unauthorised significant vegetation clearance at the site prior to application. The Director of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Chief Engineer/Mainland North, Drainage Services Department had reservations on the application as there was no technical assessment to demonstrate that the proposed use would not result in adverse drainage impacts. DEP had also received environmental complaints concerning the site from 2015 to 2018.

Even Plan D did not support application, indicating that that it is seriously bad. The application site was over 2 hectares and majority of it had been filled without planning permission. The current application was for further filling of the entire site to about +6.5mPD (which was about 2 to 3m in thickness based on original ground level), which was a "**Destroy First, Build Later**" case.

The extensive filling of land and pond with hard surface was considered incompatible with the rural agricultural landscape character in the area and the **applicant had not provided any justification for the required depth of land-filling (i.e. over 5mPD) for erection of hydroponic farm/greenhouses** and ancillary facilities.

Precisely, this type of activity does not require land filling and should be carried out on industrial sites as hydroponic farming is nothing more than an artificial form of farming and studies indicate that the produce lacks certain elements that only produce grown in the earth can provide.

Members must again reject what is an obvious Destroy First, Build Later development.

Mary Mulvihill

3

From:

To: "tpbpd" <<u>tpbpd@pland.gov.hk</u>> Sent: Tuesday, March 6, 2018 2:29:13 AM Subject: A/NE-FTA/182 DD 89 Nam Kam To Road

A/NE-FTA/182 Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land, near Lo Wu Station Road, Man Kam To Road, NT Site area : About 20,800m² Includes Government Land of about 100 m² Zoning : "Agriculture" Applied Development : Filling of Land and Pond 6.5m for Hydroponic Farm

Dear TPB Members,

Give over. Even a townie like me knows that hydroponic farming is essentially industrial in nature and can be carried out inside buildings, on roof tops, etc.

The produce is planted in containers on stands filled with nutrient solution. There is no direct planting into the earth so no land filling is required.

This is obviously an ongoing unapproved brownfield and the land filling is a Destroy to Build project. Note location close to Lo Wu.

TPB must reject this application as approval would set a most undesirable precedent.

Mary Mulvihill

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From: Sent: To: Subject: Attachment:

2024-10-25 星期五 08:00:00 tpbpd/PLAND <tpbpd@pland.gov.hk> Comments on the Section 16 Application No. A/NE-FTA/247 TPB20241025(FTA247).pdf

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please refer to the attachment for the captioned.

Yours faithfully, Ng Hei Man (Mr.) Campaign Manager The Conservancy Association T: D: F: Registered Name 註冊名稱 : The Conservancy Association 長春社 (Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability by guarantee 於香港註冊成立的擔保有限公司)

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The Conservancy Association

25th October 2024

Town Planning Board 15/F North Point Government Offices 333 Java Road North Point Hong Kong

By e-mail: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk

Dear Sir/Madam,

Comments on the Section 16 Application No. A/NE-FTA/247

The Conservancy Association OBJECTS to the captioned application.

1. Not in line with the planning intention of Agriculture (AGR) zone

According to the draft Fu Tei Au & Sha Ling Outline Zoning Plan (OZP) No. S/NE-FTA/18, the planning intention of AGR zone "*is intended primarily to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes*". From the figures in the application, the entire site would be filled by concrete. We worry that agricultural land would no longer be arable after the temporary use. We do not think that such plan is in line with the planning intention.

2. Adverse environmental impact

We worry that there would be several potential adverse environmental impacts:

Adverse impact on Greater painted-snipe and other wetland-associated species: Abandoned agricultural land would become seasonally wet and offer a range of opportunities for wetland-associated and aquatic fauna. Previous studies¹ have revealed that Greater painted-snipe was once recorded in agricultural land in Sha

¹ Ove Arup (2016), Site Formation and Associated Infrastructural Works for Development of Columbarium, Crematorium and Related Facilities at Sandy Ridge Cemetery – Design and Construction, Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report.



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Ling. This is a rare and localised breeding species in Hong Kong² such that any breeding sites is of conservation importance. Since similar habitat can be spotted in the application site, we worry that direct loss of agricultural land would also pose adverse ecological impact on Greater painted-snipe, and other wetland-associated species.

- Potential impact on the watercourse: two watercourses are spotted at southern and northern periphery of the application site. No sufficient details are available to demonstrate any indirect ecological impacts would be resulted, and how these impacts could be mitigated. Meanwhile, potential drainage impacts are also not evaluated in details. We worry that the proposed land and pond filling activities would largely change the hydrology of the site, and such change would affect the adjacent agricultural activities and temporary uses.
 - No plans on land recovery: The filling of the Site will be no more than 2.5m. Afterwards, warehouse office, washroom, loading/unloading space for container vehicles, private car parking space, etc., would be provided at the site. However, no details are available to illustrate how the land would be recovered after the proposed temporary use.

3. Undesirable precedent for similar applications

According to aerial photos of Google Earth Pro, this site has been subject to land formation and vegetation clearance (Figure 1-3) since 2017. we suspected that this is a case of "destroy first, build later".

Planning Department and members of Town Planning Board (TPB) should alert that TPB has announced approaches to deter "destroy first, build later" activities in 2011. It stated that "the Board is determined to conserve the rural and natural environment and will not tolerate any deliberate action to destroy the rural and natural environment in the hope that the Board would give sympathetic consideration to subsequent development on the site concerned"³. Therefore, this application should not be given

² Carey G.J., Chalmers M.L., Diskin D.A., Kennerley P.R., Leader P.J., Leven M.R., Lewthwaite R.W., Melville M.S., Turnbull M. and Young L. (2001). The Avifauna of Hong Kong. Hong Kong Bird Watching Society

³ Town Planning Board adopts approaches to deter "destroy first, build later" activities (2011).



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any sympathetic consideration, or it will set an undesirable precedent for similar cases in future.

Yours faithfully, The Conservancy Association

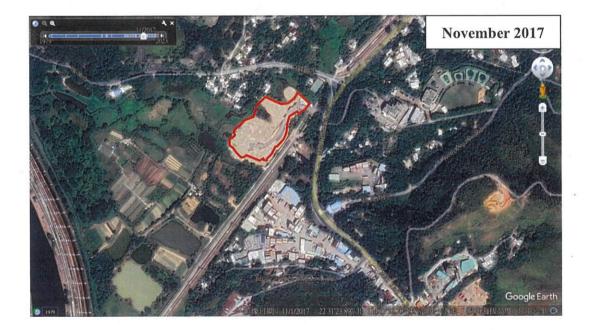
http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201107/04/P201107040255.htm





Figure 1-3 According to aerial photos of Google Earth Pro, the application site (marked in red) has been subject to land formation and vegetation clearance since 2017





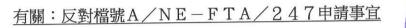


長春社 since 1968

The Conservancy Association



香港北角渣華道333號 北角政府合署15樓 城市規劃委員會



敬啟者:

我等是

袁焕宇祖全體後人,我等反對上述標題所示

的申請,我等後人及註冊司理人袁國仁先生,從未授權或委托什麼祖堂物業管理公 司或土地物業管理公司將我等祖堂土地改變任何用途。不知道申請人將我等祖堂土 地強行纳入其申請範圍內,我等後人不能接受,申請人是否有觸發法律行為。敬請 貴處小心處理這個申請。

同時,我等發現貴處公佈上述標題的告示中,只有丈量號碼而沒有地段號碼 希望貴處能改善告示通告,謝謝!此信。

袁焕宇祖全體後人:

二零二四年十月廿四日

RECEIVED

2 5 OCT 2024

Town Planning Board

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From: Sent: To: Subject: Attachment:

2024-10-25 星期五 21:02:20 tpbpd/PLAND <tpbpd@pland.gov.hk> KFBG's comments on 11 planning applications 241025 s16 FTA 247c.pdf; 241025 s16 KTN 1023 & 1024c.pdf; 241025 s16 KTN 1053.pdf; 241025 s16 HTF 1181.pdf; 241025 s16 HTF 1171.pdf; 241025 s12a TYST 9-10c.pdf; 241025 s12a LFS 13c.pdf; 241025 s12a LFS 12.pdf; 241025 s16 LYT 835.pdf

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Attached please see our comments regarding 11 applications. There are NINE pdf files attached to this email. If you cannot see/ download/ open these files, please notify us through email.

Please do not disclose our email address.

Thank You and Best Regards,

Ecological Advisory Programme Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden

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The Secretary, Town Planning Board, 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333, Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong. (Email: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk)

25th October, 2024.

By email only

Dear Sir/ Madam,

<u>Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with</u> <u>Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land</u> <u>(A/NE-FTA/247)</u>

1. We refer to the captioned.

2. There are at least four rejected applications covering the current application site. Reasons for the rejection of two of these applications are reproduced below:

A/NE-FTA/156 - Proposed Temporary Unloading/Loading Platforms for a Period of 3 Years

(a) the application is not in line with the planning intention of the "Agriculture" ("AGR") zone for the area which is primarily intended to retain and safeguard good agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes. There is no strong planning justification in the submission for a departure from such planning intention, even on a temporary basis;

(b) the application does not comply with the Town Planning Board Guidelines for Application for Open Storage and Port Back-up Uses (TPB PG-No. 13E) in that there is no previous planning approval granted at the site; the proposed development is not compatible with the surrounding land uses which are predominantly rural in character; there are adverse departmental comments on the application; and the applicant fails to demonstrate that the development would have no adverse environmental and landscape

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impacts on the surrounding area; and

(c) the approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for similar applications within the same "AGR" zone. The cumulative effect of approving such similar applications would result in a general degradation of the environment of the area.

<u>A/NE-FTA/186 - Filling of Land for Permitted Agricultural Use (Hydroponic Farm)</u> (withdrawn eventually)

(a) the planning intention of the "Agriculture" ("AGR") zone is primarily to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes. There is no strong planning justifications for land filling of 1.5m in height (5mPD to 6mPD) for agricultural purpose;

(b) the applicant fails to demonstrate that the filling of land would not cause adverse drainage, environmental, ecological, landscape and traffic impacts on the surrounding area; and

(c) the approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for other similar applications within the "AGR" zone. The cumulative impact of approving such applications would result in a general degradation of the environment of the area.

3. We urge the Board to consider whether any of the above reasons would also be applicable to the current application.

4. We also urge the Board to look at some recent photos showing the site and the habitats nearby (**Figure 1**). The application site is indeed located within a locality called 'Sandy Ridge Wetland Mosaic' in our recent farmland bird survey report¹. Based on the survey carried out by our experts, we consider that the ecological value of this mosaic was the highest (among the nine surveyed sites) and worth to be protected appropriately. This finding echoes with the results of a Planning Department study; in a study by the Planning

¹https://www.kfbg.org/images/download/kfbg%20northern%20metropolis%20bird%20report%20sept%20202 3%20eng.pdf



Department regarding the (former) Frontier Closed Area², the following statements are mentioned:

"The area to the southwest of Sandy Ridge, bounded to the west by the Ng Tung River and rail line and to the south by the Man Kam To Road, comprises active and inactive agricultural land, both wet and dry, and inactive fish ponds. This combination of habitats is generally attractive to birds, and this area is no exception. Twenty wetland-dependant species were recorded in the five surveys carried out as part of this study, including the rare Greater Painted-snipe. Although breeding was not actually proven, its occurrence throughout the year, the presence of calling birds in May and the presence of both inactive and wet agricultural areas suggests very strongly that breeding occurs...

The area lies close to Long Valley, and there are ecological linkages with this area, as shown by the occurrence of similar wetland dependent species, in particular, Cattle Egret, Common Teal, Greater Painted-snipe, Black-winged Stilt, Little Ringed Plover, Common Snipe and sandpipers Tringa, which are typical species at Long Valley but not in other, nearby wetland habitats...

The area also provides foraging grounds for Chinese Pond Herons nesting at the nearby Ho Sheung Heung Egretry, which lies across the Ng Tung River. These birds were seen flying directly from the egretry to the area during surveys.

A single Eurasian Otter was recorded in one of the inactive fish ponds in the wet agricultural area to the southwest of Sha Ling in January 2009. This is the only record of the species in this area of Hong Kong east of the Ng Tung River. Of conservation significance ('Near Threatened', IUCN; 'Vulnerable', China Red Data Book), the Hong Kong distribution of this protected species appears to be confined to the northwest New Territories (Shek 2006). The area provides potentially suitable breeding habitat..."

5. We would also like to remind the Board that the application site has suffered from large-scale environmental destruction in the past; enforcement and reinstatement notices have also been issued. We urge the Board to look at the on-site and aerial photos taken in various years as shown in our previous submissions (in **Appendix 1**) attached under the current letter.

² https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/SEA/eng/files/LandUsePlanningforClosedArea Chp7[1].pdf



We urge the Board to seriously investigate the history of the site (i.e., the serious environmental destruction appeared in the past) as well as the reasons by the then Town Planning Board to reject the aforementioned applications.

6. We would also like to remind the current Town Planning Board that a spokesman for the Board has said, '*The Board is determined to conserve the rural and natural environment and will not tolerate any deliberate action to destroy the rural and natural environment in the hope that the Board would give sympathetic consideration to subsequent development on the site concerned.*' This is documented in a government press release entitled 'Town Planning Board adopts approaches to deter "destroy first, build later" activities'³.

7. We urge the current Board to understand (and can also appropriately implement) the stance as claimed by the aforementioned spokesman.

8. Based on the photos in **Figure 1**, it seems that some vegetation clearance has been carried out recently within the application site; but the area in general is still largely green and the site would still have some ecological connectivity with the wetland and farmland to the west of the site.

- 9. Regarding this application, we urge the Board to consider the followings:
 - whether the approval would set a precedent for similar cases in this area
 - potential cumulative impacts caused by the approval of this application, especially on the farmland and wetland to the west of the site
 - Is the submitted drainage impact assessment able to address the potential drainage impact? Obviously the site is located in a low-lying area with human settlements nearby as shown in **Figure 1**.
 - Are there any other potential impacts needed to be addressed, such as environmental, ecological, visual and landscape, etc., and have/ should these potential impacts, if any, been/ be adequately addressed by relevant impact assessments? If these impacts are needed to be addressed, have relevant (and adequate) impact assessments been submitted to support this application?
 - In view of the ecological value of the nearby farmland and wetland, should an ecological impact assessment be carried out? If not, why is it not required?

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³ https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201107/04/P201107040255.htm



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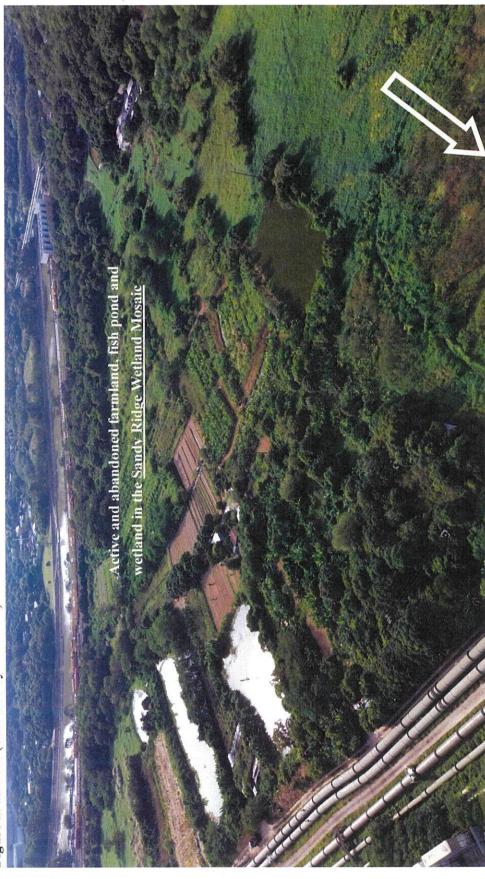
10. We urge the Board to unequivocally reject this application as we consider Agriculture zone should not be turned into brownfield site in general; the use is definitely not in line with the planning intention of the zoning of concern and we are also concerned about the potential ecological impacts that would be caused by the proposed use (we cannot see from the gists and town planning board website that an ecological impact assessment has been submitted for this application).

