

# 香港 觀鳥會有限公司

## THE HONG KONG BIRD WATCHING SOCIETY Limited

認可公共性質慈善機構 Approved Charitable Institution of Public Character

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Director of Environmental Protection
Environmental Protection Department
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28 June 2011

Dear Director,

# <u>Comments on Project Profile for The Baroque on Lamma (ESB-229/2011)</u> (further information)

The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society (HKBWS) would like to address our concerns and comments regarding the further information on Project Profile for the Baroque on Lamma. We have submitted our comments in the statutory consultation period earlier (attached) and wish both of our submissions would be addressed by the Environmental Protection Department.

## 1. Study Area

- 1.1. The Study Area of the EIA report should also include the following:
- 1.1.1. the "In-port Race Course" (Figure 5 of the further information) area as this would be affected by the intense marine traffic;
- 1.1.2. Terrestrial habitats on Wong Chuk Kok in addition to the Habitat Map provided by the applicant (Figure 4 of the further information) because it may be affected by the marina and breakwaters;
- 1.1.3. Marine Area around the route of the proposed ferry.

#### 2. Ecological Impacts

- 2.1. The EIA report should address the impact of turning abandoned agricultural land to active agricultural land (organic farming) on species present in the area.
- 2.2. The proposed "Conservation Corridor" has multiple functions. We are deeply concerned about the effectiveness of the measure, in addition to the habitat fragmentation and isolation caused by surrounding residential developments

(refer to our earlier comment). The EIA report needs to prove that the claimed functions can be practically achieved.

- 2.3. According to the habitat map provided by the applicant nearly all of the streams within the study area would be affected by the proposed development (i.e. has a part of the stream located within development area), contrary to the claim by the applicant in point 4 of the further information.
- 2.4. The change in runoff properties in the area, especially to the streams and proposed "Conservation Corridor", should be properly addressed and the impact to biodiversity should be comprehensively studied. This change may lead to a completely different water/flooding properties, and thus introduce significant impact to species composition and may also affect life cycles of various species (e.g. amphibians, reptiles and insects).

## 3. Cumulative and Associated Impacts

3.1. A comprehensive study of Cumulative impact with the Planning and Engineering Study on Future Land Use at Ex-Lamma Quarry Area at Sok Kwu Wan should be included in the EIA report.

The HKBWS respectfully requests the Environmental Protection Department to consider our comments above, and include appropriate requirements in the study brief to be issued. We would like the Environmental Protection Department to formally response to our comments when a study brief is to be issued. Thank you for your attention.

Yours faithfully,
Cheng Nok Ming
Conservation Officer
Hong Kong Bird Watching Society

#### Attachment:

Hong Kong Bird Watching Society's official submission of comments on the Project Profile for The Baroque on Lamma (ESB-229/2011), 25 May 2011

CC: Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department