English Script of the Oral Presentation by Ir. Alan Man, Chairman of the Association of Consulting Engineers of Hong Kong (ACEHK), at the Legislative Council Sub-Committee on the Long Term Housing Strategy on 11 November 2013

Chairman and Committee members: ACEHK supports the proposal for utilizing reclamation as one of the means to provide land for housing development presented in the Long Term Housing Strategy Consultation Document. ACEHK would like to point out that reclamation does not only supply land for housing development, it can also allow some solid waste to be recycled and reused. This is like killing two birds with one stone. In fact, if appropriate sites are selected, advanced technologies available nowadays are able to significantly reduce the adverse impact of reclamation on the environment.

I just mentioned that reclamation can allow some solid waste to be recycled and reused. Here I am referring to the soil, rock and debris found in construction waste. These materials originate from the land and are able to become new land through reclamation.

In fact, construction wastes such as soil, rock and debris have long been used as filling materials in reclamation. Currently Tseung Kwan O Area 137 and Tuen Mun Area 38 are the only sites available for temporary stockpile of filling materials. However, as the two sites have been formed, they can be used for temporary stockpile only. As a result, large quantities of filling materials are taken out of Hong Kong for dumping at Taishan, a place known to many Hong Kong people.

According to information released by the Government, the filling materials taken

from Hong Kong to Taishan between 2007 and 2013 filled more than 400 hectares of

land in Taishan. In other words, we spent a huge amount of money, released large

quantity of carbon emissions in the process, and filled land area equivalent to twenty

(20) Victoria Parks in Taishan. Back in Hong Kong, there is panic every day because of

no land for housing development. Isn't this an ironic situation?

In view of this, ACEHK urges the Legislative Council and the Government to promptly

commit to reclamation outside Victoria Harbor as a sustainable measure to create

new land and manage solid waste at the same time. As for the selection of suitable

reclamation sites and methods of reclamation, I am confident that local engineers

are capable of handling these technical tasks to the satisfaction of Hong Kong people.

Thank you.

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香港顧問工程師協會主席文海亮工程師於 2013 年 11 月 11 日 在立法會房屋事務委員會小組會議上就長遠房屋策略諮詢文件發言全文

主席,各位委員:長遠房屋策略諮詢文件提出以填海作為提供土地建屋的方法之一,本會十分支持這項建議,並且希望指出填海不單能夠解決住房需求,並且能令部分固體廢物得以循環再用,實屬一石二鳥的方案。事實上,只要選址合適,現時的先進技術已經能夠大幅減少填海對環境的影響。

剛才我提及填海能夠令部分固廢得以循環再用,所指是建築廢物當中的沙石和泥頭。它們原本就是土地的一部分。通過填海,將可重新成為土地。

事實上,沙石泥頭這類建築廢物一直為填海提供大量的填料。現時全港用來臨時接收填料的堆填區只有將軍澳 137 區及屯門 38 區。但由於它們已經填好,故只能作臨時存放用途,因此有大量填料要被運送至本港以外的地點傾倒。這個地方正是港人熟悉的台山。

根據政府的資料,由 2007 至 2013 年期間,從香港運到台山的填料,合共為當地填了 400 多公頃的土地。換句話說,我們花費大量金錢,過程中製造了大量碳排放,到頭來為台山填了相等於 20 個維園的土地,而我們每天卻為香港缺乏土地建屋而發愁。這是否一個相當荒謬的做法?

故此,本會強烈要求立法會及政府,儘快落實在維港以外的地方進行填海,作為增加本港土地供應及處理固廢的可持續發展方案。至於選址及填海方法這兩方面的考慮,我深信本地工程師擁有足夠的能力,能為港人在技術層面把關。多謝各位。

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