11. Thank you for your attention.

Ecological Advisory Programme Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden



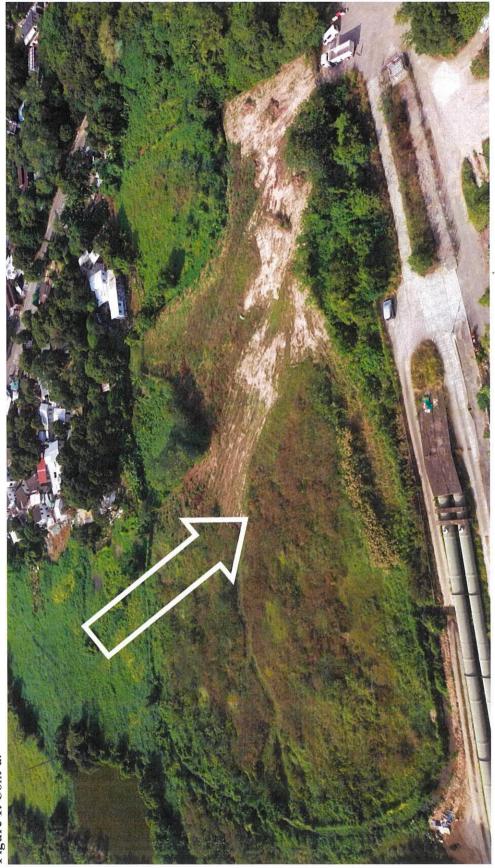
Figure 1. The site (indicated by the arrow) and the habitats to the west of the site.



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Figure 1. Cont'd.





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嘉道理農場暨植物園公司 Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden Corporation

The Secretary, Town Planning Board, 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333, Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong. (Email: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk)

22nd October, 2018.

By email only

Dear Sir/ Madam,

<u>Filling of Land for Permitted Agricultural Use (Hydroponic Farm)</u> (A/NE-FTA/186) (Review under Section 17)

1. We refer to the captioned.

2. The application for planning permission of the captioned was rejected in September, 2018, and the reasons for rejection are reproduced below:

(a) the planning intention of the "Agriculture" ("AGR") zone is primarily to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes. There is no strong planning justifications for land filling of 1.5m in height (5mPD to 6mPD) for agricultural purpose;

(b) the applicant fails to demonstrate that the filling of land would not cause adverse drainage, environmental, ecological, landscape and traffic impacts on the surrounding area; and

(c) the approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for other similar applications within the "AGR" zone. The cumulative impact of approving such applications would result in a general degradation of the environment of the area.

3. Based on our observation from the Planning Department, there are enforcement and



reinstatement notices issued for cases covering the current application site, and we could not see any compliance notice issued (information retrieved on 19th October, 2018). We would like to ask the Board to liaise with the relevant authorities as to whether or not the site is already properly reinstated. We strongly urge the Board to consider whether or not it is appropriate to approve an application if there are outstanding enforcement cases covering the application site.

4. Finally, we urge the Board to read our previous submission (Appendix 1) for more information.

5. Thank you for your attention.

Ecological Advisory Programme Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden

cc. Designing Hong Kong



The Secretary, Town Planning Board, 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333, Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong. (Email: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk)

30th July, 2018.

By email only

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Dear Sir/ Madam,

Filling of Land for Permitted Agricultural Use (Hydroponic Farm) (A/NE-FTA/186)

1. We refer to the captioned.

2. There was a similar application (for filling of land and pond, and hydroponic farm) at the current application site earlier this year (i.e., A/NE-FTA/182) and we objected to the application (please see our submission for the previous application, **Appendix 1**). The application was rejected by the Town Planning Board in April 2018 and the reasons for rejection are reproduced below:

(a) the planning intention of the "Agriculture" ("AGR") zone is primarily to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes. There is no strong planning justifications for land/pond filling of 2 to 3m in height (+6.5mPD) for agricultural purpose;

(b) the applicant fails to demonstrate that the filling of land and pond would not cause adverse drainage, environmental, ecological, landscape and traffic impacts on the surrounding area; and

(c) the approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for other similar applications within the "AGR" zone. The cumulative impact of approving such applications would result in a general degradation of the environment of the area.



3. According to the information retrieved from the Planning Department in July 2018, there are currently some outstanding enforcement cases (i.e., E/NE-FTA/163 and E/NE-FTA/168) covering the current application site and no compliance notices have been issued.

4. A Reinstatement Notice (RN) was issued for case no. E/NE-FTA/163 and the requirements in general included: (1) to remove the fill materials, and (2) to grass the areas. This RN expired on 2nd March, 2018. We visited the site again in July 2018; on-site photographs taken during the visit are shown in **Figure 1**. We urge the Board to compare these recent photographs with photographs taken in May 2015 and February 2018 as shown in **Appendix 1**.

5. Although the locality is not covered with conservation zonings, we hope that the Board will recall the farmland and fish pond areas to the southwest of Sandy Ridge has been considered to be of high conservation concern as described in our previous submission for A/NE-FTA/182 in **Appendix 1** (indeed, this is revealed from a Planning Department's study). However, based on our latest observations in July 2018, we consider that this site is now no longer able to provide suitable habitats for most wetland fauna including species of conservation importance like the Greater Painted Snipe, which has once been recorded in the area.

6. The original habitats at the site (e.g., shallow ponds and abandoned farmlands) are still subject to impacts (i.e., direct habitat loss) caused by the unauthorised land filling activity (see **Figure 1**). From an ecological point of view, we do not consider that the site has been properly reinstated in any way. We are unable to discern that the site has even been properly 'grassed' (see **Figure 1**) which is just one of the two requirements in the RN (<u>expired in March 2018</u>).

7. We hope that the Board will send a clear message to the public that any destroy first and develop later activities would (and should) NOT be tolerated, which is, indeed, a statement made by the Board¹. We also urge the Board to request the Planning Department speed-up the handling process for enforcement cases (the first Enforcement Notice was issued on 21st September 2017).

8. In 2016, the Ombudsman carried out an investigation on Government control of

¹ http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201107/04/P201107040255.htm



fly-tipping and land filling on private land. According to their report published in 2018², the Ombudsman considers that:

(1) Planning Department takes too long to enforce RNs.

(2) Planning Department's prosecution actions have little deterrent effect.

(3) ... Protecting zones of ecological/conservation value from damage by landfilling activities should be a paramount factor for consideration. When drawing up RNs, <u>Plan D</u> should assess in a more prudent manner whether the requirements of the RNs can genuinely serve the purposes of conserving ecological habitats and reinstating the site to its satisfaction, with more weight placed on conservation of natural habitats and not slanting in favour of the RN recipients.

9. In the report, we also note the following statement:

'In response to the query concerning "destroy first, build later", Plan D (Planning Department) has indicated to us that in order to protect the rural areas and natural environment, TPB had decided in as early as 2011 to take appropriate measures to deter such tactic. All applications for planning permission for sites involved in unauthorised development would be subject to investigation first. Should an unauthorised development be confirmed, TPB would vet the application concerned based on the land condition of the site before damage. If Plan D has already taken enforcement action on the site under application and served an RN in accordance with TPO, <u>then TPB would only consider the application with reference to the reinstated condition of the site as required by the RN.</u> The above measures serve to deter the use of "destroy first, build later" tactic.'

10. Finally, the Ombudsman made recommendations for the Planning Department to:

(1) review the enforcement procedures to avoid unnecessary repeat inspections, and to take resolute further enforcement actions against offenders who delay their compliance with RNs;

(2) alert the court to the seriousness of the problem in cases of a serious nature, and seek

² http://ofomb.ombudsman.hk/abc/files/DI410_ES_E-1_2_2018_0.pdf



more severe penalties in terms of heavier fines for stronger deterrent effect; and

(3) review the factors to be considered in drawing up RNs; where sites of ecological/conservation value are involved, to require the RN recipients as far as possible to fully reinstate the sites to their original state in order to achieve the purpose of conservation.

11. It is highly frustrating to see a site with such considerable ecological value being destroyed, which is unauthorised. In the meantime, nothing has been done to reinstate the site properly, despite the fact that a RN has been issued, and there have even been two planning applications for land filling for so-called agriculture use (hydroponics farm) in the impacted area. We would be extremely surprised if the Board considers that this application can still be approved under these circumstances. We would also request that the Board strongly urge the Planning Department to speed up the processing of the enforcement cases and to require appropriate reinstatement actions.

12. Finally, we wish to bring to the attention of the Board that Government has NO intention of encouraging the spread of hydroponic farms on arable land/ AGR zones; such a trend has not been encouraged in the New Agriculture Policy. Hydroponic farms should better be developed in industrial areas as recommended by Government (**Appendix 1**).

13. We urge the Board to unequivocally reject this application and to impress upon the Planning Department to take prompt action in order to properly reinstate the site.

4

14. Thank you for your attention.

Ecological Advisory Programme Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden

cc. Designing Hong Kong



Figure 1. On-site photographs taken in July 2018 showing the site and its surroundings.





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Figure 1. Cont'd.





The Secretary, Town Planning Board, 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333, Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong. (Email: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk)

27th February, 2018.

By email only

Dear Sir/ Madam,

<u>Proposed Filling of Land and Pond for Permitted Agricultural Use (Hydroponic Farm)</u> (A/NE-FTA/182)

1. We refer to the captioned. We strongly object to this application.

2. We urge the Board to seriously consider and deliberate upon the information as outlined below.

Current status of the site

3. Firstly, we request that the Board view some on-site photographs taken in May 2015 and February 2018 (Figure 1) as well as some aerial photographs taken in recent years (Figure 2), which show the site and its surroundings. As can be seen, a well-vegetated area with considerable landscape value has been completely transformed into bare ground with a paved road and much construction waste was observed dumped in the area. According to information from the Planning Department, a large part of the application site was involved in an enforcement case E/NE-FTA/163, and, both enforcement and reinstatement notices have already been issued for this site. The 'predominant unauthorised development use' involved are: '*land/ pond filling, dumping and site formation*', and the requirements of the reinstatement notice are: '*(i) to remove the fill materials on the areas...; and (ii) to grass the areas...*'. The expiry date for the reinstatement notice is 2nd March, 2018.

4. We would like to remind the Board of the statements in a government press release¹, as

¹ http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201107/04/P201107040255.htm



below:

"For a rezoning application or a planning application for an application site involved in an unauthorised development (UD) such as illegal land/pond filling, the Board will not make a decision on the application before full investigation into whether the UD constitutes an abuse of the application process is made. In addition, when the application site is subject to enforcement action, the Board will take into account the reinstated condition of the site as required in the reinstatement notice (RN) issued by the Planning Authority (PA) under the Town Planning Ordinance when considering the application. <u>The reinstated condition of the application site as required in the RN</u> will not be considered by the Board as a planning gain in the application.

'The Board (Town Planning Board) is determined to conserve the rural and natural environment and will not tolerate any deliberate action to destroy the rural and natural environment in the hope that the Board would give sympathetic consideration to subsequent development on the site concerned,' a spokesman for the Board said."

5. Our understanding of the planning application system is that it should be an "apply first and develop later (after getting permission from the Town Planning Board)" regime. If every applicant simply adopts a contrary approach, why do we still need the planning application system? If such an approach is to be allowed, how can the integrity of the planning application system be maintained? We urge the Board to seriously consider these questions.

The Government is not going to facilitate hydroponic farms to be established on arable land, under the New Agriculture Policy

6. In late 2014, the Government initiated a public consultation for the New Agriculture Policy (NAP). We provided our submission and stated the following:

"Quite simply, hydroponics is, in fact, a highly mechanised food-factory system operating within an enclosed, soil-less, controlled and completely sterile laboratory environment – it does not need to be, and actually should not be built on soil. Should the Agri-Park be set-up on agricultural land, hydroponics should never be a technology for consideration within such an area as it destroys the most fundamental agriculture resource, i.e., soil. Hydroponics lives in industrial estates."

Kodoorie Farm & Bolanic Garden

嘉道理農場暨植物園公司 Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden Corporation

7. After public consultation, the Government began the implementation of the NAP², and regarding hydroponics, the following was mentioned by $Government^{2, 3}$:

*"Exploring ways to facilitate establishment of hydroponics or other similar operations in industrial buildings/zones.*²*"*

"to explore feasible ways to facilitate establishment of hydroponics or other similar operations <u>in industrial buildings</u>, e.g., reviewing the land planning regime to permit such uses on industrial zones subject to fire and building safety consideration.³"

8. From the above, our understanding is that the Government wishes to promote the development of hydroponic farms in **industrial buildings**/ zones. We do not see that the Government is going to encourage hydroponic farms to become widespread on arable land/ in Agriculture zones – there is simply no such intention by Government. In this regard, the Board should seriously consider whether approving this application would send an inconsistent (and in our view, inappropriate) message to the general public and land owners, encouraging them to build more and more hydroponic farms on arable land/ in Agriculture zones. Indeed, under the NAP, such development is neither stated nor even facilitated by Government.

High ecological and conservation importance of the area

9. In a study by the Planning Department regarding the (former) Frontier Closed Area⁴, the following statements are mentioned:

"The area to the southwest of Sandy Ridge, bounded to the west by the Ng Tung River and rail line and to the south by the Man Kam To Road, comprises active and inactive agricultural land, both wet and dry, and inactive fish ponds. This combination of habitats is generally attractive to birds, and this area is no exception. <u>Twenty</u> wetland-dependant species were recorded in the five surveys carried out as part of this study, including the **rare Greater Painted-snipe**. Although breeding was not actually proven, its occurrence throughout the year, the presence of calling birds in May and the

² http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201601/14/P201601140558.htm -

³ http://gia.info.gov.hk/general/201601/14/P201601140558_0558_158223.pdf

⁴http://www.pland.gov.hk/pland_en/misc/FCA/files_072010/Final_Report/041-02%20Final%20Report%20(C hapter%207).pdf



presence of both inactive and wet agricultural areas suggests very strongly that breeding occurs...

<u>The area lies close to Long Valley, and there are ecological linkages with this area</u>, as shown by the occurrence of similar wetland dependent species, in particular, Cattle Egret, Common Teal, Greater Painted-snipe, Black-winged Stilt, Little Ringed Plover, Common Snipe and sandpipers Tringa, which are typical species at Long Valley but not in other, nearby wetland habitats...

<u>The area also provides foraging grounds for Chinese Pond Herons nesting at the nearby</u> <u>Ho Sheung Heung Egretry</u>, which lies across the Ng Tung River. These birds were seen flying directly from the egretry to the area during surveys.

<u>A single Eurasian Otter was recorded in one of the inactive fish ponds in the wet</u> agricultural area to the southwest of Sha Ling in January 2009. This is the only record of the species in this area of Hong Kong east of the Ng Tung River. Of conservation significance ('Near Threatened', IUCN; 'Vulnerable', China Red Data Book), the Hong Kong distribution of this protected species appears to be confined to the northwest New Territories (Shek 2006). The area provides potentially suitable breeding habitat..."

10. From the above, we know that at least two species of very high conservation interest, which are the Greater Painted-snipe (彩鷸) and Eurasian Otter (水獺) are recorded in the area and both are suspected to be breeding in the area as well⁴. The area in general would also support habitats which are suitable to wetland birds from Long Valley (塱原) and the Ho Sheung Heung Egretry (河上鄉鷺鳥林). Simply speaking, the area in general is a mosaic of wetland habitats supporting a variety of wetland species.

11. Based on the aerial photographs and our recent on-site observation, we consider that the above statements are still largely valid – that means the area where the site is located is still of unique ecological and conservation importance. Although the area has been partially in-filled (mainly in and around the present application site), much of its remaining parts are still largely intact, rural in nature and vegetated (e.g., please see the recent aerial photographs), and can still function as wetland habitats (e.g., the ponds).

