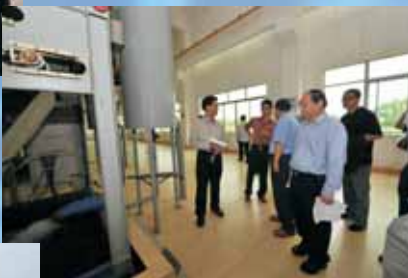


Report No. 11 Visit to Dongjiang (9 -11 November 2009)



Advisory Committee on the Quality of Water Supplies

**Advisory Committee on the Quality of Water Supplies
Report No. 11 – Visit to Dongjiang (9 - 11 November 2009)**

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SECTION A - INTRODUCTION

During 9 - 11 November 2009, a delegation of the Advisory Committee on the Quality of Water Supplies (ACQWS) comprising nine members and five other HKSAR Government officials (see details at **Annex 1**) led by Chairman, Prof. HO Kin Chung (何建宗教授) and the Director of Water Supplies, Mr. MA Lee Tak (馬利德先生) paid a 3-day visit to the Dongjiang (東江) catchment area. Apart from visiting the three major reservoirs in the upstream of Dongjiang, including Fengshuba Reservoir (楓樹壩水庫), Xinfengjiang Reservoir (新豐江水庫), and Baipenzhu Reservoir (白盆珠水庫), the delegation also visited Chengnan Domestic Sewerage Treatment Plant (城南生活污水處理廠), Taiyuan Pumping Station (太園抽水站) and the Shima River Sewage Diversion Improvement Project (石馬河調污工程). The itinerary is appended at **Annex 2**. Officials of the Heyuan (河源) Municipality and the Department of Water Resources of Guangdong Province (廣東省水利廳) accompanied the delegation during the visit, through which the delegates gained a better understanding on the latest progress and development on protecting the quality of Dongjiang water made by Guangdong side.

SECTION B – THE VISIT

2. On the first day of the visit (9 November 2009), the delegation departed Hong Kong early in the morning and arrived at Longchuan (龍川縣) in the afternoon.



The delegation was received by officials from Longchuan who briefed the delegation on the efforts taken by the local authorities in protecting the water source as well as the environment. The delegation then visited Fengshuba Reservoir

which is about 65 kilometres north of Longchuan. The construction of the Reservoir began in August 1970 and the Reservoir was commissioned in October 1973. It has a capacity of about 1.9 billion cubic meters. The Reservoir is also used for flood control and hydropower generation. The delegation noted the very good quality of water in the Reservoir and appreciated the actions taken by the Heyuan Municipal People's Government to minimize possible pollution to the Reservoir. It also noted the current storage of 700 million cubic meters in the Reservoir, which was a significant reduction as compared to last year and appreciated the drought situation being faced by the Guangdong Province (廣東省).

3. In the morning of the second day, the delegation first visited the Chengnan Domestic Sewage Treatment Plant in Heyuan. Rapid economic growth in the Heyuan Municipality had necessitated the construction of the treatment



plant to ensure that the effluent discharged into Dongjiang complied with the relevant standards. This sewage treatment plant is situated at the southern side of the city serving a population of about 400,000. The plant commenced production in March 2008 and is capable of treating 55000 tonnes of sewage a day. The operator guided the delegation around different parts of the plant, explaining in detail the operation of the plant and answering technical questions raised. The delegation noted that the plant was well managed and the discharges were within acceptable limits.

4. The delegation then visited Xinfengjiang Reservoir, also known as Wanlu Lake (萬綠湖), which is also used to regulate the flow in Dongjiang. It has a capacity of about 14 billion cubic meters and its current storage was around 6 billion cubic meters. The water quality was still the best amongst all water sources in Guangdong Province. The delegation also took the



opportunity to get first hand information from accompanying Guangdong officials on the way they dealt with the drought situation. After a stroll on the top of the main dam, the delegation took a boat ride in the Reservoir and noticed the pristine condition of the water in the Reservoir, which was a convincing proof of the continuous efforts and actions taken by the Heyuan Municipal People's Government in protecting the water source.

5. Heyuan's Mayor, Mr. LIU Xiao Hua (河源市長劉小華先生) then held a

brief discussion session with the delegates during which views were exchanged on ways to help protecting the Dongjiang catchment. After lunch, the delegation visited Baipenzhu Reservoir in the north east of



Huidong (惠東縣) in the upper reaches of Xizhijiang (西枝江), the second largest tributary of the Dongjiang. The Reservoir has a capacity of about 1.2 billion cubic meters. As the current storage was at a low level of only about 350 million cubic meters, the Reservoir was at the time operated solely to provide water supply including irrigation and hydropower generation was temporarily suspended.

