

Hong Kong Institute of Qualified Environmental Professionals Limited (HKIQEP)

香港合資格環保專業人員學會有限公司(香港環專會)

Comments on Practice Note for the Planning of Residential Development Against Road Traffic Noise (Version 1, date of issue January 2023)

General

We welcome the Practice Note for the Planning of Residential Developments Against Road Traffic Noise which promulgates a set of self-assessment procedures to streamline the planning approval procedures.

It is encouraging to have EPD acknowledged the professional integrity of the CNMPro and IEP under this streamlined approach. In this connection, HKIQEP shall continue to work together with the industry and authority to upkeep our qualification process and maintain the professional integrity of our professional members and certified professionals to facilitate the implementation of this streamlined process.

Practice Note

1. Paragraph 10A: "...verified by an Independent Environmental Professional (IEP) whom should be a professional member of the HKIQEP,....with relevant noise assessment experience"

Suggestion: it would be helpful to provide some guidelines on the requirements for relevant noise assessment experiences, such as number of years or road traffic noise impact assessment projects undertaken by the IEP.

2. Paragraph 10A: "...checked by a Certified Noise Modelling Professional (CNMPro)8 of the HKIQEP..."

Suggestion: it is noted in the footnote that the CNMPro shall not in any way an associated body of the IEP. Please clarify if that requires the CNMPro and IEP to be from different companies and engaged by the project proponent separately, ie not having a subcontracting relationship.

Self-Assessment Form



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3. Annex I, III Noise Mitigation Design(s) / Measure(s) incorporated into the Design of the Development, Remark 2 "Details on the design, application and location of the proposed noise mitigation measures shall be clearly shown and documented in the RTNIAR"

Suggestion: For showing location of proposed mitigation measures, please clarify if it should be in form of mitigation schedule or layout plan or both in the RTNIAR.

4. Annex I, VI Self- Attestation and Undertaking for Implementation of noise mitigation measures, item 2: "To appoint an independent Authorized Person (iAP) to certify and inform the DEP that all noise mitigation measures identified in the RTNIAR are duly implemented..."

Suggestion: it would be helpful to provide some guidelines on the requirements for iAP, such as whether he/she can be from the same company as the project AP but not being involved in the design and construction of the development project.

5. Annex I, VI Self- Attestation and Undertaking for Implementation of noise mitigation measures, item 7: "To allow access for the EPD to conduct onsite inspection / noise measurement before Completion"

Suggestion: please clarify if any follow up action to be carried out by Project Team if noise measurement is conducted by EPD and the expected noise reduction cannot be demonstrated through on-site noise measurement.