12. We are highly concerned that approval of this application would set an undesirable precedent for other similar applications (e.g., for filling of arable land and ponds) in this



highly sensitive area. We urge the Board to seriously consider the potential cumulative impacts of approving this application. If the farmland and ponds become further filled, it can be envisaged that the ecological function and conservation importance of the entire area will disappear permanently. The ecological impacts caused (i.e., net loss in both wetland area and function) can be considered to be highly significant as these wetlands (e.g., inactive wet agricultural land and ponds) can provide habitats for many species of conservation concern (e.g., Greater Painted Snipe, Eurasian Otter and breeding Egrets).

Potential drainage impacts of this application

13. The entire locality where the site is situated is located within a lowland basin, sandwiched between the Lo Wu Station Road and the pipelines of the Water Supplies Department, and, the western side of the area is adjacent to the Ng Tung River. As shown in the aerial and on-site photographs, there are village houses not far from the site located within the same basin. According to the gist of this application, the height of the proposed land and pond filling will be up to 6.5 mPD and there would also be stream diversion. As previously mentioned, some parts of the site have been subject to unauthorised filling; the level of some parts of the site is now already higher than the immediate surroundings as can be seen from the recent on-site photographs.

14. Under the above circumstances, we urge the Board to seriously consider whether the approval of this application would aggravate the flooding risk of the area by placing the nearby houses and residents (if any) in a vulnerable situation. According to the gist, there is no drainage impact assessment provided for this application.

Rejected planning applications for filling of land/ pond for ('permitted') agriculture uses

15. The present application is not the first of its kind applying for filling of land/ ponds for ('permitted') agriculture uses. We note that many of these applications were rejected by the Board. Some examples and the reasons to reject them are reproduced below (duplicated reasons are not shown):

- (a) A/YL-KTN/347 Proposed filling of pond for agricultural use in Agriculture zone; application for planning permission and review application both rejected in 2010 and 2011, respectively, because:
- the applicant failed to demonstrate in the submission that the proposed filling of pond would not cause adverse <u>ecological</u>, <u>landscape</u> and <u>drainage</u> impacts on the



site and the surrounding areas; and

- the approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for similar applications within the subject "AGR" zone. The cumulative effect of approving such application would <u>result in adverse ecological impact and loss of fish ponds</u> in the area.
- (b) A/YL-TT/372 Proposed filling of land for permitted agricultural use in Agriculture zone; rejected in 2016 because:
- the proposed filling of land for construction of an access road and structures ancillary to agricultural use is <u>not in line with the planning intention of the</u> <u>"Agriculture" ("AGR") zone</u> which is primarily <u>to retain and safeguard good</u> <u>quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds</u> for agricultural purposes and <u>to retain</u> <u>fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation</u> for cultivation and other agricultural purposes. The applicant fails to demonstrate in the submission that the proposed land filling is essential for genuine agricultural propose; and
- the approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for similar applications within the "AGR" zone. The cumulative effect of approving such application would result in a general degradation of the environment of the area and adverse landscape impact on the surrounding areas.
- (c) A/NE-TK/542 Proposed filling of land up to 1.6 m for permitted agricultural use; largely within Agriculture zone; rejected in 2015 because:
- the planning intention of the "Agriculture" ("AGR") zone is primarily to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes. There is <u>no strong planning justifications for land filling of 1.6m high for agricultural purpose;</u>
- the applicant fails to demonstrate that the filling of land would not cause adverse drainage, landscape and **geotechnical impacts** on the surrounding area; and
- (d) A/SK-TMT/61 Proposed filling of land for permitted agriculture use in Green Belt;



rejected in 2017 because:

- the applicant <u>fails to demonstrate that there is a need for filling of land</u> for agricultural use at the Site;
- approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for similar applications within the "Green Belt" zone. The cumulative effect of approving such similar proposals would result in a general degradation of the environment and **bring about adverse impact on drainage** and landscape of the area.
- (e) A/YL-PS/253 Proposed filling of land for agricultural use (growing of organic vegetables and mushrooms and ancillary office) in Green Belt; rejected in 2006 because:
- <u>no strong justifications had been provided to demonstrate that filling of land</u> under the current application <u>was essential and inevitable</u> for carrying out agricultural activities on site;
- there was no information in the submission to demonstrate that the development under application would not have adverse drainage impact on the surrounding area and <u>aggravate flooding in the area</u>; and
- (f) A/NE-KTS/338 Proposed filling of land (about 1m to 1.2m in depth) for agriculture use and two on-farm domestic structures in Green Belt; application for planning permission and review application both rejected in 2013 because:
- the proposed development was not in line with the Town Planning Board (TPB) Guidelines for Application for Development within Green Belt Zone under Section 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance (TPB PG-No. 10) in that there was a general presumption against development in a "Green Belt" ("GB") zone, and land filling would only be considered in exceptional circumstances and had to be justified with very strong planning grounds. There was insufficient information in the submission to demonstrate that the proposed land filling was for genuine agricultural purpose;
- extensive clearance of existing natural vegetation and land filling had been



involved at the application site and affected the existing natural landscape. The applicant had failed to demonstrate that the proposed development would not cause adverse traffic and landscape impacts on the surrounding areas; and

- the approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for similar applications within the "GB" zone. The cumulative effect of approving such application would **result in** general degradation of the environment of the area and **adverse traffic** and landscape **impacts** on the surrounding areas.
- (g) A/NE-MUP/55 Land filling for permitted agricultural use (plant nursery) in Agriculture zone; rejected in 2008 because:
- After deliberation, the Committee decided to reject the application and the reason was that the granting of approval to the illegal land filling operation would set an undesirable precedent for other similar applications within the "Agriculture" zone. The cumulative impacts of approving such similar applications would result in a general degradation to the environment of the area.
- (h) A/YL-LFS/202 Proposed land filling (by 1.2 m) for agricultural use in Green Belt; application for planning permission and review application both rejected in 2010 because:
- the proposed materials for filling, including boulders as a substrata, were not suitable for farming (this reason was not used in the rejection of the review application); and
- the site would be higher than the surrounding areas after the proposed land filling. <u>The applicant failed to justify the need to fill up the site and the filling depth being</u> <u>applied for</u>, and to demonstrate that the proposed land filling would not have adverse drainage and landscape impacts on the surrounding area.
- 16. For the present application, we urge the Board to consider the following questions:
 - Is there any information provided to show that the current application (involving land and pond filling as well as stream diversion in a lowland basin) would not cause any adverse landscape, drainage and ecological impacts?



- Has the applicant provided sufficient and valid information and justifications to demonstrate that there is an essential and inevitable need to fill-up the land and ponds to the proposed height up to 6.5 mPD for genuine agricultural purposes/ carrying out genuine agricultural activities?
- Would the potential cumulative impacts of approving such application result in adverse ecological impact and loss of fish ponds in the area?
- Would the potential cumulative effect of approving such application result in a general degradation of the environment and bring about adverse impacts on drainage, landscape and traffic of the area?
- Is the application in line with the planning intention of the "Agriculture" ("AGR") zone which is primarily to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes and to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes?

17. To conclude, we are highly concerned that the approval of this application would set a highly undesirable precedent for other similar applications and potentially cause the proliferation of such activities, i.e., filling of ponds and land in this highly sensitive area. We also consider the AGR zone in the area of concern should be protected from undesirable impacts. In order to safeguard the important wildlife habitats (and at the same time retain good quality agricultural land/ fish ponds for traditional agricultural purposes and fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for traditional genuine cultivation), we urge the Board to unequivocally reject this application.

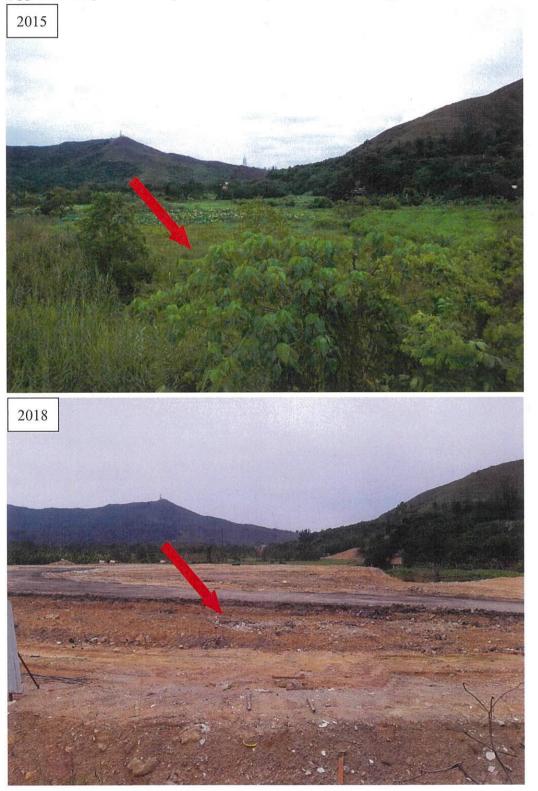
18. Thank you for your attention.

Ecological Advisory Programme Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden

cc. Designing Hong Kong Hong Kong Bird Watching Society The Conservancy Association WWF-HK

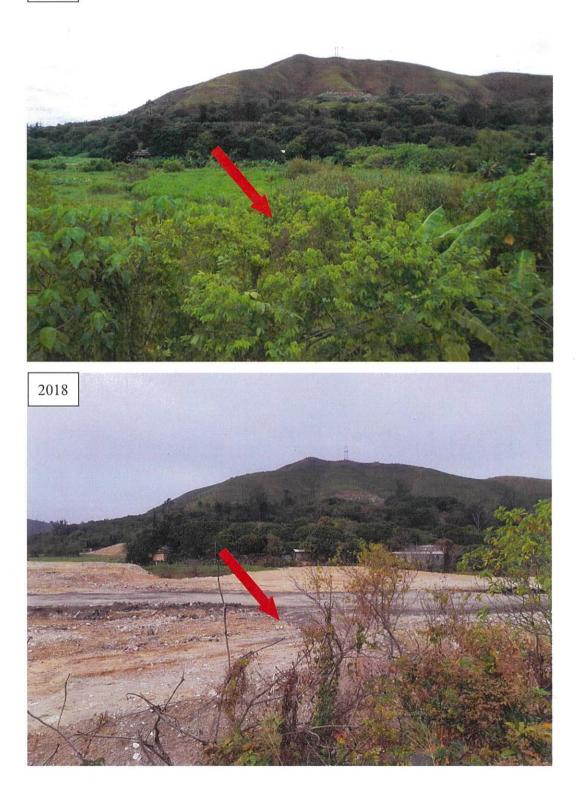


Figure 1. On-site photographs taken in May 2015 and February 2018, showing the site (approximately indicated by the red arrow) and its surroundings.



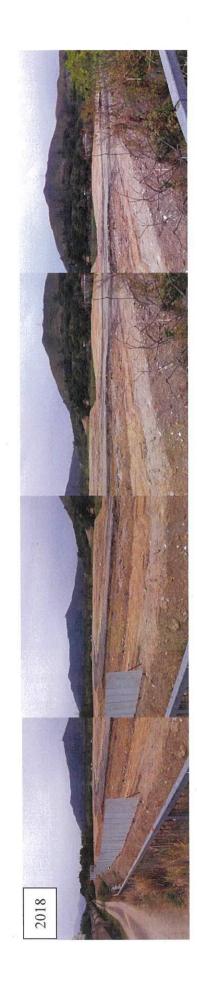






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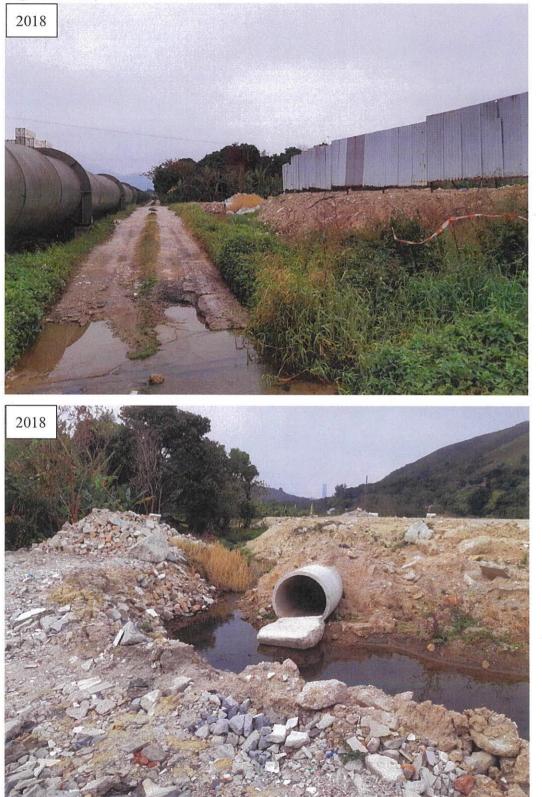








Figure 2. Aerial photographs showing the locality (the site and its surroundings are approximately marked by the red rectangle).









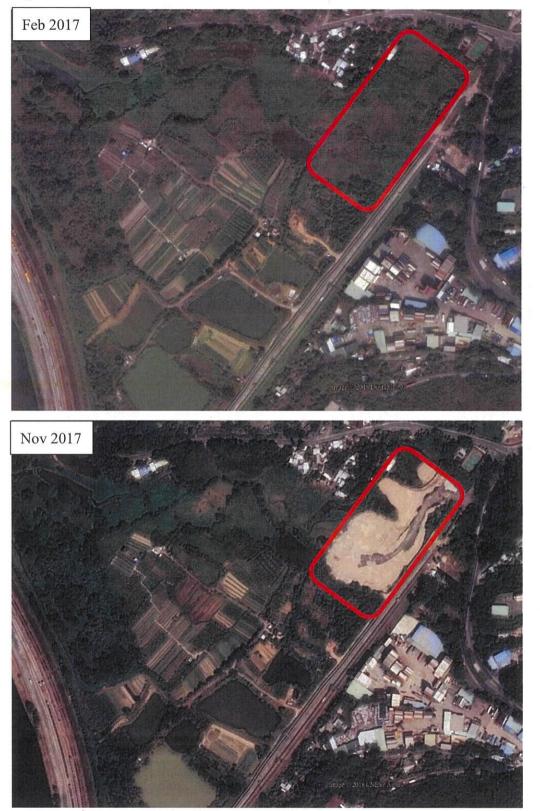




Figure 2. Cont'd.



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致城市規劃委員會秘書:

專人送遞或郵遞:香港北角渣華道 333 號北角政府合署 15 樓 傳真: 2877 0245 或 2522 8426 電郵: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk

To : Secretary, Town Planning Board

By hand or post : 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong By Fax : 2877 0245 or 2522 8426 By e-mail : tpbpd@pland.gov.hk

有關的規劃申請編號 The application no. to which the comment relates <u>A/NE-FTA/247 Received on 15/10/2024</u>

意見詳情 (如有需要,請另頁說明)

Details of the Comment (use separate sheet if necessary)

「提意見人」姓名/名稱 Name of person/company making this comment_ 5-32 簽署 Signature 日期 Date ______4

- 2 -

From:	
Sent:	2024-11-18 星期一 08:48:36
То:	tpbpd/PLAND <tpbpd@pland.gov.hk></tpbpd@pland.gov.hk>
Subject:	WWF submission on the application on the Proposed
	Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated
	Filling of Land in "Agriculture" zone in Man Kam To (A/NE-
	FTA/247)
Attachment:	s16A A_NE-FTA_247 20241118_WWF.pdf

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find WWF-Hong Kong's submission on the captioned application. See attached file:

s16A A_NE-FTA_247 20241118_WWF.pdf

Thank you for your attention.

