Confirmed Minutes of the 265th Meeting of the Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE) on 4 November 2024 at 2:30 p.m.

Present:

Prof John CHAI, BBS, JP (Chairman)

Prof Kenneth LEUNG, JP (Deputy Chairman)

Ms Carmen CHAN, BBS, JP

Dr Sylvia CHAN, MH

Ms Ada FUNG, BBS

Mr Eric HO

Ms Linda HO

Dr Theresa KWONG

Prof Alexis LAU, JP

Prof Dennis LEUNG

Mr Simon NG

Mr Albert SU, MH, JP

Ms Christina TANG

Prof Dan TSANG

Prof WONG Kam-bo

Dr Raymond YAU

Dr William YU

Mr Alan LO, JP (Secretary)

Absent with Apologies:

Mr Alex KWAN

Mr Daryl NG, SBS, JP

Dr WONG Kwok-yan, MH

In Attendance:

Environment and Ecology Bureau (EEB)

Miss Mavis HUI Chief Information Officer
Ms Karen CHEK Chief Executive Officer (CBD)
Miss Sally SHEK Executive Officer (CBD) 1
Miss Glory CHONG Executive Officer (CBD) 2

Environmental Protection Department (EPD)

Dr Samuel CHUI, JP Director of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Mr Gary TAM Assistant Director (Environmental Assessment)

Ms Clara U Principal Environmental Protection Officer (Territory North)

Mr Keith LAM Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Territory North) 2
Ms Chloe FUNG Environmental Protection Officer (Territory North) 22

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD)

Mr Eric LIU Assistant Director (Conservation) (Acting)

Dr SO Chi-ming Senior Marine Conservation Officer (Biodiversity)

Planning Department (PlanD)

Ms Johanna CHENG Assistant Director of Planning / Technical Services

In Attendance for Item 1:

Mr TSE Chin-wan, BBS, JP Secretary for Environment and Ecology, EEB

Ms Polly KWOK, JP Permanent Secretary for Environment and Ecology

(Environment) (Acting), EEB

Miss Diane WONG, JP Under Secretary for Environment and Ecology, EEB

Mr Kenneth CHENG Deputy Director of Environmental Protection (Waste

Reduction), EPD

Ms Fanny HUI Press Secretary to Secretary for Environment and Ecology,

EEB

In Attendance for Item 4:

Project Proponent Team

Waste Infrastructure Division of EPD

Mr Raymond WU, JP Deputy Director of Environmental Protection (2)

Ms Theresa WU Assistant Director (Waste Infrastructure)

Mr Ray LEE Principal Environmental Protection Officer (Infrastructure

Development)

Mr TSE Kiu-chung Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Infrastructure

Planning) 2

Project Consultant

Binnies Hong Kong Limited

Mr James CHAN Project Manager

Mr Andy CHAN Deputy Project Manager Ms Amy CHEUNG Team Leader (EIA)

Mr LEE Ka-leong Principal Environmental Scientist
Ms Sarah YAU Senior Environmental Scientist

ERM-Hong Kong, Limited

Mr Raymond CHOW Ecologist

<u>The Chairman</u> welcomed all to the meeting and informed Members that apologies of absence had been received from Mr Alex Kwan, Mr Daryl Ng and Dr Wong Kwok-yan.

<u>Item 1 : Briefing by the Secretary for Environment and Ecology on 2024 Policy Address (ACE Paper 13/2024)</u>

Presentation cum Question-and-Answer Session (Open session)

- 2. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed <u>Mr Tse Chin-wan</u>, Secretary for Environment and Ecology, <u>Ms Polly Kwok</u>, Permanent Secretary for Environment and Ecology (Environment) (Acting), <u>Miss Diane Wong</u>, Under Secretary for Environment and Ecology, <u>Dr Samuel Chui</u>, Director of Environmental Protection and <u>Mr Kenneth Cheng</u>, Deputy Director of Environmental Protection (Waste Reduction) to the meeting.
- 3. With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, <u>Mr Tse Chin-wan</u> briefed Members on the major policy measures of EEB (Environment Branch) in relation to environmental protection and relevant matters in the 2024 Policy Address.

