

Witness Statement of GIANG Tsz Sheung Keith

I, GIANG Tsz Sheung Keith, Principal Assistant Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) A of the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau, do say as follows:-

1. I make this statement pursuant to directions given by the Commission of Inquiry into the Diaphragm Wall and Platform Slab Construction Works at the Hung Hom Station Extension under the Shatin to Central Link (“SCL”) Project of 1 August 2018 (“**the 1 August Letter**”). Save as otherwise stated, the matters stated in this statement are within my knowledge, and are true and correct to the best of my information, knowledge and belief.

2. This witness statement addresses Question 12 at page 17 of the 1 August Letter concerning the events set out in a press release published by the Transport and Housing Bureau (“**THB**”) on 9 June 2018.

3. I held the post of Administrative Assistant to Secretary for Transport and Housing (“**STH**”) of the Secretary for Transport and Housing’s Office (“**STHO**”) from 4 February 2013 to 28 November 2017. My job duties included, among other things, coordinating and handling correspondence addressed to the STH, and reporting directly to the STH matters that require the STH’s attention or steer. The Executive Officer (STHO) (“**Ms Vanessa Lai**”) was responsible for managing the designated email account (sthoffice@thb.gov.hk) and hotline of the STHO which received numerous enquiries and complaints addressed to the STH. According to the established practices at the STHO, Ms Vanessa Lai would screen all emails received by the STHO’s email account and pass on the emails to corresponding subject teams for following up. The subject teams should handle complaints/enquiries addressed to the STH and they should escalate sensitive and controversial matters warranting the STH’s attention to STHO in good time. For such matters, the subject teams should alert me so that I could submit the same to the STH for his attention.

4. On 15 September 2017 at 1117 hours, I received by copy an email sent by Ms Vanessa Lai to Mr Raymond Cheng, the then Principal Assistant Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport) 7 (“**Mr Raymond Cheng**”). In the said email, Ms Vanessa Lai asked Mr Raymond Cheng to

follow up an email sent by a Mr Jason Poon (“**Mr Jason Poon**”) of the China Technology Corporation Ltd (“**CT**”) to the STHO on 15 September 2017 at 1106 hours requesting to have an urgent meeting relating to the SCL Project (“**CT’s email**”). Before receiving Ms Vanessa Lai’s email, I did not have knowledge of the email sent by Mr Jason Poon. Ms Vanessa Lai copied the email to me for the purpose of informing me that the case had been handled in accordance with the established practices, in that CT’s email was referred to the relevant subject team, i.e. Transport Team 7 for follow up. In her email, I noted she also reminded that should there be any issues that warrant STH’s attention, the case should be reported to STH after seeking endorsement from the Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing and the Deputy Secretary for Transport and Housing. The said email from Ms Vanessa Lai to Mr Raymond Cheng of 1117 hours is shown in Mr Leung Sai-ho’s witness statement to the Commission as **LSH-2**.

5. On 15 September 2017 at 1624 hours, Ms Vanessa Lai forwarded to me for information an email sent by Mr Sai-ho Leung, the then Assistant Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport) 7B (“**Mr SH Leung**”), to Mr Jason Poon on 15 September 2017 at 1608 hours in reply to CT’s email. A copy of the said email is shown in Mr Leung Sai-ho’s witness statement to the Commission as **LSH-9**.

6. I noted from Transport Team 7’s reply email of the same date, i.e. email from Mr SH Leung to Mr Jason Poon on 15 September 2017 at 1608 hours, that Transport Team 7 had already had a telephone conversation with Mr Jason Poon and told Mr Jason Poon that the Highways Department (“**HyD**”) would follow up on his technical concerns. Since the case was promptly followed up by the subject team of the THB and the relevant professional department, i.e. the HyD, and the subject team did not indicate the need to seek steer from the STH, I considered that CT’s email had been handled and did not inform the STH of the same.

7. I confirm that the contents of this Witness Statement are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.



GIANG Tsz Sheung Keith

7 September 2018