Best regards, Bonnie Leung (Ms.) Conservation Officer, Conservation Policy | WWF 世界自然基金會香港分會 Tel:

Registered Name 註冊名稱: World Wide Fund For Nature Hong Kong 世界自然(香港)基金會 (Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability by guarantee 於香港註冊成立的擔保有限公司). This email (including any attachments) is intended for the use of the designated recipient(s) only, which may contain confidential, non-public, proprietary information, and/or be protected by the attorney-client or other privilege. Any unauthorized reading, distribution, copying, or other use of this communication is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful. Receipt by anyone other than the intended recipient(s) should not be deemed a waiver of any privilege or protection. If you are not the intended recipient or believe you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete this email from your computer system. This email and any attachments are checked for viruses and other malicious software ("malware"). However, the sender does not warrant, represent, or guarantee in any way that this communication is free from malware or potentially damaging defects. The sender disclaims all liability for any errors, omissions, or damages arising out of or in connection with the use or reliance on the information contained in this email.

世界自然基金會 香港分會



18 November 2024

Chairman and members Town Planning Board 15/F North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong (E-mail: <u>tpbpd@pland.gov.hk</u>)

By E-mail ONLY

Dear Sir/Madam,

<u>Re: Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with</u> <u>Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land in</u> <u>"Agriculture" zone in Man Kam To (A/NE-FTA/247)</u>

WWF would like to lodge an objection to the captioned proposal.

Not in line with planning intention of "Agriculture" zone

The application site falls within an area zoned "Agriculture" ("AGR") under the approved Fu Tei Au and Sha Ling Outline Zoning Plan No. S/NE-FTA/18 which the planning intention is "*primarily to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes*." In the absence of any assessments, the applicant failed to demonstrate that the proposed development would not surpass the site's environmental acceptability as an agricultural land.

The Outline Zoning Plan also stated that "AGR" zone *"is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes.*" According to the satellite image retrieved from Google Earth (Fig 1.), the site is mainly soil-based, which retains potential for agricultural revitalization. The proposed development is not in line with the planning intention of "AGR", even on a temporary basis. Therefore, we recommend that the site should not be used for purpose other than its intended landuse.



贊助人:中華人民共和國 香港特别行政區行政長官 李家超先生,大紫荊動賢, SBS, PDSM 主席:白丹尼先生 行政總裁:黃蚕猶女士 核數師:中審眾環(香港)會計師事務所有限公司 公司秘書:嘉信秘書服務有限公司 義務司庫:匯豐銀行 註冊慈善機構 Patron: The Honourable John Lee Ka-chiu, GBM, SBS, PDSM The Chief Executive, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region People's Republic of China Chairman: Mr Daniel R Bradshaw CEO: Ms Nicole Wong Auditors: Mazars CPA Limited Company Secretary. McCabe Secretarial Services Limited Honorary Treasurer. HSBC Registered Charity (Incorporated With Limited Liability)

註冊名稱 Registered Name: 世界自然(香港)基金會 World Wide Fund For Nature Hong Kong (於香港註冊成立的擔保有限公司 Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability by guarantee)

Irreversible destruction caused by filling of land with concrete

The irreversible effects of concrete filling on agricultural land pose significant concerns. The proposal involves using concrete to fill the land to a depth of not more than 2.5 meters, raising concerns about the long-term impact on soil quality at the site. The direct impacts of concretisation include increased pH and alterations in the chemical composition of the soil, affecting the soil structure and its ability to support crops growth. Additionally, the impermeable nature of concrete surfaces leads to increased surface runoff and groundwater depletion. The combination of these effects disrupts natural ecosystems, resulting in a loss of biodiversity which negatively impacts soil nutrient cycles and exacerbates soil degradation.

While it is technically possible to remove concrete and restore the agricultural land in the future, the process would require substantial resources and may not fully return the land to its original state. The recovery of soil health and the re-establishment of biodiversity can take years, if not decades, further complicating the restoration efforts. Considering the long-lasting consequences of concrete filling, the approval of this proposal will induce a significant risk to local biodiversity and jeopardizes the site's potential for agricultural rehabilitation.

Undesirable precedent on agricultural landscape

According to the latest available satellite image (Fig 1.), there was a large piece of actively managed agricultural land southwest of the site at least until 10 March 2023. The proposed development will cause irreversible destruction to the agricultural land which is incompatible with the rural and agricultural landscape. As such, we are concerned that approval of this proposal would set an undesirable precedent for other similar applications involving concrete filling, the cumulative effect of which would adversely impact the agricultural landscape.

We would be grateful if our comments could be considered by the Town Planning Board and the captioned proposal rejected.

Yours faithfully, Bonnie LEUNG (Ms.) Conservation Officer, Conservation Policy WWF Hong Kong Fig 1. Satellite image showing large piece of agriculture land southwest of the project site. The site remained as soil-based as of 10 March 2023.



Image source: Google earth (accessed on 14 November 2024)

From:		
Sent:	2024-11-18 星期一 14:54:27	
То:	tspd/PLAND <tspd@pland.gov.hk>; enquire1/PLAND <enquire@pland.gov.hk>; tpbpd/PLAND <tpbpd@pland.gov.hk>; Enquiry NDO/HAD <don@had.gov.hk>; e-Enquiry Counter/LAO/LANDSD</don@had.gov.hk></tpbpd@pland.gov.hk></enquire@pland.gov.hk></tspd@pland.gov.hk>	
	<landsd@landsd.gov.hk>; Enquiry/HQS/DSD</landsd@landsd.gov.hk>	
	<enquiry@dsd.gov.hk></enquiry@dsd.gov.hk>	
Subject:	有關反對規劃申請編號 A/NE-FTA/247	
Attachment:	2024.11.12.pdf	

敬啟者:

本人為打鼓嶺沙嶺村居民福利會代表,冼先生。 附件為反對臨時貨物調渡場的信件,請參閱,敬候回覆,謝謝。

冼先生

電話:

打鼓嶺沙嶺村居民福利會

2024年11月12日

敬啟者:

(有關規劃申請編號 A/NE-FTA/247)

(擬議臨時貨物調渡場)

本會就有關上述申請,並廣泛諮詢村民,同時召開村民大會討論,會上全體 村民一致堅決反對以上有關申請。理由如下:

- 1. 相關地段土地用途屬農業地帶,與規劃許可不符。
- 上述申請之相關地段位處低窪,並不適宜進行填土工程。因該地段周邊 緊貼民居,填土工程會令附近居民有嚴重水浸的高風險隱憂。
- 申請範圍內仍有村民以務農謀生,填土工程會影響務農村民的生計。而
 中央位置有上萬尺濕池魚塘,填土工程同時破壞本大自然生態環境,造
 成環境污染。
- 該申請並無提供擬議車輛通道,本會評估該申請會利用文錦渡旁作車輛通道。文錦渡路的車輛車速一般較快,而該臨時通道狹窄,令車輛減速 轉彎等容易造成交通意外。評估通道下有數條東江水管,更不宜有重型 車輛經常行駛,萬一東江水管因工程而受到破壞,後果不堪設想。同時, 東江水管旁有數戶村民在居住,經常在斜坡上行駛重型車輛,實對村民 造成極大危險。
- 5. 申請工程位置不適宜有大量車輛進出,避免構成危機問題。



有關申請無論在土地規劃上,現場環境、排水設施、車輛通道、村民居 所安全問題、東江水管隱憂、如何彌補受破壞的土地環境,完全欠缺處 理方案。因此,本會堅決反對有關申請。謝謝!

此致

正本呈送 城市規劃委員會

副本呈送 規劃處、北區民政事務處、渠務署



打鼓嶺沙嶺村居民福利會

主席李樹榮 謹啟

2024年11月12日

以下反對村民簽村民簽署:

2024年11月12日

以下反對村氏僉村氏僉者·					
姓名	身份證首四位數字				
黄月姜光					
華仙記言書	~				
董佩史					
百米高					
丰 ~ 美之					
特作;也	_				
黄信律	~				
書					
陳紫文	_				
黄家家	_				
EB	-				
黄城森	_				
费玉姓的	_				
黄素、特	_				
董俊彦					
董俊康					
Reak					

姓名 身份證首四位數字 6 4D 14 E + ØÅ

以下反對村民簽村民簽署:

2024年11月12日

姓名	身份證首四位數字	姓名	身份證首四位數字
李炳蘭		野國健	
刘祖争		薛明礼任	
刘卓颜		静富な書	
刘春珍		陳月金里	
关户冒骚		影響行書	
15車/市明		,	
刘炳雉			
粮周冀			5 (5)
障虑成			
关户小宝			
焼.着.巷,			
過惠胡			
罗成定		5.	
罗伯尼巴			
罗客门庙			
林曉僑		2	
劉展蘭			
		AK	15

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合天 4 見

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From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Attachment:

2024-11-21 星期四 15:07:09 tpbpd/PLAND <tpbpd@pland.gov.hk> dafcoffice/AFCD <dafcoffice@afcd.gov.hk> KFBG's comments on A/NE-FTA/247 241121 s16 FTA 247c.pdf

FIZ

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Attached please see our comments regarding A/NE-FTA/247. There is one pdf file attached to this email. If you cannot see/ download/ open this file, please notify us through email.

Also, please do not disclose our email address.

Thank You and Best Regards,

Ecological Advisory Programme Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden

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The Secretary, Town Planning Board, 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333, Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong. (Email: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk)

21st November, 2024.

By email only

Dear Sir/ Madam,

<u>Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with</u> <u>Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land</u> <u>(A/NE-FTA/247)</u>

1. We refer to the captioned.

Town Planning Board adopts approaches to deter "destroy first, build later" activities

2. In our previous submission just sent about one month ago regarding the same application, we already showed the extensive environmental destruction at the site in the past (please see relevant photos in the appendices below showing our submissions regarding some rejected/ withdrawn applications covering the current site).

3. Again, we would like to remind the current Town Planning Board that a spokesman for the Board has said, '*The Board is determined to conserve the rural and natural environment and will not tolerate any deliberate action to destroy the rural and natural environment in the hope that the Board would give sympathetic consideration to subsequent development on the site concerned.*' This is documented in a government press release entitled 'Town Planning Board adopts approaches to deter "destroy first, build later" activities'¹.

4. Now, according to the Ecological Impact Assessment (EcoIA) submitted for this application, the main habitat at the site is regarded as 'wasteland' with 'low' ecological value. However, based on our on-site observation in the past and aerial photos, before the extensive

¹ https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201107/04/P201107040255.htm



environmental destruction, the site should contain wetlands and was well-vegetated (please refer to relevant photos in our past submissions in the appendices below).

5. We urge the Board to seriously consider all the above and also the own statement made by the Board, and then to consider how the stance as emphasised in the statement should be appropriately implemented.

Are the EcoIA and associated ecological surveys comprehensive enough? Fails to mention the otter record in the pond to the west of the application site

6. There was an Eurasian Otter, a mammal species of high conservation concern in Hong Kong and China², recorded in a pond to the west of the application site, and this is well documented in a report by the Planning Department (PlanD)³. We also recorded the sign of otter (confirmed by DNA analysis) in Ng Tung River recently and this finding was covered by some news reports in August 2024 ^(e.g. 4, 5). The aforementioned pond habitat as well as a small portion of Ng Tung River are covered under the Study Area of the EcoIA. However, these findings are not mentioned at all in the EcoIA.

7. Although the record by PlanD was made long time ago (in 2009), our recent finding in Ng Tung River clearly suggests that this species would still appear in the area in general. Indeed, according to a local study by The University of Hong Kong⁶, this species has a wide home range and fish ponds are their important foraging habitats. We therefore believe that, in view of the ecological connectivity between Ng Tung River and the pond habitat to the west of the application site (ecologically connected by a watercourse), the latter habitat (i.e., the ponds to the west of the application site) can be accessed by otters and would provide forage ground for this species.

² https://www.kfbg.org/en/fauna-conservation/otters

³ https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/SEA/eng/files/LandUsePlanningforClosedArea_Chp7[1].pdf

⁴ https://news.rthk.hk/rthk/en/component/k2/1767974-20240828.htm

⁵https://www.thestandard.com.hk/section-news/section/8/265754/Sign-of-threatened-Eurasian-otter-found-in-S heung-Shui

⁶ McMillan, S. E., Wong, A. T. C., Tang, S. S. Y., Yau, E. Y. H., Gomersall, T., Wong, P. Y. H., Vu, A. K. H., Sin, S. Y. W., Hau, B. C. H., & Bonebrake, T. C. (2022). Spraints demonstrate small population size and reliance on fishponds for Eurasian otter (Lutra lutra) in Hong Kong. Conservation Science and Practice, e12851. https://doi.org/10.1111/csp2.12851



8. This species, however, is sensitive to human activities. Based on the communication with a researcher on this species in Kinmen Island (Dr. Yuan Shou-Ii⁷), otter records were found reduced when there were increased human activities/ disturbance nearby. Also, although this species mainly relies on water bodies as their foraging habitats, they still need to utilise terrestrial areas as their resting and even breeding grounds (e.g., bush or thicket) ^(e.g., see 8). For instance, two baby otters were found in a thick bush in Kinmen (Dr. Yuan personal communication). Whether or not the well-vegetated areas surrounding the application site can provide resting or even breeding grounds for otters is unknown; however, in view of the conservation importance of this species in Hong Kong and China², we recommend a precautionary approach should be considered. The same mindset should also be applied when considering the disturbance impact on this species.

9. The EcoIA does mention the presence of otter within Yuen Leng Tsai (< 900m from the Study Area; NOT within the Study Area). However, it fails to mention the otter record by PlanD and also our recent finding in Ng Tung River (even both habitats are under the Study Area). We cannot understand how this would happen (as this information can be assessed easily through internet). Eurasian Otter is highly mobile and it is significant to mention the recent finding in Ng Tung River (part of it is within the Study Area) as well as the past record within the pond habitat (which is well within the Study Area) – this is an indication of a potential Ecological Habitat Network – which is highly relevant to ecological evaluation. The absence of these findings in the current EcoIA is an obvious omission, and we urge the Board (in consultation with relevant authorities) to consider whether the present EcoIA can provide a comprehensive picture on the potential impacts of this application on otters and its potential habitats.

Are the EcoIA and associated ecological surveys adequate?

10. The surveys for the EcoIA were conducted from August to October 2024. Obviously this survey period did not cover the peak wintering season of migratory birds. KFBG conducted a comprehensive survey on the ecological value of some selected farmland sites within the Northern Metropolis, and the results were published in a report in 2023⁹; the

⁷ Dr. Yuan belongs to the Kinmen Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation Association and has studied otters on Kinmen Island for at least one decade (and is still ongoing).

⁸https://cieem.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/B359157-Otter-Breeding-Sites-Conserving-Natura-2000-River s-Series.pdf

⁹https://www.kfbg.org/images/download/kfbg%20northern%20metropolis%20bird%20report%20sept%20202



farmlands and ponds to the south of Lo Wu Station Road (i.e., those to the west of the current application site) are included in our survey, and this survey site is called 'Sandy Ridge Wetland Mosaic' (habitats and location of this site already clearly described and indicated/ illustrated, respectively, in our report). Based on our evaluation, the ecological value of Sandy Ridge Wetland Mosaic was the highest among surveyed sites, and we recorded 98 bird species at this site (our survey covered 12 months (including both dry and wet seasons))⁹. The pond and farmland habitats surveyed under Sandy Ridge Wetland Mosaic are well covered under the Study Area of the present EcoIA. However, the present EcoIA only recorded 30 bird species in the Study Area.

