



BY EMAIL ONLY

Ms. Maisie Cheng, J.P.
Director of Environmental Protection
EIA Ordinance Register Office
Environmental Protection Department
(E-mail: eiaocomment@epd.gov.hk)

30 June 2020

Dear Ms. Cheng,

Project Profile for Tuen Mun South Extension

Green Power would like to draw your kind attention to our comments about the above-captioned Project Profile.

1. Green Power opines that the project proponent is responsible for avoiding, minimizing and mitigating the environmental impacts induced from the captioned project. Special attention should be put on two vulnerable sensitive receivers, including the water body in Tuen Mun River Channel and the associated breeding egret.
2. According to the EPD¹, the Water Quality Index (WQI) of two water quality monitoring stations nearby the existing Tuen Mun MTR Station (i.e. Station TN4 and TN5) was downgraded from “Excellent” in 2017 to “Good” in 2018. Furthermore, the level of *E. coli*, an indication of faecal pollution, in three water quality monitoring stations within the project boundary reached the highest in 2018 (Table 1). It is worth concerned about the trend of deterioration in water quality of Tuen Mun River. The project proponent should take effective measures to avoid further deterioration of water quality of the river. Major works inside the river channel should be conducted solely in the dry season (i.e. November to March).

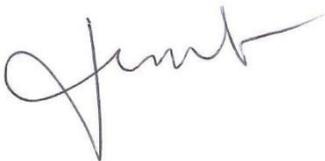
Year	Level of <i>E. coli</i> (cfu/100mL)		
	TN3	TN5	TN6
2014	4,500	6,500	2,400
2015	4,000	2,900	3,600
2016	8,500	6,200	8,200
2017	9,800	3,400	6,100
2018	11,000	8,100	11,000

Table.1 Level of *E. coli* at three water quality monitoring stations at Tuen Mun River from 2014-2018
(Sources: EPD’s River Water Quality in Hong Kong in 2014 to 2018)

3. There were 20 nests of Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*) found in the Tuen Mun Egretty in 2018 according to the Hong Kong Egretty Counts². Given that the Tuen Mun River is the nearest water body, even though the egretty is more than 500m away from the project boundary, the river channel is still very likely an important foraging ground for those breeding egrets and herons. An ecological assessment focusing on the impacts on the breeding egrets should be covered. Special mitigation measures, including but not limited to major works suspension in the breeding period of egrets and herons (i.e. April to July), should be considered seriously.

Thank you very much for your kind attention. For any inquiries, please contact the undersigned at Green Power (T: 39610200, F: 2314 2661, Email: wflo@greenpower.org.hk).

Yours faithfully,



LO Wing-fung
Assistant Senior Education & Conservation Officer
Green Power

References:

¹ Environmental Protection Department (2018) *River Water Quality in Hong Kong in 2018*.

Available from:

<https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/sites/default/files/epd/english/environmentinhk/water/hkwqrc/files/waterquality/annual-report/riverreport2018.pdf>

² The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society (2018) *Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site Waterbird Monitoring Programme 2017-18— Summer 2018 Report*. Available from:

https://www.hkbws.org.hk/web/chi/documents/report/egret_summer_report_2018.pdf