6. In the morning of the third day, the delegation travelled to Dongguan (東莞) to visit the Taiyuan Pumping Station. The Pumping Station was constructed in 1998 on the southern shore of Dongjiang several hundred meters upstream of the junction where the Shima River intersects with the Dongjiang. The pumping station has five



duty and one standby pumps capable of delivering a flow volume of 100 cubic meters per second. From there, the Dongjiang water travels through tunnels, viaducts, channels and siphons, with booster-pumping at three pumping stations viz

Lianhu (蓮湖), Qiling (旗嶺) and Jinghu (金湖) Pumping Station on its way to reach

Shenzhen Reservoir.

7. The delegation then visited the Shima River Sewage Diversion Improvement Works site. With the operation experience, a rubber dam with a higher crown level than the existing rubber dam was being constructed to enhance the containment of polluted discharges from Shima River.



SECTION C – PRESS CONFERENCE

8. Upon returning to Hong Kong in the afternoon at the end of the visit, a press conference was held in the Conference Room of Murray Building, Central. Attendants were briefed by the Chairman, Prof. HO Kin Chung, the Director of Water Supplies, Mr. MA Lee Tak, the Deputy Secretary (Works)², Mr. LAM Tin Sing, Enoch



(林天星先生), and four members, namely, Dr. CHAN Hon Fai (陳漢輝博士), Mr. WONG Kwok Hay, Samuel, (黃國熹先生), Mr. POON Lock Kee, Rocky (潘樂祺先生) and Ms. TONG Po Chun (湯寶珍女士) on their observations both on

the drought situation in Guangdong Province and the water quality of Dongjiang during the 3-day visit. They appealed to the Hong Kong public to conserve water and advised that Water Supplies Department will step up publicity and education to promote water conservation. A short video highlighting various parts of the visit was also shown. A press release was subsequently issued to the media to inform the public (see **Annex 3**).

SECTION D – CONCLUSION

9. The delegation considered the visit very informative as it was able to communicate and discuss with Guangdong officials directly on fields. All the delegates were impressed by the continuous efforts made by the Guangdong Authorities in combating pollution, protecting the watershed and ensuring the water quality of Dongjiang, especially in the water source and at the upper reaches of Dongjiang. The delegation also appreciated the assurance given by the Guangdong Authorities that the water supply to Hong Kong would be secure with the regulation of the storage of the three reservoirs.

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ANNEXURE

Annex 1	List of Participants
Annex 2	Itinerary
Annex 3	Press Release

Advisory Committee on the Quality of Water Supplies (ACQWS)
Report No. 11 – Visit to Dongjiang (9 - 11 November 2009)

List of Participants

姓名 Name		職銜 Title
水質事務諮詢委員會 ACQWS		
1	何建宗教授 Prof HO Kin Chung	主席 Chairman
2	馬利德先生 Mr MA Lee Tak	副主席 Vice-Chairman
3	陳漢輝博士 Dr CHAN Hon Fai	委員 Member
4	潘樂祺先生 Mr POON Lock Kee, Rocky	委員 Member
5	湯寶珍女士 Ms TONG Po Chun	委員 Member
6	黃碧茵女士 Ms WONG Pik Yan, Nicole	委員 Member
7	吳祖南博士 Dr NG Cho Nam	委員 Member
8	黃國熹先生 Mr WONG Kwok Hay, Samuel	委員 Member
9	麥成章先生 Mr MAK Shing Cheung, Vincent	秘書 Secretary
其他 Others		
10	吳孟冬先生 Mr NG Mang Tung, Bobby	水務署助理署長 Assistant Director, Water Supplies Department
11	陳健民先生 Mr CHAN Kin Man	水務署總水務化驗師 Chief Chemist, Water Supplies Department
12	黃仲良先生 Mr WONG Chung Leung	水務署總工程師 Chief Engineer, Water Supplies Department
13	唐緻靈女士 Ms TONG Chi Ling, Annisa	水務署公共關係經理 Public Relation Manager, Water Supplies Department
14	阮小芹女士 Ms YUEN Siu Kan, Kay	政府新聞處攝影師 Photographer, Information Services Department

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Itinerary

Day 1 (Monday, 9.11.2009)

08:25	Depart at Hung Hom Terminal by Through Train
09:40	Arriving at Longchuan (龍川縣) & received by officials from Longchuan
13:00	Lunch
15:00	Visit Fengshuba Reservoir (楓樹壩水庫)
19:00	Dinner

Day 2 (Tuesday, 10.11.2009)