11. We understand that the results of our report⁹ are mentioned in the EcoIA (as part of the literature review). However, in Table 5.16 of the EcoIA (supposed evaluating fauna species of conservation concern (including those from literature review)), bird species of conservation concern recorded in Sandy Ridge Wetland Mosaic in our report are not listed; the EcoIA claims: '*As the locations of the species from AFCD and KFBG are not available, they are not put in Table 5.12 to Table 5.16.*' We cannot understand this approach. In our KFBG report, the habitats and location of Sandy Ridge Wetland Mosaic are already clearly described and indicated/ illustrated (i.e., with aerial photo showing the site), respectively, and the habitats surveyed at Sandy Ridge Wetland Mosaic are well covered under the Study Area of the current EcoIA. We absolutely cannot see why the bird species of conservation concern (which are also highly mobile and can easily move across similar suitable habitats) recorded by us in the same area cannot be included and evaluated (in Table 5.16).

12. The EcoIA also mentions: 'the ecological values of the habitats already took those species (recorded by KFBG) into consideration.' However, we cannot see that the bird species of conservation concern recorded by us are fully considered in relevant habitat evaluation. For instance, in Table 5.11 of the EcoIA (evaluation of pond), the Great Cormorant – a bird species of conservation concern recorded by us and usually inhabits pond habitats – is not mentioned, and the ecological value of pond is considered to be 'low-medium'.

13. We also observed that a bird species included in the Red List of China's vertebrates¹⁰

3%20eng.pdf

¹⁰ Jiang, Z., Jiang, J., Wang, Y., Zhang, E., Zhang, Y., Li, L., Xie, F., Cai, B., Cao, L., Zheng, G., Dong, L., Zhang, Z., Ding, P., Luo, Z., Ding, C., Ma, Z., Tang, S., Cao, W., Li, C., Hu, H., Ma, Y., Wu, Y., Wang, Y., Zhou,



and recorded by the survey conducted for the EcoIA, Chinese Francolin, is not even considered as a species of conservation concern (e.g., not listed in Table 5.16). But 'Red List of China's Vertebrates by Jiang et al. (2016)' is claimed to be included as reference for conservation importance under Section 5.2.4 of the EcoIA.

14. Indeed, we spent 12 months and recorded 98 bird species (including 39 species of conservation concern) in Sandy Ridge Wetland Mosaic; in contrast, the ecological survey (three months only) for the EcoIA only recorded 30 bird species (even lower than the no. of bird species of conservation concern recorded by us; please note that the surveyed habitats under these two studies are largely overlapped). And the 39 bird species of conservation concern recorded by us are not all mentioned for evaluation (i.e., in Table 5.16 of the EcoIA; because 'their locations are not available', as claimed in the EcoIA).

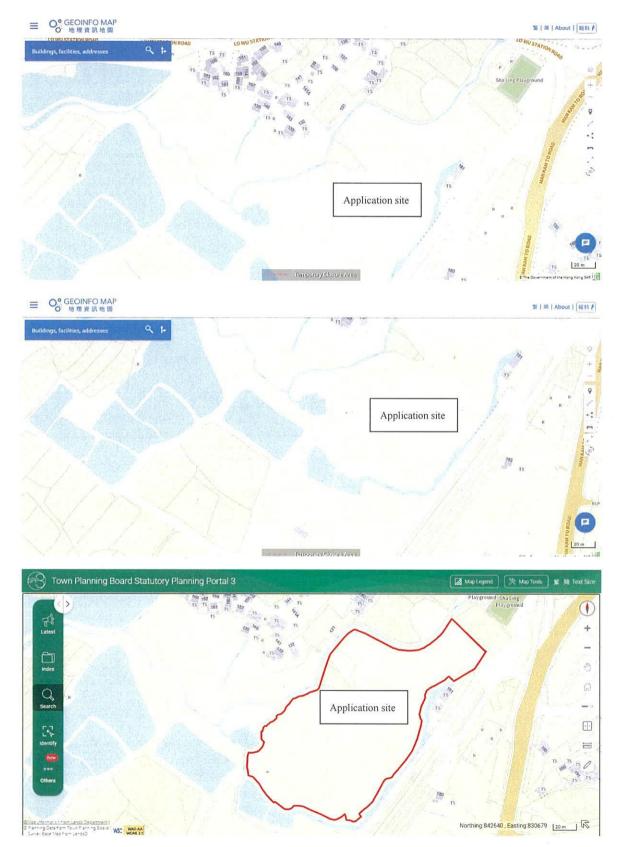
15. In view of all the above, we urge the Board (in consultation with relevant authorities) to seriously consider whether the present surveys under the EcoIA, or the EcoIA itself, can provide sufficient/ adequate data/ information/ evaluation to support an appropriate assessment regarding the ecological value of the habitats nearby. The EcoIA considers that the ponds and agricultural land to the west of the application site are of low-medium and medium ecological value only, respectively (vs 'highest ecological value' as mentioned in our bird survey report published in 2023 (please note that our findings are obtained by comparing the Sandy Ridge Wetland Mosaic with some other similar farmland sites in Northern Metropolis)).

Is the habitat map adequate to reflect the habitats and the habitat connectivity on-site?

16. We urge the Board to look at the maps below from the Lands Department (GeoInfo map) showing the site and its surroundings (and also a map from the Town Planning Board Statutory Planning Portal 3; the base map is also from Lands Department); the blue areas are supposed showing water features such as ponds and watercourses.

K., Liu, S., Chen, Y., Li, J., Feng, Z., Wang, Y., Wang, B., Li, C., Song, X., Cai, L., Zang, C., Zeng, Y., Meng, Z., Fang, H. & Ping, X. (2016) Red List of China's Vertebrates. Biodiversity Science 24, 500–551.







17. Then we urge the Board to look at a photo taken in Oct 2024 below; as shown, the site is also bounded by a watercourse-like feature at least at the southern portion (matching with the Lands Department's map in this area).



18. Then we urge the Board to look at the habitat map below (extracted from the EcoIA).



19. We cannot see that the habitat map above can clearly reflect some of the water features as shown in the Lands Department's map or our photo. We urge the Board (in consultation with relevant authorities) to seriously consider whether this habitat map can adequately



reflect the habitats on-site. This is crucial as an adequate habitat map should not only be able to reflect habitats but also habitat connectivity, which is important to know when assessing ecological value.

Would there be potential water quality impacts on surrounding wetlands, watercourses and ponds?

20. The above maps from Lands Department and also the photo should have reflected that the general area where the application site is located would have some water features (e.g., watercourses; in fact, we call this area the 'Sandy Ridge Wetland Mosaic'). Indeed, as indicated in the habitat map above, the application site is also very close to a habitat called wet grassland (and the site itself also contains a piece of wet grassland), which is also considered as a wetland habitat. This wet grassland is adjacent to ponds and marsh, as well as the agricultural land. According to the Lands Department's map, there would also be watercourse-like features adjacent to the northern and southern parts of the application site and these features extend into this wet grassland.

21. The EcoIA mentions: 'The Application Site is about 1.6ha. A total of two 2-storey structures are proposed at the Application Site for warehouses, offices and washrooms, and the remaining area is reserved for parking and loading/unloading spaces and circulation area. The Site is proposed to be to be filled wholly with concrete for site formation of the abovementioned items.' Would surface runoff with potential contaminants enter the nearby wetlands during this proposed site formation process?

22. We can see that a drainage impact assessment (DIA) has been submitted for this application. But we urge the Board (in consultation with relevant authorities) to consider whether there would be potential water quality impacts caused by the proposed filling of land with concrete, and if it is a concern, whether this needs to be adequately evaluated; if yes, has the submitted assessments been able to address this potential impact, or should an adequate water quality impact assessment be submitted? Also, would there be potential sewage impact, and should a sewage impact assessment be submitted/ has such an assessment been submitted to address the potential sewage impact?

Would filling the existing site with concrete cause permanent and irreversible impacts?

23. The EcoIA classifies the main habitat within the site as 'wasteland' (i.e., *land without determined use but was largely <u>colonized by weedy species</u>). As shown in our recent photo the site is still largely vegetated. The EcoIA also mentions that within the site there is a piece*



of wet grassland. Overall that means in general vegetation can still be growing at the site.

24. We urge the Board to consider:

- After the site is wholly filled with concrete (as mentioned in the EcoIA), can vegetation grow at the site?

- After this 'temporary' use ceases operation/ occupying the site, can the site be reinstated to a status allowing vegetation to grow?

- Would the temporary use (with the proposed filling of the whole site with concrete as mentioned in the EcoIA) cause direct, permanent and irreversible impacts on the site, and permanently and irreversibly affect its arability?

- Would the land still be suitable for farming after filling with concrete (even the concrete removed), and can the filled concrete be completely removed?

- Would there be land contamination issue potentially affecting the suitability of the site to be used as farmland for growing crops for human consumption?

- Does the site need to be reinstated after the proposed temporary use stops operating/ functioning (e.g., the planning permission expired); if not, is this appropriate?

25. As mentioned in many of our submissions, our Country is promoting the Construction of Ecological Civilisation. We seriously urge the Board to consider whether approving this application would be in line with this National Policy.

Potential cumulative impact of approving this application

26. As shown in many of our recent photos (please refer to those in our previous submission sent about one month ago; also attached below), the Sandy Ridge Wetland Mosaic is still largely vegetated and rural in nature, and still contains many ponds and farmlands (active/ abandoned; wet/ dry). The EcoIA also reveals that a substantial portion of this area is covered with wet grassland (i.e., a type of wetland). Development is largely limited in this area with only some human settlements. We urge the Board to consider whether the approval of this application would set a precedent for similar applications in this area and the potential cumulative impacts of the approval of this application on the remaining rural land with many habitats for many wildlife species of conservation concern.

Would the approval encourage more illegal filling of land?

27. The general history of the site in recent years, based on our on-site observation and information from the PlanD, can be summarised as follows: 1. well vegetated area with



wetland likely to be evolved from abandoned farmland, 2. illegally filled extensively, 3. PlanD carried out enforcement action, 4. some planning applications submitted (but withdrawn/ rejected) and reinstatement conducted (but become 'wasteland' as identified in the EcoIA) and, now, 5. an application submitted for 'temporary' warehouse and the site is proposed to be wholly filled with concrete.

28. If this application is approved eventually, we urge the Board and relevant authorities to seriously consider whether it would encourage more illegal land filling in the area.

29. We urge the Board to unequivocally reject this application as the proposed use is not in line with the planning intention of the AGR zone; please note that active agricultural activities are still extensively practicing within this AGR zone and this AGR zone is also providing habitats for many species of conservation importance (**'highest ecological value**^{'9}).

30. Thank you for your attention.

Ecological Advisory Programme Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden

cc. AFCD WWF-HK Hong Kong Bird Watching Society The Conservancy Association



KFBG's submission on A/NE-FTA/247 dated 25 Oct 2024

The Secretary, Town Planning Board, 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333, Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong. (Email: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk)

25th October, 2024.

By email only

Dear Sir/ Madam,

<u>Proposed Temporary Warehouse (Excluding Dangerous Goods Godown) with</u> <u>Ancillary Facilities for a Period of 3 Years and Associated Filling of Land</u> <u>(A/NE-FTA/247)</u>

1. We refer to the captioned.

2. There are at least four rejected applications covering the current application site. Reasons for the rejection of two of these applications are reproduced below:

A/NE-FTA/156 - Proposed Temporary Unloading/Loading Platforms for a Period of 3 Years

(a) the application is not in line with the planning intention of the "Agriculture" ("AGR") zone for the area which is primarily intended to retain and safeguard good agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes. There is no strong planning justification in the submission for a departure from such planning intention, even on a temporary basis;

(b) the application does not comply with the Town Planning Board Guidelines for Application for Open Storage and Port Back-up Uses (TPB PG-No. 13E) in that there is no previous planning approval granted at the site; the proposed development is not compatible with the surrounding land uses which are predominantly rural in character; there are adverse departmental comments on the application; and the applicant fails to demonstrate that the development would have no adverse environmental and landscape



impacts on the surrounding area; and

(c) the approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for similar applications within the same "AGR" zone. The cumulative effect of approving such similar applications would result in a general degradation of the environment of the area.

<u>A/NE-FTA/186 - Filling of Land for Permitted Agricultural Use (Hydroponic Farm)</u> (withdrawn eventually)

(a) the planning intention of the "Agriculture" ("AGR") zone is primarily to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes. There is no strong planning justifications for land filling of 1.5m in height (5mPD to 6mPD) for agricultural purpose;

(b) the applicant fails to demonstrate that the filling of land would not cause adverse drainage, environmental, ecological, landscape and traffic impacts on the surrounding area; and

(c) the approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for other similar applications within the "AGR" zone. The cumulative impact of approving such applications would result in a general degradation of the environment of the area.

3. We urge the Board to consider whether any of the above reasons would also be applicable to the current application.

4. We also urge the Board to look at some recent photos showing the site and the habitats nearby (**Figure 1**). The application site is indeed located within a locality called 'Sandy Ridge Wetland Mosaic' in our recent farmland bird survey report¹. Based on the survey carried out by our experts, we consider that the ecological value of this mosaic was the highest (among the nine surveyed sites) and worth to be protected appropriately. This finding echoes with the results of a Planning Department study; in a study by the Planning

¹https://www.kfbg.org/images/download/kfbg%20northern%20metropolis%20bird%20report%20sept%20202 3%20eng.pdf



Department regarding the (former) Frontier Closed Area², the following statements are mentioned:

"The area to the southwest of Sandy Ridge, bounded to the west by the Ng Tung River and rail line and to the south by the Man Kam To Road, comprises active and inactive agricultural land, both wet and dry, and inactive fish ponds. This combination of habitats is generally attractive to birds, and this area is no exception. Twenty wetland-dependant species were recorded in the five surveys carried out as part of this study, including the rare Greater Painted-snipe. Although breeding was not actually proven, its occurrence throughout the year, the presence of calling birds in May and the presence of both inactive and wet agricultural areas suggests very strongly that breeding occurs...

The area lies close to Long Valley, and there are ecological linkages with this area, as shown by the occurrence of similar wetland dependent species, in particular, Cattle Egret, Common Teal, Greater Painted-snipe, Black-winged Stilt, Little Ringed Plover, Common Snipe and sandpipers Tringa, which are typical species at Long Valley but not in other, nearby wetland habitats...

The area also provides foraging grounds for Chinese Pond Herons nesting at the nearby Ho Sheung Heung Egretry, which lies across the Ng Tung River. These birds were seen flying directly from the egretry to the area during surveys.

A single Eurasian Otter was recorded in one of the inactive fish ponds in the wet agricultural area to the southwest of Sha Ling in January 2009. This is the only record of the species in this area of Hong Kong east of the Ng Tung River. Of conservation significance ('Near Threatened', IUCN; 'Vulnerable', China Red Data Book), the Hong Kong distribution of this protected species appears to be confined to the northwest New Territories (Shek 2006). The area provides potentially suitable breeding habitat..."

5. We would also like to remind the Board that the application site has suffered from large-scale environmental destruction in the past; enforcement and reinstatement notices have also been issued. We urge the Board to look at the on-site and aerial photos taken in various years as shown in our previous submissions (in **Appendix 1**) attached under the current letter.

² https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/SEA/eng/files/LandUsePlanningforClosedArea_Chp7[1].pdf



We urge the Board to seriously investigate the history of the site (i.e., the serious environmental destruction appeared in the past) as well as the reasons by the then Town Planning Board to reject the aforementioned applications.

6. We would also like to remind the current Town Planning Board that a spokesman for the Board has said, '*The Board is determined to conserve the rural and natural environment and will not tolerate any deliberate action to destroy the rural and natural environment in the hope that the Board would give sympathetic consideration to subsequent development on the site concerned.*' This is documented in a government press release entitled 'Town Planning Board adopts approaches to deter "destroy first, build later" activities'³.

7. We urge the current Board to understand (and can also appropriately implement) the stance as claimed by the aforementioned spokesman.

8. Based on the photos in **Figure 1**, it seems that some vegetation clearance has been carried out recently within the application site; but the area in general is still largely green and the site would still have some ecological connectivity with the wetland and farmland to the west of the site.