Waste Management

- A Member appreciated the provision of smart recycling bins and hoped that it would be available in more private premises. Another Member considered that EPD should aim at providing recycling facilities within a 15-minute walk from people's homes as convenience would greatly increase their motivation to practise Mr Tse Chin-wan indicated that with the implementation of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Charter (the Charter), the public could use the recyclable collection facilities within their own residential premises for convenience whereas earn would like **GREEN\$** points could to GREEN@COMMUNITY recycling network in the neighbourhood. He viewed that the Charter and the GREEN@COMMUNITY network would go hand in hand to facilitate the development of recycling habits and green culture.
- 5. <u>A Member</u> shared with Members that the Green Council had implemented a scheme where all employees of the same corporation would use the same GREEN\$ account for recycling at the GREEN@COMMUNITY outlets. The reward points earned by the corporation would be used to redeem rice for donation to the needy. She said that the scheme had received positive feedback and such contribution could be reported under the Environmental, Social and Governance Report of the company. Mr Tse Chin-wan thanked the Member for her sharing and welcomed Members' suggestions of cooperation campaigns.

Action

6. Two Members suggested that the Charter should be expanded to cover also the commercial sector including small and medium-scale businesses as well as Non-Governmental Organisations to encourage wider participation in waste reduction and recycling. Pointing out that the commercial sector had already commenced preparation for the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) charging scheme previously, one of the above Members suggested that the Government should leverage on their readiness to further strengthen waste reduction efforts in the community. While the MSW charging scheme had been suspended, Mr Tse Chin-wan shared that the public had responded positively to waste recycling which was evidenced in the surge of recyclables and food waste collected through the community recycling network. He said that the deployment of the Charter to residential buildings was only a start. EPD would explore the possibility to collaborate with the Business Environment Council to expand the scope of the Charter to the commercial sector.

EPD

- 7. Two Members were pleased to note that there had been behavioural changes in society. One of the above Members suggested that EPD should provide more incentives to reward the public for recycling. Mr Tse Chin-wan shared that many people had started to bring their own reusable tableware, more restaurants had ceased the provision of disposable tableware for takeaway food and more people were bringing recyclables to the community recycling network while choosing to forgo the GREEN\$ points.
- 8. <u>Three Members</u> suggested that the Charter should be further expanded to primary, secondary and tertiary institutions as well as government-subsidised organisations. <u>Two of the above Members</u> considered that the Government should step up education for the younger generations on their civic responsibilities and the long-term vision of environmental policies such as the need for moving away from landfill. School education activities should be organised in all primary and secondary schools. <u>One of the above Members</u> suggested that smart recycling bins should also be installed in schools to encourage students to practise waste recycling.
- 9. Mr Tse Chin-wan indicated that the "We-recycle@School" education and promotion campaign was launched in primary and secondary schools to encourage students to practise waste separation and recycling with their families in their daily lives. Educational materials were also provided to schools to facilitate teaching on the subject. He added that EPD would continue to strengthen public education in schools and other sectors progressively, and consider wider application of the Charter in more sectors to encourage various stakeholders to work together in waste reduction in the future.
- 10. <u>A Member</u> suggested that EPD should conduct more creative publicity campaigns such as designating a recycling day or green living week to advocate green living style, and organising competitions or challenges on waste reduction etc. She viewed that there should be ongoing publicity and public education activities to keep up the momentum and awareness on environmental protection in society. The

<u>Member</u> added that EPD should step up cross-departmental cooperation to integrate environmental protection or waste reduction topics with other policy aspects to create synergy effect. <u>Mr Tse Chin-wan</u> replied that EEB would explore the possibilities of cooperation with different departments and organisations.

