港 世 貌 岩 Association for Geoconservation, Hong Kong

March 10, 2012 Legco Panel on Development Special Meeting

The Government's strategy to enhance land supply through

reclamation outside Victoria Harbour and rock cavern development

Oral Presentation by the Association for Geoconservation, Hong Kong

Our Association stresses that geoconservation should be incorporated into the land supply site

selection and development criteria. Geological Heritage Impact Assessment should be conducted in

conjunction with Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment in the Environmental Impact

Assessment.

We advocate the "Nature in the City" principle which encourages on-site preservation of geological

features and natural landscape within development areas, unveiling and highlighting the geological

and geomorphological features, enhancing appreciation of users and restoring features to a more

natural state.

Priority for land supply should be given to redevelopment of under-used industrial areas and

degraded lowland areas of the New Territories. Reclamations should be minimised as they have

major implications on both the environment and landscape.

Where reclamations are inevitable, offshore reclamations around developed areas or extension from

existing reclamations are preferred. We object to any further reclamations along natural shorelines,

including those precious remaining ones in the City and in pristine areas such as Po Toi islands.

Subject to strict scrutiny, however, offshore reclamations stemming out from short stretches of low

value natural shorelines may be acceptable to us.

Natural shorelines around our city are a sharp contrast to artificial constructions and contribute to

the uniquely attractive scenery in Hong Kong. These remaining natural assets are already very rare

and therefore need to be strictly preserved. An example is Tseung Kwan O Area 131 which is on the

preliminary list of site selection. This is a gem of coastal geodiversity around our city area. Any

reclamation will be strongly objected.

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漢 ए 貌 岩 Association for Geoconservation, Hong Kong

Similarly around Tolo Harbour any remaining natural shorelines are valuable assets for the new

towns as they are well compatible with our "Nature in the City" thinking. They are readily

accessible to residents offering them a quick escape from artificial constructions.

Where a reclamation is adopted after vigorous justifications, these should be created to form an

attractive environment with a diversity of layouts and waterfronts. As opposed to a smooth

shoreline, considerations should be given to the incorporation of indentations, marinas,

promontories, piers, lagoons, channels etc. Provided that such artificial shorelines are also highly

accessible, this could contribute to an interesting built-environment and provide new view points.

Present preservation of the Kai Tak runway and the adjacent channel is a good example of this

principle.

Caverns are overall less damaging to the visual landscape. However, access roads and entrances

will need to be designed with a natural outlook. Caverns for open usage should wherever practical

feature exposed rock faces in order to enhance public appreciation of geological science and natural

aesthetics. Re-use of rock materials extracted from caverns should be encouraged for nearby

landscaping and decoration design.

Cindy Choi

Convener: Publicity/Public Relationship

Association for Geoconservation, Hong Kong

Tel: 9370 4914

Email: cindy@rocks.org.hk

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香港九龍彌敦道 345 號宏利公積金大廈 10 樓 1001-1003 室 Rooms 1001 - 1003, 10th Floor, Manulife Provident Funds Place, 345 Nathan Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong 電郵 Email: aghk@rocks.org.hk 網址 Website: www.rocks.org.hk

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立法會發展事務委員會特別會議

政府透過在維多利亞港以外填海及藉發展岩洞增加土地供應的策略

香港地貌岩石保育協會口述報告

我會認爲必需將地質保育納入土地供應選址與發展的考慮準則。 環評報告除了景觀及視覺影響評估外, 亦應包括地質遺跡影響評估。

我們倡導"城市中的大自然"理念,鼓勵在發展區原址保育、展露和突顯地質地貌景觀和自然風光,增加觀景點給用者欣賞和將景觀保留原本自然特色。

土地供應應優先考慮改建使用率低的舊工業區和新界已受到發展影響的地區。 由於填海工程 對環境和景觀產生重大影響,應盡可能減少。

當無可避免採納填海時,應優先選擇在已發展區附近設置離岸人工島或延伸現有的填海區。我們反對沿本港的天然海岸線進一步進行任何填海工程,這包括從未開發的純天然地區如初步選址名單中的蒲台群島,也包括那些處於市區範圍及周邊,至今得以保留的珍貴天然海岸。不過,若經過嚴格的論證,我們也可能接受利用小段低價值天然海岸線延伸的離岸填海。

我們城市附近的天然海岸線與人工建築形成鮮明對比,造就香港獨特的迷人景色。這些殘存的天然資產已經非常罕有,因此必須嚴格保育。一個例子正是初步選址名單中的將軍澳第131區。這是一個毗鄰香港市區的海岸地質地貌多樣性瑰寶。我們將強烈反對在這裏進行任何填海。

同樣地,圍繞吐露港的任何剩餘天然海岸線都是新市鎮的寶貴資產。它們正好切合我們倡導的"城市中的大自然"理念。居民可以很便捷地欣賞這些天然海岸線,暫時忘卻人工化的城市建設。

經過反覆論證後採納的填海區,應該建立具吸引力的海岸環境,擁有多樣性的形狀與海濱類型。 相對於平順的海岸線,應考慮營造凹凸的岸線,小港,岬角,碼頭,內湖,水道等等。只要市民能夠容易到達海岸,這些理念可以創造一個有趣的人工環境和提供新的觀景點。 現時得以保留的啓德機場跑道和毗鄰的水道正是這意念的一個很好實踐。



整體來說,人工岩洞對視覺景觀的損害較小。然而,岩洞連接道路和出入口將需要與自然匹配的設計。 供公眾使用的岩洞應盡可能露出天然岩石面,促進市民認識地質及欣賞獨特的自然美。至於從岩洞開採的天然石料,應鼓勵附近的園景美化設計加以利用。

蔡慕貞

香港地貌岩石保育協會 小組召集人:宣傳/公關

電話: 9370 4914

電郵: cindy@rocks.org.hk

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