9. Regarding this application, we urge the Board to consider the followings:

- whether the approval would set a precedent for similar cases in this area
- potential cumulative impacts caused by the approval of this application, especially on the farmland and wetland to the west of the site
- Is the submitted drainage impact assessment able to address the potential drainage impact? Obviously the site is located in a low-lying area with human settlements nearby as shown in **Figure 1**.
- Are there any other potential impacts needed to be addressed, such as environmental, ecological, visual and landscape, etc., and have/ should these potential impacts, if any, been/ be adequately addressed by relevant impact assessments? If these impacts are needed to be addressed, have relevant (and adequate) impact assessments been submitted to support this application?
- In view of the ecological value of the nearby farmland and wetland, should an ecological impact assessment be carried out? If not, why is it not required?

³ https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201107/04/P201107040255.htm



10. We urge the Board to unequivocally reject this application as we consider Agriculture zone should not be turned into brownfield site in general; the use is definitely not in line with the planning intention of the zoning of concern and we are also concerned about the potential ecological impacts that would be caused by the proposed use (we cannot see from the gists and town planning board website that an ecological impact assessment has been submitted for this application).

11. Thank you for your attention.

Ecological Advisory Programme Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden



Figure 1. The site (indicated by the arrow) and the habitats to the west of the site.

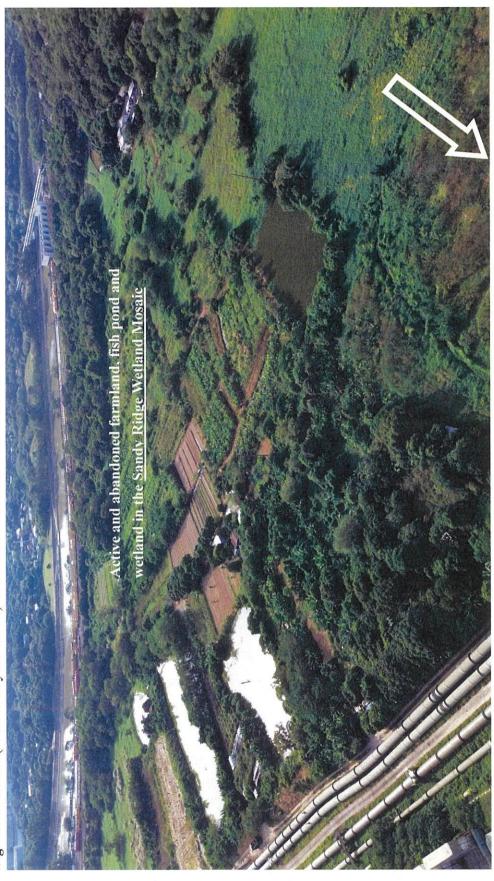




Figure 1. Cont'd.





The Secretary, Town Planning Board, 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333, Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong. (Email: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk)

22nd October, 2018.

By email only

Dear Sir/ Madam,

<u>Filling of Land for Permitted Agricultural Use (Hydroponic Farm)</u> (A/NE-FTA/186) (Review under Section 17)

1. We refer to the captioned.

2. The application for planning permission of the captioned was rejected in September, 2018, and the reasons for rejection are reproduced below:

(a) the planning intention of the "Agriculture" ("AGR") zone is primarily to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes. There is no strong planning justifications for land filling of 1.5m in height (5mPD to 6mPD) for agricultural purpose;

(b) the applicant fails to demonstrate that the filling of land would not cause adverse drainage, environmental, ecological, landscape and traffic impacts on the surrounding area; and

(c) the approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for other similar applications within the "AGR" zone. The cumulative impact of approving such applications would result in a general degradation of the environment of the area.

3. Based on our observation from the Planning Department, there are enforcement and



reinstatement notices issued for cases covering the current application site, and we could not see any compliance notice issued (information retrieved on 19th October, 2018). We would like to ask the Board to liaise with the relevant authorities as to whether or not the site is already properly reinstated. We strongly urge the Board to consider whether or not it is appropriate to approve an application if there are outstanding enforcement cases covering the application site.

4. Finally, we urge the Board to read our previous submission (Appendix 1) for more information.

5. Thank you for your attention.

Ecological Advisory Programme Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden

cc. Designing Hong Kong



The Secretary, Town Planning Board, 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333, Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong. (Email: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk)

30th July, 2018.

By email only

Dear Sir/ Madam,

<u>Filling of Land for Permitted Agricultural Use (Hydroponic Farm)</u> (A/NE-FTA/186)

1. We refer to the captioned.

2. There was a similar application (for filling of land and pond, and hydroponic farm) at the current application site earlier this year (i.e., A/NE-FTA/182) and we objected to the application (please see our submission for the previous application, **Appendix 1**). The application was rejected by the Town Planning Board in April 2018 and the reasons for rejection are reproduced below:

(a) the planning intention of the "Agriculture" ("AGR") zone is primarily to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes. There is no strong planning justifications for land/pond filling of 2 to 3m in height (+6.5mPD) for agricultural purpose;

(b) the applicant fails to demonstrate that the filling of land and pond would not cause adverse drainage, environmental, ecological, landscape and traffic impacts on the surrounding area; and

(c) the approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for other similar applications within the "AGR" zone. The cumulative impact of approving such applications would result in a general degradation of the environment of the area.



3. According to the information retrieved from the Planning Department in July 2018, there are currently some outstanding enforcement cases (i.e., E/NE-FTA/163 and E/NE-FTA/168) covering the current application site and no compliance notices have been issued.

4. A Reinstatement Notice (RN) was issued for case no. E/NE-FTA/163 and the requirements in general included: (1) to remove the fill materials, and (2) to grass the areas. This RN expired on 2nd March, 2018. We visited the site again in July 2018; on-site photographs taken during the visit are shown in **Figure 1**. We urge the Board to compare these recent photographs with photographs taken in May 2015 and February 2018 as shown in **Appendix 1**.

5. Although the locality is not covered with conservation zonings, we hope that the Board will recall the farmland and fish pond areas to the southwest of Sandy Ridge has been considered to be of high conservation concern as described in our previous submission for A/NE-FTA/182 in **Appendix 1** (indeed, this is revealed from a Planning Department's study). However, based on our latest observations in July 2018, we consider that this site is now no longer able to provide suitable habitats for most wetland fauna including species of conservation importance like the Greater Painted Snipe, which has once been recorded in the area.

6. The original habitats at the site (e.g., shallow ponds and abandoned farmlands) are still subject to impacts (i.e., direct habitat loss) caused by the unauthorised land filling activity (see **Figure 1**). From an ecological point of view, we do not consider that the site has been properly reinstated in any way. We are unable to discern that the site has even been properly 'grassed' (see **Figure 1**) which is just one of the two requirements in the RN (<u>expired in March 2018</u>).

7. We hope that the Board will send a clear message to the public that any destroy first and develop later activities would (and should) NOT be tolerated, which is, indeed, a statement made by the Board¹. We also urge the Board to request the Planning Department speed-up the handling process for enforcement cases (the first Enforcement Notice was issued on 21st September 2017).

8. In 2016, the Ombudsman carried out an investigation on Government control of

¹ http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201107/04/P201107040255.htm



fly-tipping and land filling on private land. According to their report published in 2018², the Ombudsman considers that:

(1) Planning Department takes too long to enforce RNs.

(2) Planning Department's prosecution actions have little deterrent effect.

(3) ... Protecting zones of ecological/conservation value from damage by landfilling activities should be a paramount factor for consideration. When drawing up RNs, <u>Plan D</u> should assess in a more prudent manner whether the requirements of the RNs can genuinely serve the purposes of conserving ecological habitats and reinstating the site to its satisfaction, with more weight placed on conservation of natural habitats and not slanting in favour of the RN recipients.

9. In the report, we also note the following statement:

'In response to the query concerning "destroy first, build later", Plan D (Planning Department) has indicated to us that in order to protect the rural areas and natural environment, TPB had decided in as early as 2011 to take appropriate measures to deter such tactic. All applications for planning permission for sites involved in unauthorised development would be subject to investigation first. Should an unauthorised development be confirmed, TPB would vet the application concerned based on the land condition of the site before damage. If Plan D has already taken enforcement action on the site under application and served an RN in accordance with TPO, <u>then TPB would only consider the application with reference to the reinstated condition of the site as required by the RN.</u> The above measures serve to deter the use of "destroy first, build later" tactic.'

10. Finally, the Ombudsman made recommendations for the Planning Department to:

(1) review the enforcement procedures to avoid unnecessary repeat inspections, and to take resolute further enforcement actions against offenders who delay their compliance with RNs;

(2) alert the court to the seriousness of the problem in cases of a serious nature, and seek

² http://ofomb.ombudsman.hk/abc/files/DI410_ES_E-1_2_2018_0.pdf



more severe penalties in terms of heavier fines for stronger deterrent effect; and

(3) review the factors to be considered in drawing up RNs; where sites of ecological/conservation value are involved, to require the RN recipients as far as possible to fully reinstate the sites to their original state in order to achieve the purpose of conservation.

11. It is highly frustrating to see a site with such considerable ecological value being destroyed, which is unauthorised. In the meantime, nothing has been done to reinstate the site properly, despite the fact that a RN has been issued, and there have even been two planning applications for land filling for so-called agriculture use (hydroponics farm) in the impacted area. We would be extremely surprised if the Board considers that this application can still be approved under these circumstances. We would also request that the Board strongly urge the Planning Department to speed up the processing of the enforcement cases and to require appropriate reinstatement actions.

12. Finally, we wish to bring to the attention of the Board that Government has NO intention of encouraging the spread of hydroponic farms on arable land/ AGR zones; such a trend has not been encouraged in the New Agriculture Policy. Hydroponic farms should better be developed in industrial areas as recommended by Government (**Appendix 1**).

13. We urge the Board to unequivocally reject this application and to impress upon the Planning Department to take prompt action in order to properly reinstate the site.

14. Thank you for your attention.

Ecological Advisory Programme Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden

cc. Designing Hong Kong



Figure 1. On-site photographs taken in July 2018 showing the site and its surroundings.







Figure 1. Cont'd.





Figure 1. Cont'd.





Figure 1. Cont'd.





The Secretary, Town Planning Board, 15/F, North Point Government Offices, 333, Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong. (Email: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk)

27th February, 2018.

By email only

1

Dear Sir/ Madam,

<u>Proposed Filling of Land and Pond for Permitted Agricultural Use (Hydroponic Farm)</u> (A/NE-FTA/182)

1. We refer to the captioned. We strongly object to this application.

2. We urge the Board to seriously consider and deliberate upon the information as outlined below.

Current status of the site

3. Firstly, we request that the Board view some on-site photographs taken in May 2015 and February 2018 (Figure 1) as well as some aerial photographs taken in recent years (Figure 2), which show the site and its surroundings. As can be seen, a well-vegetated area with considerable landscape value has been completely transformed into bare ground with a paved road and much construction waste was observed dumped in the area. According to information from the Planning Department, a large part of the application site was involved in an enforcement case E/NE-FTA/163, and, both enforcement and reinstatement notices have already been issued for this site. The 'predominant unauthorised development use' involved are: '*land/ pond filling, dumping and site formation*', and the requirements of the reinstatement notice are: '*(i) to remove the fill materials on the areas...; and (ii) to grass the areas...*'. The expiry date for the reinstatement notice is 2nd March, 2018.

4. We would like to remind the Board of the statements in a government press release¹, as

¹ http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201107/04/P201107040255.htm



below:

"For a rezoning application or a planning application for an application site involved in an unauthorised development (UD) such as illegal land/pond filling, the Board will not make a decision on the application before full investigation into whether the UD constitutes an abuse of the application process is made. In addition, when the application site is subject to enforcement action, the Board will take into account the reinstated condition of the site as required in the reinstatement notice (RN) issued by the Planning Authority (PA) under the Town Planning Ordinance when considering the application. <u>The reinstated condition of the application site as required in the RN</u> will not be considered by the Board as a planning gain in the application.

'The Board (Town Planning Board) is determined to conserve the rural and natural environment and will not tolerate any deliberate action to destroy the rural and natural environment in the hope that the Board would give sympathetic consideration to subsequent development on the site concerned,' a spokesman for the Board said."

5. Our understanding of the planning application system is that it should be an "apply first and develop later (after getting permission from the Town Planning Board)" regime. If every applicant simply adopts a contrary approach, why do we still need the planning application system? If such an approach is to be allowed, how can the integrity of the planning application system be maintained? We urge the Board to seriously consider these questions.

The Government is not going to facilitate hydroponic farms to be established on arable land, under the New Agriculture Policy

6. In late 2014, the Government initiated a public consultation for the New Agriculture Policy (NAP). We provided our submission and stated the following:

"Quite simply, hydroponics is, in fact, a highly mechanised food-factory system operating within an enclosed, soil-less, controlled and completely sterile laboratory environment – it does not need to be, and actually should not be built on soil. Should the Agri-Park be set-up on agricultural land, hydroponics should never be a technology for consideration within such an area as it destroys the most fundamental agriculture resource, i.e., soil. Hydroponics lives in industrial estates."



7. After public consultation, the Government began the implementation of the NAP², and regarding hydroponics, the following was mentioned by $Government^{2, 3}$:

*"Exploring ways to facilitate establishment of hydroponics or other similar operations in industrial buildings/zones.*²*"*

"to explore feasible ways to facilitate establishment of hydroponics or other similar operations <u>in industrial buildings</u>, e.g., reviewing the land planning regime to permit such uses on industrial zones subject to fire and building safety consideration.³"

8. From the above, our understanding is that the Government wishes to promote the development of hydroponic farms in **industrial buildings**/ zones. We do not see that the Government is going to encourage hydroponic farms to become widespread on arable land/ in Agriculture zones – there is simply no such intention by Government. In this regard, the Board should seriously consider whether approving this application would send an inconsistent (and in our view, inappropriate) message to the general public and land owners, encouraging them to build more and more hydroponic farms on arable land/ in Agriculture zones. Indeed, under the NAP, such development is neither stated nor even facilitated by Government.

High ecological and conservation importance of the area

9. In a study by the Planning Department regarding the (former) Frontier Closed Area⁴, the following statements are mentioned:

"The area to the southwest of Sandy Ridge, bounded to the west by the Ng Tung River and rail line and to the south by the Man Kam To Road, comprises active and inactive agricultural land, both wet and dry, and inactive fish ponds. This combination of habitats is generally attractive to birds, and this area is no exception. <u>Twenty</u> wetland-dependant species were recorded in the five surveys carried out as part of this study, including the rare Greater Painted-snipe. Although breeding was not actually proven, its occurrence throughout the year, the presence of calling birds in May and the

² http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201601/14/P201601140558.htm

³ http://gia.info.gov.hk/general/201601/14/P201601140558_0558_158223.pdf

⁴http://www.pland.gov.hk/pland_en/misc/FCA/files_072010/Final_Report/041-02%20Final%20Report%20(C hapter%207).pdf



presence of both inactive and wet agricultural areas suggests very strongly that breeding occurs...

The area lies close to Long Valley, and there are ecological linkages with this area, as shown by the occurrence of similar wetland dependent species, in particular, Cattle Egret, Common Teal, Greater Painted-snipe, Black-winged Stilt, Little Ringed Plover, Common Snipe and sandpipers Tringa, <u>which are typical species at Long Valley but not</u> <u>in other, nearby wetland habitats</u>...

<u>The area also provides foraging grounds for Chinese Pond Herons nesting at the nearby</u> <u>Ho Sheung Heung Egretry</u>, which lies across the Ng Tung River. These birds were seen flying directly from the egretry to the area during surveys.

<u>A single Eurasian Otter was recorded in one of the inactive fish ponds in the wet</u> agricultural area to the southwest of Sha Ling in January 2009. This is the only record of the species in this area of Hong Kong east of the Ng Tung River. Of conservation significance ('Near Threatened', IUCN; 'Vulnerable', China Red Data Book), the Hong Kong distribution of this protected species appears to be confined to the northwest New Territories (Shek 2006). The area provides potentially suitable breeding habitat..."