- 11. To address a Member's concern on proper handling of recyclables and the capacity of downstream recycling infrastructure, Mr Tse Chin-wan advised that the current capacity of downstream recycling facilities was adequate to cope with the local demand. He shared that the local recycling capacity would be further enhanced when a new waste paper recycling facility commenced operation next year. On recyclable handling, he said that the cleansing contractors of some private residential premises might have disposed of the MSW and recyclables in one-go for the sake of convenience. In this regard, the Charter would serve to encourage proper handling of recyclables by private residential premises. He added that downstream recyclers would ensure the recyclables were properly handled as they were remunerated by the quantity of the recyclables processed, not collected.
- 12. A Member enquired about the plan to drive circular economy by upscaling the recyclables including yard waste as it could encourage participation in recycling and help reduce carbon emission. He suggested that EPD should promote the recycled and upscaled products to encourage buy-in for repeated recycling behaviours while keeping the business sustainable. Mr Tse Chin-wan advised that currently, the recyclables collected would primarily undergo basic treatment in Hong Kong for conversion into plastic pellets, pulp or other raw materials to be exported to the Mainland for further processing. To support local recycling industry, the Government would explore the possibility to provide longer land lease to encourage the industry to invest in more high-end recycling facilities. In view of the limited land supply and high labour cost in Hong Kong, he said that the Government would work with Shenzhen and other Greater Bay Area (GBA) cities to build a "Zero Waste Bay Area" with a view to developing a regional circular economy.

Carbon neutrality

- 13. With reference to a Member's question on Hong Kong's achievements and challenges on carbon neutrality, Mr Tse Chin-wan shared that Hong Kong's carbon emission had peaked in 2014. With the implementation of various mitigation measures under the four major decarbonisation strategies: net-zero electricity generation, energy saving and green buildings, green transport and waste reduction, Hong Kong was moving steadily towards the 2035 decarbonisation target. To achieve carbon neutrality in 2050, Hong Kong would continue to increase its efforts by increasing the portion of zero-carbon electricity, promoting green transport and green buildings, and providing waste incineration facilities etc.
- 14. <u>A Member</u> was glad to see the development of new energy like hydrogen. Holding the view that buildings had been a major source of electricity consumption,

the Member suggested that more advanced technologies such as building-integrated photovoltaics could be deployed to enhance building energy efficiency. She added that the Government should consider sharing more data to keep the public informed of the milestones achieved. Mr Tse Chin-wan shared that EEB had been preparing the relevant draft legislation on building energy efficiency which required more frequent energy audits and the disclosure of certain information on energy efficiency.

Green Transport

- 15. <u>A Member</u> commended the plan to develop a green maritime fuel bunkering centre and remarked that the Government should devote resources in the establishment of the necessary infrastructures. Highlighting the high cost of hydrogen fuel, <u>a Member</u> asked if the Government could provide financial support for the trade to adopt hydrogen vehicle. <u>A Member</u> suggested that the Government should promote the use of green transport in service vehicles such as rehabilitation bus which could accommodate wheelchairs.
- Mr Tse Chin-wan indicated that the Government had published the Strategy of Hydrogen Development in Hong Kong which set out four major strategies including improving legislations, establishing standards, aligning with the market, and advancing with prudence to create an environment conducive to the development of hydrogen energy. Given the high cost of hydrogen, Mr Tse remarked that it was important to conduct trial projects to test out the cost-effectiveness of different types of hydrogen vehicle at this stage. He said that the Government had targeted to establish Hong Kong as a demonstration base for green technologies to facilitate the export of our country's green technologies and products. Miss Diane Wong supplemented that the Inter-departmental Working Group on Using Hydrogen as Fuel had given agreement-in-principle to applications of trial hydrogen projects, and projects such as hydrogen bus and hydrogen refueling facilities etc. had commenced. She shared that the Government had earmarked around \$750 million under the New Energy Transport Fund to support green transport development, and part of the funding would be used for a subsidy scheme for trials of hydrogen fuel cell heavy vehicles.

Nature Conservation

17. <u>A Member</u> suggested that there should be cross-departmental collaboration to promote eco-tourism which should integrate nature conservation with historical and cultural heritage. While supportive of the development of eco-tourism, <u>a Member</u> was worried about the potential adverse impact on the ecology brought by eco-tourism and human disturbances and thus suggested that there should be strengthened control measures or regulations to protect the nature.

