Public Consultation on EIA of the Proposed Hong Kong Offshore Wind Farm commences today

CLP and Wind Prospect present the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study of the proposed Hong Kong Offshore Wind Farm Project today for a 30-day public consultation. CLP and leading international wind energy company Wind Prospect is exploring the feasibility of developing a commercial scale offshore wind farm of up to 200MW in the south-eastern waters of Hong Kong.

Wind Prospect began the feasibility study in 2005 and CLP joined as a partner in 2006. The EIA report is a milestone for the project. Aside from the environmental impact assessment, the study has encompassed site selection, marine safety, engineering studies and physical trials of technologies for construction in the offshore environment. “The feasibility study to date indicates that developing an off-shore wind farm in Hong Kong is technically feasible and environmentally acceptable” said Alex Tancock, General Manager of Wind Prospect HK Ltd.

The proposed project has adopted the suction caisson foundation concept, an advanced and environmentally-friendly foundation technology, that is able to minimize disturbance to the seabed and marine environment.

“We are presenting this renewable energy opportunity in Hong Kong in response to the Hong Kong Government’s 1–2% renewable energy (RE) target and the community’s desire for renewable energy. The benefits of the project include providing clean energy for approximately 80,000 households, while offsetting over 300,000 tons of carbon dioxide emission every year.” said Joseph Law, Project Manager – Hong Kong Renewable Energy of CLP Power HK Ltd.

The initiative will also contribute to achieving CLP’s voluntary target in its Climate Vision 2050 of increasing the non-carbon-emitting generating capacity in the portfolio to 20% by 2020.
“We have been engaging different stakeholders and listening to their opinions throughout the process. We look forward to receiving views from the public on the role of renewable energy in Hong Kong’s energy portfolio,” added Mr Law.

Members of the public can find details of the project and the related EIA findings from a dedicated website at www.hongkongoffshorewind.com. It also serves as a platform for the public to voice opinion on the proposed project. The statutory public consultation period will close on 2 July 2009.

About CLP
CLP Power Hong Kong Limited is the largest electric utility in Hong Kong serving the business and domestic community in Kowloon, the New Territories, Lantau and most of the outlying islands. Operating a vertically integrated electricity generation, transmission and distribution business, CLP Power provides a highly reliable supply of electricity and excellent customer services to over 5.5 million people in its supply area.

Outside Hong Kong, CLP Holdings also invests in energy businesses in Mainland China, Australia, India and Southeast Asia. It is the largest external investor in the Chinese mainland electricity industry, and a leading international private sector power company in the Asia Pacific region with a diversified portfolio of power generation from gas, coal, renewables and nuclear.

CLP is listed in the Global Dow – a 150-stock index of the world’s leading blue-chips, the Dow Jones Sustainability Asia Pacific Index (DJSI Asia Pacific), and the Dow Jones Sustainability Asia Pacific 40 Index (DJSI Asia Pacific 40).

About Wind Prospect
Wind Prospect is a leading vertically integrated international wind energy company. From its involvement in the second wind farm in the UK in 1992, the company has grown to cover all aspects of wind farm development, construction and operation in Europe, Asia-Pacific and North America. Wind Prospect developed the now operational Burbo Bank 90MW offshore wind farm in the UK and has been involved in hundreds of wind projects across the world.

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