10. From the above, we know that at least two species of very high conservation interest, which are the Greater Painted-snipe (彩鷸) and Eurasian Otter (水獺) are recorded in the area and both are suspected to be breeding in the area as well⁴. The area in general would also support habitats which are suitable to wetland birds from Long Valley (塱原) and the Ho Sheung Heung Egretry (河上鄉驚鳥林). Simply speaking, the area in general is a mosaic of wetland habitats supporting a variety of wetland species.

11. Based on the aerial photographs and our recent on-site observation, we consider that the above statements are still largely valid – that means the area where the site is located is still of unique ecological and conservation importance. Although the area has been partially in-filled (mainly in and around the present application site), much of its remaining parts are still largely intact, rural in nature and vegetated (e.g., please see the recent aerial photographs), and can still function as wetland habitats (e.g., the ponds).

12. We are highly concerned that approval of this application would set an undesirable precedent for other similar applications (e.g., for filling of arable land and ponds) in this



highly sensitive area. We urge the Board to seriously consider the potential cumulative impacts of approving this application. If the farmland and ponds become further filled, it can be envisaged that the ecological function and conservation importance of the entire area will disappear permanently. The ecological impacts caused (i.e., net loss in both wetland area and function) can be considered to be highly significant as these wetlands (e.g., inactive wet agricultural land and ponds) can provide habitats for many species of conservation concern (e.g., Greater Painted Snipe, Eurasian Otter and breeding Egrets).

Potential drainage impacts of this application

13. The entire locality where the site is situated is located within a lowland basin, sandwiched between the Lo Wu Station Road and the pipelines of the Water Supplies Department, and, the western side of the area is adjacent to the Ng Tung River. As shown in the aerial and on-site photographs, there are village houses not far from the site located within the same basin. According to the gist of this application, the height of the proposed land and pond filling will be up to 6.5 mPD and there would also be stream diversion. As previously mentioned, some parts of the site have been subject to unauthorised filling; the level of some parts of the site is now already higher than the immediate surroundings as can be seen from the recent on-site photographs.

14. Under the above circumstances, we urge the Board to seriously consider whether the approval of this application would aggravate the flooding risk of the area by placing the nearby houses and residents (if any) in a vulnerable situation. According to the gist, there is no drainage impact assessment provided for this application.

Rejected planning applications for filling of land/ pond for ('permitted') agriculture uses

15. The present application is not the first of its kind applying for filling of land/ ponds for ('permitted') agriculture uses. We note that many of these applications were rejected by the Board. Some examples and the reasons to reject them are reproduced below (duplicated reasons are not shown):

- (a) A/YL-KTN/347 Proposed filling of pond for agricultural use in Agriculture zone; application for planning permission and review application both rejected in 2010 and 2011, respectively, because:
- the applicant failed to demonstrate in the submission that the proposed filling of pond would not cause adverse <u>ecological</u>, <u>landscape</u> and <u>drainage</u> impacts on the



site and the surrounding areas; and

- the approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for similar applications within the subject "AGR" zone. The cumulative effect of approving such application would <u>result in adverse ecological impact and loss of fish ponds</u> in the area.
- (b) A/YL-TT/372 Proposed filling of land for permitted agricultural use in Agriculture zone; rejected in 2016 because:
- the proposed filling of land for construction of an access road and structures ancillary to agricultural use is <u>not in line with the planning intention of the</u> <u>"Agriculture" ("AGR") zone</u> which is primarily <u>to retain and safeguard good</u> <u>quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds</u> for agricultural purposes and <u>to retain</u> <u>fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation</u> for cultivation and other agricultural purposes. The applicant fails to demonstrate in the submission that the proposed land filling is essential for genuine agricultural propose; and
- the approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for similar applications within the "AGR" zone. The cumulative effect of approving such application would result in a general degradation of the environment of the area and adverse landscape impact on the surrounding areas.
- (c) A/NE-TK/542 Proposed filling of land up to 1.6 m for permitted agricultural use; largely within Agriculture zone; rejected in 2015 because:
- the planning intention of the "Agriculture" ("AGR") zone is primarily to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes. There is <u>no strong planning</u> justifications for land filling of 1.6m high for agricultural purpose;
- the applicant fails to demonstrate that the filling of land would not cause adverse drainage, landscape and **geotechnical impacts** on the surrounding area; and
- (d) A/SK-TMT/61 Proposed filling of land for permitted agriculture use in Green Belt;



rejected in 2017 because:

- the applicant <u>fails to demonstrate that there is a need for filling of land</u> for agricultural use at the Site;
- approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for similar applications within the "Green Belt" zone. The cumulative effect of approving such similar proposals would result in a general degradation of the environment and **bring about adverse impact on drainage** and landscape of the area.
- (e) A/YL-PS/253 Proposed filling of land for agricultural use (growing of organic vegetables and mushrooms and ancillary office) in Green Belt; rejected in 2006 because:
- <u>no strong justifications had been provided to demonstrate that filling of land</u> under the current application <u>was essential and inevitable</u> for carrying out agricultural activities on site;
- there was no information in the submission to demonstrate that the development under application would not have adverse drainage impact on the surrounding area and aggravate flooding in the area; and
- (f) A/NE-KTS/338 Proposed filling of land (about 1m to 1.2m in depth) for agriculture use and two on-farm domestic structures in Green Belt; application for planning permission and review application both rejected in 2013 because:
- the proposed development was not in line with the Town Planning Board (TPB) Guidelines for Application for Development within Green Belt Zone under Section 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance (TPB PG-No. 10) in that there was a general presumption against development in a "Green Belt" ("GB") zone, and land filling would only be considered in exceptional circumstances and had to be justified with very strong planning grounds. There was insufficient information in the submission to demonstrate that the proposed land filling was for genuine agricultural purpose;
- extensive clearance of existing natural vegetation and land filling had been



involved at the application site and affected the existing natural landscape. The applicant had failed to demonstrate that the proposed development would not cause adverse traffic and landscape impacts on the surrounding areas; and

- the approval of the application would set an undesirable precedent for similar applications within the "GB" zone. The cumulative effect of approving such application would **result in** general degradation of the environment of the area and **adverse traffic** and landscape **impacts** on the surrounding areas.
- (g) A/NE-MUP/55 Land filling for permitted agricultural use (plant nursery) in Agriculture zone; rejected in 2008 because:
- After deliberation, the Committee decided to reject the application and the reason was that the granting of approval to the illegal land filling operation would set an undesirable precedent for other similar applications within the "Agriculture" zone. The cumulative impacts of approving such similar applications would result in a general degradation to the environment of the area.
- (h) A/YL-LFS/202 Proposed land filling (by 1.2 m) for agricultural use in Green Belt; application for planning permission and review application both rejected in 2010 because:
- the proposed materials for filling, including boulders as a substrata, were not suitable for farming (this reason was not used in the rejection of the review application); and
- <u>the site would be higher than the surrounding areas after the proposed land filling.</u> <u>The applicant failed to justify the need to fill up the site and the filling depth being</u> <u>applied for</u>, and to demonstrate that the proposed land filling would not have adverse drainage and landscape impacts on the surrounding area.
- 16. For the present application, we urge the Board to consider the following questions:
 - Is there any information provided to show that the current application (involving land and pond filling as well as stream diversion in a lowland basin) would not cause any adverse landscape, drainage and ecological impacts?



- Has the applicant provided sufficient and valid information and justifications to demonstrate that there is an essential and inevitable need to fill-up the land and ponds to the proposed height up to 6.5 mPD for genuine agricultural purposes/ carrying out genuine agricultural activities?
- Would the potential cumulative impacts of approving such application result in adverse ecological impact and loss of fish ponds in the area?
- Would the potential cumulative effect of approving such application result in a general degradation of the environment and bring about adverse impacts on drainage, landscape and traffic of the area?
- Is the application in line with the planning intention of the "Agriculture" ("AGR") zone which is primarily to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes and to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes?

17. To conclude, we are highly concerned that the approval of this application would set a highly undesirable precedent for other similar applications and potentially cause the proliferation of such activities, i.e., filling of ponds and land in this highly sensitive area. We also consider the AGR zone in the area of concern should be protected from undesirable impacts. In order to safeguard the important wildlife habitats (and at the same time retain good quality agricultural land/ fish ponds for traditional agricultural purposes and fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for traditional genuine cultivation), we urge the Board to unequivocally reject this application.

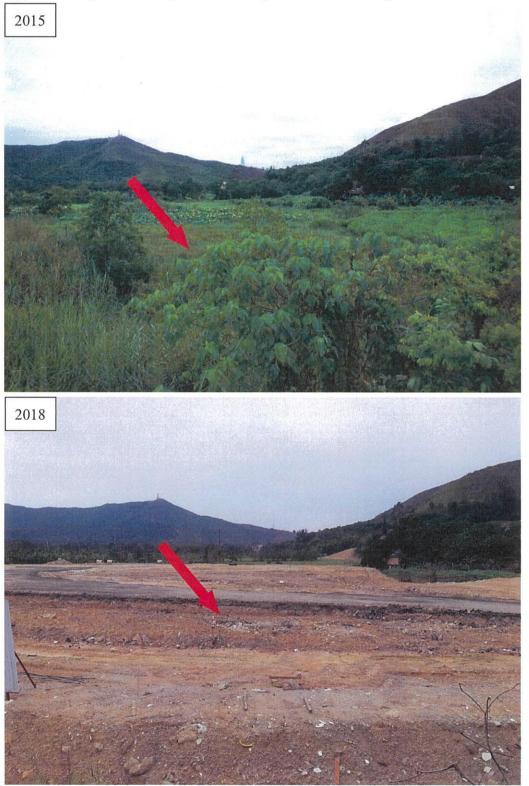
18. Thank you for your attention.

Ecological Advisory Programme Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden

cc. Designing Hong Kong Hong Kong Bird Watching Society The Conservancy Association WWF-HK

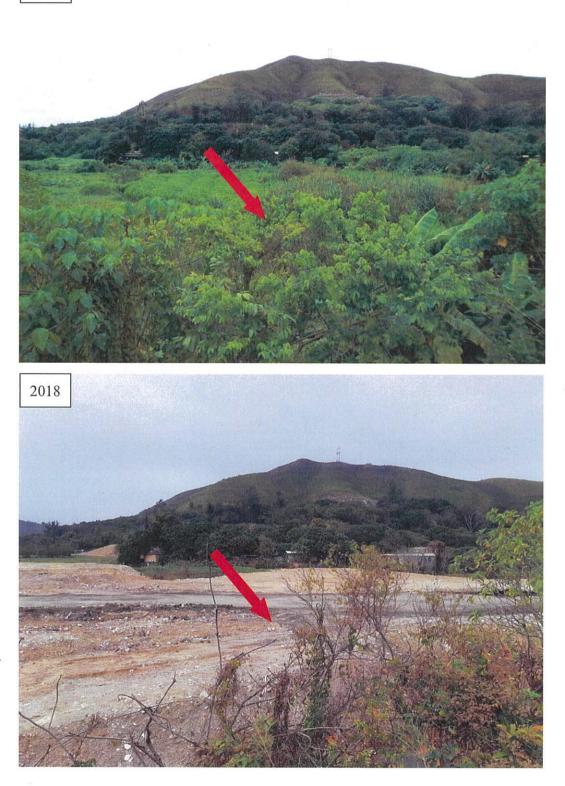


Figure 1. On-site photographs taken in May 2015 and February 2018, showing the site (approximately indicated by the red arrow) and its surroundings.





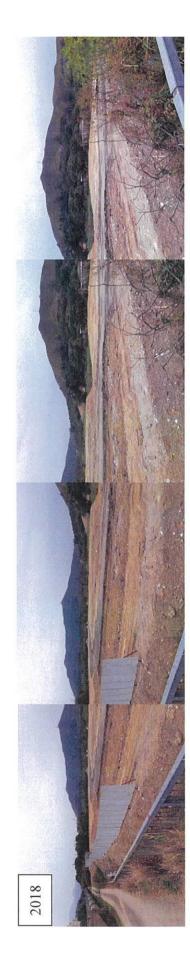




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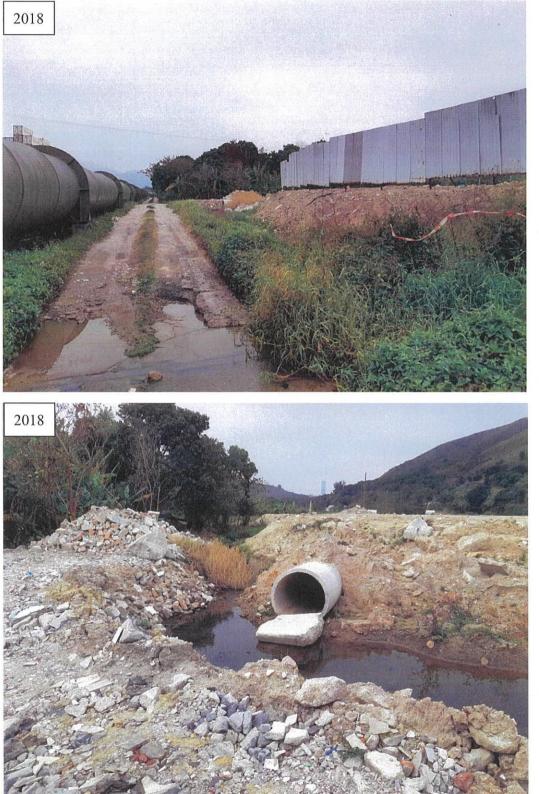








Figure 2. Aerial photographs showing the locality (the site and its surroundings are approximately marked by the red rectangle).







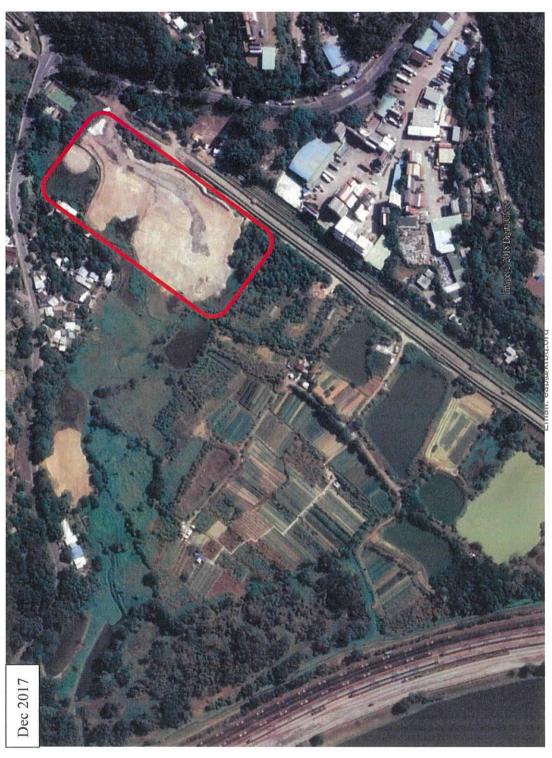


Figure 2. Cont'd.





Figure 2. Cont'd.