- 18. Mr Tse Chin-wan remarked that the Government was committed to conserving the nature ecology and building a beautiful Hong Kong. Learning from the past experience, he opined that non-development might not be the best way for conservation. Instead, proactive conservation and restoration such as through the establishment of the Robin's Nest Country Park, the North Lantau Marine Park and Sam Po Shue Wetland Conservation Park (SPS WCP) would be more beneficial in enhancing the ecological value of nature and improving biodiversity. Given the limited land supply in Hong Kong, it was important to fully utilise the land for conservation, ecotourism, agriculture and fisheries. Apart from enhancing the habitat quality and biodiversity of Deep Bay and increasing the environmental capacity of the Northern Metropolis, the SPS WCP would also provide quality outdoor eco-education and eco-recreation experience for the public, as well as help promote modernisation of aquaculture on a larger-scale. The Chairman and two Members appreciated the proactive conservation approach and agreed that development and nature conservation should co-exist in harmony.
- 19. <u>A Member</u> shared her experience that it was more difficult to visit local rural treasure such as Lai Chi Wo than crossing the border to Shenzhen due to the requirement of a closed area permit for access. She suggested that the Government should simplify the access arrangement to facilitate the public or tourists to visit these rural places conveniently. <u>Mr Tse Chin-wan</u> indicated that the Government targeted to promote eco-tourism with island-hopping tours in Yan Chau Tong as a start, with more countryside and coastal routes to be launched in the future.
- 20. Mr Tse Chin-wan further shared that EEB and EPD had produced the documentary series "Enchanting China" in collaboration with the Center for Environmental Education and Communications of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment. "Beautiful Hong Kong" was the first of a series produced by EEB. The two documentaries showcased the picturesque landscapes of the Mainland and Hong Kong respectively. He said that promotional materials could help raise the public's awareness of nature conservation. He added that the relevant links to the documentary series would be shared with Members.

(Post-meeting note: The links to the videos on "Enchanting China" and "Beautiful Hong Kong" were shared with Members after the meeting.)

Regional Cooperation

21. <u>A Member</u> suggested that the Government should step up environmental cooperation with the Mainland in the aspect of air quality and sustainable development. He remarked that EPD's database on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was an exemplary model which should be shared with the Mainland and the world. <u>Mr Tse Chin-wan</u> advised that the Government had been working closely with the Mainland, especially GBA on ecological and environmental cooperation. He said that Hong Kong would fully support the GBA in accelerating

the building of an international first-class beautiful bay area through cooperation in different environmental aspects. He added that EEB and EPD colleagues would continue to tell good stories of Hong Kong on various platforms by showcasing the outstanding work such as the EIA database. Mr Tse thanked all members for their suggestions and said that EEB and EPD would continue to work hard in environmental protection and nature conservation.

Conclusion

22. <u>The Chairman</u> thanked <u>Mr Tse Chin-wan</u> for the detailed presentation and explanation and remarked that Members were supportive of the environmental initiatives in 2024 Policy Address.

(Mr Tse Chin-wan, Ms Polly Kwok, Miss Diane Wong, Mr Kenneth Cheng and Ms Fanny Hui left the meeting at this juncture.)

<u>Item 2 : Confirmation of the draft minutes of the 264th meeting held on 15 July 2024 (Closed-door session)</u>

23. The draft minutes of the last meeting were confirmed without any proposed amendments.

Item 3: Matters arising (Closed-door session)

24. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

<u>Item 4 : Report on the 159th Environmental Impact Assessment Subcommittee</u> <u>Meeting (ACE Paper 14/2024)</u>

- 25. <u>The Chairman</u> invited Members to refer to *ACE Paper 14/2024* which reported the recommendations of the EIA Subcommittee (EIASC) on the EIA report on Development of Integrated Waste Management Facilities Phase 2 (I·PARK2).
- 26. There was no declaration of interest by Members.
- 27. At the Chairman's invitation, the EIASC Chairman reported the EIASC's recommendations on the EIA report at its meeting held on 14 October 2024.

(The presentation team joined the meeting at this juncture.)

