

Environmental Management of PROJECT DIVISION

The year 2000 was a fruitful year for Project Division in terms of achievements in environmental management. Much credit should go to my team who has made tremendous contribution in upkeeping performance, reviewing day-to-day matters with contractors and partnering with the Environmental Protection Department.

*Dr Glenn Frommer
Environmental Manager*

Divisional Environmental Policy

- ▶ Actively seek to minimise the use of resources, whenever practical and cost effective, and will ensure environmental criteria are employed in the selection of materials used in the construction of new projects.
- ▶ Monitor all the emissions and pollutants from its construction projects and will respond promptly and effectively to minimize such impacts in the event of an incident or event.
- ▶ Conduct Environmental Impact Assessments for new projects both as required by law and as a matter of good practice so that environmental concerns are addressed proactively during the planning, design, construction and commissioning phases.
- ▶ Instruct all of its contractors to include environmental considerations in the services provided to the Division and will require such contractors working on the Division's projects to demonstrate the implementation of sound environmental practices through an Environmental Management Plan.
- ▶ Conduct training programmes to brief and educate staff in environmental matters both during induction and as an ongoing practice.
- ▶ Ensure that the environment is regarded by all staff as a core concern in the Division's business and as an ongoing process of continual improvement through regular reporting to the public.
- ▶ Integrate its environmental management system with existing systems such as safety and quality management systems.
- ▶ Incorporate appropriate technologies in the design of new rail lines such that environmental impacts arising from construction and commissioning of new projects are reduced with minimal disruption to members of the public.

Major Achievements in 2000

One Project - One Permit

- ▶ Under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance EIAO, Environmental Permits must be obtained before major infrastructure projects of the kind that the MTRCL undertakes can proceed. The Corporation adopts a positive "ownership approach to Environmental Permits, and takes the responsibility for obtaining and maintaining the permit for each of our projects, rather than

requiring Contractors responsible for building the projects to apply for them. Apart from its success in environmental terms, it is estimated that this “One Project - One Permit” approach is 50-60% more cost-effective than requiring each contractor to obtain his own Environmental Permit from Government.

Specialized Environmental Software

- The Corporation was the first in Hong Kong to develop and implement an internal tracking and monitoring system for environmental impacts. The specialized software we developed has permitted the Government’s Environmental Protection Department to develop their own version of the software, which is now used on Designated Projects throughout Hong Kong.

An Integrated Approach

- With the construction of our new railways, the Corporation has initiated a proactive environmental management programme to educate and enforce environmental awareness throughout the construction industry.
- Through implementation of audit milestone payments attached to the supplier contracts and based on approved environmental management plans, each contractor is required to comply with and implement the relevant standards throughout the contract life.
- Monthly audit and progress meetings have been held for the TKE project to ensure timely compliance and comprehensive project application. By integrating environment management into the daily work practices, this approach ensures high levels of environmental performance from divisional contractors, partners and suppliers, such that they achieve full compliance with environmental legislation and minimise risks to the Corporation.

Environmental Performance Assessment

- An internal Environmental Performance Indicator System was established for assessing the environmental performance of contractors across projects in 2000.

Key Objectives and Targets in 2001

- Continue to undertake audits with a target of zero delay to payment milestones
- Continue to implement regular noise and air monitoring programmes
- To launch an MTR environmental award system for contractors
- Maintain the production of Environmental Monitoring and Audit Reports for all necessary contracts and explore internet reporting

Cut & Cover Tunnels (From Yau Tong to EHC)



- ◆ Connection to EHC complete



Po Lam Station



- ◆ Tracklaying work commenced 6 weeks ahead of schedule