08:00	Breakfast
09:00	Visit Chengnan Domestic Sewage Treatment Plant (城南生活污水處理廠)
10:00	Visit Xinfengjiang Reservoir (新豐江水庫) in Heyuan
12:00	Lunch
13:00	Visit Baipenzhu Reservoir (白盆珠水庫)
19:30	Dinner

Day 3 (Wednesday, 11.11.2009)

08:00	Breakfast
09:00	Visit Taiyuan Pumping Station (太園抽水站), Shima River Sewage Diversion Improvement Project (石馬河調污工程)
12:00	Lunch
13:15	Return to Hong Kong via Lo Wu
14:30	Proceed to Murray Building, Central
15:30	Press Conference in the Conference Room of Murray Building, Central

WSD conveys concern about drought in Guangdong (with photos/video)

The Director of Water Supplies, Mr Ma Lee-tak, and the Advisory Committee on Quality of Water Supplies visited the Dongjiang from Monday to today (November 9 to 11). They met officials of the Department of Water Resources of Guangdong Province (DWRGP). Mr Ma conveyed to them the concern of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government about the drought in Guangdong.

The DWRGP said it appreciated Hong Kong's concern. It was confident that the water supply to cities and towns alongside the Dongjiang and Hong Kong was secure with the regulation of the storage of the three reservoirs in Guangdong - Xinfeng Jiang, Fengshuba and Baipenzhu.

Mr Ma told DWRGP officials that Hong Kong would closely liaise with them and comply with their scientific regulation to tackle the drought without affecting the water supply to Hong Kong. Hong Kong could readily reduce its intake if such a need was established. Hong Kong will also actively co-operate with the Guangdong authorities if they make other suggestions.

Hong Kong's annual intake of Dongjiang water of up to 820 million cubic metres (MCM) is just 3% of the river's average annual flow volume. The present storage of Hong Kong reservoirs stands at about 480 MCM and is able to cater for Hong Kong's water demand.

The DWRGP has devised and implemented a winter-spring Water Quantity Regulation Plan that makes use of the three reservoirs to meticulously regulate the flow in the Dongjiang to ensure that the water supply to cities and towns along the Dongjiang and Hong Kong will not be affected.

According to the Guangdong authorities, the rainfall within the Dongjiang areas this year is about 1,255 mm, which is 26% below average. The present total storage of the Xinfeng Jiang, Fengshuba and Baipenzhu Reservoirs in Guangdong is about 7,000 (MCM), which is 25 % less than normal.

Mr Ma appealed to the public to conserve water.

"The water storage in Hong Kong is sufficient. Together with the reliable supply from the Dongjiang, Hong Kong people can enjoy a stable water supply. However, there is no room for complacency. To cater for uncertainties of drastic climatic changes and lower rainfall, and to enhance the partnership of Hong Kong with other cities in the Pearl River Delta, Hong Kong should make its contribution in water conservation," he said.

The Water Supplies Department (WSD) implemented the total water management strategy in October 2008. A wide range of promotional activities on water conservation have been launched, including roadshows at schools. A programme to retrofit government buildings and schools with 23,000 water saving devices has been implemented. So far 1,200 devices have been installed.

In September, the WSD launched the voluntary "Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme" for shower heads. Suppliers are invited to apply for registration of showers with the scheme. Currently, suppliers have 12 models of showers being tested in preparation for applying for registration.

The Water Supplies Department will step up publicity and education to promote water conservation.

Annex 3
Page 2

To better understand the water quality of the Dongjiang and to get an update on related water supply facilities, the Advisory Committee on Quality of Water Supplies conducts annual visits to Guangdong. During the trip this year, members of the committee visited reservoirs in Guangdong - Xinfeng Jiang, Fengshuba and Baipenzhu - as well as the Taiyuan Pumping Station.

Ends/Wednesday, November 11, 2009
Issued at HKT 19:33

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FIGURE

Figure 1 Route of Visit



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PHOTOS



Photo 1 - An overview of Dongjiang downstream of Fengshuba Reservoir (楓樹壩水庫)



Photo 2 - Presenting souvenir to vice Mayor of Heyuan (張麗萍女士)



Photo 3 – The delegation witnessed the sampling of treated domestic waste water at Chengnan Domestic Sewerage Treatment Plant (城南生活污水處理廠)



Photo 4 – The delegation at Xinfengjiang Reservoir (新豐江水庫)



Photo 5 – An overview of Baipenzhu Reservoir (白盆珠水庫)



Photo 6 – Dongjiang Water Intake viewed from Taiyuan Pumping Station (太園泵站)



Photo 7 - The Shima River Sewage Diversion Improvement Project (石馬河調污工程)



Photo 8 – The Director of Water Supplies and the Chairman of ACQWS (from left to right) at the press conference held after the visit to Dongjiang