Presentation cum Question-and-Answer Session (Open session)

28. <u>Mr Raymond Wu</u> gave an introduction of the EIA project and <u>Mr Ray Lee</u> briefed Members on the background and benefits of the project, summary of the EIA

study as well as responses to EIASC's earlier recommendations with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

29. Members were glad that the project proponent had addressed some comments made by the EIASC and expressed support of the proposed development of I·PARK2 in view of the associated benefits of the project such as reducing reliance on landfill for MSW disposal as well as reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. A Member aspired that the project timeframe can be expedited as far as possible to yield the benefits.

Project Design

- 30. <u>A Member</u> enquired whether any project management experiences learnt from I·PARK1 could be applied to I·PARK2. <u>Mr Raymond Wu</u> shared that due to the large treatment capacity of I·PARK2, it was important to allow more flexibility in the tender specification to handle different types of wastes in the design of I·PARK2. In addition, it was essential for the contractor to understand clearly the project details. As such, EPD had already arranged several briefing sessions for the potential bidders to facilitate their understanding of the project requirements.
- 31. The Chairman and two Members highlighted that the proposed I-PARK2 should provide communal facilities to encourage the public to visit, enjoy and learn about the benefits of modern incineration facilities such as their ability to turn waste into energy and the prevailing state-of-art technology. One of the Members aspired that there should be synergy amongst I-PARK2 and other waste facilities in the vicinity to promote eco-tourism in the district. Mr Raymond Wu agreed that public education was an important element which would be incorporated in I-PARK2. He added that EPD would continue with its public education efforts such as through giving school talks and distributing relevant messages through the "Werecycle@School" Activity.
- 32. Addressing a Member's enquiry on fire safety measures, Ms Theresa Wu advised that EPD had been working closely with the Fire Services Department (FSD) on devising fire safety design and contingency plans. A fire risk assessment report will be devised in the detailed design stage to consider the fire risks involved in I·PARK2 covering aspects including proper handling of the dangerous goods stores and the provision of adequate water storage on par with the scale of the facility. In the design of I·PARK2, there would be proper compartmentalisation by fire curtains to minimise the potential danger in case of fire. Automatic alarm system would be installed to alert FSD immediately when smoke or fire was detected. Emergency Response Plan and regular drill would also be put in place.

Ecological Impact

33. With reference to those public comments on the drawbacks of the seawater cooling system, a Member was concerned about the potential adverse impact on

marine organism if seawater cooling was adopted. <u>Mr Raymond Wu</u> assured Members that based on the findings of the EIA report, both seawater and air cooling systems would not cause adverse impact to the environment.

- 34. Three Members strongly recommended that EPD should deploy air cooling system instead of seawater cooling system. With his years of studies on marine ecology, one of the above Members confirmed that the filter in the pumping system and chlorination involved in seawater cooling would kill a large amount of marine organisms. He pointed out that green groups' and other stakeholders' concern over the seawater cooling system was prominent and the adoption of air cooling system was the global trend as it could avoid ecological hazards. He furthered that the reliability of air cooling system was undoubted since the existing T-PARK had been deploying such system with proven effectiveness and reliability. The Member suggested that EPD should strive to overcome any practical problems such as cost effectiveness or limited space in the project site by exploring different construction Mr Raymond Wu responded that Members' preference on the air cooling system was duly noted. EPD would take it into account in conjunction with all other relevant factors including the overall cost-effectiveness, system reliability and stakeholders' concern of potential environmental impact before deciding the type of cooling system to be adopted.
- 35. <u>A Member</u> asked about the monitoring of the impacts in relation to the location of the sensitive receivers and how the relevant data would be shared with the stakeholders such as the oyster trade to alleviate their concern. <u>Mr Raymond Wu</u> replied that EPD initially planned to publish the relevant monitoring data on a website to facilitate the stakeholders' easy access. <u>Another Member</u> opined that the data of various environmental parameters under monitoring should not only be published on the website, but also displayed clearly in the facility to increase transparency and alleviate public concern. <u>Mr Wu</u> thanked Members for their suggestions and said that EPD would take them into consideration in the detailed design.
- 36. Sharing his research result regarding eco-tiles installed on vertical seawalls in enhancing biodiversity, a Member suggested that ecological seawall with eco-tiles with crevices and grooved surfaces should be pre-fabricated for installation during the construction process.

