

Reports of Technical Visits / Seminars

Report on the Technical Visit to Penny's Bay Contaminated Soil Treatment Facilities on 6 March 2004

After a rather quiet period, a group of members swung into action again and made a visit to the site of decontamination and infrastructure works at Penny's Bay on 6 March 2004.

The visit was arranged through the Civil Engineering Department (CED) very early on as this has been a popular choice for technical visits organised by various professional institutes over the last year or so. We were received and briefed at the Chief Resident Engineer's Office by Mr Ernest Wong, the Assistant Resident Site Engineer.

The soil decontamination was part of the works required for the decommissioning of Cheoy Lee Shipyard, which had previously operated at Penny's Bay. The contaminants in the soil, including dioxins, were mainly accumulated from open burning activities at the former shipyard. The potential soil contamination was identified during the EIA study and detailed requirements for the decontamination of excavated materials were clearly laid down in the Environmental Permit (EP) for the shipyard's decommissioning. A purpose-built decontamination complex was constructed at To Kau Wan, North Lantau, for proper off-site treatment of the excavated soil by thermal desorption and subsequent biopiling.

The group was able to see first-hand how the EP conditions were fulfilled, including the containment of the thermal treatment operation, the treatment of effluents generated during the treatment process and one of the very first web cameras installed for real-time visual monitoring of the To Kau Wan site.

Apart from the decontamination operations at To Kau Wan, the group was also given a quick tour of the infrastructure works currently underway at Penny's Bay, including the water recreation centre. Though the group did not have a chance to see the works International Theme Park, we did manage to get a glimpse of some of the buildings being constructed, including the rather unconventionally designed police station and fire station. The site tour also allowed us to appreciate how the earth berms combined with carefully planned landscape planting would screen some of the existing facilities, such as Penny's Bay Power Station, and help to create a 'dream world' within the boundaries of the Theme Park.

The visit was very successful and fruitful. The Institute would like to take this opportunity to thank CED and the Site Staff for all their efforts in arranging the visit and providing an extremely informative briefing.





Useful Link and Reference

[Project Website for the Decommissioning of Cheoy Lee Shipyard at Penny's Bay](#)