

Expenditure in 2010-11

The SCL project is managed by a dedicated team in the Railway Development Office (RDO) of the department, comprising two chief engineers, eight senior professionals and ten professionals. The design of SCL has been entrusted to the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL). RDO will liaise and collaborate with relevant government bureaux and departments, especially the Transport and Housing Bureau, to facilitate proceeding of the SCL design work. We are using the aforesaid government in-house resources for such work and there is no specific project-based account for the corresponding expenditure. For the design work entrusted to MTRCL, the expenditure in 2010-11 is estimated to be about \$611 million.

The Northern Link (NOL)

Progress

The current proposal of the NOL is a railway line connecting the existing Kam Sheung Road Station of the West Rail Line to the Lok Ma Chau Station at the boundary, with a station at Chau Tau for interchanging with the Spur Line.

The planning of the NOL has to take into consideration the findings of the planning and engineering study of the New Territories New Development Areas (NDAs), which is currently being undertaken by the Planning Department and the Civil Engineering and Development Department. The study, which will address issues related to the overall planning of the NDAs, the development programme, the planned population and employment in the planning areas, is targeted to be completed in mid 2011. We will then review the NOL project, including the proposed alignment, station locations and implementation timetable.

Alignment

The current proposal of the NOL is a railway line connecting the existing Kam Sheung Road Station of the West Rail Line to the Lok Ma Chau Station at the boundary, with a station at Chau Tau for interchanging with the Spur Line. It will therefore link the West Rail Line and the East Rail Line in the north of the New Territories, and will provide cross boundary rail service for the Northwest New Territories.
Implementation Programme

We will revisit the planning parameters and project assumptions for the NOL upon receiving the findings of the planning and engineering study of the NDAs, which is anticipated to be completed in mid 2011. We will continue to review the NOL including the proposed alignment, station locations and the implementation timetable.

Expenditure in 2010-11

Currently, part of the duties of one Senior Engineer and one Engineer in the RDO of the department are responsible for the co-ordination work. No other expenditure is anticipated in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ WAI CHI SING _____

Post Title _____ Director of Highways _____

Date _____ 17.3.2010 _____