[Post-meeting note: Having considered the ACE's comments, the project proponent informed EPD that air cooling system would be adopted for I-PARK2. The project proponent's letter dated 26 November 2024 was circulated to ACE members on the same day.]

Transportation of Waste

37. With regard to the transportation of waste to I-PARK2 by sea, a Member was worried about the potential leakage or dropping of waste to the sea and enquired

whether there was response plan to handle such accidents. <u>Mr Raymond Wu</u> responded that currently, MSW was transported to the West New Territories Landfill near the project site by sea in sealed containers and there had been no record of such accidents so far. He advised that due considerations would be taken in the design of the vessels and the transportation procedures to avoid the occurrence of accidents in the first place.

38. <u>A Member</u> pointed out that diesel-electric hybrid refuse transfer vessels would still involve carbon emissions and suggested that EPD should require the contractor to deploy marine vessels using biofuel or new energy such as methanol. <u>Mr Raymond Wu</u> explained that the vessels for transporting waste to I·PARK2 were engaged under a separate contract for the operation of refuse transfer stations. While refuse transfer vessels were not part of the I·PARK2 project, EPD would take members' suggestions into consideration when preparing the relevant contract in future.

Carbon Reduction and Circular Economy

- 39. <u>A Member</u> further suggested that locally recycled materials should be deployed for the construction of the current and future projects with a view to encouraging local circular economy. <u>Mr Raymond Wu</u> indicated that EPD would follow the Government's Green Procurement Policy in the procurement procedures. Sharing incinerator plant at Shenzhen as an example, <u>another Member</u> suggested that EPD should consider upcycling suitable disposable wastes received at I·PARK2 or the by-products generated in the incinerator for artistic display or high-value purposes.
- 40. A Member suggested and echoed by another Member that EPD should strive to reduce carbon footprint and carbon emissions in the design, construction and operational phases. One of the above Members expected that EPD would adopt a forward-looking approach in planning the project and bear in mind the possibilities to deploy innovative technologies and green materials to help reduce carbon emissions. Mr Raymond Wu advised that EPD would consider holistically all relevant factors including greenhouse gas emissions, operating efficiency and cost effectiveness in the design of I·PARK2. He added that the development of the incineration facility itself was a more sustainable measure to handle MSW and reduce greenhouse gas emissions arising from the current practice of disposing MSW at landfills. Mr Wu said that EPD had consulted Mainland and overseas experts to deploy state-of-the-art technology and design in I·PARK2 to put in place an incineration facility with the very stringent air emission standards.

Conclusion

41. <u>The Chairman</u> remarked that Members had raised constructive suggestions covering not only environmental but also communal, cultural and educational aspects. He understood that land supply in Hong Kong was very limited and

appreciated that I·PARK2 could contribute not only towards more sustainable waste management, but also eco-tourism and cultural purposes. He opined that societal development and environmental protection should not be mutually exclusive and aspired that I·PARK2 would be an international exemplar of which Hong Kong citizens could be proud.

(The presentation team left the meeting at the end of this session.)

Internal Discussion Session (Closed-door session)

- 42. <u>Dr Samuel Chui</u> highlighted the geographical and spatial limitation of the project site. As such, there would be difficulty to impose a very high greening ratio in the project site. Nevertheless, he shared with Members that EPD would need to strike a balance between cost effectiveness and environmental benefits to optimise the greening ratio.
- 43. Noting the limited space in the project site, <u>a Member</u> suggested that EPD should think out of the box to maximise as far as possible the greening ratio by utilising the vertical facades and the rooftop as well as through other innovative ways. <u>Another Member</u> added that EPD could also consider increasing greening in the vicinity of I·PARK2 such as at T·PARK. <u>One of the above Members</u> suggested that EPD should include ACE's suggestions in the relevant contract terms or land lease terms where appropriate to ensure their subsequent implementation.
- 44. The Chairman suggested that condition (a) in ACE Paper 14/2024 should be revised as "submit an equipment commission report before the commencement of operation of the project to verify that the operation has satisfied air pollution control standards". The meeting unanimously agreed to endorse the EIA report with four conditions and eight recommendations incorporating the above amendment.

(Post-meeting note: The ACE's comments on the EIA report at **Annex** were submitted to DEP on 11 November 2024.)