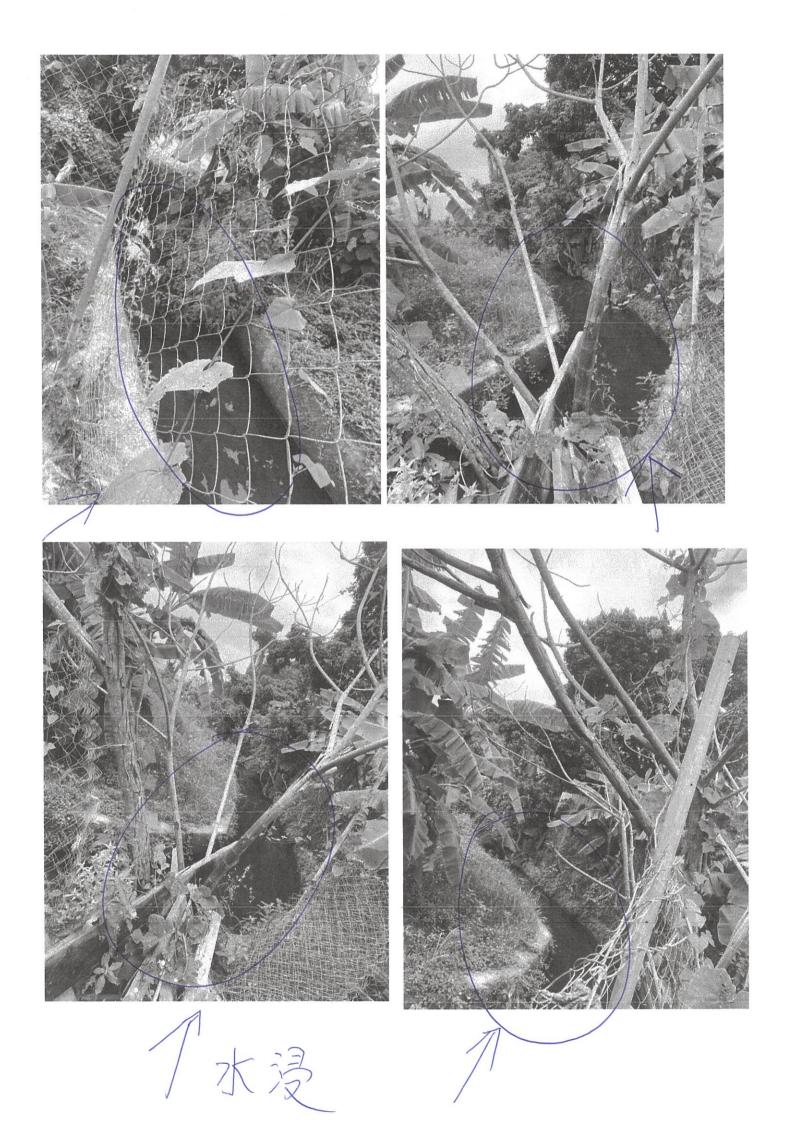


致:城市規劃委員會

有関於貴司申請編號:A/NE-FTA/247在此 規劃,臨時貨倉,村民表示近日有此車輸 在此例泥頭,堵塞渠口,引來有居民房屋 水浸,渠口不能暢通,而農作物亦受 損, 懇請盡快跟進事件!

謝 謝!

村民 21/11/2024



From: Sent: To: Subject:

2024-11-22 星期五 02:24:19 tpbpd/PLAND <tpbpd@pland.gov.hk> Re: A/NE-FTA/247 DD 89 Nam Kam To Road

Dear TPB Members,

The Applicant's statement raises a number of issues:

As the proposed development is intended to facilitate the relocation of the applicant's affected business premises in Hung Shui Kiu due to land resumption to pave way for the second phase development of Hung Shui Kiu/Ha Tsuen New Development Area, the special background of the application should be considered on individual merit.

THE ADMINSTRATION HAS YET TO MAKE A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT THAT IN ORDER TO FACILITATE DEVELOPMENT OF HUNG SHUI KIU ALL AGRICULTURE ZONED LAND IN THE TERRITORY IS NOW OPEN TO BROWNFIELD DEVELOPMENT.

IT IS ABOUT TIME THAT TPB MEMBERS REQUEST DATA FROM DEVELOPMENT BUREAU RE THE ESTIMATED CUMULATIVE TOTAL OF AGRICULTURE ZONING IT INTENDS TO SUPPORT FOR THIS EXERCISE.

and approval of the current application would not set an undesirable precedent within the "AGR" zone.

UNDER THE AMENDMENTS TO

TPB PG-No. 13G (Revised April 2023): TOWN PLANNING BOARD GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION FOR OPEN STORAGE AND PORT BACK-UP USES UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE

CONSIDERABLE TRACTS OF 'AGRICULTURE' ZONING HAVE ALREADY BEEN ALLOCATED UNDER CAT 2 GIVING THE COMMUNITY THE IMPRESSION THAT THE EXTENSION TO BROWNFIELD OPERATIONS WOULD BE CONFINED TO THESE LOCATIONS

The applicant will reinstate the Site to an amenity area after the planning approval period. SO DOES THE APPLICANT INTEND TO LOOK FOR ANOTHER SITE BEFORE THE THREE YEAR DEADLINE? OF COURSE NOT, THE INTENTION WOULD BE TO DEVELOPE A 'FOREVER HOME'. THIS STATEMENT SHOULD BE BANNED FROM THE APPLICATION PROCESS AS ONCE TRASHED THESE SITES WILL NEVER BE REINSTATED.

There are significant departmental objections so the streamlinging this application cannot be tolerated.

Mary Mulvihill

From: To: tpbpd <<u>tpbpd@pland.gov.hk</u>> Date: Sunday, 20 October 2024 3:17 AM HKT Subject: Re: A/NE-FTA/247 DD 89 Nam Kam To Road

Dear TPB Members,

In view of the drainage issues and proximity to watercourses this application has to be rejected IF, and regretably this is doubtful, TPB'S OWN APPROVED GUIDELINES HAVE ANY SUBSTANCE.

This district is Cat 3 and 4, "**existing**" and approved open storage and port back-up uses are to be contained and further proliferation of such uses is not acceptable" TPB PG-No. 13G (Revised April 2023)

TOWN PLANNING BOARD GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION FOR OPEN STORAGE AND PORT BACK-UP USES UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE

There is no justification for approval.

Mary Mulvihill

From:

To: tpbpd <<u>tpbpd@pland.gov.hk</u>> Date: Monday, 15 July 2024 2:55 AM HKT Subject: A/NE-FTA/247 DD 89 Nam Kam To Road

A/NE-FTA/247

Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land, near Lo Wu Station Road, Man Kam To Road, New Territories

Site area: About 16,256m² Includes Government Land of about 80m²

Zoning: "Agriculture"

Applied Development: Warehouse / 19 Vehicle Parking / Filling of Land

Dear TPB Members,

Strong Objections. In 2018 the site was rejected under an application for Hydroponic Farming. But since then the government has reneged on its pledges to phase out brownfield operations and is fully committed to converting every field in NT to such use.

Members should refer to the papers and minutes re 186 and question why the site has been completely stripped of vegetation and is now being applied for a use that is not Col 2. Neither is the area one of those designated under the manipulative Notes that effectively render zoning obsolete.

This is an area with considerable farming activity. There are ponds on adjacent lots. The site is beside a playground so the introduction of frequent trips by large vehicles is certainly not appropriate.

Why has the government not ensured that its mega construction projects do not include sturdy multi floor warehouses?

The application should be rejected as it is inconceivable that white becomes black in such a short time frame.

Mary Mulvihill

From:

To: tpbpd <<u>tpbpd@pland.gov.hk</u>> Date: Thursday, 1 November 2018 2:35 AM HKT Subject: Re: A/NE-FTA/186 DD 89 Nam Kam To Road

Dear TPB Members,

The 7 Sept minutes include additional information with regard to illegal operations at this site:

DEP had also received environmental complaints concerning the site in the past three years and during one of their ambush operation, a truck driver was caught redhanded dumping construction and demolition waste at the Site and he was convicted under Waste Disposal Ordinance.

PD: The Site was over 1.5 hectares and **majority of it had been filled up without planning permission. The current application was a "Destroy First, Build Later" case.** Although the northern part of the Site covering Lots 466, 520RP, 521 to 523 in DD89 had once obtained approvals from the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and LandsD for erection of agricultural structures, the land filling activities at that part of the Site exceeding +3.9mPD had never been agreed by relevant departments and the relevant Letter of Approval (LoA) and associated Certificates of Exemption (for Building Works and Site Formation) were cancelled and revoked on 12.10.2017.

It is blatantly obvious that this application has zero merit and that the relevant authorities must pursue remedial measures so that the site is restored.

Mary Mulvihill

From:

To: "tpbpd" <<u>tpbpd@pland.gov.hk</u>> Sent: Monday, August 6, 2018 2:20:24 AM Subject: A/NE-FTA/186 DD 89 Nam Kam To Road

A/NE-FTA/186 Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land, near Lo Wu Station Road, Man Kam To Road, New Territories Site area : About 15,836m² Includes Government Land of about 67m² Zoning : "Agriculture" Applied Development : Hydroponic Farm Dear TPB Members,

Back again albeit a reduction in size andland filling to only 6m.

On 6 April when Application 182 was discussed the following details were revealed:

The District Lands Officer/North, Lands Department (LandsD) did not support the application from the land administration point of view on the grounds that there were illegal structures on the site, illegal occupation of government land and illegal landfilling activities had been carried out on the site. As for the rest of the site, the land/pond filling activities had never obtained permission from relevant departments. The Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (DAFC) objected to the application from nature conservation point of view in that the application site and its vicinity was a piece of wetland consisted of marsh/watercourse/etc., which might be of considerable ecological value, and the applicant failed to identify and address any potential ecological impact that might arise from the proposed land filling activity. The Commissioner for Transport did not support the application at this stage as the applicant should carry out a traffic impact assessment covering Man Kam To Road, Po Shek Wu Road, Jockey Club Road and road network of the Sheung Shui/Fanling district. The Chief Town Planner/Urban Design and Landscape, Planning Department (PlanD) objected to the application from landscape planning point of view as there was an extensive unauthorised land filling of at least 2m in height and unauthorised significant vegetation clearance at the site prior to application. The Director of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Chief Engineer/Mainland North. Drainage Services Department had reservations on the application as there was no technical assessment to demonstrate that the proposed use would not result in adverse drainage impacts. DEP had also received environmental complaints concerning the site from 2015 to 2018.

Even Plan D did not support application, indicating that that it is seriously bad. The application site was over 2 hectares and majority of it had been filled without planning permission. The current application was for further filling of the entire site to about +6.5mPD (which was about 2 to 3m in thickness based on original ground level), which was a "**Destroy First, Build Later**" case.

The extensive filling of land and pond with hard surface was considered incompatible with the rural agricultural landscape character in the area and the **applicant had not provided any justification for the required depth of land-filling (i.e. over 5mPD) for erection of hydroponic farm/greenhouses** and ancillary facilities.

Precisely, this type of activity does not require land filling and should be carried out on industrial sites as hydroponic farming is nothing more than an artificial form of farming and studies indicate that the produce lacks certain elements that only produce grown in the earth can provide.

Members must again reject what is an obvious Destroy First, Build Later development.

Mary Mulvihill

From: To: "tpbpd" <<u>tpbpd@pland.gov.hk</u>> Sent: Tuesday, March 6, 2018 2:29:13 AM Subject: A/NE-FTA/182 DD 89 Nam Kam To Road

A/NE-FTA/182 Lots in D.D. 89 and Adjoining Government Land, near Lo Wu Station Road, Man Kam To Road, NT Site area : About 20,800m² Includes Government Land of about 100 m² Zoning : "Agriculture" Applied Development : Filling of Land and Pond 6.5m for Hydroponic Farm

Dear TPB Members,

Give over. Even a townie like me knows that hydroponic farming is essentially industrial in nature and can be carried out inside buildings, on roof tops, etc.

The produce is planted in containers on stands filled with nutrient solution. There is no direct planting into the earth so no land filling is required.

This is obviously an ongoing unapproved brownfield and the land filling is a Destroy to Build project. Note location close to Lo Wu.

TPB must reject this application as approval would set a most undesirable precedent.

Mary Mulvihill

 From:
 2024-11-22 星期五 08:00:00

 Sent:
 2024-11-22 星期五 08:00:00

 To:
 tpbpd/PLAND <tpbpd@pland.gov.hk>

 Subject:
 Comments on the Section 16 Application No. A/NE-FTA/247

 Attachment:
 TPB20241122(FTA247).pdf

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please refer to the attachment for the captioned.

Yours faithfully, Ng Hei Man (Mr.) Campaign Manager The Conservancy Association T: D: F: Registered Name 註冊名稱 : The Conservancy Association 長春社 (Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability by guarantee 於香港註冊成立的擔保有限公司)

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The Conservancy Association

22nd November 2024

Town Planning Board 15/F North Point Government Offices 333 Java Road North Point Hong Kong

By e-mail: tpbpd@pland.gov.hk

Dear Sir/Madam,

Comments on the Section 16 Application No. A/NE-FTA/247

The Conservancy Association OBJECTS to the captioned application.

1. Not in line with the planning intention of Agriculture (AGR) zone

According to the draft Fu Tei Au & Sha Ling Outline Zoning Plan (OZP) No. S/NE-FTA/18, the planning intention of AGR zone "*is intended primarily to retain and safeguard good quality agricultural land/farm/fish ponds for agricultural purposes. It is also intended to retain fallow arable land with good potential for rehabilitation for cultivation and other agricultural purposes*". From the figures in the application, the entire site would be filled by concrete. We worry that agricultural land would no longer be arable after the temporary use. We do not think that such plan is in line with the planning intention.

2. Adverse environmental impact

We worry that there would be several potential adverse environmental impacts:

Adverse impact on Greater painted-snipe and other wetland-associated species:
 Abandoned agricultural land would become seasonally wet and offer a range of opportunities for wetland-associated and aquatic fauna. Previous studies¹ have revealed that Greater painted-snipe was once recorded in agricultural land in Sha

¹ Ove Arup (2016), Site Formation and Associated Infrastructural Works for Development of Columbarium, Crematorium and Related Facilities at Sandy Ridge Cemetery – Design and Construction, Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report.



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Ling. This is a rare and localised breeding species in Hong Kong² such that any breeding sites is of conservation importance. Since similar habitat can be spotted in the application site, we worry that direct loss of agricultural land would also pose adverse ecological impact on Greater painted-snipe, and other wetland-associated species.

Potential impact on the watercourse: two watercourses are spotted at southern and northern periphery of the application site. No sufficient details are available to demonstrate any indirect ecological impacts would be resulted, and how these impacts could be mitigated. Meanwhile, potential drainage impacts are also not evaluated in details. We worry that the proposed land and pond filling activities would largely change the hydrology of the site, and such change would affect the adjacent agricultural activities and temporary uses.

No plans on land recovery: The filling of the Site will be no more than 2.5m. Afterwards, warehouse office, washroom, loading/unloading space for container vehicles, private car parking space, etc., would be provided at the site. However, no details are available to illustrate how the land would be recovered after the proposed temporary use.

3. Undesirable precedent for similar applications

According to aerial photos of Google Earth Pro, this site has been subject to land formation and vegetation clearance (Figure 1-3) since 2017. we suspected that this is a case of "destroy first, build later".

Planning Department and members of Town Planning Board (TPB) should alert that TPB has announced approaches to deter "destroy first, build later" activities in 2011. It stated that "the Board is determined to conserve the rural and natural environment and will not tolerate any deliberate action to destroy the rural and natural environment in the hope that the Board would give sympathetic consideration to subsequent development on the site concerned"³. Therefore, this application should not be given

² Carey G.J., Chalmers M.L., Diskin D.A., Kennerley P.R., Leader P.J., Leven M.R., Lewthwaite R.W., Melville M.S., Turnbull M. and Young L. (2001). The Avifauna of Hong Kong. Hong Kong Bird Watching Society

³ Town Planning Board adopts approaches to deter "destroy first, build later" activities (2011). http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201107/04/P201107040255.htm



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any sympathetic consideration, or it will set an undesirable precedent for similar cases in future.

Yours faithfully, The Conservancy Association



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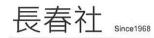
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Figure 1-3 According to aerial photos of Google Earth Pro, the application site (marked in red) has been subject to land formation and vegetation clearance since 2017









The Conservancy Association