Item 5: Any other business (Closed-door session)

EIA Reports not selected by EIASC for submission to ACE

45. The EIASC Chairman reported that since the last ACE Meeting, the EIASC received the Executive Summary of the EIA reports on "Ngau Tam Mei Water Treatment Works Extension" and "Provision of Crematorium at Wo Hop Shek Cemetery". The Executive Summary of the relevant EIA reports had been circulated to EIASC Members upon the commencement of the respective public inspection period, with the relevant hyperlinks copied to non-EIASC Members for information. Members were advised to provide their comments, if any, on the EIA reports directly to DEP within the respective public inspection period. Given that the EIA reports had not been selected by EIASC for presentation and discussion, the

<u>EIASC Chairman</u> informed Members that EPD would take that the ACE had no comments on the EIA reports under section 8(3)(b) of the EIA Ordinance.

Others

- 46. <u>Mr Gary Tam</u> reported that *ACE Paper 12/2024* had been circulated to Members for information regarding the cut-off date for the "Transitional Arrangement" to adopt the revised Technical Memorandum on EIA process.
- 47. There was no other business for discussion at the meeting.

Item 6: Date of next meeting (Closed-door session)

- 48. <u>The Chairman</u> informed Members that the Secretariat would issue the tentative meeting schedule for 2025 shortly and invite all Members to make time for the meetings. Based on the information available so far, the current meeting would likely be the last one of the current term, <u>the Chairman</u> thanked Members for their valuable contributions in the past two years.
- 49. Members would be advised on the agenda in due course.
- 50. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 5:30 p.m.

ACE Secretariat January 2025



33/F, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong 香港灣仔告士打道 5 號稅務大樓 33 樓

11 November 2024

Director of Environmental Protection (Attn: Mr TAM Cheuk-wai, Gary) 27/F., Southorn Centre 130 Hennessy Road Wan Chai Hong Kong

Dear Mr Tam,

Environmental Impact Assessment Report on "Development of Integrated Waste Management Facilities Phase 2 (I-PARK2)"

The Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE) agreed that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report on "Development of Integrated Waste Management Facilities Phase 2 (I-PARK2)" (the Project) could be endorsed with the following conditions and recommendations –

Conditions of Endorsement

The Project Proponent shall –

- (i) submit an equipment commission report before the commencement of operation of the project to verify that the operation has satisfied air pollution control standards;
- (ii) set up community liaison group(s) comprising representatives from the concerned and affected parties to facilitate communication and enquiries handlings on all environmental issues related to the Project;

- (iii) update the Environmental and Monitoring Manual (EM&A Manual) to include monitoring of physiochemical parameters of water quality on sensitive site(s) and to enhance the air quality monitoring frequency; and
- (iv) propose a web-based platform to disseminate continuous air quality monitoring information to the public.

Recommendations

The Project Proponent is recommended to –

- (i) consider air-cooled system as a preferred option that could avoid potential environmental impact due to the spent cooling water discharge;
- (ii) explore further ecological enhancement design feature at the seawall such as eco-shoreline within the Project boundary;
- (iii) consider suitable greening enhancement including planting of native tree and shrub species to maximise greening ratio, including vertical greening and roof greening, improve its appearance, improve air quality and enhance the potential urban biodiversity;
- (iv) explore possible way(s) to reduce carbon emission in the construction and operational phases insofar as technically and economically feasible and practicable, such as the use of photovoltaic panel at the roof and green roof etc.;
- (v) formulate plans on developing suitable communal facilities as an integral part of the development, with considerations on the potential to allow public to benefit, by using the project gainfully;
- (vi) recycle and reuse bottom ash generated by the waste incineration process as far as technically and economically feasible with a view to maximising its beneficial use before disposal to the landfills;
- (vii) optimise the use of environmentally friendly and low carbon vessels, such as electric, hybrid or new energy vessels, for the daily transportation of MSW to I·PARK2; and

(viii) target for achieving the "Platinum" rating under the BEAM Plus rating system for the building(s) of I PARK2.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary

Advisory Council on the

Environment

c.c. ACE Chairman and Members